

Nexwnínlhewá7nem Ch'áwch'aw People Services

**Executive Director Appointed** 

## Kelley McReynolds, Yataltenat



Kelley is a citizen of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) from the village of Esalha7n. She is the granddaughter to the late Harry Newman and Florence (nee John). Her mother is the late Yataltanault Carole Newman. Kelley's family also includes uncles John Gordon Newman, late Randy, Alan and late aunt Julie Baker, sister Kathleen Smith and children Carey and Brandon McReynolds.

Kelley is currently the Director of Ayás Ménmen (Child & Family Services) for the Squamish Nation. Kelley has been in that role for the past 16 years and has over 30 years of experience in community development and support services, grounded in sacred relationships and wise practices that are understood through a Squamish lens.

In addition to Kelley's work with the Nation, she is on the executive for BC Indigenous Child & Family Services directors, to ensure that the best interests of Indigenous children are being met. Kelley is a strong advocate for systematic changes to policy, practice, legislation, and funding. Kelley believes that recognizing the strength of community, despite the challenges, means the Nation will be better able to meet the needs of Members in positive, healthy ways. For Kelley, this means being grounded in Squamish values, culture, and traditions, guided by the awareness that the ways of the ancestors created balance within home, family, and community.

Kelley will start her new role on August 1, 2023. The departments of the Nexwnínlhewá7nem Ch'áwch'aw (People Services) Division include: Ayás Méńmen (Child & Family Services), Ta7lnewás (Education, Employment & Training), Ts'ixwts'ixwnítway (Member Services), and Yúustway (Health & Wellness).