

# **Tl'azt'en Youth Visions Council**

## **Wednesday, December 20, 2023**

**Present:** Christian Harpe, Georgina Alexis, Joshua Monk, Jodie Pierre, Lizzy Mattess, Ally Anatole, Donaven Winser, Shivaun Joseph

**Regrets:** Bret Felix

**Opening Prayer:** Georgina Alexis

**Chairperson:** Dayi Jodie Pierre

### **Opening Remarks:**

Christian: I've been good. I got really sick after Vancouver trip. I wasn't at the last meeting. I haven't taken a look at the last minutes. Today is a quick and easy meeting. I leave tomorrow at 12pm and drive down to Nanaimo for a week. Then we drive to Kelowna. Be there for a week and come back. Super excited to see friends and family. But it not always feels like a vacation cause it's go, go, go. That's all.

Donaven: Since our last meeting I've been doing good. Still working and keeping busy. Trying to get Christmas shopping done but it's kinda hard. Don't know what to buy people. Happy with swearing in ceremony, more people then expected. But it's good. All is good. All is well.

Bret: Feeling Sick

Joshua: Everything is all good. Just steady busy. Right tomorrow at 12 o'clock gonna drop everything and do nothing for two weeks. All is good. All is well. I'll be quiet this time.

Jodie: I've been good. Nice to see everyone here at our last meeting of the year. Today was a really fun day here at the Ed Centre. Looking forward to the holidays. All is good. All is well.

Lizzy: been doing good. A lot of running around trying to get the school cleaned. Had a big turn out for the student dinner. Compared to last year. Either then that. I'm good.

Ally: I'm doing ok. A lot going on. Looking forward to the holidays. Gonna sleep for two whole weeks.

Shivaun: I've been doing good since last meeting.

Georgina: I've been doing good. Trying to get things done and wind down before the holidays. Looking forward to two weeks off. Had fun at the staff party today. Lots of laughs, fun games and great memories.

### **Adoption of Agenda:**

Jodie: Reads out the agenda items. Any additions?

Christian: Jackets.

Joshua: Question & Lesson for the youth.

Mover: Donaven Winser                      Second: Jodie Pierre

Approved by consensus.

### **Adoption of Meeting Minutes:**

#### **Meeting minutes of November 30, 2023**

Jodie: Did everyone have a chance to look at the minutes?

Mover: Jodie Pierre                      Second: Donaven Winser

Approved by consensus.

### **White Elephant:**

Jodie: First order of business. Each person gets one number, and second person gets a choice to keep or steal a present from anyone. Everyone wants to hope for #1. They get to steal last.

Elizabeth: One person gets a gift. Open and reveal. Next person and so on and so on. The person who gets the number one gets to steal from anyone.

Shivaun: I'm not feeling and go home.

Jodie: I'll tell Lizzy a phrase and she will pass it onto the next person.

### **Swearing In Ceremony:**

Christian: How did it go? How did you feel? How was last year vs this year. For new members how did it feel speaking in front of the community?

Donaven: I thought it was pretty good. Was kinda surprised on how much people showed up. Compared to last year. It was kinda of easy to do, but after looking up and seen how many people were there. I got nervous.

Jodie: I was expecting a different layout. I thought we would have a table. It was still good because there was lots of people. I was still nervous this year, but it was easier in a way.

Joshua: Everything was all good. Didn't mind speaking in public anymore. It just becomes part of my life talking to people. Last year was new to me and I was nervous and stuff. This year was good. The amount of communication I do with people is really helpful with talking in

public. Its good to have conversations with people to learn and get feedback. I really try to be there and listen to people if they have concerns. If they have questions and stuff. It helps to communicate.

Lizzy: It was super nerve racking. Thank God we had a paper to practice. It went ok for the first time. Speaking in public. My hands were super shaky though.

Ally: I was getting bad anxiety. There was a lot of people. You can hear it in my voice and I was shaking really bad. It was good practice. I would like to get more training on public speaking.

Christian: you have to put to practice as much as you learn. That's been on our list for public speaking training. Speak from your mind and words that you know are true. Super proud of you guys and you did a really good job. Those of you that have been here from last year, you can see a big difference. Get ready for next time.

Georgina: It was so heartwarming to see all the members there. I was nervous for you all but did so well. I'm proud of you. Good job.

### **Band Members Meeting:**

Christian: So, this band members meeting was a little different from past meeting. I don't know how much of you have witnessed, but I have no real points for this topic. Just want to open the floor for people to speak about.

Jodie: Has anyone from council stepped down?

Georgina: I haven't heard anything.

Donaven: I heard it was pretty hectic up there. I kinda heard at the end.

Ally: I'm so thankful that I don't pay attention. I put my attention here, but not anywhere else. I feel comfortable around open-minded people.

Lizzy: I was working all day. I heard loud voices when I walked toward the gym. Then I turned around.

Christian: One of the reasons I put it on the topic. We spoke about it last year. Josh is an example of being apart of that table. I don't think there is a whole lot of difference of the possibility of joining that table. It did get a little spicy. Everyone has their own opinions. Something you have to be aware of being in leadership.

Ally: How to control it and the resource.

Donaven: You have to watch what you say in a leadership role. People will use it against you afterwards. When people are getting mad at you, you just listen. Even if it's bad. If you are going to response, think about what you are going to say. Don't feel offended or offend them.

Christian: What do you think the definition of professionalism is?

Joshua: I think it's definitely a learning experience for the whole community. I think our community is going through a storm and we are just about to the other side. The clear side. Everything that happens is necessary. We can use this meeting as a lesson. I think it's just a big lesson. Honestly. I'm kinda glad there was no more youth there. There was only a few of us that can handle stuff like that. We can teach them from this experience.

Georgina: I think we should hold our own band members meeting and teach our lessons there to the other members. Show them what we have learned, experience and want to share.

Donaven: We can also show up to the next band members meeting. If it's still hectic then we can resolve those issues. Between the Nation. It's kinda crazy. You see how divided the people are. I don't know exactly what was said or why, but we can be the middle ground for all the conflict and try to resolve it.

Lizzy: Have our tables side by side and Josh in the middle.

Jodie: Can we be the chairs? For the meeting

Christian: As the acting chair right now. If I start yelling at Donaven. At what point do you step in?

Jodie: Right away.

Christian: Back to my question earlier. The basis of being professional is handling your own emotions. It gets hard out here in the communities. We are dealing with families; generational trauma and we are so tight knit. So, I think you guys can be chairs, but if we are going off this last meeting. Be prepared for what you are walking into.

Jodie: Have posters on the wall. Be respectful, Watch your tone. I'm sure one of us will stop someone. We can play a game or say a corporate prayer. Something to calm the tension.

Christian: It's different from me yelling at Georgina or me yelling at a youth. If you yell at a youth, then you're an asshole.

Joshua: I like the idea of the youth being a chair. But it should be one person chairing.

Ally: It was knowledgeable from Christian and Georgina's advice.

Jodie: I think we should be at the next one. Sitting right in the front. WE can go and speak to the people that are upset. They should have mental health counsellors there.

### **Why are you a leader:**

Christian: Today was agenda wasn't meant to be very long. We covered quiet a bit of it. All of you got voted in. Normally, it's hard to accept criticism. Negative thoughts get in our head and keep going. Gotta be that team members for yourself. It's easy to see someone else as a leader and not ourselves. We can speak about it at the next meeting and go more in depth.

### **What is your New Years/Youth Council Resolution:**

Christian: I thought it would be a fun activity to do as a group. My New Years Resolution is to get your Youth Council video done for next EAC meeting.

Jodie: EAC thought it was gonna be this big production. LOL

Donaven: Be a change for the Nation. Be a part of the table still. I'm gonna be gone quiet a bit. But it's for the better.

Joshua: There is a lot of good stuff happening. I have been seeing change. Keep doing what I'm doing. Amen.

Jodie: My New Year's resolution is to interact with the youth more. One way to do that is go to Christian's activities. Last night I went to the walking group. All the kids there are the youth we want to engage and interact with.

Donaven: That plays a big part and they acknowledge when you are apart of the activities.

Lizzy: Maybe find a new hobby.

Ally: \$5. My New Year's resolution. Going out to more events, volunteering, offering a helping hand. Practicing my public speaking. Stopping drinking energy drinks for 2024.

Georgina: Spend more time with my family. Get out on the land more.

### **Jackets:**

Christian: So, we have samples in the binder for you to look at. Do we want to wait for Shivaun and Bret. I can put it in the group chat. I put in the sports jackets and blazers. I think it would be so deadly if you walk into a meeting with them on.

Georgina: Let us know which one you want to select. It's up to you guys. We can order in the New Year.

## **Questions & Lesson for the youth:**

Joshua: Ask each of you what question and lesson would you have for the youth.

Christian: Q: If you knew you couldn't fail, how big would you dream? L: Everything is a blessing or a lesson.

Donaven: Q: What kind of change would you make to better your future L: Perfect people don't exist so don't try to be one. But shoot for perfect because you will better yourself.

Joshua: Q: If you had to say what to do with a million dollars. What would you do? L: Go down the road of sobriety.

Jodie: Q: What do you aspire to be. Do you see yourself working for Tl'azt'en nation L: Pay attention in school. Growing up I heard people say this and didn't understand why. But now I do.

Lizzy: Q: Where would you live if you could live anywhere in the world. L: Don't beat yourself up over the small stuff.

Ally: Q: How do you handle hard situations. L: Every day is a different day; it's how you create it.

Georgina: Q: Who is your greatest role model L: Anything is possible if you follow your dreams and heart.

Meeting ended: 7:05pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2024