

KITSELAS BY-ELECTION CANDIDATES

BY: HOLLY M. SPENCER

On March 16th 2010, Kitselas members were given the opportunity to nominate candidates for the councillor seat which was previously held by the late Winnie Wells. There are 12 nominated candidates for this one position to serve the remainder of the term, which is May 2010-June 2011.

As the voting date is May 11th 2010, this issue is primarily focussed on introducing each candidate, for those who may not know who are in the running.

Each candidate was given the same five questions about their candidacy to inform the Kitselas votership on why they are running for Councillor. Pictures of each candidate, if you do not know who they are, and their responses can be found on page 2.



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Kitselas By-Election Candidates.....P. 2**
- How Governing Works.....P. 6**
- Citizens on Patrol.....P. 8**
- Health Department Update.....P. 9**
- Kitselas Housing Update.....P. 10**
- Kitselas Sun Runnerz Update.....P. 11**
- Career Fair for Students.....P. 12**

Candidate Questions:

1. *Why would you like to be elected?*
2. *What experience do you feel you would bring to the Kitselas Band Council?*
3. *How would you utilize this important position, to better the community?*
4. *Do you have a platform in which your candidacy is based upon?*
5. *Is there anything else you would like to add?*

(*Please note the order of answers was based on the order recieved)



Joe Bevan

I would like to be elected because I feel that I have a certain skill set that I could use to assist Kitselas Band with issues that they may have in programs, administration, finance and forestry. And, I would like to contribute to the Kitselas band to see their continued success.

I have 23 years experience in finance and administration with various businesses and FN governments, plus, over 5 years in economic development and forestry.

By influencing the council to make decisions that have community interests in-mind (ie...joint partnerships with businesses), and building on those interests to ensure that they come to completion.

I would like to help the youth by getting involved in programs to educate them on how important it is today to have an education (academic or trades). And once elected, I would get the rest of my mandate from Kitselas membership by talking with the elders, youth and everyone else to ensure they get full representation at the council table.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the candidates good luck with the election. And, at the end of the day we are all Tsimshian people striving to make our communities a better place to live.



I have always wanted to be able to help the people in my community. I believe that being elected onto Band Council would give me the opportunity to do just that. After all, isn't serving the community the sole reason for the council.

I was born here and I have lived most of my life in Kitselas. I have had a number of important positions in the communities I have lived in. Most have been in creating jobs for other people. I am positive that we have job opportunities for our community and we just have to search them out.

There is a lot of talent and experience in our village. I believe that we can show and guide the people in our villages how to market this potential. We can show them how to access the funds that are available for training and I know that we can one day be self-sustaining.



William Bolton Sr.



Lynn Wright

I would like to be elected as a Kitselas Councilor so that I am able to represent all Kitselas people. To lobby for members who live on and off reserve for good reason. If a member needs my help, I will make myself available at his or her discretion. I have a passion for representing our youth. Kitselas has 121 youth who are living on reserve. Kitselas has approximately a little more than 150 youth that live off reserve. Our children are our future; we need to give them the knowledge and wisdom they need to teach the next generation.

I am an active community-minded member of Kitselas. I have taken the liberty of gaining more knowledge by attending workshops on family violence, suicide prevention, Train-the-trainer and entrepreneurial skill building. I have also being on a number of committees such as: Kitselas Kids Safety and Protection; Multicultural Diversity Society; NWCC totem pole raising; Royal Bank Diversity; and the Housing Committee to be part of a team that represents youth, culture and community spirit. I have volunteered to organize community events. I feel it is important for our children and their families to get to know the elders and each other to know where they are from. I am experienced in writing successful proposals that bring financial assistance to assist our community.

I would ensure that our member's concerns are taking to the table. I believe that being fair when it comes to making decisions for our community's best interest at hand. I would strive for employable skills for our members off and on reserve to assist our high un-employment rate in making it lower.

My candidacy is based on: Youth, Elders, Culture, Fairness.

I would love to represent Kitselas as a Councilor but also honor the special people that have passed. These people have provided all of us with the wisdom we need to treat each and everyone of us with the utmost respect.



I feel that with good input on building and financial matters seeing as I built my own house and am running my own business I understand financial management.

I feel I would bring new ideas, and fairness to all.

It's a good thing to listen to the members, including those who live off-reserve. Broader ideas and views are also important.

Good with public relation and on financial business.



Karen May



Canyon Current

“Increasing Knowledge Together for a Better Tomorrow”

Volume 2 Issue 10 April 2010

4562 Queensway Drive Terrace, BC V8G 3X6

Phone: 250.635.8882 ext. 242

Fax: 250.635.8793

Email: newsroom@kitselas.com

Communications Coordinator:

Holly M. Spencer

hspencer@kitselas.com

Editorial Committee:

Mel Bevan,

Holly M. Spencer

Photographs:

Holly M. Spencer

Proudly written, published and distributed through the Kitselas Treaty Office

www.kitselas.bc.ca



Cora Kennedy

As an “Off Reserve” member of the Kitselas Band, I would like to change the perception of the “Off Reserve” members and the general public that the Kitselas Band is working for and only cares for friends and family. I believe that the Band has done good work toward helping some members, but I believe they should work equally hard in promoting all their services and reaching all members on a regular basis. Also being, as this is the first year that an “Off Reserve” member can run for council, this would be a good precedent to set.

I have worked with the general public for many years. I have spent a lot of time with the sick and elderly. I have been involved with a committee of the Kitselas Band. I am also a member of the Kitselas Elders Group. I have also been a partner in a business for the last thirteen years. I believe that I am fair and reasonable. I have always included the Native option in any decision I make.

I would make myself available to every member of the community, I will listen to their problems and do my best to help find a solution or help to find someone capable of doing so. I would not discriminate against any band member or outsider and make sure that all are treated the same.

I believe in transparency, no behind door deals. We must tell the band members our intentions and listen to what they would like to see done around our community. We are all equal and should all work for the same goal: Promoting and improving the Kitselas Band.

I believe we have a great opportunity, with Gitau, to develop businesses and to beautify the reserve with the help of all. We have to improve our image and promote entrepreneurship.

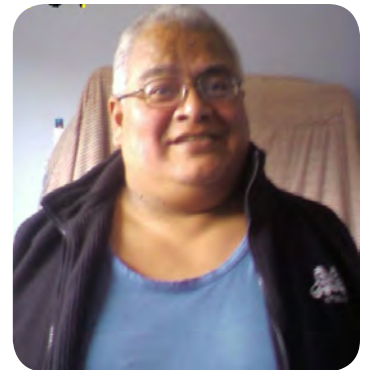


I would like to be elected for many reasons but the one to name is to work on working with the public of Kitselas.

I would bring the experience and knowledge of different ways to deal with matters rather than in a haste, work on helping one another in needed situations. (Community -Comm- Together..Unity As one ...)

When we were young we almost grew up in the band office; to gain knowledge. We all should work together ..is what a way of putting it in the early days of learning.

I remember when the old band office was in the middle right where you sit today known as Resource office. People would come and go with a greeting, today it has all changed not saying there’s gonna be a healing in our development of living, but we must look forward and help one another cause we are losing to a winning situation of life.



Victor Wright

If we start somewhere to gain trust in something maybe we can trust each others to work together on council. I want be there to fund raise, picnic, sit and listen. For all concerns.



Anne Maitland (McDames)

I want to be the voice for those that have concerns that may be important to them, but they are not being heard.

I have been working for the Kitselas Band for 14 years now, and I hear a lot of issues and concerns that people have within the community and outside of the community. I have a listening ear, I am honest, I don't like playing games and no favouritism. I believe in equality. I would bring that to the Kitselas Band Council.

I would have Council listen to all concern that affect our people, whether they be big or small, that we deal with those issues and not let them drag on and on and soon we forget about those concerns. We can't pick and choose who we are going to assist and forget those that are at the bottom of the totem pole. We need to treat all people with fairness and with no favouritism. We all need to be honest with each other in council and with our people.

First of all, I believe in prayer and I believe in our creator who put us here on earth. I believe in honesty and to treat each other with respect. I believe in fairness to all and to be trustworthy. I believe in humour and laughter, I believe in "being there for you."

To the membership, you are the ones who nominated and put our names forward to represent you. I believe it is important to be a part of the community events and also to be amongst our people, to visit and to hear your concerns. I don't agree that we only see each other every two years when elections come up. I feel it is important we interact with each other.



I'd like to be elected as a councillor for Kitselas Band Council to represent and be a part of positive changes for membership. I'd like to be able to be approached by all membership and voice their concern without hesitation and be heard to the Kitselas Programs and Department Heads. Equal representation and be able to convey that to the administration and to the membership. I'm not afraid to voice concern and be able to come up with an ideal solution.

My experience is I've been a member and I've seen the changes that have evolved since my dad Ralph Wright was the elected Chief council and he certainly modeled great leadership in our home and his leadership role.

Commitment and positive attitude and understanding to the membership at this day and age we are living. Critical thinking and team work and open communication.

I would be available for all the membership and serve their interest to a good change. I'm open to what direction the membership would like to go and convey that to the rest of Chief and Council. I believe to have open communication and directness is better served to achieve positive change.

My platform of candidacy is based on equal representation, access to provided programs, open communication and honesty through open discussion. Baby steps are required but any change is a good thing.

I'd like to say thank you for this opportunity for this candidate submission. I wish all the best to the rest of the nominees for the band councillor position.



Freda Wright

I would like to be elected to be part of a team that is continuously moving forward; offering my professional experiences when analyzing certain issues.

I have thirty years of work experience in the administrative field, all of which were in the public service sector. I have served five terms as a Kitselas Band Councillor. Each position that I have held allowed me to be part of positive change and enhancements to Our People's lives within the community. I have learned good communication skills which brings with it respect in the way that a team interacts in a bureaucratic environment.



Shirley Gray

As with other positions I have held, whether as a Councillor, Board Member, or in Employment, positive change or enhancements to programs and services are made with a team effort. Team effort would include #1 the members, the staff, and Council. I would support staff in delivering social services, education programs, and employment development because they are frontline to the community that we serve; staff provide insight and suggestions for solutions to issues within the community.

I would like to see our Community Meetings be enhanced with breakout groups where members would feel comfortable in asking questions or making suggestions; and for the members to learn more of the mechanics of each program, whether it be in service delivery or understanding the finances.

Again to be part of a team that demonstrates transparency, equality, and empathy to our people would be my platform. My family will support me in my efforts, and they always have supported me with my decision to give my time for the betterment of my community and my people.

Submissions from the following candidates responses were unavailable at the time of printing:

Wilfred Bennett Sr., Edison Bolton, Paul Mason

*Look forward to a special publication in mid-April including
all of the candidates for the Kitselas By-Election.*

HOW GOVERNMENTS IN CANADA WORK

Prior to 1867, the British North American colonies were fiercely independent, and the union worked poorly. French and English colonies had equal powers and differing interests, which resulted in political gridlock. At the same time, residents of Canada feared the expansionist threat from the United States. Moreover, Britain seemed to have little interest in the affairs of the colonies and was proposing to dismantle the preferential trade arrangements it had earlier offered to them.

Despite geographical distance and ethnic diversity, the

colonies decided that together they had a better chance of economic and political survival. So, in 1867, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia joined with Ontario and Quebec to create a new country.

The First Canadian Compromise: The British North America Act (1867)

John A. Macdonald, Canada's first Prime Minister, had hoped for a unitary state with a strong national govern-

ment, based very much on the British Parliamentary model. Quebec and the Atlantic provinces feared federal (and English) domination and fought for a more decentralized system, favouring something along U.S. lines. Ultimately, a compromise was reached that led to a

division of powers between the federal and provincial governments. Roughly speaking, the divisions set out in the British North America Act of 1867 (later renamed the Constitution Act) still remain in place today.

Sections 91 and 92 of the Act lay out the areas of provincial and federal jurisdiction. Most powers are assigned exclusively to one of the two levels of government, although a few are designated as concurrent powers or "double-aspect" provisions.

Federal responsibilities include central bank and monetary policy, defense, foreign relations, trade, and criminal law. These areas were considered essential in order to create an economic union. In contrast, the provinces are generally responsible for health, education, property and civil rights, administration of justice, social security and municipal institutions. "Social Policy," that is, health,

education and social security, was not considered particularly crucial in the beginning, but has, as we all know, become much more important as the nation has evolved.

There are also several areas of concurrent or double aspect powers. For example, some transportation issues are under federal jurisdiction. These are generally national issues that cross provincial boundaries, such as policies and regulations related to aviation, marine transport, and rail. In contrast, the provincial government has jurisdiction over provincial highways, vehicle registration, and driver licensing. Both levels of government work on safety standards, independently and in cooperation with one another.

The territorial governments (Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut) have the same general responsibilities as the provinces.

Except for the Yukon, they currently lack jurisdiction over the administration of land and natural resources. The Yukon Government became the first territory to wield such powers on April 1, 2003, when the devolution of powers for the administration of land and resources came into effect.

Furthermore, because territorial governments exercise delegated power, rather than constitutionally-granted power, they can be created and dissolved and they can have their powers altered by the federal government without a change in the Constitution.

Residual powers, that is, any powers not set out in the

Constitution, lie with the federal government. The federal and provincial levels of government both enjoy the four primary means of state influence over society: legislation, regulation, taxation, and suasion. (suasion means the power to persuade)

The federal government was also empowered by the Constitution to create a Supreme Court, but at the time, ultimate judicial authority was granted to Britain's highest court, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Gaps in the Constitution

Constitution Act left some notable gaps. The following are areas where no provisions were made:

1. There were no provisions established for future amendment of the Constitution here in Canada (only by amendment of the Act in British Parliament).
2. There were no clear mechanisms established for intergovernmental relations, and no "umpire" was established to mediate or negotiate between the federal and provincial governments.
3. There was no mention of the scope of Court authority to interpret the Constitution.

The result was a Constitution open to interpretation in several key areas. Over time, players within the system have interpreted the constitution very differently, each drawing on those aspects which appeared to support their preferred vision and interests, inevitably creating tension between the orders of government.

The Canadian Constitution stands in contrast to constitutions of other countries in that the framers expressly built in a degree of flexibility for future interpretation. Over the years, federalism has swung between strong centralist and even stronger decentralized interpretations, giving rise to active federal-provincial relations.

At the annual premiers' conference in Charlottetown in July, 2003, Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec, convinced the other premiers to accept his proposal for a "Council of the Federation" to co-ordinate provincial relations with the federal government.

The Council was established at the Quebec Conference in October, 2003. The Council has worked to build an inter-provincial alliance on issues such as health care transfer

funding and fiscal imbalances between Ottawa and the provinces. One particular action of the Council has been to appeal to the federal government to increase its share of provincial/territorial health and social spending to 25% by 2009-2010.

(To be continued in the next issue)

Are you worried about your property being damaged or stolen?

Do you notice occurrences in the community that bother you?

Do you want to help make our community safer for our children?

Do you have a minimum of 4 hours a month to commit to the safety of our community?

CITIZENS ON PATROL NEEDS YOU!!



A Community Cross Cultural Forum between the Terrace R.C.M.P, Kitselas and Kitsumkalum took place in late March.

Representatives spoke about the unique cultural of the Kitselas and Kitsumkalum First Nations, to R.C.M.P recruits new to the Terrace area.



Marlene Henry, Cst. Cindy Nunes and Theresa from the Terrace Citizens on Patrol are looking forward to community members in Gitau becoming involved with this new neighbourhood safety initiative.

LETS GET TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY

BY: HOLLY M. SPENCER

In numerous community meetings, the issue of safety and security has always been brought up. One community member, Marlene Henry, has found a possible community solution to this ongoing issue. Citizens on Patrol is a nationwide initiative, which encourages the community members to take the first step in bringing safety to thier neighbourhood.

“After attending a lot of community meetings where members voiced concerns about the need for security in Kitselas, Citizens on Patrol is an opportunity for the community to have the security that they’ve always wanted and asked for,” says Henry.

Marlene has met with Cst. Cindy Nunes from the R.C.M.P to get the ball rolling, but this initiative will not be successful unless community members become involved. Community involvement includes a minimum of 4 hours a month volunteering, walking and basically keeping an eye out for anything suspicious happening.

With the continued growth within the community of Gitau, there needs to be a sense of pride, a sense of community and safety for everyone who calls it home. Citizens on Patrol is an excellent avenue to begin that positive change.

Call Marlene at 250.641.3353 or Cst. Nunes at 250.638.7400 for more information on the next meeting and how you can become involved.

Tuesday Nights Women's Group

Women's Wellness is starting a new 6 week series. This one focuses on uncovering and sharing the knowledge that we have within us – whatever that may be. We will be talking about cultural food and medicine, parenting, the strength of our community and much, much more. The craft for this series is blue jean moccasin making! Dorothy Joseph is teaching us all how to make moccasins out of blue jean material and then trimming them with rabbit fur. The second session runs on Tuesday, April 6th from 6 – 9pm at the Gitau Band Office. There's lots of space left, so come on out and join us!



Support for Addictions

Northern Health is running an on-going program in Terrace for drug and alcohol addiction called the Adult Day Treatment Program. Aimed at helping those who are feeling treatment ready, the program meets twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays) at the Elks Hall from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Anyone wanting to stop drinking or drugging can attend and find a supportive environment to discuss issues and get support in their journey in a small group setting. Those interested can contact Therese or Steve at the Band Office or can contact the program directly at 250 631-4202.

One on one Drug and Alcohol Counselling services are available through Northwest Addictions in town and Northwest Band Social Workers Association in Kulspai.

AA meetings are held in the greater Terrace area every day of the week. For more information on AA meeting times and locations, call Northwest Addictions at (250) 638-8117.

Healing Touch and other Healing

A reminder that Therese at the Band Office has openings for Healing sessions during the week. Whether it's a sore back, troublesome relationship or anything in between, she's available to do one on one work with you to relieve stress and pain and set you up with ideas for seeking further help if necessary. Call her directly to book an appointment: (250) 635-5084 ext. 226

Kitselas Health Department

The Finance Department would like to advise all community members that processing of invoices & cheque requisition require a minimum of 3 business days. Reason for this being that Kitselas Band Council members are signing authorities and the majority are employed outside community.

The Finance Department appreciate's your cooperation.

Social Assistance Cheque
Release Dates:

April 21 for the month of May 2010

May 19 for the month of June 2010

June 23 for the month of July 2010

NOTICE TO THE COMMUNITY:

To the Kitselas Band Members, It is very important that everyone makes the payment of each ones rent or in other cases the infrastructure fees. As you have heard it before, the Housing Department is in debt of \$370,000.00 and this affects the whole community. Unfortunatley we have no other option but to start taking action to correct this situation, such as, evictions for those not paying their rent, and or suspension of services for those not paying the infrastructure fees. For those not knowing what the infastructre fees cover the list is as follows:

House Insurance
Garbage
Water
Sewer service for Queensway and septic for Gitaus
Street Lights
Fire
Snow Removal

Lets all work together to get this corrected for the benefit of the community.

Contact Ulysess the Kitselas Housing Coordinator at: 250.635.5084.ext. 232 to go over your personal file, to update or set up arrears payment plans.

Kitselas Sun Runnerz Update



Kitselas Sun Runners
In Memory
of
Winnie Wells

This is what will appear on the t-shirts of the Kitselas Sun Runnerz Team this year.

The Kitselas Sun Runnerz fundraised almost \$600.00 at the Mega Sale which was held in March at the Kitselas Community Hall.

With the upcoming Sun Run taking place in Vancouver on May 9th 2010, the team has been picking up the pace with both training and fundraising.

On April 11th 2010 the Sun Runnerz will be in Gitau and Kulspai doing a door to door Bottle Drive. The community of Kitselas has shown great support for the team again this year, so on April 11th, get your returnables ready and help out the Kitselas team!

The final Canucks Raffle Ticket was drawn and the lucky winner of the Canucks box seats, return airfare, accomodations and spending cash was:

Milan Dhesi

Second prize of the Canada Jersey went to:

Jan Sunberg

Congratulations and thank you to everyone for supporting the Kitselas Sun Runnerz Fundraising Efforts!



For Immediate Release

**THE COMMUNITY OF TERRACE UNITES TO OFFER INFORMATION
ON CAREER CHOICES FOR ITS YOUTH**

A Career Fair is being organized by individuals/organizations who want to offer students the widest amount of choices when considering post-secondary options. The Fair will take place April 21, 2010 from 9am to 3pm at the Terrace Sportsplex. 1300+ students from Caledonia Senior, Skeena Junior, Parkside and Thornhill Junior Secondary Schools will be attending, as well as adult students from the region.

The event is possible due the collaboration of Canadian First Nation Radio, Coast Mountains School District 82, Ministry of Environment Conservation Office, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, First Nations Education Centre, Kitselas Education Coordinator, Kitsumkalum Education Coordinator, Northern Health, Northwest Community College, and the RCMP. The process was spearheaded by Cst. Gerry Brown through his never ending concern for the well-being of all youth in the community. We are grateful to the Kitselas Forest Products for sponsoring the cost of the Terrace Sportsplex for the Fair

Any businesses, municipal/provincial/federal government staff, colleges, universities or other groups wishing to participate are encouraged to contact Cst. Gerry Brown at (250) 638-7400 or Tanya Duffy at (250) 638-6394 by April 9, 2010.

“An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest”

~Author unknown, commonly attributed to Benjamin Franklin

This is an excellent opportunity for current students and future students to see what educational opportunities are out there.

Be sure to put this date on your calendar! See you all there!