

Betsy Mack (Potter)

Bio for TFN Council By-Election 2017

My name is Betsy Mack (Potter) and I want to earn your vote for council in the upcoming by election. Family, culture, respect and transparency are the core values I live by, and would conduct my self by as your council member.

I am the proud mother of four children. My oldest is Deborah (18), then Jacob (16) and foster girls Elisa (10) and Haylie (9). I was born and raised in Port Alberni and am the youngest of three girls. My sisters are Naomi Ann Mack and Debbie Weir. My late parents are Mark Mack (Toquaht) and Nancy (nee Joe) Mack (Huu-ay-aht). My roots are with the Watts family as my maternal grandmother was eldest sibling Bella Watts. I grew up with haahuupa (teachings) throughout my childhood and on into adulthood from my parents. Always having respect and knowing who my relatives are was a constant teaching along with carrying myself with pride and dignity about who I am and where I am from.

I have always been independent. I've worked in administration and started out by transcribing elders meeting notes to working as an executive assistant, all while raising my children as a single parent. I love to travel and have been as far away as South Africa. While I'm always eager to learn about new cultures and peoples from different places, the best learning I've done however, is from our Nuuchahnulth people right here at home.

This is my first run at a leadership position, and while I am nervous and excited I am also willing and eager to serve our people on council. I believe council should be transparent because we represent you, and what we do impacts you. I also believe council must communicate its business to you to the best of its ability and in a timely fashion so you have the best information to make the best decision you can. Council has a responsibility to you. But you also have a responsibility to council, and that's why I also plan to advocate for you to inform yourselves about council business and to regularly attend council meetings.

I look forward to this election and appreciate the support from membership. Good luck to all candidates!

