

## **DAMION ALPHONSE**

### **FIRST NATIONS ROLE MODEL 2011**



Damion is a proud member of the Tl'etinqox (Anaham Band). He is a Grade 8 student at Williams Lake Secondary School. Damion enjoys school and does the best he can. His favourite classes are Film, Television, Drama and Theatre. He says school is fun, entertaining and very exciting.

Teacher Vic Dueck believes that Damion is a positive Role Model not only for First Nations students, but for all students. He has a warm and friendly personality. He is a gentleman and is respectful towards all, regardless of gender, age, or race.

Teacher Lynn Capling says that she appreciates Damion's kind and inclusive behaviour towards other students in the classroom. When they do group work she says that Damion is willing to work with everyone, including the students that others try to avoid working with. For this reason Damion is already a Role Model in her classroom. She believes that his maturity, kindness, and attitude towards school make him a good candidate for First Nations Role Model 2011 - 2012.

Damion has a lot of respect for himself. He watches the way he eats. He is always polite and keeps himself looking at the brighter side of things. He feels that he is a leader because he is humble, generous, sets good examples, is always kind and polite and persuades others to do the right thing.

Damion lives a healthy lifestyle free of drugs and alcohol. He is very proud to be a non smoker. Damion enjoys sports and prides himself in being a good sport. He currently participates in karate classes for self defence.

Damion is keenly aware of his First Nations Culture. Damion says that his culture always teaches him to hold his head high and to keep moving forward – all while respecting everyone equally.



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## **TALIA BAPTISTE**

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Talia is a proud member of Tsi Del Del (Alexis Creek Indian Band). She is a Grade 11 Honor Roll student at Williams Lake Secondary School. Talia mentors in the Big Brothers and Sisters In-School Mentoring Program. Talia enjoys sports and is presently on the school's senior girls' soccer team and on the family ball team. She participated in helping with this school's yearbook. Talia attended Challenge Day activities as a Leader. She is a peer helper in the "Beauty from the Inside Out" program.

Principal Silvia Seibert-Dubray believes that Talia would be a fantastic choice for this year's Female Role Model as she is a thoughtful, respectful and helpful individual.

What being a Role Model means to Talia is having the characteristics of honesty, leadership, achievement, trust, respect for oneself and others, a healthy life style, the willingness to learn, making positive choices and having interest in your traditional culture. Being a Role Model is to be a good example. It's not the same as being perfect. Rather it is about acknowledging your imperfections, sharing what you are good at, and being honest about mistakes and admitting things you are not very good at.

Talia is a member of the City of Williams Lake Youth Council. She is thankful for this opportunity to gain greater knowledge of the local government system through active participation. She is in the process of being the First Nations Youth Director for Recreation for the City and Regional District.

Talia leads a busy healthy lifestyle holding two part time jobs, active in sports, volunteering in a lot of youth leadership activities and still on the HONOR ROLL.

Talia is proud to be smoke, drug and alcohol free. She listens to her Elders and enjoys spending time with them. She values the summers spent with her grandparents who tell her stories of her culture. She attends Chilcotin Language classes in school where she is learning her language and how to bead.



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