

Nomination Statement

Chief Judy Wilson of Neskonlith Indian Band

Position of Secretary-Treasurer of Union of BC Indian Chiefs

Submitted: January 30th, 2017

Thank you to those who nominated me for position of Secretary-Treasurer of Union of BC Indian Chiefs for this upcoming term of office 2017-2020. I accept the nomination and am committed to the work for improving the lives of our People and advancing title and rights.

Current

I am an active member of the UBCIC and was appointed to many committees over the years which include the Constitution Committee, Indigenous Membership & Citizenship, Specific Claims, All Chiefs Task Force, First Nations Technology Council, and more recently the Children & Families Working Group, Provincial Commitment Working Group and in addition provide liaison support to many various organizations such as Missing Murdered Women's Coalition, First Nations Emergency Services Society, BC Small Business Roundtable, Wild Salmon Alliance, Rural BC Initiative, Southern Mountain Pine Beetle Action Coalition, Interior Alliance etc. At the national level, I have served on the AFN Comprehensive Claims working group including various ad hoc committees and policy and legislation joint working groups as needed.

Background

Initially my first elected Councillor term was under the Late Chief George Manuel of Neskonlith Indian Band in 1986 and after learning about politics I returned to college in Edmonton, Alberta. After moving back to my community I was elected again to Council in 2003 and then was elected in 2007 as Band Chief for over a 10-year period and the current term ends in 2020. Over the years, I have gained experience from many positions that include; Publisher, certified News Journalist (Global TV), Supervisor, Elders/Youth Program Coordinator, Communications Officer, and Producer/Freelance Writer. I have two daughters and one grandson and have been married to my husband Will for over 16 years and have over 25 years of sobriety.

Commitment

As Chief I, have taken an active role in Aboriginal Title and Rights at the local, regional, provincial, national, and international levels. As a mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, daughter, niece, Indigenous women's rights, and safety against violence is a paramount issue for me, especially voicing these concerns at every level. As a leader, I will continue to be on the front lines with the Chiefs and communities on issues of forestry, pipelines, bio solids, salmon, water, to protect the environment but also to work towards care-taking responsibilities and authority for our lands and resources. At the recent INAC Joint Gathering held, as I stated real change is moving beyond Reconciliation towards self-determination for our Indigenous Peoples. This is a critical point in history for all humanity to make critical decisions for climate change, clean water, human rights & equality and more than ever working collectively for these changes for our children and grandchildren.

Chief Judy Wilson

judywilson@neskonlith.net or chiefjwilson61@gmail.com

Cell 250-320-7738