# Matthew R. Rantanen

Matthew is the Director of Technology for the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) and Director of the Tribal Digital Village (TDVNet) Network/Initiative that was started in 2001 designing and deploying wireless networking to support the tribal communities of Southern California.

Matthew, of Cree Indian, Finnish, and Norwegian descent, has been described as a "cyber warrior for community networking" and is considered an expert on community wireless networking. Matthew received his undergraduate degree at Washington State University. He is an advocate for net-neutrality, broadband for everyone, and opening more spectrum for public consumption, always looking out for the unserved and underserved.

Matthew helps the member tribes of SCTCA with technology development and strategy decisions for future planning from radio station applications/acquisition to tribal administration computer decisions.

He has helped SCTCA develop a spin-off, for-profit, tribal technology corporation that manages networks and other ventures.

Matthew has served as Chairman of the Board for (2) terms and is currently the treasurer on the board of directors for Native Public Media (NPM). He was named to the FCC Native Nations Broadband Task Force by FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski, and has completed his second assignment, having been renamed to the task force by FCC Chairman, Tom Wheeler.

He also serves on the inaugural board of the American Indian Policy Institute (AIPI) at Arizona State University. He serves on the board of International advisors to GlobalMindEd and their national conference.

Matthew is on the Tribal Advisory Group which advises the California First Responders Network (CalFRN), California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Broadband Council to the Governor.

Matthew is frequently a guest subject matter expert speaker on community wireless networking and grassroots efforts to support unserved and under-served communities, with emphasis on tribal communities. He has been invited to speak at CTC conferences, Ford Foundation, Google, GrantMakers in the Arts, Community Technology Foundation of California (ZeroDivide), FCC rural ITI conference, California Emerging Technology Fund, City WLAN Conference (Lahti, Finland), the AirJaldi Summit (Dharamsala, India), the International Community Wireless Summit(s) in USA, Vienna, Barcelona and Berlin, and countless others. He has testified several times at hearings for the FCC and the California Public Utilities Commission. Matthew has emceed and hosted a FCC regional Broadband and Telecom 101 session in Southern California.

Matthew has been called upon by the White House during the Obama administration to work with the CTO and staff to identify and solve connectivity issues in the communication deserts of the USA. He has helped create the UMOYA Corporation, and the Tribal International Carrier component.

Matthew works with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and is currently the Co-Chair of the Technology and Telecom Subcommittee and Co-Chair of their Technology Task Force.

Matthew continues to develop policy and work with these partners in collaboration to get broadband deployed to the unserved and underserved communities.