

My Nuu-chah-nulth name is Tla-ah-shuks. My parents are (late) Judy Joe (Dick) originally from Tseshah and (late) Herbie Joe of Huu-ay-aht. My maternal Grandparents are Thomas Dick (whose parents were Isabel Dick and Alfred Joseph of Tseshah and Hupacasath respectively) and Veronica Dick (Guss) (whose parents were Maggie Sampson and Alex Guss of Squamish Nation). My paternal Grand Parents are Wilson Joe (whose parents were Joseph Joe and Jenny Joe of Huu-ay-aht) and Bella Joe (Watts) (Whose parents were Eva and Watty Watts). I have five sisters: (late) Marria Jimmy, Veronica Williams, Judy Ann Jimmy, Patricia Jimmy, and Bella Fred. I am blessed to be the mother of three grown children: Kathaleen, Jenna and Harold.

I am truly honored to accept this nomination for Tseshah First Nation Council and the potential opportunity to serve a third term for our Nation. I was first elected to serve on Council in 2012 for a four-year term and was re-elected in 2016. My overall approach as a representative of Tseshah is to be an ambassador for the Nation and to uphold the community values in all that I do.

I hold a Master of Arts Leadership Degree with a Health Specialization from Royal Roads University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in First Nations Studies from Vancouver Island University. I have a passion for learning as well as supporting the learning of others, particularly in a cross-cultural context.

In my career, I've had the honor of supporting all 50 First Nations of Vancouver Island as well as other First Nations throughout the province. I am currently employed with the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) as the Director, Regional Engagement for Vancouver Island where I provide senior level expertise and leadership in the areas of planning, policy, communications, relationships and regional management. My employment has provided me with a wealth of resources and information to support promotion of the BC First Nations Perspective on Wellness. My vision is to utilize my educational and employment experience to enhance my leadership capabilities to better serve First Nations People, bridging cultural barriers and supporting health & wellness for our Nation as well as all First Nations in the province.

I value a meaningful collaborative approach that respects cultural values, traditions, protocols, and builds on the strengths of our First Nations communities. I have a genuine desire to provide continued leadership working toward creating a better future.

I approach my work from a place of respect that is grounded in traditional teachings of "Hishuk ish Tsawalk" – everything is one and all is connected. I am thankful for the confidence our Nation has had in me to support the governance role of Council for the last eight years. I humbly accept my nomination and the opportunity to continue service in a governance capacity for our Nation.