

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - February 9th 2021

Merritt, BC

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology Board of Governors Announces New Board Chair

The Board of Governors of the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology is pleased to announce the recent election of Sashia Leung as the Board's newest chair.

Sashia Leung is a proud Wet'suwet'en, Chinese woman from the Witset First Nation. She was elected Chair of the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology Board of Governors on February 8, 2021 and was initially appointed by the Ministry of Advanced Education in late 2016. At NVIT, Sashia has served as an Executive member and on the Audit and Risk Management Committee. She has previously volunteered with various community organizations and served on committees and other boards, including the Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver Board of Directors. Sashia is also a member of the Banff Forum and the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference (2017).



Her academic and professional work has focused on protecting and advancing Indigenous rights, nation and governance building, reconciliation, community engagement, and education. Sashia shares that the sacred responsibility to knowledge and our teachings passed down for generations have empowered her to breakdown barriers and create space for critical dialogue and shared understandings. Sashia holds a BA in Political Science and First Nations studies from the University of British Columbia and is Associate Director with the British Columbia Treaty Commission.

Sashia has worked extensively with Indigenous communities throughout BC and internationally through her experience with the three United Nations bodies responsible for Indigenous Peoples rights and interests. Sashia has assisted Expert Members and Indigenous Peoples Organizations at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

As the home of British Columbia's Indigenous public post-secondary, NVIT services more than 1700 students annually. With campuses located in Merritt and Burnaby, we provide in-person, online and community-based educational opportunities throughout Canada. NVIT welcomes Sashia as the new Chair of the NVIT Board of Governors!

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