

## Profile for Chief Cheryl Casimer

Cheryl is currently the Chief for St. Mary's Band. She has been a member of the Chief and Council for the past 16 years. She is also currently employed with the Ktunaxa Nation Treaty Council as a Treaty Negotiator and has been involved in the treaty process since 1994.

Previous board experience includes Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services (KKCFSS) which she served as the President for 10 of the 14 years she served. Throughout her tenure as Chair she was successful in negotiating the first delegation agreement between Canada and BC that allowed for focusing on preventative measures as well as seconding Ministry staff into the KKCFSS agency. KKCFSS is now the aboriginal authority on Child & Family issues throughout the Ktunaxa territory.

Cheryl also had the honor of serving on the First Nations Summit Task Group for a two year term as a Co-Chair.

Cheryl is passionate about issues that impact First Nation communities and is an active participant at forums such as the First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Health, Education, Child & Family and Economic Development.

Cheryl takes pride in keeping herself up to date on current issues that affect First Nations in BC and firmly believes in being prepared for meetings in order to maximize the tight schedules most First Nation leaders face daily.

Cheryl has excellent time management skills, has the ability to analyze complex situations/issues and is committed and dedicated to her community/Nation. Initiatives that Cheryl is currently involved in with her community include the recent conclusion of a comprehensive community strategic plan, the ongoing development of a community Land Use Plan, pursuing economic development opportunities such as an Industrial Park, Gravel Pit and Biomass Energy projects.

Cheryl lives in her community with her family. Her youngest son resides with her as he works his way towards high school graduation in a few more years. Her adult son and daughter have blessed her with four beautiful grandchildren. Cheryl dedicates her life, work and achievements to the betterment of her community and most specifically her children, grandchildren and future generations.