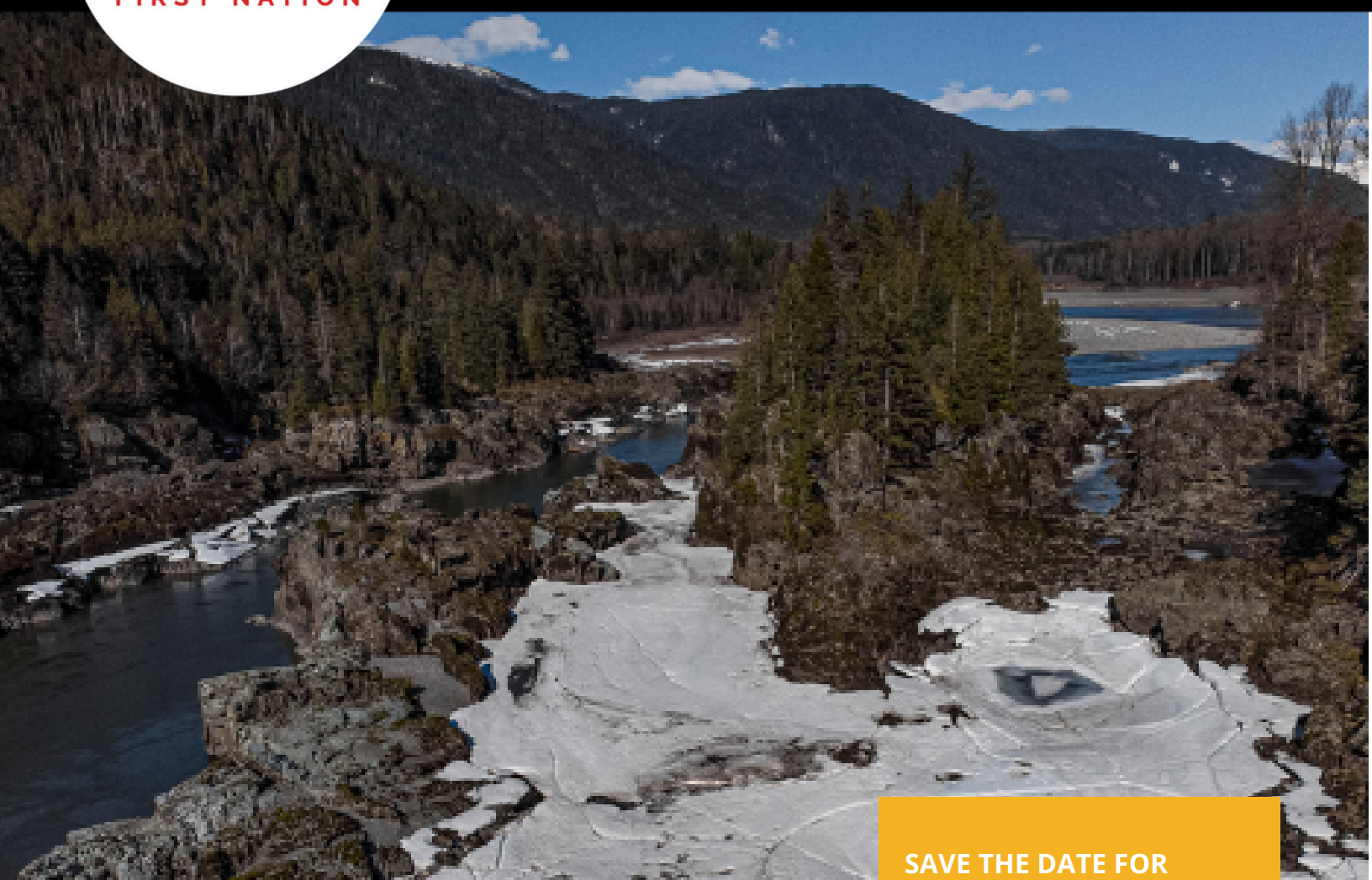




# Tsunyow

*Where Kitselas Connects*



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Councillors

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On behalf of the Kitselas Administration, we would like to extend our best wishes to all candidates and community members participating in the upcoming Kitselas Election on June 12, 2025.

Your commitment to leadership and community engagement is truly valued. We wish everyone the best of luck in this year's election and encourage all eligible members to take part in shaping our collective future.

SAVE THE DATE FOR

## Elections

# June 12, 2025



# • Kitselas Chief and Council Election

## • 2025

May 2025



## **A Message to the Kitselas Membership** **By Glenn Bennett – Candidate for Chief Councillor** **Election Date: June 12, 2025**

### **Gratitude and Clarity**

I want to sincerely thank those who nominated me for both Chief Councillor and Councillor. Your trust and confidence mean a great deal to me.

Out of fairness to others running for office, I have chosen to run for only one position – that of Chief Councillor – in the upcoming Kitselas Chief and Council election on June 12, 2025.

### **Grounded in Family**

I have been married to Frances Wright for thirty-eight years. We have two daughters, Jessica and Renée, and Renée's partner, Justin. We've lived on the Kitselas Reserve, where Frances has lived her entire life.

In 1971, our late father made the decision to move our family back to his village – a decision that shaped who we are today.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the people of Kitselas. I remain fully committed to representing our Nation with integrity, honour, and dignity, and to working collaboratively with Council to support our collective goals.

### **Strengthening Our Governance**

I believe it is time for Kitselas Band Council to implement Portfolio responsibilities for each Councillor. This will help ensure consistent representation at important events, meetings, and gatherings. Our presence matters.

While COVID-19 restrictions limited in-person engagement, I believe the time has come for Council to return to regular in-person meetings. Leadership must be present and accountable at the Council table.

### **Progress We've Made – Together**

Over the past two terms, we have made meaningful progress on key initiatives:

- Kitselas Community Hall – A \$24 million project, scheduled for completion in September/October 2025.
- Our upcoming Community Christmas Dinner will be held in our very own hall.
- Housing Development – A \$27 million BC Housing project including:
  - 10-unit Elders' housing
  - 30-unit multi-family complex
- Kitselas Treaty Ratification – On April 10, 2025, Kitselas achieved a historic milestone:
  - 96% turnout, with 85% voting in favour
- This fulfills the late Mel Bevan's long-standing vision: for Kitselas to be free from the Indian Act.
- Mel led this work for over 30 years and was able to initial the final land and cash offer before his passing. I will always be grateful for his vision and dedication.

### **Member Benefits under Treaty:**

- Establishment of the Kitselas Pension Plan
- One-time payout: \$20,000 for Elders; \$10,000 for all other members
- Minor children's shares to be held in trust until adulthood
- Economic Development & Infrastructure:
- Approval of a \$1 million ocean vessel
- Ongoing support for Kitselas Development Corporation (KDC)
- Expansion of services in Gitaus, including a convenience store and gas bar

### **Specific Claims Negotiations with the Federal Government:**

- 640 acres cut off from I.R. #1
- Railway claims for I.R. #1, #2, and #4
- Erosion claim for I.R. #5
- Continued Negotiations with the Port of Prince Rupert
- BC Hydro Transmission Line (Twining Project)
- Negotiating a fair Impact Benefit Agreement for Kitselas Territory (79 km impacted)
- Two possible routes under review

#### **Additional Infrastructure Needs:**

- § Three-phase power required for Gitaus — BC Hydro must address this gap
- § Backup power for Gitaus is also needed

### **Vision for the Future**

The implementation of the Treaty must be led by Kitselas members. I believe strongly in hiring and training Kitselas citizens to fill roles within our government. As a self-governing Nation, we must invest in our people and adopt clear policies that prioritize Kitselas employment and capacity-building.

We must resolve outstanding legal issues related to KDC/KFP — specifically, the mismanagement of Airport lands and the Terrace Community Forest by a former General Manager.

We need transparency and accountability moving forward.

#### **Additional priorities include:**

- Continuing support for the Kitselas Canyon Project, designated by Parks Canada
- The late Web's vision of a zipline and suspension bridge deserves full backing
- Convenience store and gas bar in Gitaus — a vital service for our community
- Ensuring the Kitselas Pension Plan keeps pace with inflation
- A modest increase should be considered
- Hiring an economist to present investment opportunities for Kitselas' \$139M cash settlement
- Acquiring a CN Railway caboose to repurpose into a gift shop or coffee house — a creative project to promote tourism and community pride
- Reviving the Kitselas Fish Wheel
- This would ensure access to food fish for Elders and single mothers
- It may also allow for selective commercial salmon harvesting

### **A Commitment to Listen**

I am always available and committed to listening to our membership. Your voices guide our direction, and your needs drive our actions.

Thank you again for your continued support. I humbly ask for your vote as Chief Councillor on June 12, 2025. Together, we will continue building a strong, sovereign, and united Kitselas Nation.

With respect,  
Glenn Bennett  
Candidate for Chief Councillor  
Kitselas Election – June 12, 2025

# VOTE TYLER FOR CHIEF

LEADERSHIP THAT LISTENS. VISION THAT DELIVERS.



## TYLER WEST-JOHNSON

Aama Li'lsghm Matix – Good Leader, Mountain Goat

I come from the Bevan and Seymour families of Kitselas and have lived in our territory my entire life. I'm a proud father, resident of Gitau, and business owner with deep roots in the land and community. From groundwork on the Health Centre years ago to today's Community Centre project, I've always worked to help build up our Nation. I spend much of my time on the land—fishing, harvesting, and staying grounded in our traditions.

## A FOCUSED MANDATE, A BROADER VISION

**With a two-year term, I believe it's important to focus on what can be achieved—and done well. My top priorities are:**

- Dedicated Leadership – Leading with purpose, time, and integrity
- Economic Growth – Support business development, job creation, and land use
- Transparent Governance – Build trust through open communication and inclusion

**At the same time, I am committed to supporting progress in key areas our Nation deeply values, including:**

- Health & Wellness – Exploring ways to improve access to culturally grounded health and mental wellness services
- Education & Youth Empowerment – Encouraging trades, mentorship, and cultural education
- Community Support & Safety – Strengthening social services, housing stability, and justice rooted in Kitselas values
- These aren't promises—but they are conversations I want to have with the community.

"I believe in Kitselas. I believe in our people. And I believe in our potential to thrive—together, as one Nation."

## CULTURAL STRENGTH & COMMUNITY CONNECTION

- Culture & Language – Strengthening Sm'algyax and traditional knowledge
- Elder & Youth Engagement – Honoring wisdom and building strong futures
- Land-Based Activities – Supporting opportunities to reconnect to the land

## GUIDED BY OUR COMMUNITY PLAN

**I will work in alignment with the Kitselas Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) to:**

- Strengthen Governance & Transparency – Engage members through honest, respectful leadership
- Drive Economic Opportunity – Leverage projects like Kitselas Geothermal and KDC for lasting prosperity
- Uplift Our Culture – Invest in programs that celebrate who we are and where we come from

*"Together, we can build a future rich in opportunity, culture, and pride—one our children will be proud to inherit"*





# Platform for Joe Bevan, Chief Councillor

## Intro:

My name is Joseph (Joe) Bevan, Kitselas Band member, former Councillor and Chief Councillor of Kitselas, and Business Development. My education and experience span over 30 years, encompassing various roles and responsibilities including governance, policy, finance, and management. I am currently living off-reserve but I plan to move back Home over the next few years.

## 1. Nation-Led Governance and Capacity Building

Transitioning from the Indian Act involves developing laws, systems, and governance structures that are grounded in our values. I will prioritize creating clear, transparent, and culturally grounded governance that reflects who we are and not what was imposed on us.

## 2. Economic Development for Self-Sufficiency

With the implementation of treaties come new opportunities for managing land and resources. With a Team, I will work to build sustainable businesses, attract investment, and create employment for our people both on- and off-territory, while protecting our lands and waters.

## 3. Cultural Revitalization and Language Renewal

Our treaty must breathe life into our language, stories, and traditions. I will support programs that reconnect youth and families to culture and elevate the role of knowledge keepers in shaping our future.

## 4. Housing and Infrastructure Development

Our Nation needs safe, healthy homes and community infrastructure. I will advocate for and help implement housing strategies that meet the needs of our growing membership, including those living away from home.

## 5. Engagement with All Members—On and Off Territory

Living in North Vancouver, I understand what it's like to be away from home but still deeply connected. I will ensure that off-territory members are fully included in decision-making, communication, and Nation-building.

## 6. Strong Intergovernmental Relationships and Treaty Implementation Oversight

I will hold Canada and British Columbia accountable to their commitments and build respectful, nation-to-nation partnerships that reflect our rights. I will have meaningful engagement with the various First Nations in the region affected by the Treaty. I'll ensure we have a Treaty Implementation Office with strong leadership, policy capacity, and community engagement.

## 7. Health and Wellness

With the opioid and fentanyl crisis happening in most communities, I will ensure that our people receive the best possible medical services to deal with drug and alcohol addictions, mental health, and basic family wellness to raise healthy children. This may mean a tough love approach with various people peddling various substances. We want our community to be a safe haven for Kitselas people.

# Roxanne Ridler

## For Chief & Councillor



Hi Kitselas, for those have yet to meet me, I'm Roxanne Ridler and I'm a member of the killerwhale/fireweed clan. I live in Terrace, and remain connected to Kitselas by attending community meetings, as well as with the Gitselasu Elders group.

Earlier this year, the nation voted for independence, increased accountability, and the ability to create our own future by voting 'Yes' to the Kitselas Treaty. The next few years will be a period of enormous growth, change, and implementation of the Kitselas Treaty. We will have more workers, more opportunities, and a greater need for transparency, equality, and objectivity. We will need leaders who can give clear direction to the Administration to fulfill our program and service needs.

We need people in leadership roles with a background in business and finance. I am the longest serving member of the Kitselas Finance and Audit Committee and have been sharing my education and experience with the nation in this role. I have worked for decades in education, and have postsecondary degrees in Business Administration, as well as Communications.

Nation building is a dream I've supported for many years...a future where our great grandchildren, and their great grandchildren will be proud of the decisions we make for them today. I envision the future of Kitselas as independent, successful, and inclusive. Let's move forward as a nation!

In the past two years, I've been enjoying a new hobby - film making! I have made films about the Kitselas Canyon Forest Garden, and the plants that our ancestors tended there. Each film looks at one species, it's medicinal and/or nutritional uses, how to identify, how to harvest, and Isabelle has helped me to learn the Sm'algyk names. It's been an incredible learning opportunity, and one that I am please to preserve on film for generations to come

# Ian Gerow

## For Chief

Hello Kitselas!

My name is Chad Gerow, it has become a family trait that I go by my middle name, as my dad before me and his father before him. On the ballot, I am Ian (Chad) Gerow

I live with my beautiful fiancé in Kelowna, where I work as a project manager for a construction business. We had bought a house some years back and live with our 3 puppies.

I have to say a lot has been learned in owning a house. From upkeep, bylaws, and financial structure, as well as learning how systems around us seem to operate. As we all know, the housing market is one of the biggest money makers, which is highly utilized outside the reserve.

During my previous term as a councillor, I have seen, witnessed, and recognized firsthand that a great deal of First Nation communities have and are suffering from a housing debt. Within my term as Chief, I promise to end the ongoing trend. We are a treaty nation now, and I will take it as my duty to make sure we don't leave a generational debt but ensure we build generational wealth for our future 7 generations.

Housing is not my only focus as I also plan to work closely with elected council and administration to build on our constitution and trust, starting with public policy and legislation to make sure the laws are not only made but also enforceable, and attainable. All members deserve to feel safe and heard while residing in our community. If elected as Chief, I will ensure that Kitselas stands up and upholds the zero-tolerance policy for drugs in the community. We are in the middle of an epidemic that continues to claim and disrupt lives. When it comes down to the safety of our elders and youth, familial ties should not interfere with policies. Our people need help, not to be forgotten or given up on.

My vision for Kitselas is simple: it is for Kitselas to flourish. I'd love to see a Kitselas representative in Ottawa, as we now have a seat at the table and have laws in place to cease the buying of votes.

As we walk forward and embrace the change before us, Kitselas will always be home. And we need to have a strong foundation not only within our community but also those around us. It would be an honour to represent our nation as we rebuild these relationships and ourselves.

Toy'ax suut nuun / Thank you for your time. I appreciate each of you.

Chad Gerow



# JERICHO COLLISON

## FOR COUNCILLOR

Firstly, I would like to thank Kitselas for the opportunity to serve on council for the past four years. It has been an honour and pleasure to represent our nation at a high level.

In the next two years, with the ratification of the treaty, we all have a huge responsibility in its implementation. I will remain committed to our nation, our elders and our youth and promise to always represent Kitselas in a good way.

### **I will continue to support:**

- ✓ **cultural practices, ceremonies, and the transfer of knowledge between Elders and youth.**
- ✓ **youth leadership programs, mentorships, and pathways to higher education and employment.**
- ✓ **ensure that wealth generated on our lands benefits our people first,**
- ✓ **ensure every decision reflects the collective voice and direction of the people.**

I will continue to operate with openness, fiscal responsibility, and respect for community input.

Good luck to all candidates. I wish you all health and wealth in all aspects of your life.





## KEN MCDAMES JR

### Laxgibuu

19+ Yrs Experience working in the Kitselas Administration

4 Yrs Experience serving as an Elected Councillor

## CONTACT

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RE-Elect  
Kitselas Councillor  
2025

Dear Kitselas First Nation,

I have accepted the nomination, and I am seeking your support for re-election as counsellor.

During my 2 terms as councilor I am proud to be apart of these key projects and initiatives

- Ground Breaking for Community housing- 40+ homes, bringing our people home
- Ground Breaking for Gym, estimated Sept 2025 Completion
- Ground Breaking for Greenhouse, Traditional Plants and Medicines, food security
- Community Safety and Wellness
- RCMP Collaboration, Drug and Alcohol issues in the community, Enhancing Public Safety and Awareness

As a Councillor I had the responsibility of representing Kitselas at a Provincial level on various Boards and Committees in the Energy Sector, Oil and Gas Industry, Lands and Resource, & Emergency Response Management.

Community Involvement and Volunteering: Kitselas Athletic Club, on going member, Coaching youth Basketball. Assist in summer Youth Camps, and Conferences

I am Born and Raised in Kitselas, and I want to continue the growth and development of our community. Sustain our resources for our future generations, and learn from our Elders and Membership

All while maintaining full transparency and accountability.

Good Luck to all Candidates, I look forward to meeting with community members and answering your questions.

Thank you



# VICTOR WRIGHT COUNCILLOR

## STRONGER CULTURE & COMMUNITY Kitselas Council Seat – 2025

### Thank You for the Nomination

I'm honored to be nominated once again for a seat on the Kitselas Council in 2025. While I may not always be the best with words, my heart is fully committed to our community, our culture, and our future.

### Reviving Our Heritage & Culture

Our heritage — our **culture, traditions**, and **values** — has slowly slipped away amidst the busyness of everyday life in Kitselas. It's time we bring it back.

I believe in:

- Teaching our youth and elders the **traditional ways** of fishing, hunting, and trapping.
- Reviving **family crests** and **clan** identities.
- Encouraging **respect and sharing of knowledge** across generations.

### Empowering Our Youth

Our young people need more opportunities to learn the ways of our ancestors. I want to see **stronger youth groups**, cultural education, and hands-on experiences that connect them with their roots and elders.

### Let's Talk — Let's Act

It's time we sit down together — elders, youth, and community members — to **discuss our ideas**, **share our knowledge**, and **help one another** move forward.

I am here when needed — to listen, to support, and to act. Whether you're working, in school, or busy with family, know that **your voice matters**.

### A Stronger Kitselas Starts with Us

Even if I'm not voted in, I'll still be here, working alongside you, ready to help build a stronger Kitselas — together.

Let's **move forward as one** — preserving our past while shaping our future



# “CARRYING OUR LEGACY, BUILDING OUR TOMORROW”

CANDIDATE FOR KITSELAS BAND COUNCIL – JUNE 12, 2025

Name: Cheryl Campbell

Family Ties: Daughter of Marjorie McDames (née Campbell); and Late Father Alfie McDames Sr.; granddaughter of the Late Phyllis McNeil (McDames) (née Kennedy/Seymour) and the Late Rufus McDames.

Children & Grandchildren: Two daughters, three Stepsons and nana to three grandchildren.



For the past ten years, I've had the privilege of working alongside Kitselas Council through my role in administration. During that time, I've come to understand just how important steady leadership, clear communication, and community trust are to good governance. I've seen the challenges we've faced together—and I've also seen the strength, heart, and determination that define Kitselas people.

As a candidate for Council, I'm stepping forward because I believe in where we're going. As we move closer to Implementing the Kitselas Treaty and is not just paperwork or policy—it's a turning point for our Nation. It's about finally being able to shape our future on our own terms, with our own values at the center. I want to be part of building that future, not only for our children and grandchildren, but for every Kitselas member—on and off reserve.

I carry with me the pride of my late father, Alfie McDames Sr. who always believed in Kitselas and in the power of community. I share that same pride and commitment, and I know in my heart that this Nation has so much to look forward to.

This is a time for strong, honest, grounded leadership—leaders who show up, do the work, and listen. If I'm elected to Council, that's the kind of voice I promise to be.

Thank you for considering me. I would be honoured to serve you and stand with you as we take this next step together.

I would like wish all the candidates the very best of luck in their campaigns for Chief and Councillor positions. I would also like to thank God for the strength and guidance He provides.

# Jorden Squires, Councillor



My name is Jorden Squires, and I am honoured to carry my traditional name, Ga'ayaas.

I am deeply committed to serving our Nation with respect, accountability, and unwavering dedication to community wellbeing. Through my leadership role, I've had the privilege to represent Kitselas across the country, sharing our values, standing for our interests, and building relationships that bring real results home.

I've worked to secure funding, create programs, and build partnerships that support Kitselas members in meaningful ways, whether through employment, training, health, or cultural initiatives. Every effort I've made has been rooted in the belief that Kitselas deserves a strong, self-sufficient future shaped by our culture, our voices, and good governance.

If elected as Councillor, I will continue this work, bringing forward the experience and relationships I've built to ensure our Nation's voice is heard, our values are protected, and our community continues to grow and thrive, for generations to come.

## **Grounded in Our Collective Vision**

Kitselas is entering a new era, one shaped by our Comprehensive Community Plan and the newly ratified Kitselas Constitution. These living documents guide our shared vision for economic opportunity, strong governance, cultural revival, and accountable leadership.

If elected, I will work to uphold these principles by advancing priorities such as:

### **Champion Fair and Full Benefits from Industry and Government**

I will work to ensure Kitselas receives its fair share, negotiating partnerships that deliver real value, jobs, and lasting benefits for our Nation.

### **Lead with Integrity, Transparency, and Accountability**

I am committed to a Kitselas Government that earns trust through open communication, ethical decision-making, and honest leadership.

### **Ensure Financial Responsibility for a Strong Future**

I will support smart, transparent budgeting and investment decisions that protect community resources and build a resilient Kitselas economy.

With your support, I will represent Kitselas with accountability, transparency, and deep respect for our shared values and future generations. I believe that leadership starts with listening, taking the time to hear your ideas, concerns, and hopes, and turning them into meaningful action. I am committed to being present, staying engaged, and doing the hard work, for all members, now and into the future. Vote Jorden Squires for Kitselas Council, June 12, 2025.



# Dawn L.E. Derrick (Wale), Councillor



## On June 12th - Vote - Dawn Derrick

Councillors are the voice of the members  
Able to bring concerns to the table without  
fear of repercussion

***- Advocate and Community member.***

Many know that my family was hit with some hard times with my son Amadeus' health issues. I used my education and my voice to advocate for my son. Thankfully, he is still alive and I continue to advocate for him:

The Medical System being what it is, this was no easy task: I had to deal with all 3 different regions of the health system.

Given the chance to serve my community I have ideas to bring to the table. As a mother, entrepreneur, writer, cook and advocate I have several different skills that would serve well as a councillor.

***Determined - Committed*** - I hold Certificates in Associates of Arts Degree, Business Administration- Office Assistant & Administrative Assistant, Professional Cook Levels I, II. 1-2 Courses short in completing my BA in English. Advocate for Youth - I believe that the youth are our future and pushing for their education will be very important for me. Sometime in the future it would also be a priority for me to further my education with a Ph D.

We will need educated Kitselas members for the variety of jobs that will be available. Family is very important to me; my late mother always taught me to help where you can when you can even if they are a stranger. **I will use my education and my voice to bring your concerns forward ! Thank you !**



Sim gi gyat Sigi dim haa nak' Ganhl K'u ba wil xsit xw, my traditional name is *'Tsinxw Gapiikxw*, my english name is **Lynn Wright**, I matrilineally belong to the Nisto'o of the Nikate'en house of the Gitxsan and my paternal roots come from the Kitselas First Nation. My family line is of the Wright family, the late Sim gi gyat Neas-D-Hok, Walter Wright. My four children - Charles, James, Euleina, and Ryland are so fortunate to be raised in such a close knit community. As much that has happened, moving forward, we all need extra supports.

I have my diploma in Business Administration. I have a collection of training and experience on Council, the band administration policies and procedures, the LNG sector, organizational skills, business plan writing, proposal writing, facilitating, event planning, life skills, advocacy, and the volunteering of my (our) time with fundraising events for youth or emergency situations. I'm born and raised in Kitselas.



We are community-minded people and love to help anyway we can to better our way of living out here in Gitaus, Kulspai, Chimdimash, or Old Kitselas. We want to make our mark by instilling the respect and culture that our ancestors legacy left for us.

### **My Promise for this term will be to advocate for:**

- \* **Work closer as a community** - Plan financially for the future of our people. Our people need extra supports - monthly hamper, harvesting opportunities of fish, moose, etc.
- \* **Communication** via updated website (with sign-in option), email updates, coffee house updates, Elder check-ins, Newsletter (Dept updates, C&C - reports, initiatives and meetings, and treaty updates). More input from the community.
- \* **Care plan for each Elder (on and off)**, plan with each department on how we can provide basic maintenance on our Elder's homes, fire wood, snow removal, cultural activities, yard maintenance, chimney cleaning, and an updated care plan.
- \* **Guided supports for our youth** Let's invest more in them to become the great leaders they were born to be. We can provide basic life skills, harvesting off the land, training certificates, leadership opportunities (ie. take turns sitting with council) - to name a few.

***Thank you all for your continued guidance and your willingness to vote for me to be part of our leadership!***

Our community is in a state of change and we need to support new ways for a better outcome for our future. *I'm putting my name up to be your voice at the table.*  
Good luck to all the candidates for Chief and Council! Let's do this Kitselas!

***"Thus may they come to have an honest pride in their lineage and in (the deeds performed by) their ancestors" ~ Walter Wright***

**#VOTE4LYNN**





### ♥ Why I'm Running for Kitselas Council – A Message from Anne McDames

**Ama Sah , Taxayee (Anne McDames) Di Wyu.** I am honoured to share my intent to run as an **Elder Councillor** in the upcoming **Kitselas Band Council election** this June.

Our community is strong, beautiful, and full of wisdom—and yet, we are still healing. I see that healing happening every day in the quiet moments: when someone takes a step toward recovery, when an Elder finds safety, when a young person feels seen and heard. I want to serve as a voice for those moments—**as your Elder on Council.**

#### **I Lead by Listening**

Over the past few months, I've worked with **Kitselas Health** to support Elders in our community, visiting those in the hospital, listening to those who feel alone, and helping those experiencing homelessness and addiction. I also serve as an **Elder in Residence with Kitselas Five Tier (K5T)**, where I meet people seeking employment and healing. I share culture, offer encouragement, and help our people feel like they belong.

These are the spaces where I feel called to serve—and I want to bring that same compassion and commitment to the Council table.

#### **My Platform: Healing, Safety, and Cultural Strength**

If you elect me, I will work to:

##### **Protect and Support Our Elders**

- Advocate for **Elder safety and wellness programs**, especially for those who are shut in, in care, or at risk.
- Push for stronger supports for **Elder abuse prevention**, including home visits and culturally safe outreach.
- Help build a future where Elders are not forgotten, but honoured.

##### **Promote Healing and Mental Health**

- Support land-based and cultural healing programs for people affected by addiction, trauma, and grief.
- Advocate for **mental wellness services** rooted in our values.
- Help families reconnect through intergenerational programs and Elder-youth mentorship.

##### **Champion Culture and Lifelong Learning**

- Help revive **Sm'algayax language** and culture in homes and schools.
- Support both **Elders and youth in education and training.**
- Promote cultural pride as a path to community strength.

#### **Why Your Vote Matters**

Voting for me means electing someone who will show up—**with heart, with patience, and with purpose.** I will be your voice at the Council table, especially for those who are too often left out. I want to build a future rooted in culture, compassion, and community healing.

Let's come together to make Kitselas stronger for **our children, our Elders, and all those in between.**

**Vote Anne McDames for Elder Councillor this June 2025.** I am here to serve you—with love, with strength, and with hope.

# Anne Wright, Councillor



Hi, My Name Is Anne Wright, I am the oldest child of the late Elmer Sr & Patricia Wright, and granddaughter late George & Louisa Wright, I was born & raised in Kitselas, I have 4 children & many grandchildren. We all reside in the Kitselas community of Gitaus.

I am currently working as, a supervisor and manage our Kitselas Head Start & Daycare, I am proud to say I have worked there since September 2000-current. I have recently graduated with my Early Childhood Education Diploma & working on Speech & Language assistant certification at NVIT.

Since returning in April 2019 I have accomplished to learn about Funding opportunities, reporting and carrying out what was promised. I always have our Children, our Elders, families, and young adults in mind to expand and provide opportunities in Education, Health, our Culture, Sports & Recreation, and what we can bring or make happen in Kitselas whether it's today or the future. Our members have many views and they all need to be heard. I have attended meetings and always say the importance of the Kitselas present, and past and be proud of our history & lands. We have a lot that has been accomplished & we have the future to plan.

I have resided & worked my whole life on Queensway, Kulspia, Gitaus, and Terrace and I know that there are many advantages or obstacles whether it involves Education, training, medical, health, disabilities, appointments, and meetings. I share the same issues day to day and I want Kitselas members to be heard and share their opinions and knowledge.

We need plans & procedures to provide for a Safety plan in any case & to make sure our members all are taken care of when you're going through any medical conditions.

To the current Chief & councillors, I applaud each one of you, work well done, for all that you have all accomplished and done for Kitselas.

We have so much to plan for our Future and to carry through, whether it's in our communities, health, treaty, housing, traditional foods, or lands, employment & training, celebrations, traditions, and our Administration, we will all work together for Kitselas.

I look forward to being a Kitselas councillor to continue the work, to learn the roles and duties, and work as team to discuss what needs to be done and how we can better our foundations.

Because everyone of us is Proud to be Kitselas and we matter.



# James Seymour, Councillor



It is an honour to be a Kitselas candidate for Council.

I believe in the Council of Kitselas First Nation and am seeking your support in the upcoming election. There have been words that echo amongst Chief and

Council with First Nation's across Canada "Together we succeed, divided we fall". It is time for all of the families within Kitselas First Nation to come together as one like our ancestors did in the past. Each member contributed knowledge and wisdom supporting each other and separating differences in honouring the next seven generations to come.

## **My passions:**

- Knowledge from Kitselas Elders about our history, culture, and language.
- Restoration of Kitselas First Nation language preservation and teaching the next generation
- Decision making: Long-term planning, reasoning, and resolutions.
- Workforce development, and helping the next generation to be work ready in an area they are knowledgeable in
- Strong & healthy Kitselas First Nation Leadership that reflects community voice and values of the present, past, and future
- Teaching the next generation to hunting and, fishing skills and the ability to process their natural resources

## **Vision:**

- 7-generation decision making and stewardship of the land and resources
- Include Kitselas values and visions into projects, programs, and public services
- Language and Culture preservation through education and workshops
- Self-sustainability for Kitselas communities with land and resources

## **Contributions:**

- Cultural restoration in a back-to-basics approach, language, trapping, cabin building, bow & arrow, and natural healing workshops (mentally & physically)
- Community engagement & development on the needs of everyone, no one is left behind or excluded
- Each Councillor to hold a portfolio and be responsible in areas identified by Elders and community members (Projects like a fish hatchery etc..)
- Encouraging leadership to help everyone in community be safer and healthier

# BRIANNA FOR COUNCILOR 2025

**Date:** May 22, 2025

Welcome! Come get to know more about me.....

For those of you who don't know me my name is Brianna Wright - Seymour, my parents are Freda Wright and Brian Seymour. I have 2 sisters Eve Wright - Seymour and Sophia Wright - Seymour along with 2 cats and 1 dog. I have lived in Terrace, BC my whole life although I love to travel quite frequently! I absolutely love our little slice of luxury everyone talks about in all my travels, the mountains and how slow - paced it is here. I am very family orientated and love my community - I grew up on the Queensway/Kulspai reservation and have lived in Gitaus for the past 2 years. I have also been working on my own nail business and going to school for the past 2 years to achieve a stable and enjoyable life and I have dreamed about being a voice and advocate for my generation in our Nation.

I am elected to run in this years " Chief and Councilor 2025 " as a Councilor. I have looked up to each of our Councilor's over the years and have always wanted to help be a voice for our youth and young adults as there has not been much representation for this age group and while there are experienced people who are running it would be an honor to learn from their experience and adapt it to our younger generation as we are quickly needing to bridge the gap between the generations - more importantly with our Treaty being implemented in the coming years.

## Objectives - 2 year term + always space for more

### Primary objectives:

- Bring back our language and sense of community
- Make an impact in our community for our youth / young adults to bring more engagement and communication
- Be apart of Kitselas' new and exciting future with our voted in Treaty and help set up our foundation as our we are entering our "New era of Kitselas"
- Learn and gain experience from previous/elected Chief and Councilor's
- Make our community more safe and "how it used to be" - help rid of drug dealers/bootleggers, the people who live in the community and harm us
- Bring forward as many people and lead by example in Health and Wellbeing with being out and meeting people and sitting without technology to capture more creativity and mental wellbeing - people need people.







# **SUSAN (MCDAMES) CLAYTON**

## **Apwatkw gitagoot (Speaks from the heart)**

### **For Kitselas Councillor**

Ama Sah Gitselasu!

I'm a grand daughter to the late Phyllis McDames (Taxayee) & Rufus McDames; daughter of H. Lloyd McDames Sr & Sherry McDames. My Tsimshian name translates to "Speaks from the heart", gifted by Taxayee. I have 8 children and 2 grandchildren. We've lived in Gitau for over 10 years.

As a candidate for Kitselas Council, I am committed to taking bold steps toward nation-led solutions for our children and family welfare. The heart of my platform is the full implementation of Bill C-92: An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis Children, Youth and Families – a law that affirms our inherent right to take back jurisdiction over our child and family welfare

**Why This Matters:**

Kitselas is the only indigenous community that does not have any community led guidelines or cultural standards for any Ministry of Children and Families or delegated agencies to abide by. Bill C92 is our legal and moral opportunity to:

- Reclaim our authority over child and family services
- End the overrepresentation of our children in the foster care system
- Revitalize our laws, customs and systems of care and kinship

**My Commitment if Elected:**

**Lead the Process to Develop Our Own Child & Family Law**

- Continue community engagement with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, youth and families to shape a law grounded in our values
- Respect our traditional ways of child-rearing and community responsibility

**Build Local Capacity**

- Support land-based healing and culture-first parenting programs

**Kitselas Treaty**

- Encourage further development in culturally rich services to reconnect youth and elder programs
- Community safety. As our community continues to grow, I'd like to ensure safety for our children and youth.

My focus and commitment are on children, youth and elder support along the way. As we move forward as a young community, I plan to ensure that our children are the ones who benefit most from our planning.



Ama Sah! My traditional name is Gwin Naxnuutkw, and my English name is H. Lloyd McDames Sr. and I am seeking your vote on June 12, 2025 to represent you at the Kitselas Council Table.

My platform includes:

- public safety
- governance preparation and training,
- public meetings to update members,
- examine the benefits of Bill C-92 to care for our children and
- explore Gathering Wisdom 2 bringing our elders home.

Council strategic planning must include public safety and services for our youth and elders as identified in the social determinants of health surveys.

There is a need for training and planning for council, administration and staff in Governance process, responsibilities and procedures, especially now that there was a “yes” to Treaty vote.

Kitselas members need to be aware and informed of council business, decisions and have opportunity to ask questions and provide input; this can be done with public meetings and reports on a regular basis.

I would like a thorough review of Bill C-92 that allows Kitselas members collectively the opportunity to create and manage our own child welfare Laws as identified by the people, Clans or Huwilp.

Finally, there was a previous commitment made to have a Gathering Wisdom 2 that will bring our Elders home once again and this too should be explored.

I have attended many community meetings, and I have asked many questions about impact to the people and the land as well as any potential benefits for our current and future generations; I also have heard an elder ask, “where are the band councillors? They need to be here to hear listen to the people”. I will continue to attend community meetings and listen.

It is time to cast your vote for those you believe will have Kitselas and Kitselas people best interests at heart.



On June 12, 2025, elect:  
H. Lloyd McDames as your Kitselas Band Council Representative.

Nt’oyaxsut’nuusm for taking the time to read my platform .