



**Yagwa dm gylks metasgu (*I am going to introduce myself*),
Cynthia Bohn di waayu (*my name is Cynthia Bohn*),
Victoria Roberts dis James Bolton na di 'nagyetgu (*Victoria Roberts & James Bolton are my parents*),
Ganhada di pdeegu (*Raven is my clan*),
Spa Xksuutks di wil 'waatgu (*Spa Xksuutks /Port Essington is where I am from*),
Gitsmk'eelm di wil dzogu (*Kitsumkalum is where I live*)**

T'oyaxsut 'nüün (Thank you) for the opportunity to continue to serve our beautiful community of Kitsumkalum. I'm honoured to be nominated again and am happy to walk with many great candidates.

I was born in Prince Rupert and spent my childhood in Spa Xksuutks (Port Essington) and Haysport until moving to one of the present-day village sites of Kitsumkalum. I've lived in Kalum and the Terrace area all of my life and raised my children and grandchildren here in our community. I've been fortunate to have witnessed and be part of our growing community.

We've gone from 1 road in and out with 13 houses to 8 subdivisions filled with 118 homes and over 380 community members living on reserve.

I've worked in finance for over 40 years, 17 years at the Terrace Co-op until its closing in 1998 and then started employment with Kitsumkalum Tempo. Over the past 9 terms on Council which were not consecutive terms, I've watched the operations of Kitsumkalum grow rapidly over the last few years to meet the needs of today's world. Band Council faces many issues from negotiations, sustainable economic development, education, housing, environment, community health and safety, culture and language revitalization, and so much more. As council members we work as a team, not one person knows everything. We listen to community members and our team from varying backgrounds complement and challenge each other when needed when making decisions to address community concerns and opportunities.

I cherish our community and still feel ready to serve in the best interest as I do for other boards and committees I volunteer on. I sit on the First Nations Education Committee at the Coast Mountain School District #82 (CMSD 82), where we advocate for the educational rights of all First Nations students in CMSD 82. I sit on the board for First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC). The primary goal is to promote and support the provision of quality education to First Nation learners in BC. I sit on the First People's Cultural Council's Advisory Board, where we help in planning the strategic direction for language and culture revitalization funding for indigenous communities all across BC. I'm an alternate board member for NIFCS (Northwest Inter-Nation Family and Child Services Society) which works to keep families together and prevent children from getting lost in the ministry. For the past 5 years, I've been the Treasurer for the Dr. R.E.M. Lee Hospital Foundation. We listen to the needs of Dr.'s, nurses, and hospital administration of Mills Memorial and Terrace View Lodge. We fundraise for medical equipment, helping families in the Northwest access the use of medical equipment without having to travel great distances.

I'm a proud grandmother. If my grandchildren (technology wizards) would have told me last year at this time that I'd have a "smartphone", Facebook and email, that I can click a link and make it to the meeting I wouldn't have believed it. Thankfully, I have figured out that our new digital work environment is part of our new normal and I look forward to Kalum starting to meet online with our community members. COVID has caused many heartaches and obstacles. Though we are not in the clear yet, it has reminded us that we can still overcome challenges, we are still as resilient as our ancestors before us and we can still walk together and be kind. With our food security group we managed to have a drive-through community Christmas dinner in 2020 where we fed over 350 community members in 1.5 hours all while being COVID safe. It was a challenge to do but we managed and all still had fun.

Like many, I miss the hugs, my family and community gatherings. I look forward to when we can laugh without a mask, travel, and take care of our cultural business that awaits us and not worry about being 2 meters apart. It brings joy seeing members grow and flourish from the opportunities we as a council helped be part of and I'd be honoured to continue to serve Kitsumkalum.

Gyilk amaniigism (*Take good care of yourselves*)

