



Notice of Election

Regular Election of Chief of Iskut Band

A nomination meeting to nominate candidates for the position of Chief of the Iskut Band was held on January 16, 2024 for the election to be held on February 21, 2024.

The following were nominated and have accepted their nomination:

Nominee	Nominator	Secunder
Marie Quock	Rita Louie	Wayne Dennis
Chad Watts	Joan Brown	Wayne Dennis

The nominated candidates have fulfilled the requirements of s 10.8 of the Iskut Band Council Election code and have been confirmed as candidates. Biographies of the two candidates are attached and form part of this notice.

The election will be held on February 21, 2024 in the Band Office in Iskut. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Eligible voters will also be provided with a PIN and instructions on how to vote electronically.

An All-Candidates meeting will be held on February 7, 2024. More information on the All-Candidates meeting and how members can participate in that meeting will be posted.

Kit Spence has been appointed as Electoral Officer for this Election. He can be contacted by email at Iskut_EO@shaw.ca, by text at (250) 881 0142, or toll free at (877) 541-9017

per Henry Carlick
Chairman
Iskut Electoral Commission
January 24, 2023

Marie Quock – Personal Statement and Biography

MARIA QUOCK
CHIEF CANDIDATE – ISKUT BAND COUNCIL

I am a member of the Iskut Band. I reside in Iskut, B.C. with my family.

I attended high school in Kitimat for the first year, then moved to Terrace for the rest of my high school years, completed grade 11 at Caledonia Secondary High School - certified in accounting 101, took leadership and management training, presently enrolled in Indigenous Community Dev. Program.

Employed by Iskut Band since January 1978 in various positions.

Served on Iskut Band Council as councillor from 1996 to 2005.

I was elected as the first female Chief of the Iskut Band in October 2005.

My years in council have given me extensive knowledge and skills, in leadership, negotiations, written and verbal communication, ability to read financial information, teamwork, and public speaking.

I decided to run for office again because I believe that we are at a crucial time as Tahltan Nation and as Iskut people with so many challenges coming our way, especially when it comes to our lands and resources.

Climate change is also a big challenge that we need to mitigate to ensure that our communities are prepared as it will have major effects on our food security, lands and people, this is already happening.

I also see opportunities coming our way with the new reconciliation path that the governments are forging with Indigenous people.

I believe that we need to create balance so that our people are employed, our community is healthy, thriving and certain areas of our lands protected to ensure that our future generations have sustainable land and resources to manage.

Chad Watts – Personal Statement and Biography

Hello everyone in Iskut, including off-reserve Iskut band members. First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and compassion to our leadership for their tireless efforts in guiding us to where we stand today. Additionally, I wish to introduce myself to the off-reserve members of the Iskut band.

My name is Chad Watts, and I am the great grandson of late Mable Louie and Peter Dennis of Iskut, BC. My mother, Mable Abou, is the daughter of my Tsu Tsu and Tsiye, Marlene Dennis and Fred Abou. I belong to the simk'alt'ede family within the Tahltan Central government, and my father, Harry Watts, hails from the Nisga'a nation.

I was raised in Iskut from a very young age and have a deep connection to this community. I am honored to announce my candidacy for the position of chief for the Iskut band council. At 31 years old, I am deeply committed to advocating for the well-being and prosperity of our community. My vision for our community is one of empowerment, healing, and opportunity, fostering a thriving environment with a shared vision for all relevant parties involved.

I am passionate about breaking the cycle of despair and advocating for a brighter future for our people. Through collaboration and decisive action, I am confident that we can overcome the challenges that have held us back for far too long. I am dedicated to working with all relevant parties to create a shared vision for our community's future and our people.

Having grown up in our community, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges that many of our people face. I am deeply committed to serving our community and have decided to run for the position of chief to bring about positive change. Despite the challenges we face, I am determined to be a voice for those who feel unheard, especially our youth. I am also encouraged by the commitment of Newmont Mining, the new owner of our local mine, to learn and grow its relationship with the Tahltan nation and to create value and improve the lives of all Canadians and not only our people, through sustainable and responsible mining practices.

I believe that by fostering a spirit of collaboration and empowerment, we can create a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. I am committed to working tirelessly to address the pressing issues of corrupt, unethical business practices, threats to public health, poverty, and drug and alcohol abuse that have impacted the lives of too many of our people for far too long. I am confident that by working together, we can build a better future for Iskut. Thank you for your consideration. Please vote for Chad Watts.