

Lindsay (Swooping Hawk) Kretschmer

Letter from Lindsay

She:Kon,

For over thirty years ALS has been on the forefront of supporting Indigenous people by advocating and creating space for alternative and culturally responsive programs and services. In this knowing; it is with deep humility and gratitude that I will be entering the role of Executive Director, serving Aboriginal Legal Services beginning February 2022.

My name is Lindsay (Swooping Hawk); I am German and Mohawk; Wolf Clan. My family comes from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, and I was born and raised in Toronto. I am transitioning to Aboriginal Legal Services from the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council where I served as the ED for nearly 4 years.

I bring two decades of experience, knowledge and a good mind that is grounded in knowing my role and responsibilities to the communities I serve. I bring to this role passion, commitment, courage, care, and authenticity. I offer experience that includes both formal education, cultural awareness and lived experience. I believe unequivocally in the importance of empowerment to ensure that the communities we serve are at the forefront of all that we do, and I will work diligently to advance and advocate in support of the work of ALS.

ALS has worked to tirelessly to advocate for Indigenous community members in a manner that promotes culture, advocacy and inclusion that ignites transformation at an individual, family, community and broader societal level. I look forward to working with the ALS team, and under the direction of the ALS Board, on the continued growth and development of this important mandate.

In gratitude - all my relations.

Nia:Wen,

Lindsay (Swooping Hawk) Kretschmer



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Bio

Lindsay (Swooping Hawk) Kretschmer's family comes from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. She is German and Mohawk, Wolf Clan and her spirit name is Swooping Hawk.

She has worked in the non-profit sector for over 20 years, mostly in senior management roles for Indigenous-led organizations both locally and provincially.

Lindsay has worked for the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council, the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres and Native Child & Family Services of Toronto. She started her community service work as a teenager, 19 years ago, by volunteering at Council Fire Native Cultural Centre. Her areas of expertise include Indigenous social justice issues, provincial and federal negotiations, program and training development, research and evaluation, policy and advocacy, and capacity and strategic partnership building.

Lindsay is passionate about Indigenous community well-being and is committed to developing sustainable and measurable solutions for social change and lasting impact. She holds a certificate in women's studies from York University, an advanced diploma in Advertising, an executive-level conflict management and alternative dispute resolution certificate from the University of Windsor Law School, and a diversity leadership certificate from York University's Schulich School of Business. In 2003, she received the YWCA Young Woman of Distinction Award and she has been featured in a variety of media for her commitment to social change and advocacy.

Lindsay is a mom to two daughters and a son, and she lives in Toronto in the east end.

