

VOTE FOR CHANGE!

DONALD MATHIAS



UNITY- CHANGE- SELF SUFFICIENCY

My ancestral name is Kayselah which means rising sun. I am following the traditions of my ancestors, Chief Capilano, Chief Mathias Joe Capilano and have been mentored by my uncle Chief Joe Mathias. They have all inspired me to become a Leader. I am a family man and proud husband and father to three beautiful young adults. To be successful today you must be unique and aware of your ever-changing surroundings. I believe that all Squamish Nation Members are resilient, and this is how I continue to follow in my great grandfather's footsteps. I have always been passionate about individuals being self-sufficient and have owned my business for over 15 years. I am a Master Carver with 20 years of experience and have carved 15 totem poles. I continue to expand my work through creating silver and gold jewelry. I have owned various businesses including a Juice Bar, Convenient store, First Nations Art store, and managed a gas station on the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario.

Education

I acquired two different Business Certificates from Klahoweya in Surrey, B.C. and from Vancouver Community College. I was fortunate to have been mentored by my Uncle Chief Joe Mathias, where I attended my first political meeting at a young age, at the Georgia Hotel, Downtown Vancouver BC where he met with Pierre Trudeau and discussed the White Paper policy.

I am running for council as I believe we are at a critical time in our history, and I believe it is vital that we work together collectively for the Squamish Nation, and in unity.

Community Involvement

Our culture and traditions are very important to me and I have followed in tradition of the Long house and been a Dancer since 1999. Athletics and being part of a team have been deeply entrenched in my values, I have been working in Lacrosse sports with the North Shore Indians Senior Lacrosse Team back in the BCLA in 1996 and still actively involved with the team today. I have also helped organize Squamish Nation Youth Ski Day for seven years and sponsored individual single parents to help them buy youth soccer and lacrosse gear for their children. I have worked the Squamish Nation Youth Center in the year 2000.

Platform

I will bring YOUR Voice to the Squamish Nation Council:

Together we will build relationships with members of our communities for a stronger, thriving nation. I promise to do this with you by holding TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND EQUALITY IN:

- Improving our membership Housing
- Build on our Economic Development with membership motion and forensic audit

- Funding for more Education
- Improve our Social Development

Financial Accountability/ Transparency: I believe in accountability and transparency for leadership and the Squamish Nation. I believe our first job at hand is follow up on the motions our Squamish members have put in place, and this includes conducting a Forensic Audit (this motion was passed by membership at the last two general meetings). Financial Accountability to our membership is our #1 priority and I will work to ensure this happens.

Open dialogue at all times with our membership with every detail on all issues - Transparency, Accountability and Equality for all Squamish Nation

Economic Development:

I will advocate for Revenue Sharing for our Squamish Nation Members. With our voice, we will grow our nations' needs and opportunities. I will leverage our First Nations rights and title position to insert our inherent rights in Federal Government and Provincial Government issues.

I will always listen to you and support community priorities regarding, community development and planning. If elected, I will work with the nation to generate profit and jobs for our membership.

Based on membership approval:

- **5 Star Hotel Casino Cruise Ship docking** we will generate employment of 300 to 500 jobs. An estimate of profits from 50 million to 150 million per year.
- **Container Ship Docking** generate 200 to 300 jobs, an estimation of profits from 10 million to 50 million.
- **Gravel Pit Lands Recovery Project** generate 25 to 50 jobs and our estimated profits go to building 60 to 100 house per year for membership.

Self Sufficiency - Being self-sufficient as a nation and government will include thinking outside the box ; I envision us having a giant retail First nations Arts and Crafts store with totem poles, a feast house restaurant that will create estimated jobs 30 to 50 jobs and with estimated profits at 2 million to 5 million a year. I would like to support our Squamish nation small business owners to build their own business ideas and long term self- sufficiency by creating opportunities for them to be utilized. This will help our nation to create more profits and jobs with all profits generated from our projects to work towards supporting a new Elders facility. Our community has wanted an Elders Facility for a long time and I would like to work together with our business revenue and lands management department to make this happen.

Housing

The Nation has an appalling housing crisis with more than a third of our nation members not living within our reserved lands of Squamish. I will advocate with your voice and concerns to build more houses and subsidized housing. I will work towards creating more revenue sharing that will help our off-reserve members with their rental and living expenses.

Education

Our members need to have barrier free education that will allow our people to attend any school or trade they require to be successful and employed. We need to change the current polices to be more inclusive so that any member who would like to attend University, College or a Trade School has access. This will be inclusive for all of our members and this short-term investment in education will works towards a thriving, self-sufficient Squamish Nation.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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