

**Caroline Jean Falstead, Director of Indigenous Initiatives, EMB Management**

Caroline Jean "Jeannie" Falstead (née Cranmer) is a prominent leader in Indigenous relations and business development, she is a descendant of the Musgamakw Dzawada'enuxw and a citizen of the Namgis First Nation in BC. She is currently serving as the Director of Indigenous Initiatives with several OEC Group of Companies, including EMB Management Ltd. EMB has partnered with Khowutzun Development Corporation (KDC) to deliver the FortisBC Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project on Vancouver Island. KDC is the primary economic development arm of Cowichan Tribes, the largest FN in BC. With over 20 years of experience in the utility sector, Falstead previously managed BC Hydro's Aboriginal Education and Employment Strategy (AEES) and the Aboriginal Business Partnership Program (ABPP). BC Hydro achieved Gold certification in the CCIB Progressive Aboriginal Relations (PAR) program, now the Partnership Accreditation in Indigenous Relations (PAIR) program, her team facilitated the hiring of more than 300 Indigenous individuals in roles such as, power line technicians, electricians, and engineers. Her work emphasizes building mutually beneficial partnerships, advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, and supporting economic reconciliation in corporate environments.