

## **Sdahl K'awaas Lucy Bell**

Lucy Bell, **Sdahl K'awaas**, is a proud member of the Tsiits Gitanee Haida Eagle clan. A topophilia at heart, she finds great joy in walking along the Massett Inlet, deeply connected to the land of her kuniisii (ancestors). Currently completing her PhD at Simon Fraser University, Lucy focuses on Haida museology as an act of tla yahda (making things right), aiming to honour Haida culture at home and within museum and galleries. Lucy has worked in the heritage field for many years. She has co-curated exhibitions at Expo '98 and 2000, *Raven Travelling* at the Vancouver Art Gallery, gallery refreshes at the Royal BC Museum and now the Christian White exhibition at the Bill Reid Gallery. She has also written a number of articles including *Finding the Joy in Repatriation and Research*, *Xáadas Tl'áayuu*, *Haida Threads* essay for *An Endless Thread: Dorothy Grant's Retrospective* and *T'áawee G ii 'll G a Sk'a'áanggan: They were Cradled in a Copper* for the Old Massett Birth Story book.

As a founding member of the Haida Repatriation Committee, she has led the return over 500 ancestral remains to their rightful resting places. Lucy loves "nerding out" with fellow Haida enthusiasts who share her passion for Haida history, culture and language. Her work continues to inspire many, embodying a commitment to cultural celebration and reconciliation.

Her dedication to repatriation, curation and cultural advocacy has earned her numerous accolades, including the Sterling Prize for Controversy, the BC Museums Association Service Award, the BC Community Achievement Award and the BC Reconciliation Award. Notably, she has been instrumental in calling out systemic racism at the Royal BC Museum, pushing for meaningful changes within the heritage sector. Passionate about creating safe and inclusive spaces in the museum sector that her daughter and nieces work in, Lucy strives to implement tla yahda by challenging racism and stereotypes and promoting Indigenous leadership and knowledge.