



Gitksan West Secondary School Society
Located in Gitwangak First Nation, BC
Elder in Residence Job Posting

Help Shape the Next Generation Through Culture, Language, and Connection

Gitksan West Secondary School is seeking respected Gitksan Elders to join our school community as Elders in Residence. This is an opportunity to share your language, knowledge, stories, and teachings while supporting the academic, cultural, emotional, spiritual, and personal growth of Gitksan youth.

Position Summary

As an integral member of the Wrap-Around Student Support Team, the Elders in Residence provides cultural leadership, mentorship, and guidance rooted in Ayookx, Adaawk, Sim'algyax, and Gitksan values. The Elder helps students strengthen their identity, sense of belonging, wellness, and connection to family, huwilp, pdeek, and community while serving as a cultural advisor to school staff.

Key Responsibilities

- Build positive, trusting relationships with students.
- Provide mentorship and culturally grounded guidance.
- Share Gitksan language, teachings, history, and traditions.
- Support student wellness and cultural identity.
- Participate in the school's Wrap-Around Student Support Team.
- Help connect students and families with community and cultural supports.
- Support land-based learning, seasonal activities, and cultural programming.
- Strengthen relationships between the school, families, huwilp, and community.
- Provide cultural guidance and support to school staff.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will:

- Be recognized as a respected Gitksan Elder, Knowledge Keeper, and cultural leader.
- Be fluent in Sim'algyax.
- Have extensive knowledge of Gitksan Ayookx, Adaawk, history, traditions, and values.
- Have experience supporting youth, families, and community wellness.
- Demonstrate compassion, humility, patience, and strong relationship-building skills.
- Have experience with land-based learning and community engagement.
- Work collaboratively while maintaining confidentiality and professional boundaries.

Working Conditions

- September to June (40 weeks based on the school calendar)
- 6 hours per day (8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., including a one-hour lunch)
- 1–2 days per week, depending on the number of Elders engaged.
- Flexible schedule to support cultural activities and student needs.
- Participation in occasional evening events and outdoor, land-based learning.

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:

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