



# NEWSLETTER - ELECTION EDITION

## Pacheedaht First Nation Chief and Council election - Feb 15

All adult Pacheedaht First Nation members are invited to vote in the upcoming election for the positions of Elected Chief Councillor and two Councillors. Voting will be held February 15, 2024, from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. at the Pacheedaht First Nation Administration Building, 350 Kalaid Street, Port Renfrew. Mail-in ballot packages were mailed to members living outside the community, and can be completed and delivered to the Electoral Officer – instructions are in the package. Ballots will be counted immediately following the close of polls.

Candidates were invited to submit a short statement for publication in this newsletter.

### Nominees:

#### Chief:

Arliss Daniels (Jones)  
Jeff Jones – incumbent  
Roxy Jones

Carla James (Charlie)

Lenore Jones  
Natasha Jones  
Roseann Jones  
Sheila Jones

#### Councillor:

Tracy Charlie – incumbent  
Adelaine Jack

Shirley Jones  
Tynan Jones  
Mikey Smith  
Delphine Stalker

## Statements - Nominees for Elected Chief Councillor

### Arliss Daniels (Jones)

I was born and raised in Pacheedaht. I am very proud of where I come from. As a former Leader in Pacheedaht, I am confident I can bring further positive outcomes to add onto current Leadership position, as business owners in Port Renfrew.

Taking Pacheedaht members voices and ideas to the forefront of major decision making. This involves all membership to shape and form a successful future for Pacheedaht as one. I want equality and inclusion for all members. This is why I am a candidate for Chief of Pacheedaht Nation.

### Jeff Jones - Incumbent

Hello all. I humbly ask for your continued support in the upcoming Pacheedaht Council Band Election as I am running to continue the leadership position of "Chief Councillor". Just a little about me is throughout my life. I have had the honour of sitting with many elders and community members since the 1990's, through committees, lunches and many suppers and hold a lot of knowledge from members' visions of where the Nation needs to carry on with. What a privilege.

In meetings there was a lot of discussion about historical info, territorial lands, water and all resources in territory that are of importance going forward – in heart of Pacheedaht people. As a team we have always tried to make the best decisions for continued stewardship and protection of our resources. Guided by the elders gone before us, I hold their words dear to my heart and

they are guiding me every day upon us.

I know our Nation has come a long way overall in many areas but still see many big opportunities ahead also. I have held the seat of Chief Councillor for a couple of terms now and what an honour to witness, like many, all the progress that has taken place over time. I have always done my best to be inclusive, respectful and present.

Holding the position of Chief, I understand the importance of being there for our people and will be willing to help. In my life, I learned that you have to keep busy. There are times that we work 10 days straight. It's not for me, it's for you. That's my commitment to you. I am very supportive and see nothing but greater things upon us want the best for everyone – youngest to the oldest. I will continue to protect our resources, promote our culture, support each and every one of you – to the best of my ability.

### Roxy-Merl Jones

My name is Roxy-Merl Jones – I am a member of the Pacheedaht First Nation with ties to the Tseshaht First Nation. I am the granddaughter of the late Wesley Jones and Maggie Peters, my late mother was Teresa Jones. I am a mother of four Pacheedaht children. My educational background includes:

- Pending PhD application for Social Determinants of Health
- Master's Degree in Counselling and Psychology
- Undergraduate Degree in Child and Youth Care
- Diploma in Child, Family and Community Studies
- Certificate in First Nations Family Support

I served two terms as an elected council member for Pacheedaht and dedicated five years as the PFN Health Director. As well, I worked five years with Island Health as a Special Programs Officer & Clinician for Mental Health and Substance Use. I have also dedicated three years with the University of Victoria's First Peoples House & the Faculty of Law supporting Indigenous education.

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## Statements - Nominees for Councillor

### Natasha Jones

I am honored to be nominated for council, and I am dedicated to making a meaningful difference in our community. I believe that with the right leadership and fresh ideas, we can transform Pacheedaht into a place where every band member can thrive.

I am currently pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration (9 courses left to graduate) and an early childhood education program. If elected, I will work tirelessly to bring about positive changes that will benefit everyone in our community, and I will make housing, education, health, and job security my top priorities.

I have several proposals for change, including the creation of better-paying jobs, renovations of band houses, support for members who wish to build their own houses, and the development of new housing for our growing community. I am also committed to providing more programs for youth and families, increasing support for elders, and holding regular band meetings to keep everyone informed.

Having lived in Pacheedaht/Port Renfrew all my life, I have a deep understanding of the changes that are necessary for PFN members to live in healthy environments and benefit from what Pacheedaht has to offer. With my fresh ideas, visions, and goals, I am confident that Pacheedaht can and will achieve its full potential. I want to see our people happy, healthy, and thriving, and I know that I have the skills, experience, and drive to make it happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

### Shirley Gwendolyn Jones

My name is Shirley Jones. I'm a band member of Pacheedaht Nation. Chief Queesto Charles Jones is my great-grandfather. I am a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and have family living on Pacheedaht Nation. I work with people experiencing homelessness, often people from Indigenous communities wanting to return home. I look forward to sharing my ideas and having healthy and open relationships with our community.

One of my strengths is being able to listen and understand people when they are talking. Through effective listening, I help people articulate their needs and then identify what supports are available. I will advocate with the band and other resources to ensure the needs of our community are met.

Housing is a priority. I will work with the band and Government to repair, replace and build well-designed, well-constructed, safe, permanent housing for our band members. Part of this plan is to create jobs and apprenticeships for band members. Besides creating employment for our young people, we will have our own source of skilled trades workers to maintain our homes here on Pacheedaht lands. My other priorities center around creating a safe environment for our children, youth and elders. My goal is to keep our children safely cared for on-reserve, not removed from our community.

I am bold, honest and direct when speaking and addressing issues. I am willing to be the voice of our community and with the help of chief and council, to do the hard work to address the fundamental needs for the health and security of our Pacheedaht members.

### Roseann Jones

I am very grateful for being nominated for Council, a transition to be learned, and educated about this role, and what it brings as a Council. Being able to connect and make these meaningful relationships with our Nation, to have great communication skills, and always open to listen, but also to be able to create some of those positive changes in all areas of the Pacheedaht First Nation.

I have lived in the community for about 7 years, and continue to push forward on this Red Road, a path that has changed my life. I take pride in who I am as an Aboriginal Woman today. I have hope that one day change will happen in community. I believe change is good, and having fresh and new vision for our Nation, only posi-

tive and healthy growth for Pacheedaht First Nation. I love to learn, to me learning is endless, there is always so much good in every situation, we just must focus on the good. As we are guided by our ancestors, in our healing journeys.

I love to help our nation in any way possible, I have confidence that change can happen in our community.

My educational background is I have a First Nations Family Support Work Certificate from Camosun College. I also have a diploma in Community Child and Family Studies from Camosun College. I started my degree in Child and Youth Care, and have about 7 courses to complete this program through the University of Victoria. Office Administration from Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.

Jobs that I have worked in here in the Pacheedaht First Nation: Office Administration, Medical Travel Clerk, Cultural Programmer (current), Social Development Worker (current).

Vision for the Nation:

- Creating Committees for our (Elders), (Youth), (Housing Committee)
- Having that open communication for positive feedback, having regular band meetings
- Creating changes in our work environments
- Job shadowing (How we can make our own Members thrive and learn new skills in workforce)
- Creating safe spaces and positive communication with Members and work
- Coming together as family, creating those healthy community events

## Statements (continued) - Nominees for Elected Chief Councillor

### Roxy-Merl Jones ... continued from page 1

I currently work for the First Nations Health Authority as the Regional Addictions Specialist for Vancouver Island, supporting our Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuuchah-nulth, and Coast Salish families. While on Council & working as the Health Director, I made sure everyone was supported, and I addressed concerns in a timely manner. As Chief, I will ensure that our people's needs come first & I will make sure that all the vital departments are running efficiently. I have also established a work plan for every PFN department and plan on sharing it with both our elders and community to attain feedback, and suggestions around moving forward. With adequate support, I aim to improve PFNs: Health, Housing, Education, Administration, and Economic Development Depts. I plan to implement financial transparency, regular community meetings, ongoing communication with members, and to ensure that challenges related to our social determinants of health are addressed. I understand the ongoing concerns and I am committed to help. This is a very important time for our Nation (final stages of treaty) & we all agree that things need to improve. I hope all is well & I look forward to seeing everyone soon.