

Elizabeth Darlene Taylor (aka Doll)

Band council election process 2020

I am the daughter of our late Chief Adam Shewish and carver Ramona Gus (Imya). My mother's parents were Lizzy Cole Taylor of Squamish Nation and Dave Taylor of Tseshaht Nation, my grandfather's mother was Emma David who was a well known basket maker in her time and taught my mother's aunt Mabel Taylor.

Previously I went by my stepfathers surname and was commonly known as Darlene Gus. I grew up in an era where there were no jobs available for native women in the Alberni Valley. This caused me to leave to attend Camosun College and the University of Victoria in the mid-seventies. Because of my varied educational background I have worked in a variety of fields from the Robertson Creek Fish Hatchery with Fisheries Canada to the Canadian Forestry Service in Victoria, Indian Affairs in Vancouver to the Union of BC Indian Chiefs in the area of Environmental Health. My final and longest jobs were with Environment Canada as a weather observer and then a weather services specialist where I was deployed from Port Alberni, Lytton, Revelstoke, Vancouver, Kamloops and Victoria. When the jobs with Environment were contracted out I managed to get a job with Canada Revenue Agency. I worked the front counter helping people with their income tax returns and child benefit applications. Eventually in the 20+ years that I worked there I received training in Trusts & Estates and International Taxation. When I retired out of that job I was a Senior Agent who helped new agents in communicating with the public. In all I was worked for the public service for 30 years.

Since my return to Port Alberni in 2018 I have been actively involved in several committees and have attended many band meetings. I am currently on the Tseshaht Market Committee, Tseshaht financial board, the Comprehensive Community Planning committee (CCP) and the Land Claims Committee. I have been involved with the Council of Ha'wiih for fisheries and was formally seated in October.

My varied background will help with understanding and being an active band councilor.

Thank you for your consideration.