

CHEMKWAAT

(VALERIE CROSS)

Hay ce:p qə Thank You Tsawwassen Members

My ancestral name is **Chemkwaat**, my maternal great-great grandmother's name who came from the Squamish Nation. I am proud of my heritage and the family who shaped and guided me: my mother Roberta (Bobby), Grandma Pearl, Grandpa Isaac Williams (Teeweelam), Great-Grandmother Elizabeth Point, and all those whose teachings continue to guide my life. Today, I am honoured to carry these teachings forward and pass them on to my daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren, and future generations.

My Values

Family First: Strong families build a strong Nation.

Service: Leadership is about listening, supporting, and delivering for Members.

Accountability: Transparent government creates trust.

Opportunity: Every Member should have access to education, housing, employment, and support.

Culture: Our language, traditions, and identity are the foundation of who we are.

Advocacy: Using my voice to represent our Nation, our people, and our families.

Experienced Leadership • Strong Advocacy • Grounded in Culture

The Creator blessed me with a strong voice and a kind heart. I honour those gifts by serving our families, our Members, and our Nation.

Experience Rooted in Service

For more than two decades, I have had the privilege of serving Tsawwassen First Nation in a variety of roles. Supporting our government and community as a member of staff, after which I had the honour of being elected to **three terms as a Legislator and two terms on Executive Council**, where I have worked to represent our people, support our families, and help guide decisions that strengthen our community.

I am equally grateful for the opportunity to work alongside fellow leaders, respecting the unique gifts, knowledge, and perspectives each person brings to the leadership table.

As a **Legislator, Executive Councillor, and Squigel (Speaker)**, I have worked to bring people together, ask tough questions, listen carefully, and support decisions that benefit our community.

As Squigel, I have worked to create a Legislature where all voices are respected, healthy discussion and debate are encouraged, and decisions are informed by the diverse perspectives of our people.

INTEGRITY • HUMILITY •
INCLUSIVENESS •
KINDNESS • HUMOUR



EXPERIENCE YOU KNOW, A VOICE YOU TRUST.

Working Together for Our People and Future Generations

Highlights of My Service



Supported the development of TFN's **Sustainability Charter, Strategic Plan, and Treaty Review initiatives** to help guide our Nation's future.



Supported major community investments, including the **Owl's Nest housing development, Elders Centre and Cultural Hub, and new Administration and Legislative facilities.**



Worked to strengthen supports for Members through **enhanced Elder benefits, housing opportunities, and community wellness initiatives.**



Connected with Members both on and off Tsawwassen Lands, including engagement sessions in **Bellingham, Vernon, and Tsawwassen**, ensuring Member voices were brought back to decision-making tables.



Used the strength of our Treaty and relationships to help protect **Tsawwassen rights, lands, waters, and future interests** and advocate for meaningful consultation on major projects affecting our territory.



Supported cultural revitalization and community connection through **First Fish Ceremonies, Truth and Reconciliation events, Members Gatherings, and community celebrations.**

Priorities for the Future

Protecting Our Future

As TFN faces major development proposals and opportunities, we must continue to protect our Treaty rights, lands, environment, culture, and community interests while creating opportunities for future generations.

Strong Voice, Strong Relationships

I believe in using the power of our Treaty, our governance authority, and strong relationships with Indigenous Nations, governments, and partners to advance TFN priorities and ensure our Members' interests are heard and respected.

Investing in People

I will continue to support initiatives that strengthen housing, education, employment, community services, Elders supports, and opportunities for youth and families.

My Commitment

I believe strong leadership begins with listening. My commitment remains the same: to serve with integrity, create space for all voices, build respectful relationships, and use my voice to represent our Nation, our people, and our families.

Together, we can continue building a strong, healthy, and prosperous future for current and future generations.



GET IN TOUCH

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