Secwepemc Rites of Passage

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Project Researcher

Secwepemc Cultural Education Society
Introduction

• **Secwepemc Declaration**
  - *to work in unity on Secwepemc language, history and culture*

• **Secwepemc Cultural Education Society**
  - **Vision:** everyone come together to help one another
  - **Purpose:** non-profit organization devoted to preserving and promoting the language, culture and history of Secwepemc people

• **Secwepemc Rites of Passage Project**
  - *an essential research project for children, families and communities interested in Secwepemc customs*
Acknowledgements

• Secwepemc Elders
  - respected community members who know Secwepemc customs and history

• Secwepemc Language Authority
  - group of highly fluent Secwepemc language speakers

• Funding Contribution
  - we gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Children and Family Development
Agenda

• Project Overview
• Methodology
• Research Topics
• Project Participants
• Project Researcher
• Next Steps
• Contact Information
Project Overview

• **Key Objective**
  - to provide direction to children, families and communities interested in traditional ways of life

• **Purpose and Goal**
  - to provide a foundation for learning and to promote emotional wellness for all

• **How is this goal achieved?**
  - cultural aspects we learn will help us understand and communicate with each other in a more effective and positive way
Methodology

• What is methodology?
  - how the researcher plans to ask for, gather, and analyze information

• Project Methodology
  - based on First Nations research methods

• How was this step achieved?
  - by following Secwepemc protocol
  - asking permission to speak to knowledge holders
  - conducting ethical research
  - follow information sharing protocol
Research Topics

• Children
  - raising children in a Secwepemc way

• Adolescence
  - how young people prepare for adulthood

• Marriage
  - marriage ceremonies in communities

• Funeral and Mourning
  - community guidelines
Project Participants

• Advice and guidance from the Secwepemc Language Authority, various Secwepemc communities

• Marie and Willard Antoine, St’uxwtéws community

• Antoinette Archie, Tsq’escen community

• Elsie Archie, Tsq’escen community

• SCES Language Department
Hello. My name is Jessica Arnouse. I am Secwepemc from the Adams Lake First Nation. I work at the Secwepemc Cultural Education Society.
Next Steps

Secwepemc Elders Advice:

“With the language you learn about Secwepemc ways. The language is used with every part of learning” (Antoine, Marie).

“By relearning the language, true expression among the people will emerge” (Elders Language Committee and Language Advisory Committee).
Contact Information

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