



Tsunyow



Where Kitselas Connects



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SAVE THE DATE FOR
Our Next Meeting

Day of Week,
June 24 , 2025



● Kitselas First Nation 2025 Election ● Results

June 2025

KITSELAS FIRST NATION COUNCIL ELECTION 2025

ELECTION VOTE RESULTS - CHIEF

NAME		VOTES
Bennett	Glenn	134
Bevan	Joseph	51
Gerow	Ian	7
Ridler	Roxanne	13
West-Johnson	Tyler	21
Wright	Freda	4

Number of spoiled, rejected or cancelled ballots: 2

Based on the above, I hereby declare the following candidate elected to the position of Chief:

I. **Bennett, Glenn**

Given under my hand at Gitaus on June 12th, 2025.

MARCUS HADLEY
255 LINDEN AVE
VICTORIA BC V8V 4E6
(250) 884-4703
marcus.hadley@gmail.com

Marcus Hadley
Signature of Electoral Officer

If you have any questions, please contact the Electoral Officer, Marcus Hadley, at (250) 884-4703 or marcus.hadley@gmail.com.

KITSELAS FIRST NATION COUNCIL ELECTION 2025

ELECTION VOTE RESULTS - COUNCILLOR

NAME		VOTES	NAME		VOTES
Auckland	Titus	30	Parker	Dustin	21
Bennett-Nabess	Cyril	169	Ridler	Roxanne	67
Campbell	Cheryl	78	Seymour	Brian	33
Collison (Bevan)	Jericho	131	Seymour	James	38
Derrick (Wale)	Dawn	25	Spencer	Marcia	63
Mcdames	(Lloyd) Harold Sr.	63	Squires	Jorden	95
Mcdames	Anne	57	Wright	Anne	22
Mcdames	Kenneth Jr.	112	Wright	Freda	18
Mcdames (Clayton)	Susan	12	Wright	Victor	101
Nyce	Gerald	120	Wright	Lynn	34
Parker	Daniel Jr.	44	Wright-Seymour	Brianna	37

Number of spoiled, rejected or cancelled ballots: 2

Based on the above, I hereby declare the following candidates elected to the position of Councillor:

1. **Bennett-Nabess, Cyril** 2. **Collison (Bevan), Jericho** 3. **Nyce, Gerald**
4. **Mcdames, Kenneth Jr.** 5. **Wright, Victor** 6. **Squires, Jorden**
7. **Campbell, Cheryl**

Given under my hand at Gitaus on June 12th, 2025.

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Swearing In Ceremony



Left-Right: Cyril Bennett-Nabess, Gerald Nyce, Cheryl Campbell, Jorden Squires, Chief Glenn Bennett, Ken McDames Jr., Victor Wright, Jericho Collison

We gathered as a community to witness and celebrate the swearing-in of our newly elected Kitselas Chief and Council for the 2025–2028 term. The event opened with a heartfelt prayer from Elder Edward Innes, grounding the evening in tradition and respect.

The Oath of Office was then taken collectively by the new council members, accompanied by a beautiful prayer blessing from Elder Isabel McGee. The moment was commemorated with a photo opportunity and the sharing of a celebratory cake, honoring the start of a new term.

Special guests included members of the McDames family, who offered good wishes to the incoming council, and City of Terrace Mayor Sean Bujtas, who congratulated the newly elected leaders.



*Chief Glenn Bennett presented a Bentwood box, crafted by K5T's team, to the family of **Judy Gerow**, acknowledging her years of dedicated service on council. Her sisters graciously accepted the gift on her behalf.*

***Geneva Mason** was also recognized for her two-year term, with appreciation for her steady presence and commitment to community.*



Ken McDames Jr

The evening concluded with words of gratitude and reflection from the councillors. Ken McDames Jr. shared, “I wanna be here, I wanna show you—the people—that I’ve been here, and I’ll continue the work I’ve been doing. We’ve been talking about the ratification treaty vote, and I want to be a huge part of that—for the youth and our people.”

Jericho Collison

“In the theme of birthdays—it’s my son’s 6th birthday today, and he’s waiting for me to cut the cake. It’s so nice to see you all, and thank you all for today.”



Jorden Squires

“Chiefs, Matriarchs, and Honoured Guests of the Kitselas First Nation—welcome.

My name is Jorden Squires, and I would like to introduce myself properly. My traditional name is Ga’ayaas, a name I was given at my late Uncle Paul’s stone moving feast. I was told it is an old name, and it translates to The Lookout Person. This name comes from the Nistahook, Gisbutwada (Killerwhale) clan.

To begin, I want to sincerely thank you for placing your confidence in me to represent you as a nation. It is an honour I do not take lightly.”



Kitselas Chief & Council 2025 Oath of Office Ceremony

June 2025

Gerald Nyce

"I just want to take a moment to thank everyone for your continued confidence in me. This marks my third term on council, and I've truly enjoyed working alongside my fellow councillors.

I especially want to thank Glenn and CJ for all their help and mentorship. I don't think they fully realize just how much their presence at the table and the example they've set as role models have impacted me. Their guidance has meant a great deal."



Chief Glenn Bennett

"We will continue to serve you, and I want to acknowledge and thank Ulyses Vengas for managing two biggest projects for our new 40 units under BC Housing, and the Community Hall. Our community, still needs services. Yes! We may have ratified a treaty but were still under the care of the Federal Government for programs and services. We see that our community needs side walks, for the safety of our children that walk the street in Gitaus, hopefully that will be a high priority. "



Cyril Bennett-Nabess

"I'm honored to be one of the seven elected council members serving our great community. I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each and every one of you for making tonight possible—and for making Kitselas the incredible community that it is. It's because of you that people know who Kitselas is. It's because of you that others recognize the strength, beauty, and pride of our Nation.

And it's not just our community that shines—it's also our food! Tonight's feast is a perfect example of that. Over the past two years, I've had the honour of attending many of our cultural gatherings, and each one reminds me of how special our community truly is."

Kitselas Chief & Council 2025

Oath of Office Ceremony

June 2025

Victor Wright

"I'm honoured to be one of your elected members, now serving my third term. Your vote of confidence means a great deal to me. It's been a long trail—a long road filled with teachings and lessons. There's been so much learning along the way, and I want to sincerely thank our Elders for sharing their stories and wisdom. What we've learned from you continues to guide us forward."



Cheryl Campbell

"It's a pleasure to be here and to see so many of you gathered to witness the Kitselas Band Council "Oath of Office" Ceremony. Congratulations for a successful election for 2025. I'm grateful for the trust our community has placed in us. We are here because of you - our families, our friends, our elders, our youth and all those who believe in coming together to build a stronger future for Kitselas."



To my family thank you for your support. To my partner Harvey, my brother Alfie Jr. and my mom Marj. To my late father Alfie McDames Sr. would be so proud of this moment. I carry his memory with me everyday, and I hope to honor his legacy through this role and service to our community. I want to give thanks to God, through who all things are possible. Thank you all once again for this opportunity. I'm honored. Let's build a future we can all be proud of. "



KITSELAS
FIRST NATION

School Year End

Join us in celebrating the success!



Kitselas Members Graduating Students of 2025!

This is a special call-out for all students set to graduate in 2025. (**reserve only**)

**When: June 26, 2025
at Kitselas Hall**

**Doors open at 4:30pm
Dinner at 5:00pm**

Further details will be followed up on a time. I just don't want to miss any students who are graduating.

**They can email Freda Wright education@kitselas.com
or **250-635-5084 ext. 4092****




WE'RE HIRING – FISH WHEEL TECHNICIAN


Join the Kitselas Fish Wheel Team!

We're looking for a Kitselas member to join our selective fishing team as a Fish Wheel Technician this summer. If you love working outdoors, care about salmon stewardship, and want to be part of something meaningful, this job is for you!






 **Location:** Kulpai Learning Village - 4404 Queensway Drive

 **Start Date:** IMMEDIATE




 **Due Date:** June 27, 2025 @ the Kulpai Learning Village

 **Wage:** \$23-\$28/hr (based on experience)

Key Requirements:

-  Must be a Kitselas member
-  Valid Driver's License
-  Must be able to swim at least 25 meters
-  Comfortable with physical, outdoor work
-  Seasonal role – full-time hours during fishing season

How to Apply:

-  Drop in to K5T anytime this week before Friday at noon
-  Or email your resume to employment@k5t.ca
-  Subject line: Fish Wheel



Administration Office Closure

DATE

June 20, 2025 (early)

June 23, 2025 (closed)

TIME

1:00p.m. - 4:00p.m.

Our Administration Offices will
close early on Friday. Closed all day
Monday for National Indigenous
Peoples Day.



KITSELA
FIRST NATIONS

Net Mending

DATE

Thursday June 19, 2025

We are exploring the possibility of offering a one-day Net Mending Course and would like to know if there's enough community interest. If you're interested in attending, please leave your name and phone number with our front receptionist, Sharon Bennett, at 250-635-5084. This will have to happen as soon as possible.



KITSELA
FIRST NATIONS



GitseLasu Lighthouse blessing

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Place: GitseLasu Lighthouse

Blessing: 11:30 am

Lunch to follow: 11:45 am



KIT
FIR

Net Building and Mending

Over the weekend May 16-18, 2025, Kitselas hosted a hands-on **Net Building and Mending Course** at the **Kitselas Five Tier Building** in Kulsapai. The event drew approximately **20 participants**, all eager to learn the traditional skills of crafting and repairing fishing nets.

Led by experienced instructors, the course offered participants the chance to learn net building **from scratch**—from threading their first knot to completing a fully functional net. Each attendee was able to take home their finished product, along with valuable knowledge to use or share in the future.

To keep spirits high and energy up, **lunch was provided for everyone**, giving the group time to connect, share stories, and enjoy the sense of community that comes with learning something meaningful together.

This event was not just about fishing—it was about **reviving traditional skills, sustainability, and connection to culture**. A big thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the course a success!

Courses like this not only teach valuable hands-on skills—they help build a **brighter, more resilient future**. By strengthening food security and increasing local capacity, Kitselas is investing in the knowledge and confidence of its community, one knot at a time.

There's something deeply calming about watching someone build or mend a fishing net. Maybe it's the rhythmic motion of their hands, the quiet focus on each knot, or the way time seems to slow down beside the sea.



In our fast-paced, disposable world, net building and mending are gentle reminders that not everything has to be replaced—some things are worth fixing, maintaining, and passing on.

The Art of Net Building

Let's start with **net building**—because every net has to begin somewhere.

Building a net from scratch isn't just about utility. It's **craftsmanship**. It starts with a vision: *What kind of fish is it for? What kind of water? What size mesh?* These questions shape the entire process.

Fishers use a simple set of tools—a **netting needle, twine**, and a **mesh gauge**—to weave row after row of mesh by hand. It's repetitive, yes, but not mindless. Each knot matters. Each line has purpose. And as the net grows, so does the sense of satisfaction. You're literally building the tool that feeds your family, your village, your livelihood.

In many coastal communities, this isn't a lost art—it's still alive and well. You'll find older generations teaching the young, passing down little tricks learned over decades: how to keep your rows straight, how to tie a knot that holds through a storm.

It's beautiful in its simplicity—and profound in its purpose.



The Necessity of Net Mending

Then there's **net mending**, the less glamorous cousin of net building, but every bit as important.



After a few trips out to sea, nets get worn. They snag on rocks, tear under heavy catches, or just start to fray. But instead of throwing them away, fishers lay them out in the sun and go to work—needle in hand, eyes scanning for damage, fingers tying familiar knots.

It's like a fisherman's version of sewing a quilt. **Slow, steady, meditative.**

Some repairs are quick patches. Others require rebuilding whole sections. Either way, the process is the same: **inspect, assess, repair**. And when it's done right, the net is just as strong as before—maybe stronger.

Net mending isn't just a task. It's an **act of respect**—for the gear, for the work, and for the ocean that provides.

More Than Just Fishing

Net building and mending are about more than catching fish. They're about **sustainability**. A repaired net means less waste in the water. A custom-built net means less bycatch and a healthier marine environment. It's a quiet form of environmentalism, rooted not in theory, but in daily practice.

Final Thought:

Next time you find yourself by the water, and you spot someone quietly stitching a net, take a moment to watch. You're not just seeing a repair job—you're witnessing a tradition that's helped sustain life from the sea for centuries.

It's not just a net. It's a lifeline. A craft. A story.



Community Health Nurse – RN

Job Opportunity



Internal Posting for Kitselas Members

Full-Time, Permanent | Kitselas First Nation – Gitau, Terrace, BC
The Kitselas Health Department is seeking a Community Health Nurse to promote and support the health and wellness of Kitselas members. Reporting to the Director of Health, this role blends clinical expertise with a community-driven approach, emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, home care, and cultural safety.

Education and Experience

- Bachelor of Nursing from a recognized Canadian institution
- Current registration with BCCNM
- Immunization certification (or willingness to complete within 3 months)
- CPR-C certification (includes infant resuscitation)
- Minimum of two years experience
- Valid BC driver's license and access to reliable transportation
- Criminal Record Check

Wage: \$45.60-\$51.10/hr (commensurate with education and experience)

To request the full job description, please email jobopportunities@kitselas.com. Interested applicants are asked to submit a cover letter, resume, and three references. Specify "Community Health Nurse – RN" in your application and clearly outline how your qualifications meet the requirements of the position. Deadline: **June 25, 2025 at 4:00 pm**. Please send your application to jobopportunities@kitselas.com. We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Kitselas Community Services Employment & Training Coordinator

* Tk'al T'aam Pdalhl way, Ksim Ganada hiiy, Wilps Ksim xsaan wil dii witgwiy, Gitlaxt'aamiks witgwiy, Terrace wil jogay *

*Hello, my name is Dori-Ann Morven, my Nisga'a name is Tk'al T'aam Pdal (Hlgu Ksim ganaaw) (The little female frog, clinging to the ribs of the Sim'oogit), and have excitedly accepted the position as the new Employment and Training Coordinator. I come from the ganada clan, and from the House Ksim xsaan and I am from New Aiyansh, BC. *

I have started my career path as early as 15 years old, for our community's Summer Student Program as a receptionist for Public Works, before I went off to school at Blanche Macdonald for the Global Makeup Artistry Program, and Hair Fundamentals Program in 2014-2015. I lived in Vancouver for 7 years as a Makeup Artist, building my Customer Service skills, and providing a comfortable environment for clients.

I then moved back to New Aiyansh and was employed by the Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government for a Seasonal Contract as the Interpretive Centre's Assistant, to help archive and transcribe old documents, and fell in love with learning about our history and became passionate about being a part of the culture again.

Post Lockdown (Covid), I started at Ardene for 4 years as the Third Key Visual and Third Key Supervisor, which then helped me gain Manager and Training Skills, and furthered my Customer Service skills, and gave me the confidence to work with many different individuals a day.

As someone who has worked multiple different jobs, and came from a small community, I understand the difficulties on putting yourself out there, and how daunting the task may seem. I used to be timid and shy, and I am so grateful to have had gained many skills along the way. I too am still learning! I look forward to working with the Kitselas Members, and hope to bridge the gap, and provide support where needed so that this community can thrive.

Tooyaksiiy hiiin! Thank you!

Dori-Ann Morven



I can be contacted at
employment.training@kitselas.com
Cell: 250-615-1932 ext. 4086





KITSELAS
FIRST NATION

Get in Touch

Kitselas Connects is put together by the Kitselas Communication Department.

Please email communications@kitselas.com with any info (events, news, fundraisers, photos, etc) that you would like to share with the community.

Deadline for submission is Tuesday.
Call 250.635.5084 EXT 4071
with any questions.

www.kitselas.com

KITSELAS ADMINISTRATION

2225 Gitaus Road
Terrace, BC V8G 0A9

P 250 635 5084

F 250 635 5353

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 8:30am - 4pm
Closed for lunch 12 - 12:30pm

