



Wet'suwet'en Yintah  
Nation Mourning the passing of Chief Madeek, Jeff Brown

Nov 10, 2022

On behalf of the Wet'suwet'en Dini'ze, Tsaké'ze and administration we extend our deepest condolences to the family and clan of Dini'ze Madeek, Jeff Brown as he recently passed over into the spirit world. We ask his family and friends to take care of each other, to walk softly at this time of deep mourning and this week of ceremony.

*"I am saddened by the passing of Chief Madeek, he left behind a legacy of protecting our sacred lands and water. He was very strong and focused on his dedication to our Wet'suwet'en Traditions. He was truly a man that stood up for the vulnerable ones..."* Dini'ze Woos, Frank Alec.

*"I am going to miss my friend Madeek (Jeff Brown). I remember my first time attending a Hereditary Chief's Meeting and he greeted me with a huge and a very long embrace. As he hugged me he said, "It's going to be good to sit and share Sweat Lodge experiences with someone who knows what I'm talkin' about!" We sat in our first meeting together before it started sharing Sweat Lodge experiences that were most memorable to us.*

*Madeek was always on the move. I would often run into him in distant places. We always greeted each other with a big hug and a warm greeting. He never hesitated to help transport people to important healing ceremonies. He once gave my teenage children a ride to/from Vancouver to attend a Sweat Lodge ceremony with a group of medicine people. He spent the remainder of his life communing with the ancestors and in prayer. He is with them now, ready to show us all the way."* Dini'ze Smogelgem of the Likhts'amisyu

*"Madeek believed in anuk nu'at'en, our laws, our way which states that all decisions must give the land, air, water a voice. We speak for all of it first, to protect it for future generations, we are the land, and the land is us. He dedicated his life to the name he carried, protection of culture, land, and the future for those yet unborn, for the betterment of all".* Dini'ze NaMoks, John Ridsdale.

*"Madeek will be deeply missed, his welcoming spirit and genuine hugs. Madeek was fierce when protecting the Yinta and protecting children and families, asserting Wet'suwet'en Title, Rights and Jurisdiction. He spoke with passion and conviction. He spoke very bluntly with government and industry and his vision put into practise with love and care when working with the staff, with our children and families and members. We mourn his physical presence, but also know his*

*work in the spirit world is just beginning and all of what he shared with us here will continue.”*  
Staff of the Office of the Wet’suwet’en.

Madeek’s memorial is this evening at 5 pm. The Chiefs farewell is Saturday morning at 10 am, Madeek’s funeral is at noon and the settlement feast is following. All events are held at the Gathering Place in Burns Lake.

Collectively we mourn, and help Madeek walk softly to be with his ancestors and Creator.

Sincerely,

Wet’suwet’en Dini’ze and Tsakë’ze:

Dini’ze Hagwilnegh – Ron Mitchell – Laksilyu  
Dini’ze T’sek’ot – Ron Austin - Laksilyu  
Dini’ze Lay-oh – James Namox – Gil\_seyhu  
Dini’ze Knedebeas – Warner William – Gil\_seyhu  
Dini’ze Woos – Frank Alec - Gitdumden  
Dini’ze Gisday’wa – Fred Tom - Gitdumden  
Dini’ze Kloum Khun – Alphonse Gagnon – Laksamshu  
Dini’ze Smogelgem – Warner Naziel - Laksamshu  
Tsakë’ze Wilat – Sue Alfred Tsayu

CC Office of the Wet’suwet’en Administration

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