



Gitksan West Secondary School Society
Located in Gitwangak First Nation, BC

Sim'algayax & Gitksen Culture Mentor Job Posting

Help Revitalize Our Language and Inspire the Next Generation

Gitksen West Secondary School is seeking a respected Gitksen Elder or Knowledge Keeper who is a fluent Sim'algayax speaker to join our team as a mentor in the Sim'algayax & Gitksen Culture classroom.

About Gitksen West Secondary School

Gitksen West Secondary School is a new, state-of-the-art secondary school serving the Gitwangak, Gitsegukla, and Gitanyow First Nations. Our school provides a safe, inclusive, and culturally grounded learning environment that blends academic excellence with Sim'algayax language, Gitksen culture, and traditional teachings.

Position Summary

Working alongside the Sim'algayax & Gitksen Culture Teacher, the Sim'algayax & Gitksen Culture Mentor serves as the lead language model in the classroom. Through daily use of Sim'algayax, storytelling, Ayookw, Adaawk, traditional knowledge, and land-based learning, the Mentor helps the classroom teacher and students strengthen their language skills, cultural identity, and pride in being Gitksen.

Key Responsibilities

- Speak Sim'algayax throughout classroom instruction to create an immersive language environment.
- Co-teach with the Sim'algayax & Gitksen Culture Teacher to support language learning and cultural education.
- Share Gitksen Ayookw, Adaawk, oral histories, stories, songs, and traditional teachings.
- Guide students in learning about their wilp, pdeek, family connections, and Gitksen values.
- Support land-based learning, seasonal activities, and traditional cultural practices.
- Build positive relationships with students while encouraging confidence, belonging, and cultural pride.
- Collaborate with teachers, Elders, Simgiget, Sigidimhaana'k, Knowledge Keepers, families, and community partners to support student learning.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will:

- Be recognized by the Gitksen Nation as a respected Elder and Knowledge Keeper.
- Be fluent in Sim'algayax (Western dialect preferred).
- Demonstrate extensive knowledge of Gitksen Ayookw, Adaawk, history, traditions, and culture.
- Have experience working with youth and sharing traditional knowledge.
- Be passionate about Sim'algayax language revitalization.
- Demonstrate humility, patience, kindness, and strong relationship-building skills.
- Be willing to participate in classroom, community, and learning on the laxyip.
- Successfully complete a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening.

Working Conditions

- 1.0 Full-time position (2 people can share the position) following the school calendar.
- Daily co-teaching with the Sim'algayax & Gitksen Culture Teacher.
- 6 hours per day (8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., including a one-hour lunch)
- Classroom, outdoor, and land-based learning.
- Participation in school cultural events and community activities.

Wages

\$240. per day (\$40. per hour X 6 hours per day). For a complete job description, visit the website: www.gwsss.ca

How to Join our Team: Send Cover Letter, CV and references by **Monday July 27, 2026 (4pm)** to:

Edith Loring-Kuhanga, B. Ed., M. Ed. Leadership & Governance Consultant

Email: consultant@gwsss.ca