

Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribe

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Michael Kickingbear Johnson is an enrolled member of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation in their ancestral territory of Connecticut. Michael serves at the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for his nation providing consultation surrounding infrastructure projects, such as Gas pipelines, Offshore Wind, and Transportation. Michael is very passionate about improving federal regulation and policy for Indigenous people.

Early in his career, Michael began working for his tribe at its gaming enterprise, Foxwoods Resort Casino in 1990. He founded an internal media production group called "Creative Arts", which focused on producing video and interactive multimedia content for the gaming enterprise. Michael also provided live video streaming services for the Native American Music Awards for 15 consecutive years, to help elevate native American recording artists visibility to the mainstream entertainment industry.