

www.WLGangViolence.com

https://sencanada.ca/en/sencaplus/people/indigenous-youth-leaders-on-the-hill/

Willie Sellars, Williams Lake Indian Band, British Columbia



- Studied at Thompson Rivers University in Williams Lake and Kamloops.
- Works for the Williams Lake Indian Band as the Special Projects Coordinator in its Economic Development/Natural Resource Department.
- Second term on Council with the band.
- Award-winning children's book author of *Dipnetting with Dad*.

“GANG VIOLENCE”

“The community of Williams Lake has made national headlines with gang violence. I pride myself in being a pillar of the community in representing First Nations across the province and Canada in a good way. I coach my kids. I coach soccer. I’m more of a motivator, I guess. I coach hockey, and I guess the motto in my household is, ‘Sports, not courts.’”



“Enough is enough,” adds Chief Sellars. “As a community we need to work together to take action and root out as many of these serious offenders as possible. I’m immensely proud of my community and my connection to this city, but this small group of criminals is like a dark and deadly cloud swirling overhead. To the people who are participating in these criminal acts, if you need help and want to change your life, we are here for you. If you’re suffering from some form of trauma or having difficulty making your way in the world, then we want to help. If, however, you choose to reject this offer of support and insist on continuing down a destructive path, we will do everything we can to see that you are locked up and put in a place where you can’t harm others. I’m calling on the City of Williams Lake, other First Nations, and governments of BC and Canada to develop a definitive action plan. I never want to see another incident like this in our community, and WLFN intends to do everything we can to ensure that it doesn’t.”

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