



McLeod Lake
Indian Band

2023 Q4 Chief and Council

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McLeod Lake, BC
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250-750-4415



2023

Chief and Council

**Chief**

Harley Chingee
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Elder Councillor

Jane Inyallie
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Youth Councillor

Shelby Mitchell
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On Reserve Councillor

Sonya Solonas
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On Reserve Councillor

Anita Vallee
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Off Reserve Councillor

Hugh Tweed
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Off Reserve Councillor

Jodie Ware
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Assistant to the Chief

Jayde Chingee
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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dana 'chea,

As we embrace the holiday season, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue serving as Chief. Your trust and support means a lot to me. I am committed to upholding good governance and creating opportunities for our members. I extend my sincere appreciation to our dedicated Council, staff, and community members for their contributions to McLeod Lake Indian Band.

I encourage everyone to use the MLIB skating rink as it provides a space for our youth and families to come together, create memories, and celebrate the season. It fosters a sense of community and reminds us of the importance of spaces where our youth can engage in healthy and joyful activities.

As we come together to celebrate the holidays and our community events, let us also remember that this season can bring various challenges. Our MLIB Health Team is here to offer support and services to ensure that everyone in our community feels supported during this time.

We will continue to work hard to uphold one another and rise above whatever challenges this year may bring. I am proud of all we have accomplished and will continue to work hard in the years ahead.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to you and your loved ones.

Chief Harley Chingee



Chief
HARLEY
CHINGEE

ON-RESERVE COUNCILLOR

As we approach the end of the fourth quarter, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments and experiences we've shared over the past months. Having been born and raised here in McLeod Lake, with parents who have contributed to the council in the past, it is truly an honour to be on the council.

As we approach the holiday season, I extend my warmest wishes to each of our members. May this festive season bring joy, peace, and an abundance of blessings to you and your loved ones. I hope everyone takes the time to cherish the moments with family and friends and to stay safe.

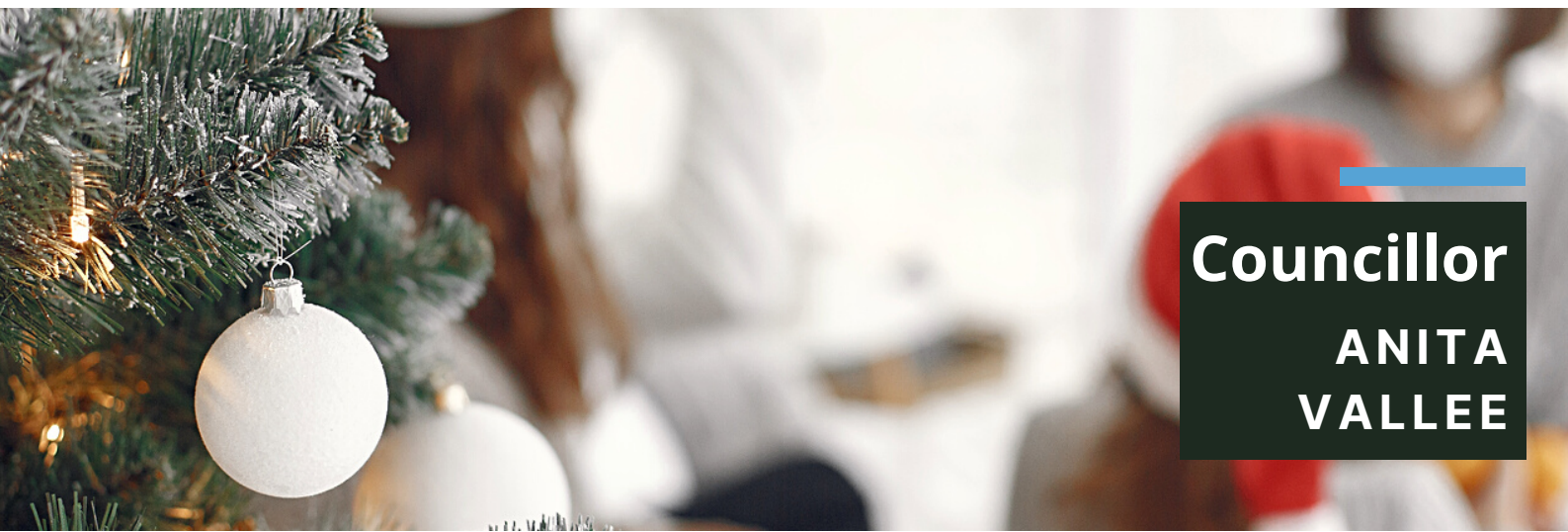
One of my goals as a councillor is to see our community come together through activities that celebrate our heritage. I'm thrilled

to host weekly craft nights, tailored to accommodate everyone's schedule. Whether you're interested in moccasin making or beadwork, these nights will be a space for creativity, learning, and building friendships.

I encourage every member to share ideas for activities, events, or initiatives that can strengthen our community relations. Reach out to me at avallee@mli.ca. Together, we can create a community that reflects our collective vision.

The holidays are a time for reflection, gratitude, and unity. Let us come together as a community to support and spread kindness. Your resilience and spirit have made McLeod Lake a special place, and I am grateful to be part of this journey with you all.

Wishing you a Happy, Healthy, and Safe Holiday Season!



Councillor
ANITA
VALLEE

ON-RESERVE COUNCILLOR

Hello to all my fellow band members,

I am so happy to be able to write this report and let everyone know what I've been up to since being elected in June 2023. It has been a lot of learning, and I do not take this role lightly. I am fully aware of my responsibility to you, the membership.

June and July were really slow, we did not really get a lot of information about what our new roles were, I would like to work on this process for the next Council elected. After the AGA in August, things started to pick up pace and I found myself attending more meetings, as well as getting to know my fellow council, whom I will be working closely with for the next three years.

Newly Appointed Portfolios:

Land Management and Land Stewardship - lead On Reserve Membership

Finance and Audit Committee - Secondary

Health and Social Development FNHA - Secondary

Emergency Management - Secondary

Child and Families / Restorative Justice - lead

Portfolios Shared Amongst Council:

Annual General Assembly

Election Code

Membership Code

Policies

Major Projects in Community

Major Projects on Traditional Lands

I have been attending regular land management meetings, we are working on our Land Code and developing a committee. I attended the 2nd "Our Children Our Way" conference in Vancouver, it was very informative and I look forward to working with the Whes'keghe Working Group to develop our own laws and jurisdiction.

We attended one session of Strategic Planning and we are looking forward to more of these meetings in the near future. We have attended finance training with our controller Dawn B., learning how to read financial statements etc.

I have attended some Emergency Management meetings, they will be putting a call out for committee members.

I always welcome members to reach out to me with questions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me at 250-981-5507 or ssolonas@mli.ca.



YOUTH COUNCILLOR

Danachea Everyone,

I hope that everyone is doing well. I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming quarterly meetings. I will be attending the Mcleod Lake and Prince George meetings.

During the last 6 months, I have found this position to be much more challenging than anticipated. I am learning as much as I can to be able to fulfill my duties. I am thankful to everyone who is supporting me as I navigate this role.

At the first strategic planning meeting, it became clear that many of our leaders possess similar values and goals - which is a very promising outlook. I believe we want to help our people heal, help our youth thrive, break the generational trauma cycles, and ultimately become a self-sustaining nation. These are important goals to prioritize, and it is valuable to know that we share the same vision for the Tse'Khene People.

To make these dreams a reality, everyone must work together; the Chief, councillors, elders, youth, managers, employees - we are all a part of a great Nation that can achieve anything. I am grateful to be a part of our journey; both as a member and councillor.

Mussi Cho,

Shelby Mitchell

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mussi Cho,

Shelby Mitchell



Councillor
SHELBY
MITCHELL

OFF-RESERVE COUNCILLOR

Dan'achea Everyone,


I would like to again say a huge “Mussi Cho” to everyone for the support to all candidates in our past election for MLIB. I am very honored and humbled by the number of votes and believe me, I am working hard on learning this new role. I had to step down as Education Director, a role I have held for over 17 years. I am ready and appreciate the vote of confidence. Please remember that I am only human and I am learning. Please be patient during this time, change takes time.

To date, we have officially had 5 scheduled Council meetings plus numerous sub-meetings, training opportunities and community events. As part of a team, we are all very keen on being a Council that is participating, listening, and communicating. I have encouraged people to reach out to me directly via email or cell phone and I am responding, just please be respectful as I am a mother, a daughter, a sister, and a granddaughter and with my moments, family time is the best time for me. It rejuvenates my soul.

Things I have learned, is the Chief and Council are trustees with a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interests of McLeod Lake Indian Band. No Councillor cannot spend First Nation monies for their own benefit.

The functions of the Chief & Council

- Represent and advocate for McLeod Lake Indian Band
- Set McLeod Lake Indian Band's Strategic Direction
- We are on our way, having a two-day session in mid-October. Next steps, bring to our community. This has not been done since prior to 2018.
- Hire and supervise the Band Administrator. This is our only employee.
- Protect and enhance the community's assets.
- Establish and update policies/codes when applicable.
- Membership Code + Election Code is on its way. It was recommended that two committees be formed plus a facilitator/coordinator to begin the process. Target Friday of AGA 2024. This is a high priority.
- Draft laws for community consideration when applicable.
- Establish an annual budget.
- Review financial statements monthly.
- Hold regular meetings and record minutes and decisions at dually convened meetings. This is the only venue where motions and Band Council Resolutions (BCRs) are presented and voted on.



Councillor
JODIE
WARE

Chief & Council Do Not

- Supervise and direct employees, that is the job of the Band Administrator.
- Make financial or other commitments to members of McLeod Lake Indian Band members, and direct any requests to the Band office where requests are processed in accordance with policies, etc.

My Portfolios are

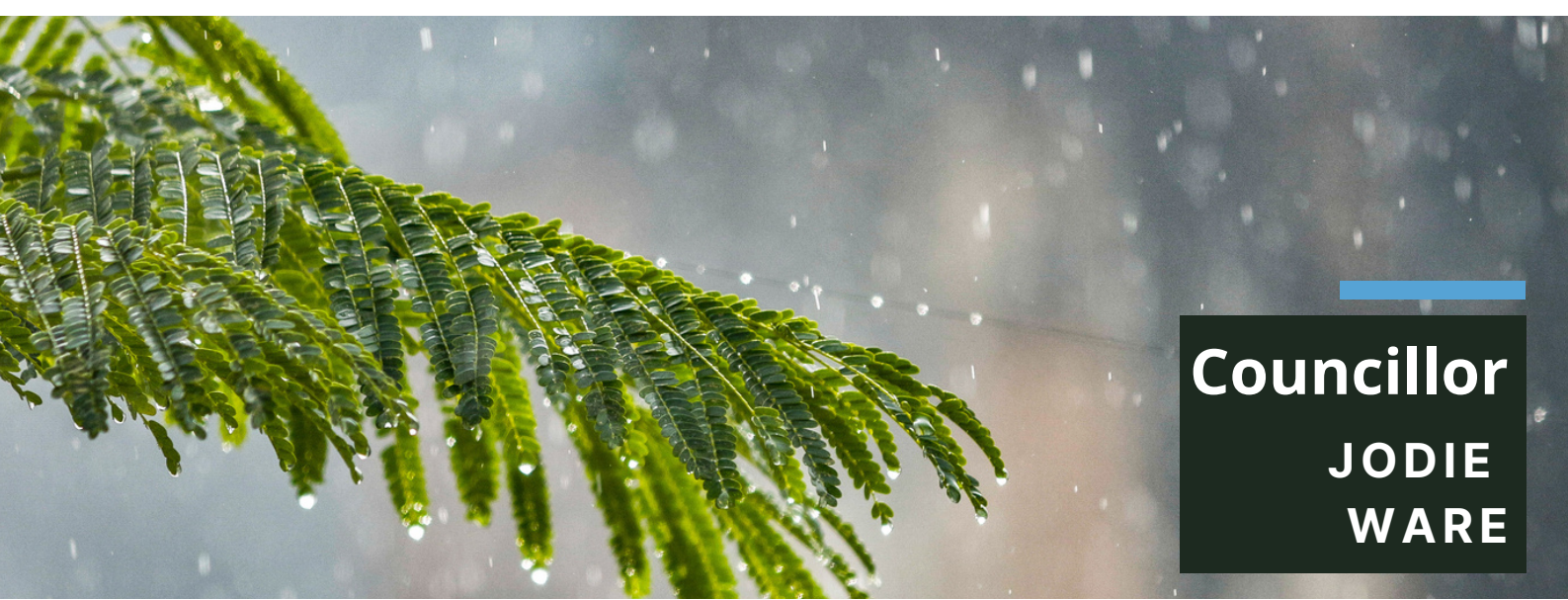
- Administration
- Human Resources
- Education
- G2G/Caribou Table
- Annual General Assembly (all)
- Housing/Infrastructure
- Communications
- All major projects in the community and on traditional land (all)
- Policies (all)
- Emergency Management.

Mussi Cho for this wonderful opportunity and I look forward to connecting when we can and learning as much as I can. I wish you a safe and peaceful holiday, enjoy the moments <3

Jodie Ware

250-614-3713

jware@mliib.ca



Councillor
JODIE
WARE

OFF-RESERVE COUNCILLOR

Hello Family and Band Members,

I have been to various meetings locally and around the provinces and attended various community events. I was at UNBIC in Williams Lake for the “Our Land Back” conference. Some of the topics discussed revolved around issues that other bands have gone through such as having lands taken, the impact of floods, racism, climate change, funding for our languages, and the harmful impacts of fish farms on the salmon population. It was very insightful and helpful.

I attended cabinet meetings in Vancouver with the Ministers of B.C. It was an incredible learning experience. I am on the board of directors for our band entities, they are coming along great! In addition,

I am the council liaison for our band entities and report to the council if I have questions.

I have been working on the energy hub project with Jacob, Matt and other company representatives. They have provided information on how the works, especially with the natural resources. They have provided information on how much the band will profit from the project, so this is potentially a very beneficial economic development opportunity for MLIB.

I enjoy helping our band benefit in all areas and am always available for questions and concerns. Thank you for your time.



Councillor
HUGH
TWEED

ELDER COUNCILLOR

Danachea Everyone,

I have always been interested in art, and attended the Fine Art Program at En'owkin Centre in Penticton from 1992-1994. My sister Linda Inyallie is a very talented artist and I always thought, she was the artist in the family, so I can't do art. Others in our family are very talented such as our younger sister Lucy Martin who does beading and makes all sorts of interesting things. I went to En'owkin to learn to write and thought that's what I would do. But I had to take art courses and found that I really like drawing, painting, and working with colours.

I took art history women's studies and publishing and found I loved everything about it. One of my professors Jeannette Armstrong challenged my beliefs regarding Indigenous Art. Before going to En'owkin Centre I didn't really have an opinion about Indigenous Art or Writing and I started looking at different artists and their work, who they were and where they came from. My main interest was writing; I wrote poetry, essays, and short stories. From a young age, I had difficulty writing down what I wanted to say.

After leaving En'owkin I found could write much better: I wrote poetry and short stories and had some of my work published in different anthologies. I drew for quite a long time; and then stopped, mostly because my work in counselling was emotionally and mentally demanding and took a lot of my energy. My interest in art continued when I started taking pictures in the early 2000s.

The Canon camera I had quit, and I decided to get a better camera; found a nice little Nikon and started taking pictures of everything. And the rest is history. I've always loved looking for pictures, and it has been a great way to tell a story. Some of the best pictures I've taken have been around McLeod Lake; pictures of people, places, and things.

Mussi Cho,

Jane Inyallie

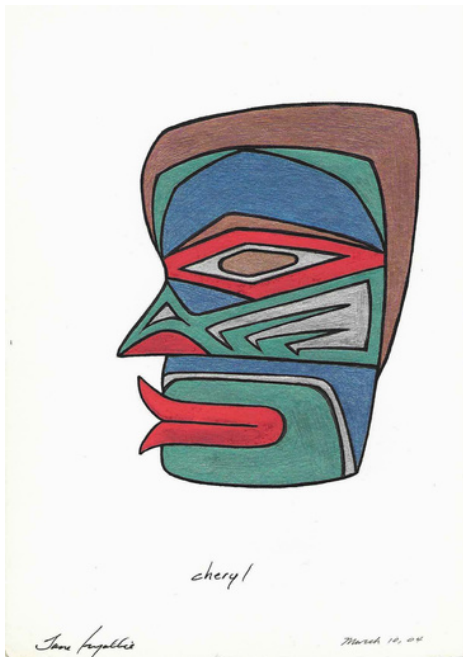


Councillor
JANE
INYALLIE

ELDER COUNCILLOR

The three pictures below are some of my drawings in the early 2000s.

1. This is a picture of my good friend Cheryl. During this period, I drew masks of family and friends.
2. This is a picture of a Katchina Dancer; I went through a period where I drew tattoos, and this is one of them.
3. I loved drawing this Salmon in West Coast style; it is a copy a carving on the wall of one of the offices I worked in. It was a carving of a serving plate. (I couldn't find the artist's name).



Councillor
JANE
INYALLIE

