

Message to Community – October Update

Date: October 31, 2022

Ta newyáp Squamish Nation Members,

The Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw is committed to keeping you informed of the ongoing activities of Yúusnewas, the project responsible for the archives and land-based research into St. Paul's Residential School. Information is available on the website or you can email the Project Team at yuusnewas@squamish.net.

The project is currently in Phase Two: Truth. During this phase, we are researching the history of our ancestors and recording the truths of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) survivors. The recording team – led by Kwitelut, Carla George and Adina Williams – have worked hard to create a safe and comforting environment. We raise our hands to the survivors who have recorded their stories so far. Please reach out to yuusnewas@squamish.net if you are ready to gift your truth.

In addition to this important work, the Project Team continues to engage with other Nations in British Columbia working on their respective IRS projects. On November 8 and 9, 2022, the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw will co-host a technical conference for these Nations to share information and best practice. The first two were hosted by Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops) and Stó:lō Nation (Chilliwack).

Please note that this conference is not open to Members. We will share information when events are scheduled for the community to learn about Yúusnewas activities.

wa chexw yuusténamut (take care of yourself). Health and wellness support, including traditional land-based practices, continue to be accessible to all. Please read the <u>Yúusnewas Wellness Guide</u> for more details. We are here to walk alongside you and support you.

Chet wanáxwstúmi (respectfully),

Council Spokespersons Syexwáliya, Ann Whonnock and Sxwíxwtn, Wilson Williams