WEI WAI KUM ćəkałali (news)

February 20- 26 2025

weiwaikum.ca | 250-286-6949

ATTENTION MEMBERSHIP:

RE: 2025 MEMBERSHIP VOTE

Please advise any family members that have recently received status affiliating them to the Campbell River Band to contact our office christinesmith@weiwaikum.ca or call our office for an application to apply for membership prior to April 11th, 2025 4:00 pm, to be included with the 2025 Membership Vote that takes place on May 30, 2025.

STATUS CARD APPLICATIONS: Certificate of Indian Status (CIS) Or Secured Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) card

RE: APPLYING FOR OR RENEWING STATUS CARD

Do you need to renew your Certificate of Indian Status card or would like to apply for the Secured Certificate of Indian Status (SCIS) card at the administration office.

Identification required to renew or apply:

One piece of identification government issued, which contains your photo, full name, date of birth and signature.

<u>OR</u>

Two pieces combined which would contain your photo, full name, date of birth and signature. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your identification please call our office.

We can also assist in registering a new baby, marriage, divorce or death, etc.,

RE: MEMBER UPDATE ADDRESS or CONTACT INFORMATION

It is important for our members to provide their updated address and or contact information to the nation so we can keep you updated and informed with any upcoming events, activities or disbursements etc. If you have band member family member(s) that you know have recently moved, please advise them to contact our office to ensure we have their correct contact details.

Please contact Christine Smith, Indian Registry
Administrator / Membership Clerk by email at
christinesmith@weiwaikum.ca or call the administration
office for any of the above information at 250-286-6949 or toll
free at 1-877-286-6949.

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STAFF DIRECTORY

ADMINISTRATION

Chris Roberts - Elected Chief Councillor chrisroberts@weiwaikum.ca

Chief Administrative Officer VACANT
Human Resource Manager VACANT

Rikki Brown - Administrative Assistant rikkibrown@weiwaikum.ca

Christine Smith - Facilities Manager/IRA/Membership Clerk christinesmith@weiwaikum.ca

Jessica Dean - Receptionist <u>reception@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Tasia Dick - Administrative Assistant tasiadick@weiwaikum.ca

Erica Haunch - Lands Manager <u>ericahaunch@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Patricia Romanciwicz - Housing Manager housing@weiwaikum.ca

Shelly Haunch - Education Manager <u>education@weiwaikum.ca</u>

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Deanna Sheers - Community Services Manager deannasheers@weiwaikum.ca

Jazmine McCrimmon-Cook - Community Support Worker <u>jazminemc@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Tayte Latimer - Recreation Worker <u>recreation@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Colleen Dick - Elders Worker <u>colleendick@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Nicole Dumont - Social Development Worker <u>nicoledumont@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Riley Faul- Community Services Assistant rileyfaul@weiwaikum.ca

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Cam Salisbury - Economic Development Officer camsalisbury@weiwaikum.ca

FINANCE

Moe Imran - Chief Financial Officer <u>moeimran@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Priscilla Bruce - Bookkeeper/Accounts Payable <u>priscillabruce@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Muhammad 'Haris' - Accounts Receivable/Payroll Clerk haris@weiwaikum.ca

KWANWATSI CHILD CARE & PRESCHOOL

Kaitlyn Lagos - *Interim* Kwanwatsi Manager <u>kaitlynlagos@weiwaikum.ca</u>

NATURAL RESOURCES

Christine Roberts - Cultural Heritage Coordinator archaeology@weiwaikum.ca

Erin Latham - Natural Resource Manager <u>erinlatham@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Danny Hurry - Guardian Watchman Coordinator <u>danielhurry@weiwaikum.ca</u>

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Mark Haunch - Public Works Manager markhaunch@weiwaikum.ca

Jim Henderson - Netloft Manager jimhenderson@weiwaikum.ca

TREATY

Courtney Fidler - Treaty Administrative Officer <u>courtneyfidler@weiwaikum.ca</u>

WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION CHIEF AND COUNCIL ELECTION 2025

NOTICE OF POLLS

Notice is hereby given to all Wei Wai Kum First Nation Registered Voters that the Polls for the positions of four (4) Councillors will be held:

DATE: February 21st, 2025 TIME: 8:00am – 8:00pm

LOCATION: LKT Health Society office, I 400 A Drake Rd. Campbell River

A Voter may vote by:

- 1. Completing and delivering to the Electoral Officer a mail in ballot package, or
- 2. Attending the Polls.

The ballots will be counted immediately following the close of polls at 8:00pm.

A list of Electors is posted in the Band Office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Electoral Officer by phone, text, or email.

Given under my hand this 10th day of January 2025.

Marcus Hadley

Marcus Hadley

Z55 Linden Ave

Telephone: 250 884-4703

Electoral Officer Victoria BC V8V 4E6 Email: marcus.hadley@gmail.com





Kimberly Puglas (Drake)

I am honoured to accept my nomination for a second term on the Weiwaikum Council

I am the oldest daughter of Judy Drake and the granddaughter of the late Doug Drake Sr. and Dorothy Drake. Growing up, I spent many years in my Gran's home, where I learned invaluable lessons about respect, culture, and the importance of community. These values continue to shape who I am today. Now, at 37, I am raising my three children — Hunter, Kellen, and Ruby — right here in the community I grew up in and love. I take pride in learning and practicing our cultural traditions and ensuring my children do the same. I have always been an active member of our community. Some of my fondest childhood memories are from Christmas and Halloween parties at the Thunderbird Hall. Now, I volunteer my time to help make these events happen, so the next generation—including my own children—can experience that same sense of belonging. I am passionate about keeping our community connected and supporting events that bring us together.

I attended North Island College, earning my Diploma in Business Administration with an Accounting Option. I am also a Certified Professional Bookkeeper (CPB) with the Institute of Professional Bookkeepers of Canada. With over 15 years of experience in finance and bookkeeping, I have a strong understanding of financial statements, budgets, and financial planning. I continue to expand my knowledge by attending business conferences annually, ensuring I stay informed and prepared to contribute effectively to our Nation's financial stability and growth.

I believe our youth and elders are the heart of our community. Our elders' wisdom and knowledge must be preserved and passed onto future generations. It truly does take a village to raise a child, and I am committed to advocating for more support for families to encourage healthy, balanced lifestyles. Sports and recreation play a huge role in this, as they keep our youth engaged, active, and connected. I spend a lot of time cheering not only for my own kids but for other community kids in their chosen sports, and I recognize the importance of ensuring they have the opportunities and encouragement to thrive.

One of our biggest goals during this term has been expanding housing options. We need to ensure that members who leave to further their education have a place to return to — a home where they can bring back their knowledge and contribute to our Nation's future. I recognize the housing challenges many families face, and I am committed to finding creative and strategic solutions to meet our community's needs. While progress may not always happen as quickly as we'd like, I believe we are moving in the right direction, with new rentals on the horizon and continued work on getting our new subdivision ready to build on.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know me better. I hope to earn your vote in the upcoming election. I believe I bring a perspective that many in our community can relate to, and I am dedicated to working hard for our members. I have learned so much over the past four years, and I am eager to keep working for our people. If you have any questions or would like to connect, please feel free to email me at kimberlyann0687@gmail.com.

With respect and gratitude, **Kim Puglas (Drake)**

Gilakasla, my name is Tony Roberts Jr. I am the grandson of the late Chief Bill Roberts of Weiwaikum and late Chief Harry Assu of Wewaikai, and the son of late Chief Tony Roberts Sr. and Jean (née Assu). My wife, Dana (née Billy), and I have been married for 38 years. Together, we have five children (Anthony, Eric, Tawni, Richelle — who passed away in October 2021, and Julia) and three grandchildren (James, Mason, and McKenna).

It has been a privilege to serve on council for the past 28 years, during which I've held various portfolios/committees, including Forestry, Fisheries, Health, Education, Economic Development, and Heydon Bay. I have also chaired or participated in numerous organizations, such as KDC, KTFC, A-Tlegay, the Forum Planning Committee, Salmon Coordinating Committee, Native Brotherhood, Fraser Panel, Fraser Salmon Management Board, IBA Implementation Committee, Nuyumbalees Cultural Board, and the Weiwaikum/Kwiakah Treaty Society.

Over the past 28 years, I've learned how crucial effective communication is key to our success. If re-elected, I hope to work with staff and council to improve communication with all our members, both on and off reserve. This will be key to ensuring continued progress across all areas of our band.

We are already making strides in some of these areas, but there is always room for improvement:

- > Increasing ways to involve and include all members, especially those off-reserve
- > Creating more opportunities for members to voice their opinions at meetings and in between
- > Webcasting band and information meetings for greater accessibility
- > Hosting meetings in cities where our members live or near their communities
- > Improving communication at band meetings by reviewing the success of past discussions
- > Separating the AGM from information meetings to allow for better focus
- > Establishing a meeting schedule focused on addressing resolutions raised by the membership
- > Enhancing programs for Health, Elders, Youth, and Housing

Culture, Language and sports:

> We must create programs that will engage our youth and families, ensuring that all our children feel a sense of belonging in our Gukwdzi and our community, and that they connect with our language and culture. Significant progress has been made, but it is vital that we continue to prioritize this work. I am grateful we are working on a plan to build a cultural centre that will assist with our language revitalization work as well as with our culture. It is imperative that we create safe places for everyone to feel safe and that they belong in these spaces.

Canoe Journeys have been instrumental in my family's healing. It is my hope that all our members that want to partake in a canoe journey are able to do so whether it be land crew or in the canoe. Being on the water is powerful and healing and brings a connection that is hard to describe. Sharing protocol, another important part of the canoe journey where we share our songs, our dances and our stories with other nations. I hope in the future that our Liğwiłdaxw

nation will be together to bring youth, Elders, Chiefs, Singers and Dancers to represent our people at Tribal Journeys this coming Summer.

I also believe sports are fundamental for our youth, teens and members to have access to. I have been a part of the golden wings soccer club since I was a teen. It taught me sportsmanship, teamwork, and lifelong friendships were made from all over BC. Having the propers funds available for all sports is important. Working with our recreation so all of our children have opportunity, this includes community children, on and off reserve children.

Helping our members that struggle with mental health and addictions is also an important part of leadership. Losing our daughter in 2021 is something I hope no other families have to face. I know from personal experience and being on the red road for over 26 years that we have work to do in this area. Having healing and trauma programs available for our membership, creating safe spaces for our members to feel belonging is something I want to work for in the near future.

Economic development has been a cornerstone of our band's success for the past 40 years. We must remember that today's achievements are rooted in the vision, long-term planning, and hard work of former chiefs, councils, and our members. I want to acknowledge and thank those who laid the foundation for our nation's success, including the passage of our first business plan, which has paved the way for the thriving economic development we enjoy today.

In conclusion, I encourage all members to come out and vote on February 21, 2025. I urge our younger members to actively seek out candidates, ask questions, and get informed. Make decisions based on what you learn about each candidate and their ability to serve our community.

If you have any questions I can be reached at 250-895-0773 or by email: tonyrobertsjr@gmail.com



For those that do not know me, my name is Christine Smith (nee Drake), and I am honored to have been nominated for a council position for the Weiwaikum First Nation (Campbell River Band).

I am a proud member of the nation, born and raised in the community. I am the youngest daughter of the former council member late band member Douglas Drake Sr and Vera Drake (nee Whonnock). I am a very proud mother of two young men, Alan and Wesley Smith.

I have been very fortunate and blessed to have been working for the nation for 36 years strong. When I started with the band it was in the reception position in 1988, then over to Discovery Harbour Marina office and returned to the band office to the reception position, before moving onto lands and housing for approximately 13 years, and then into the Membership Clerk/Indian Registry administrator roll in 2007/2008-present.

When I started with the band, we had 37 homes in our community, now we are at 160 homes, which is great to see so many members moving back home.

I am so very proud to witness the economic development growth that our nation envisioned such as the Discovery Harbour Marina, Discovery Harbour Shopping Centre, Home Depot & Walmart. To see the economic development growth within our lands is very fulfilling to see and we can continue to grow on.

I would like to be part of the positive change for our nation, I've seen a lot of changes over the years, and would like to contribute to be part of the nation's success not only as a member but as council member.

If I am successful in being elected to council, I will do my very best to serve both the on and off membership and will ensure your concerns are brought forward to be heard regarding housing, education, health and safety in our community, or economic development.

Gilakas 'la (Thank you)

Christine Smith



Marian Atkinson

Email Address: marianferry55@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 250-287-6461

Address: 1420 16th Avenue, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 2E3

January 1, 2025

Dear Band Members,

Happy New Year to All!

Well, it is election time once again and you will likely all be tired of reading about it soon.

That being said, I will try to keep this as short as possible.

I have been nominated to run for a position on Council again and I would very much like to serve our community as I have in the past. I have the time to dedicate to this for our band, which is all of you.

I am an elder, and I am a board member for the society that runs the Annual Elders Gathering that has 2000 plus people attend each summer in Vancouver, which I am very proud of.

I served on our band council for many years, and I feel that I can help move us all forward now.

Locally I attend almost every - if not every - meeting that there is to do with our band, the financials, our treaty, the elders, and health. This is important because a Council member should be informed on everything that is going on, which I am, so that they can represent you fully.

I believe myself to be the best candidate running for one of the 4 seats on Council next month and I would appreciate your vote. If elected, I will work diligently for all members both on and off our reserve.

Members are invited to reach out to me when they see me in the community or to email, text or call if you have any questions for me.

Please remember to vote as it is your right, and it is your best way to be heard.

All my relations,

Marian Atkinson (Ferry)

Message from Jim Henderson: Re Election



My name is Jim Henderson and my Likwala name is "Ooh'yatz'ca". My wife Sandy and I have been married for 22 years. We have two sons, Rylee and Anthony. My parents are Jim and Nancy Henderson, and my sister is Mary Henderson. I am a descendent of my paternal grandparents, Kenneth (Butch) and Maude Henderson nee 'Quatell' and my maternal grandparents, David and Daisy Moon (nee 'Naknakim').

My family and I live on the Campbell River reserve and built our house 21 years ago. As a member of the Campbell River Band, I have been nominated again to represent you on the Council of the Weiwaikum First Nation (Campbell River Indian Band).

I am currently working as the Net Loft caretaker and assist the Maintenance Supervisor when needed for the Campbell River Indian Band. I was a commercial fisherman for many local skippers and lastly fished on my grandfather's boat until he retired. I then went on to work at Island Generation plant for 14 years, starting in 2001 as a power engineer apprentice and trained for and became a 3rd Class Power Engineer. After my tenure with Capitol Power at Island Generation I moved to Vancouver with a position at the Burrard Generating Station for BC Hydro until they shut down. I then went to Ekati Diamond Mine 300 Kms north of Yellowknife for a couple years. And then the Net Loft caretaker position came up and I applied and was successful in obtaining the job.

I have completed one full term as your elected Councillor and learned a lot about the processes and policies to deliver and maintain consistent governance procedures as well as to promote fair, just and positive administration practices.

I am passionate about our community and want to do my part to keep Campbell River Band/reserve(s) great. I will work collaboratively, positively, and productively with others serving on the council of Weiwaikum First Nation. I am again running for Council because I strongly believe that it is important to work together in serving our Weiwaikum members, both on and off reserve, for us to continue to be progressive in all areas of governance, housing, education, our elders and youth programs, business ventures, and to further our economic opportunities. We'll do that by running a transparent, efficient government, investing in our reserve and public spaces, and promoting balanced development. Most importantly I promise to work tirelessly to represent you.

Jim Henderson: Summary of Achievements over the past 4 years by Weiwaikum First Nation Chief and Council, and also several others proposed for the future.

- Since 2021, we've continued to oversee the following businesses: CRISCO
 Forest Products Ltd; Discovery Crescent Shopping Centre; Weiwaikum House
 of Treasures; Discovery Harbour fuel sales; the Discovery Harbour marina;
 Laich- Kwil-Tach Environment Assessments; Thunderbird RV Park and Resort;
 Weiwaikum Net Loft; and the Ocean Pacific lease, Weiwaikum Chief and
 Council have also increased our ownership of the Discovery Harbour
 Shopping Centre to 55%.
- We have had a float home barge built which will be located at Heydon Bay for community members and their families to utilize and enjoy staying in at our remote reservation and see how beautiful it is there.
- We have partnered with Capstone to build a Wind Mill farm and once it comes to fruition it will be a huge economic benefit to Weiwaikum First Nation for our band members and future children and grandchildren.
- The lease we have with Ocean Pacific offers band members the opportunity to obtain apprenticeship training and on successful completion of apprentice training, to obtain employment with them.
- One of our new initiatives will be to open an Indigenous Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences and Stewardship at the former cruise ship building located on our foreshore.
- We also propose to build a Weiwaikum Language and Culture Centre for all our band members with an area dedicated to our youth and elders (the building to be located at corner of the Thunderbird Hall parking lot).
- We are currently in Stage 5 of the Weiwaikum Treaty and have received a parcel of land through the Incremental Treaty Agreement wherein lands will be owned by Weiwaikum First Nation, whether we sign treaty, or not.
- We have two committees who have drafted a Weiwaikum First Nation Land Use Plan as well a Weiwaikum First Nation Treaty Constitution and once the drafts are redrafted, they will be brought to band members for review and approval.
- We have also entered into an Indigenous Marine Protected Area agreement with the governments to protect and preserve traditional marine resources and seafood for Weiwaikum First Nation band members only

James D Henderson

In the event you have any questions, please e-mail me at: jimhenderson@weiwaikum.ca or telephone me at: 250 287 6650





SONNY ASSU FOR WWK COUNCIL



I want to thank those who nominated me for the Weiwaikum Council. I am honoured to accept this nomination with the utmost respect and gratitude.

My name is Sonny Assu (Ġ*aʔġ*adəxə). My mother is Danielle Assu, whom many of you know from her days as the front desk smile for the former unified treaty society. I transferred to Weiwaikum in 2022 to honour my grandmother, Leila Crosby (Roberts), wish to live in the house she had built.

I am a highly acclaimed and internationally recognized artist. I am also a single father of three – five if you count the dog and cat – and have lived in the community since 2016.

My career spans 23 years and two degrees: a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Fine Arts. My work has taken me all over the world and to many Indigenous communities within North America. I have come to understand the world through a decolonial lens. To that end, I'm highly critical of the INAC governance structure and the modern-day treaty process.

As a councillor, I will bring ideas and critical, decolonial dialogue to the table. I will take this opportunity to further understand how this imposed system of governance works from within and at a community level and how we can challenge it for the betterment of our people.

WHAT I BRING TO THE TABLE...

- A unique perspective on our modern and traditional ways.
- A decolonial, humanitarianism and feminist points of view.
- Experience working on organizational boards and as a former provincially appointed board of governors member of Emily Carr University.
- A voice of clarity, introspection and criticality in the treaty process.
- Transparency: I will communicate openly and compassionately
- Critical thinking: I will use my knowledge, skills and education to make the best-informed decision for the betterment of our community.

I WILL ADVOCATE AND BE AN ALLY FOR...

- The Environment. I do not believe further natural resource extraction, environmental destruction, or mismanagement will benefit us in the long run.
- Housing initiatives. We need to provide better housing options for our community. Not everyone can afford or wants to build a single-family home on whatever precious space we have left. I have ideas about co-op housing, small apartment blocks, townhouses, and mixed retail/commercial/residential options. We need to prioritize housing options for the unhoused, single parents, small families, elders and single individuals who wish to live in the community.
- Questioning the various vacant housing lots in the community and suggesting paths forward to see if it is feasible to open them up to provide housing for people who want to live in the community now.
- Post-secondary education (college, university or trades).
- Elders and Youth: They are the future and the past, guiding us through the present.
- Off-community members. Having lived off-reserve most of my life, I understand the struggles you may face.
- Arts and Culture.
- Health and Wellbeing.
- Ligwiłda'xw AND Kwakwaka'wakw unity.

WE ARE A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY!

However, we could do more to provide for our people outside a capitalist, colonial structure.

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE.

I look forward to working with you to ensure we are a strong and united community.

Debbie Davis

Email: debbiedavis17@shaw.ca







I am running for 1 of 4 Council positions with the Wei Wai Kum First Nation. I am the daughter of the late Louis Quocksister and my mother is Joan Ryan. I was born in Campbell River but lived most of my life off reserve in North Burnaby. I recently moved back to Campbell River. I have 2 sons (Brandon and Willie Davis and 1 granddaughter Aaliya Davis).

I currently work for the Department of Justice as Human Resources Administrative Officer. I was given approval from the ADM-Assistant Deputy Minister of Justice to work 100% remotely in my community. I report directly to my Director of Human Resources who is located in Ottawa, ON. Our Human Resources Team is located across Canada (Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax). I have a valid Security Clearance with the DOJ. My duties include, finance, human resources, material management, travel, hospitality, ATIP, etc. I manage our O&M Budget of \$255,940 and Salary Budget of \$6,113,744 for 75.6 FTE's. I participate weekly in our Management Team Meeting's and regularly update our team with the status of our Budget and other issues.

I recently did 3 years in PSDI – Public, Safety Defence & Immigration as the Office & Legal Support Manager at Department of Justice. Secret Clearance due to the high-profile files we manage. Provide administrative, financial and human resources services to the Regional Director & General Counsel. I managed the Admin Team and Office. I managed O&M Budget of \$460,000 and Salary Budget of \$8,700,000 for 79.5 FTE's (full time equivalent) positions. I provided training and mentorship to my staff. Participate in weekly Management Meetings and held biweekly Admin Team meetings for my admin team.

Prior to returning to the government, I worked for 12 years at Canadian Airlines (now Air Canada). I have my Travel Counselling Diploma. My most memorable job was working with all the Chief Pilots of each aircraft. Desktop Publishing System to draft and produce Flight Crew Operating Manuals, De-icing Procedures, Minimum Equipment Lists and reconstruct airport runways (graphic updates for the Jeppison Manual) for the approval of Chief Pilots and MOT-Ministry of Transport.

As part of the Leader's Network at Justice, I participated in several leadership training sessions, some listed below:

 Leadership Training for Managers, Duty to Accommodate, Staffing for Managers, Labour Relations Training for Managers/Supervisors, Classification Evaluation for Managers, PSLRA (Public Service Labour Relations Act), Diversity Training for Managers, Financial Signing Authority, Contract Training, Conflict Management, Civility on the Workplace, Presentation Skills Workshop and Communication with Influence and several Human Resources Management courses at BCIT. The core competencies in my work and interactions with colleagues, clients and my Director's has always been important to me and follow it each and every day:

1. Demonstrating integrity and respect – I consistently work in a manner that reflects my commitment to Client Service. I assist my staff in their needs and provide guidance and direction if needed. I actively contribute to a workplace that is safe, healthy and respectful. I am open and transparent.

2. Thinking things through – I am methodical when it comes to budgeting/planning and am effective at prioritizing tasks.

3. Working effectively with others – I interact with my colleagues and superiors in a respectful and professional manner.

4. Civility and inclusion – I treat everyone with respect and consideration, and I make everyone feel like they belong.

Housing – I would like to see more housing available for all our member's (on and off reserve member's). We need housing for every class whether it being for single occupancy, couples, families and elders. I know many of you want to move back home, but don't have anywhere to move too. Living off reserve and paying high rents, mortgages, taxes, gas, parking, food, etc. I see the need and urgency for those that want to move back home. I am a mom, that worries about my kids all the time and I'm sure you do too. We need to start building now.

Economic Development – there is always room to grow and employ our own member's.

Mental Health – I would like to see our own treatment centre for our member's. I see so many struggling with addiction, loss & grief.

Natural Resources – we to need to ensure our natural resources are used sustainably and that the environment is healthy for our future generations.

Culture & Sport – It's important for our members sharing our language, traditions and history. My family comes from playing all different sports, such as soccer, ice hockey, lacrosse, baseball and skiing/snowboarding. Sport gives our children and youth, physical health, mental health, social skills, self-esteem, stress relief and life skills.

If elected as Council, I will bring all my experience, competencies and training with me. I will listen and I will respond to each of you. Your voice matters to me and I will bring whatever you are having issues/concerns/suggestions with to Chief & Council. I am ethical, tactful, respect confidentiality, compassionate, empathic, personable and sensitive to your needs. You can count on me to be your voice!

be kind – be respectful – be humble

With love and gratitude!

Ğilakas'la

Debbie Davis

ELECT ANDREW PUGLAS JR. FOR WWK COUNCIL 2025.

Dear Members of the WWK Nation.

This is a call to action for our community—a call to embrace a vision that prioritizes our members, their homes, and their futures. I am Andrew Puglas Jr. and I am running for a seat on the WWK Council in 2025. It's time for no-nonsense leadership that puts our needs first.

Housing for Our Members

For too long, our housing initiatives have been placed on the back burner. Every member of our community deserves a safe, stable place to call home. I will advocate for a comprehensive

housing strategy that prioritizes building affordable housing and supports for our members. No more delays; it's time to bring our community home.



Investing in Cultural Heritage

Our culture is a vital part of who we are, and for years, it has been neglected. We must invest in our cultural heritage, ensuring that future generations understand, appreciate, and celebrate our rich history. Let's take decisive action to preserve and showcase our traditions, empowering our community to thrive.

Supporting Youth Sports and Health

Our youth need more than just safe spaces; they need opportunities to engage in sports and healthy activities. By investing in youth sporting programs, we can foster not only physical health but also teamwork, discipline, and resilience. A healthy youth is a thriving future.

Bridging Generational Gaps

We must bridge the divide between our youth and our elders. By fostering mentorship programs that connect generations, we can share valuable wisdom and experiences, creating a more unified and understanding community.

Economic Growth Through Entrepreneurship

Economic empowerment begins with investing in our entrepreneurs. I will advocate for programs that provide capital and resources to help our members establish their businesses and franchises. Together, we can create sustainable economic growth and job opportunities.

Education and Community Partnerships

Education is the foundation of a successful community. We need to develop community-based education programs in partnership with local educational institutions. Together, we can provide our members with the tools and knowledge they need to excel.

Ending Discrimination and Supporting Every Member

Discrimination has no place in our community. I will work tirelessly to ensure that every child and member of our community has equal opportunities to succeed. We must uplift one another and foster an environment of inclusivity and support.

Investing in Healing and Unity

Our community has endured enough suffering. It's time to invest in healing initiatives that foster unity and understanding. We must end judgment and division, coming together to support each other and create a stronger, healthier community.

We must remain optimistic and proactive, recognizing that our choices today lay the groundwork for a better tomorrow. It is time to elect leaders who are not only passionate but also possess the necessary experience and knowledge leaders who understand both the intricacies of politics and the realities of business. I stand before you ready and eager to be that voice; a voice grounded in understanding, driven by purpose.

Politicians and cultural leaders are born from the fires of experience, not simply groomed in the halls of power. I have dedicated myself to learning, growing, and preparing for this moment. Together, we can build a future that reflects our shared values and aspirations. Let us unite in our mission to create a brighter, more inclusive society. Now is the time to act, to choose wisely, and to stand together. Our future depends on it. My office door will be open for our members to come talk once a week to discuss their concerns or ideas they may have. I am here to listen, act, and influence positive solutions so that we can move forward together.

No More Excuses; It's Time to Get the Job Done

The time for talking is over. It's time for action, accountability, and real progress. With your support, we can turn these goals into reality. Together, we can transform our community and create a brighter future for all. I stand ready to lead this charge, with a no-nonsense approach that prioritizes our collective well-being.

I invite you to join me in this bold campaign. **Elect Andrew Puglas Jr. for WWK Council 2025.** Together, we will build a stronger, more united community where every member has the opportunity to prosper.

Thank you for your support.

Gilakas'dawxala, Andrew Puglas Jr. Candidate for WWK Council 2025



Dear members of Wei Wai Kum,

This letter is written with the hope of gaining support for the Wei Wai Kum 2025 Election.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Malia, I'm 22 years old, and raised here in Campbell River. Daughter of former band member Averil Henderson, and granddaughter of band member John Henderson. As of 2024 I entered motherhood and gave birth to a healthy baby boy and celebrated one year of sobriety. I also accepted a position for Ligwildaxw Health Society as a casual site admin in June!

The choice to run for counsel has been an idea I've pondered for some time. As my growth in maturity has sprung forward for the best. I figured I'd try my best to provide reasons on why I would be an excellent candidate for counsel.

1. Youth is our Future!

The generation I come from has a young perspective. Despite being young and having lots of experience to gain. I believe we are capable of being leaders and can make a difference for our people. We can supply fresh perspectives and contribute to making positive steps forward. Present our thoughts and additional problem-solving methods to help with band related issues. The idea on having a younger face on counsel could be essential! Something to consider.

Membership as one!

In my youth, I had the privilege of growing up on the reserve. Since then, I have spent the rest of my years off-reserve local in Campbell River. It is the intent to try reach inclusion exclusively. Dissolve "On-reserve only" and have every program, distribution, and types of funding for ALL members. I have personally experienced the rejection of living off reserve. Left out, ignored, and dismissed are feelings I know all too well. Let's make a difference and get someone on counsel who knows firsthand the importance of inclusion.

3. Communication and Transparency!

In addition, I'd like to help as a communication outlet. Be someone you can count on for questions, answers, follow-ups and any other related information. As I've brought to the chief's attention, the lack of communication can come across negatively. All it takes is a response, even if you don't have the answer right away. That way your people feel acknowledged and taken care of instead of forgotten about. Something small can make a huge difference.

There are more topics I can touch on such as housing and employment initiatives. But to keep it light I will leave it at those. That being said, I hope my words have been heartfelt and honest as they were written. I'm excited to have feedback from you all! Gilakasla Wei Wai Kum!

Sincerely,

Malia



NICOLE DUMONT (ROBERTS)

Dear Weiwaikum First Nation Community,

My name is Nicole Dumont (Roberts) and I am honoured to stand as a candidate for one of the four available council positions in the upcoming election. As the daughter of the late councilor, Jerry Roberts and Patricia Roberts, and the granddaughter of the late Chief William Roberts and Frances Roberts, I am deeply rooted in a legacy of leadership, service, and dedication to our people. I aspire to embody the same commitment and dedication to the Weiwaikum Community.

Having moved onto reserve in grade 10, I later attended post-secondary education and returned home to raise my two boys. Throughout my journey I have gained valuable experiences that strengthen my commitment to our community.

Since 2011, I have worked within our Nation as the Social Development Administrator. advocating for families, youth and Elders, and working to improve the well-being of our people. A big part of this position is being a part of the community services team, where we serve as frontline workers supporting our community in various capacities, including health and well-being, cultural enrichment initiatives, employment opportunities, support to our children and families, and community engagement to on and off-reserve members. Prior to that, I worked for the School District 72 as a First Nations Educational Assistant since 2002, supporting students in their learning and development. Before my role as an Educational Assistant, I was dedicated to pursuing my educational goals while fishing every summer with my father. These experiences have equipped me to support our youth and families and advocate for social support initiatives that foster well-being in our community.

As I pursue the opportunity to serve as your council representative, I want to express my deep commitment to our people and the issues we face. As a mother, community member and my work as the Social Development Administrator within the Nation, I fully understand the struggles faced by many of our people – those suffering from low income, addiction, lack of housing and employment opportunities due to barriers they face. I believe strongly that our voices must be heard, especially those of our vulnerable members. I am dedicated to amplifying these voices for our community within leadership, advocating for the rights and needs of those who may not be easily heard.

Having lived both on and off-reserve, I have a personal understanding of the sense of disconnection that some may feel. Since returning to our community, I have gained a deeper understanding of our traditions and the importance of fostering unity among all our members, regardless of where they reside.





My vision as a counselor is to lead with empathy, integrity, and resilience and I will prioritize the following:

- Community empowerment- ensuring that all on and off-reserve members, feel valued, supported and connected to our Nation
- Transparent Leadership-providing open and honest communication between leadership and the community, so everyone is informed and involved in decision-making
- Cultural Preservation-advocating for programs or facilities that honor our traditions, language, and heritage to ensure they are passed down to future generations.
- Social and Economic Growth-creating more opportunities for our people in housing, employment, education, and health services to improve the well-being of our people

As a potential counsellor, I would bring the voices from our community—those struggling with poverty, addiction, and various hardships—into the council chambers. I will advocate for the development of a post-treatment center rooted within our traditional lands and provide the necessary support structures for families in need. My vision i includes enhancing communication between council and community members, ensuring that everyone feels valued and heard. I will support initiatives that revitalize our language and culture, while also advocating for housing solutions that meet the diverse needs of all community members.

Furthermore, I believe that sustainability through the revitalization and protection of our lands is so important. Collaboration with recreational department will be a priority, promoting activities that engage individuals of all ages, recognizing that support should not cease at the age of 18. Continue to uplift our elders and youth, fostering intergenerational connections and ensuring that their wisdom and energy continue to drive our community forward.

I thank you for considering me as your advocate, and I am looking forward to the possibility of working alongside you to bring our shared visions to life. Together we can continue to empower our community, fostering a space that thrives on inclusion and support for all.

Please go out and vote on Feb 21, 2025 at the lkt office Gila'kasla Nicole Dumont



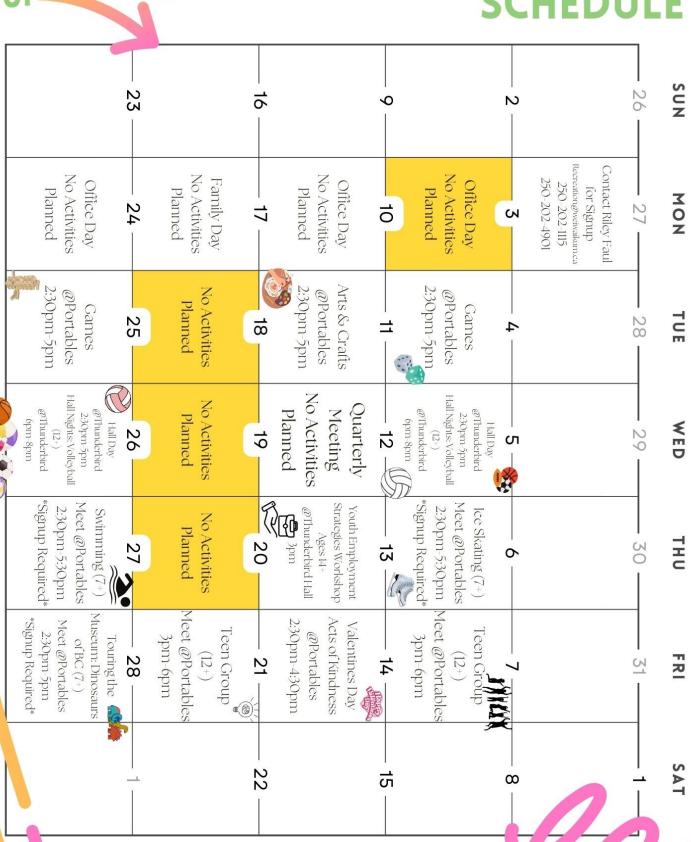
WeiWaiKum ELDERS CALENDAR



23	16	4	9	GROUNDHOG DAY	B	Sunday
24 Office Day	17 Family Day! OFFICE CLOSED	Out of office	10	3 Office Day	Need transpor text or email Co Colleendi	Monday
Garden day Chair exercises 10:30-11:30 at LKT	Garden day Chair exercises 10:30-11:30 at LKT		11	4 Garden day	Need transportation to activities? Call, text or email Colleen Dick (250)202-0115 Colleendick@weiwaikum.ca	Tuesday
Grocery / Dr. appt day Pink Shirt STOP Pay	Grocery / Dr. appt day, Call ahead to book with Colleen		12	Grocery / Dr. appt day, Call ahead to book with Colleen	б	Wednesday
Elders lunch at the nest	Elders lunch at the nest	Elders/Kwanwatsi lunch at the nest	13	Elders lunch at the nest		Thursday
28 Home Visits	21 Home Visits	Valentine's Day	14	7 Away from office		Friday
	22	3	15	&	7	Saturday

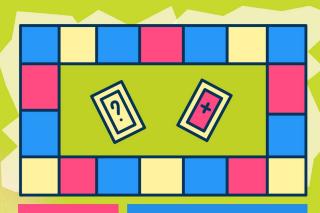
2025

FEBRUARY RECREATION SCHEDULE



GAMES

LET'S HAVE FUN!



2:30PM-5PM

a PORTABLES

FEBRUARY 4TH & 25TH, 2025

RECREATION@WEIWAIKUM.CA 250-202-1115



FEBRUARY 27TH - 2:30PM-5:30PM

Ages 7+
Signup Required
Meet @ Portables



REGISTER NOW!

recreation@weiwaikum.ca 250-202-1115



DROP IN @ THUNDERBIRD HALL

2:30PM-5PM

FEBRUARY 5TH & 26TH

RECREATION@WEIWAIKUM.CA 250-202-1115



recreation@weiwaikum.ca / 250-202-1115

Museum
Day!
Dinosaurs of
BC

¥ . E

February 28th 2:30pm-5pm

Ages 7+
Meet @ Portables
Signup Required





GARBAGE/RECYCLING REMINDERS

GARBAGE DAY IS EVERY TUESDAY FOR CURBSIDE PICK UP & RECYCLING IS EVERY OTHER WEEK. THE GARBAGE BINS AT THE THUNDERBIRD HALL ARE BEING MONITORED BY SURVEILLANCE AND THE BINS ARE TO ONLY BE USED IF YOU HAVE MISSED GARBAGE DAY AND YOU HAVE UNWANTED GARBAGE THAT NEEDS TO BE DISPOSED OF.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR GARBAGE OUT BY 7AM TO ENSURE PICK UP.

THE NEXT RECYCLING DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWED: 2025



FEBRUARY 4 FEBRUARY 18 MARCH 4 MARCH 18 APRIL 1



Be a Buddy Not a Bully



Pink shirt day! February 26th, 2025



LANGUAGE THROUGH CULTURE





BUTTON BLANKET MAKING

WE ARE EXCITED TO OFFER A BUTTON BLANKET
WORKSHOP SERIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
LAICHWILTACH FAMILY LIFE SOCIETY
AND DANA ROBERTS

DATES: MARCH 9, 16, 30 LOCATION: THUNDERBIRD HALL 10AM-3PM WITH LUNCH PROVIDED

SIGN UP REQUIRED
PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE THAT DO NOT HAVE REGALIA OR ARE
MAKING IT FOR SOMEONE THAT DOES NOT HAVE ANY

PLEASE CALL DEANNA AT THE BAND OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP 250-286-6949

CALL FOR: RECREATION PROGRAM SUPPORT

We are looking to create a list of community volunteers that would like to help out in various programs, specifically our recreation programs.

What we are looking for:

- Energetic, sports and recreation enthusiasts
- Individuals interested in working with children and youth, or who enjoy helping out in community
- A clear criminal record check including vulnerable sector check
- On call availability

What we can offer:

- Reimbursement for criminal record check cost
- Honoraria/hourly wage
- · Flexible work hours

If this opportunity is of interest to you, please reach out to Deanna at the band office.







CONTACT: DEANNA SHEERS

DEANNASHEERS@WEIWAIKUM.CA

CELL: 250-203-5654



JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: Treaty Outreach Coordinator

Salary Range: \$31.00 - \$39.00 per hour

Location: Wei Wai Kum First Nation, 1650 Old Spit Rd. Campbell River

Hours of work: 37.5 Hours, Weekly: 8:30 am-4:00 pm, Monday to Friday

Reports to: Treaty Administrative Officer

Summary Statement

The Treaty Outreach Coordinator is responsible for advancing Wei Wai Kum's treaty goals, with a focus on achieving a Self-Government Agreement (SGA) in the short term and working toward a comprehensive treaty in the medium term. This role requires a highly motivated and community-driven individual to lead engagement and outreach efforts, ensuring that community voices shape the negotiation process.

A key priority is fostering two-way communication, and keeping members well-informed about SGA developments and treaty opportunities through meetings, educational materials, and outreach initiatives. In addition to engagement, the Coordinator will support administrative planning efforts that strengthen the Nation's autonomy and long-term aspirations. Visit https://weiwaikumtreaty.ca/ to learn more.

Working closely with a diverse team of negotiators, leadership, staff, and community representatives, the Treaty Outreach Coordinator will play a vital role in advancing the Wei Wai Kum Nation's treaty negotiations and self-governance journey.

Description of Duties and Responsibilities

Essential Functions

- -Facilitate and organize Working Groups and Committees to support treaty initiatives.
- -Lead community engagement and outreach efforts by planning and executing various activities, including:
 - Coordinating General Membership and Community/Family Meetings.
 - Managing social media outreach, including Facebook.
 - Developing and promoting content for the Wei Wai Kum Treaty website and Members Portal.
 - Drafting content for electronic and print newsletters.



- -Support Treaty-Related Measures (TRM) projects by coordinating and facilitating project objectives with team members.
- -Monitor and update goals and deliverables outlined in the BC Treaty Commission Workplan and the Tripartite Workplan (BC, Canada, and Wei Wai Kum).
- -Participate in treaty-related meetings, including:
 - Internal Treaty Meetings, Main Table Meetings, and Technical Working Groups (Lands and Self-Government Agreement).
 - Additional committee meetings as required (e.g., Constitution, Ligwildaxw Naming Committee).
- -Assist in drafting funding proposals, reports, and other treaty-related documents.
- -Collaborate with Administration staff, Chief and Council, and contractors involved in treaty negotiations.

Community Outreach and Engagement

- Serve as the primary point of contact for community outreach and engagement, ensuring open communication and feedback loops to keep the community wellinformed.
- Manage and update treaty-related content on the website and social media platforms (E.g. Facebook).
- Develop and distribute updates for the Band and c'ak'alali Electronic Newsletter.
- Liaise with other Nations, Treaty Groups, and organizations to stay informed on treaty and self-government developments.
- Create and analyze community surveys to gather input and inform treaty initiatives.
- Respond to inquiries providing accurate information and referrals

Special Projects

- Identify and develop grant applications
- Oversee TRM projects including drafting, managing and ensuring deliverables are achieved, inclusive of reporting functions.

Position Requirements

- Post-secondary degree in Social Sciences or related field, plus five years of relevant work experience with experience in community outreach.
- Ability to solve practical problems in a culturally-appropriate manner.
- Ability to actively listen, demonstrate patience, understanding, and a willingness to share and learn.
- Experience working with First Nation communities.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Programs (Word, Excel, Outlook), Canva, Adobe
- Knowledge of Aboriginal rights and title.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Excellent writing and analytical skills.



- Ability to prioritize a high volume of activities using well-developed organizational and planning skills.
- Attention to detail, initiative/self-starting, and flexibility/adaptability required.
- Successful background checks, including employment verification, reference checks and educational/credential verification.
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License.

Physical Demands

- -The position is primarily office-based work.
- -Some evening, weekend, and overtime work is required, including overnight out-of-town travel.

Cognitive Focus

- -Must synthesize complex and diverse information
- -Remain professional objective and constructive

Environmental Conditions

- -Dynamic environment with multiple demands, changing priorities and constant interruptions.
- -Highly sensitive legal, confidential and political issues and environment.
- -Engagement with other administrative departments, levels of the Crown, community (Elders, Hereditary Chiefs/Leaders, Youth), and other Nation governments.

Wei Wai Kum offers a competitive compensation and retirement savings and benefits package. Salary commensurate with experience.

Wei Wai Kum provides equal employment opportunities to all, regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, political belief, creed, disability that does not prohibit performance of essential job functions or that cannot be accommodated, or conviction for which a pardon has been granted. However, where two or more applicants have comparable or equivalent skills and qualifications, preference shall be given, in the following order, to persons with specific knowledge of and/or experience with Wei Wai Kum culture, history and customs; persons of Aboriginal, Métis or Inuit ancestry; and all others.

If you are qualified, please submit your resume and cover letter **by 4:00 PM on March 3 2025**, addressed to Courtney Fidler.

Email: courtneyfidler@weiwaikum.ca
We appreciate all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Ğilakas'la

3



For prounounciation visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYg3evsDiac



Bachelor of Education

Indigenous Post-Degree Professional Program

A 20-month program for Indigenous and non-Indigenous aspiring K-12 teachers

Relevant, relational and transformative education for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to foster a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Métis histories, cultures and ways of knowing and being.

Graduates will receive a UVic Bachelor of Education degree and will be eligible to apply for a BC Teaching Professional Certificate of Qualification (K-12).

Questions? Email ied.practicum@uvic.ca

Apply now for September 2025







Find out more & apply now at uvic.ca/education/indigenous

Indigenous Education Post-Degree Professional Bachelor of Education Degree Program Department of Indigenous Education, Faculty of Education, The University of Victoria.

Program overview:

This post-degree professional program will provide aspiring teachers, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, with a relevant, relational, and transformative education designed to foster a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Métis histories, cultures, and ways of knowing and being. The program is designed to enhance relational accountabilities with local indigenous people and communities.

Courses are designed to support the holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential and relational growth of learners; as such, courses will be offered on the land, and in the classroom. This program has also been enhanced by regular weekly intensive learning opportunities. Students will develop a deep understanding of the First Peoples Principles of Learning, the Professional Standards for BC Educators, and the qualification requirements established by the Ministry of Education for K-12 teaching. The program includes a year one six week practicum and a year two final practicum of ten weeks.

Graduates of this twenty-month program will receive a Bachelor of Education degree and are eligible to apply for a BC Teaching Professional Certificate of Qualification (K-12, non-expiring).

Graduates will:

- Develop an awareness of and appreciation for the dynamics of Indigenous languages, knowledge, traditional pedagogy and origins of traditional values and worldviews.
- Demonstrate respect for diversity by creating a classroom atmosphere where Indigenous perspectives are welcomed, acknowledged, and honoured.
- Form healthy relationships with local Indigenous peoples.
- Understand the significance of land and place for Indigenous communities.
- Apply Indigenous knowledge and perspectives across the curriculum.
- Understand the settler role in colonialism and themes in anti-colonial education.
- Support holistic child and youth development, and enact differentiated instructional practices; and,
- Be committed to Indigenous student success.

For additional information please contact

Gary Crocker, IED Program Coordinator. Email: ied.practicum@uvic.ca



Reminder:

Loose dogs have been spotted in the area.

Please stay vigilant. If there are any concerns regarding loose dogs, report the sighting to animal control.

To report, call (236) 472-1013.

Please remember to pick up after your pet & to have on a leash

Hemas Kla-Lee-Lee-Kla (Chief William Lane Wilson) ~ Celebration of Life ~

We are so thankful for the kind, loving messages we have received about the passing of our beloved dad, grandfather, husband to Bev, and Hereditary Chief, Hemas Kla-Lee-Lee-Kla (Chief Bill Wilson).

The funeral service will take place on **February 23, 2025, at 10:00am,** in Campbell River at **We Wai Kum's Kwanwatsi Big House (1401 Drake Road).**

A light meal will be offered after the service. <u>Please remember to bring blankets</u> and wear warm clothing as it is cold in the Big House

As well, the night before the service, on February 22, 2025, at 6 pm, there will be a film screening of the critically acclaimed film, 'The Spirit Who Swims' in Campbell River at We Wai Kai's Quinsam Hall (2005 Eagle Drive).

This film is the last major project that Bev Sellars and Bill Wilson worked on together. The film is a love manifesto to salmon, foregrounding the spiritual and material importance of salmon to Indigenous peoples along the Fraser River, and makes an urgent call to rethink our relationship with the natural world. The film was written and directed by Bev and Garry Tutte, is narrated by Bill, and was produced by Bev and Garry.

We have been incredibly touched by so many people and organizations wishing to make donations to a worthy cause to honour our father, Hemas Kla-Lee-Lee-Kla. The family is establishing the *Hemas Kla-Lee-Lee-Kla Education Scholarship Fund* to support First Nations students attending his Alma Mater, the University of British Columbia. We will provide more details on the Fund shortly.

For anyone wishing to send anything to the family the mailing address is: P.O. Box 762, Quathiaski Cove, BC, VOP 1NO. Further, if you have any questions, please feel free to email us at: HemasBillWilson@gmail.com.

With love, honour and respect—Gilakas'la,

Puglaas (Jody Wilson-Raybould) and Pugladee (Kory Wilson)