
Chief and Council Nominee Bios

Iris Point

Ey Swayel! Xalunamut tel skwixs teli tsel kw'a Semá:th

Alison “Iris” Point (Nee: Ned) was born and raised on the Semá:th First Nation to Tl'owkómot Tess Ned (Nee: Brown; Wise-Rice) and Qwálosenstel Larry Ned Sr.

My traditional name is Xalunamut of Semá:th. Growing up you knew me as Iris; legally my name is Alison “Iris” Point my brother Larry Ned the 2nd could not say Alison, but he could say Iris and that was my middle name, and it stuck with me till now. I have not changed my name as this was the name of my parents’ dear friend Al’. They thought I was going to be a boy, but proudly I came as a girl and then they called me Alison! I am a very proud Semá:th First Nation member, belonging to the Ned family.

I am a second generation residential school survivor and I acknowledge my Sto:lo Nation heritage and upbringing with strong teachings. Both of my parents are survivors; they are both very strong independent warriors who raised me with very strong cultural beliefs and traditional protocol passed down from my late grandfather Clarence Ned Sr. and Edna Ned (Nee: Joe); also, strong cultural teachings from my family from Vancouver Island. I have been with my husband Qwá:tsel Dave Point, who is from Musqueam First Nation Band, for 34 years. We are high school sweethearts; we have been joyfully married for 23 years.

My educational background and work experience have been obtained throughout various locations. I have obtained my Early Childhood Education Diploma and BA in Teacher Language, worked as an Aboriginal teacher assistant and liaison for the students in the Mission school district, Social Work Assistance in Musqueam First Nation. I have also spent the past 10 years in Yukon gaining experience as the Early childhood education manager, the education and wellness director, and a paramedic. Throughout this time, I embraced traditional teachings and healing practices on the land from several community members. I worked with Elders who taught me about harvesting traditional roots, plants, flowers, etc. to develop traditional salves, hydrosols, traditional sewing and beading, traditional trapping and hunting skills along with teaching me the preparation of meat that was hunted (moose, Elk, deer, rabbit, etc.). The training that I have completed was through grief and trauma healing, resilient routes healing, drumming, dancing, smudging, prayer, sweat lodge, etc.

Culturally, I have been involved with our traditional long house since my father was initiated back in 1980. I was initiated in 2024 when I returned home to Semá:th from living in the Yukon. I have since focused on the practices of harvesting our traditional medicinal plants throughout the seasons and learning valued traditional teachings. I am now currently working on completing a PHD.

I am honored to be a part of the BC Cancer Control department and pledge to use my education and work experience to actively function in my new role as the Indigenous Patient Navigator for Indigenous Cancer Control.

If elected as Council, I would be very honored to share all that I have humbly gained through my years of cultural, education and work experiences.