

Yadultín ka Dūsts'ā dle áyá ax saayí. Dahkl'aweidi naax xat sitee. Keét Hít yoo duwasáakw haa naa kahídi. Deisheetaan yádi (áyá xát). Dahkka Natassaheeni ka Tagish kwáan dáx áyá xát.

My Tlingit and Tagish name is Yadultin & Dūsts'à dle. I am Dakhl'aweidí Clan under the Tagish Keét Hít (Killerwhale House). I am the child of Deisheetaan and Dakhka Tlingit of Natassaheeni. I am the daughter of Late former Chief and Elder, Doris Mclean and my father is Philip Mclean. I am the Granddaughter of Peter and Agnes Johns, Great-Grand daughter of Tagish and Maria Johns and Scotty and Clara Williams. I was born in Whitehorse and have spent most of my life living in the Yukon, with my roots firmly grounded in the Traditional Territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation.

- B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Alaska
- M.A. in Indigenous Governance from the University of Victoria

My life's work has largely been about fostering the vision of Indigenous self-determination. To further advance the vision set out in Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow. A vision which foresaw our people to be truly happy, united, healthy, self-governing and whom our Ancestors would recognize as their decedents. Our Elders and Leaders spent their lives fighting to advance this vision, and they have succeeded to secure our Indigenous rights on our Territory. It is my generation's responsibility to take it further and implement this vision for the good of all the children of our community, and their children after them. And despite our huge advancements forward, we still carry immense trauma and pain that have caused dysfunction and disunity. However, it is time for us to move again - together; united, with one collective strong voice, overcoming challenges and celebrating good things. We can accomplish anything, if we can come together as one!

WHAT DO YOU THINK
OF THESE ACTION
PRIORITIES? WHAT IS
MOST IMPORTANT TO
YOU? WHAT IS MOST
IMPORTANT FOR
YOUR LEADERSHIP TO
ACCOMPLISH RIGHT
NOW?

Please share your thoughts with me anytime by sending me a message at **marilynajensen@gmail.com** and let's talk over a coffee!







- Council for Yukon First Nations as a researcher for the Elder's Documentation Program
- Self-Government Secretariat, Manager the Language Revitalization Program
- Yukon College, Instructor, Nation Governance at Yukon College,
- Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Senior Government Official for the Carcross/Tagish First Nation.

IN MY SPARE TIME

I am the Founder and leader of the Dakhká Khwáan Dancers, recipients of the National Indigenous Tourism Award and nominated for an Indigenous Music Award in 2018. We have traveled around the world sharing our culture and our own important messages.

I am currently serving on the Executive of the Indigenous Tourism Canada Board of Directors, as President of the Yukon First Nation Culture and Tourism Association and a member of the Indigenous Program Council at the Banff Centre.

MESSAGE AND PRIORITIES

I believe it is time for our people to be well again, and to find dignity by reclaiming who we truly are as Inland Tlingit and Tagish Khwaan people, this is our Haa Kusteyea. I feel a tremendous sense of responsibility and accountability to my community to step forward and work within a leadership team now. My life's journey has brought me to this place in time where I believe I have the tools and support system I need to serve as an effective leader.

For me, this first means listening deeply to the voices and ideas of our people about what my immediate priorities should be. In order to create measurable progress for our people we must identify priorities for collective action. If we try to do everything, we risk doing nothing. Coming into this process, I have four main priorities in mind for the next year:

- Creating new opportunities for citizens to work and start Indigenous-owned businesses;
- Increasing the number of people who have safe and secure housing;
- Creating opportunities for our people to gather, speak with loving honesty, heal, laugh, celebrate, and build unity; and

My consulting work with Legendseekers Research and Social Innovation Consulting has offered me more than 20 years experience working with Federal, Territorial and First Nation governments, communities and youth as a trainer and facilitator. My specialty is Indigenous Governance, and I have extensive experience in community engagement, facilitating groups, chairing important meetings such as General Assemblies, and in developing relevant Indigenous resources and training materials. The work that I have focused on intensely for the last 6 years is facilitating the workshop entitled Transforming Lateral Violence into Lateral Kindness in the Yukon, B.C. and most recently, Alberta.

