



## Message to Community – Yúusnewás: A Community Led Project

Date: June 6, 2023

ha7lh skwáyel (good day),

Yúusnewás is a Skwxwú7mesh community-led project to research and document the residential school experiences of our stélmexw (people). Our intent is to provide a safe space to listen to our truth-tellers and to take care of one another with cultural, emotional, and spiritual wellness support. This process has our ancestors, truth-tellers, and stélmexw at its heart as we highlight pathways of healing for today and generations to come.

The project has been set up to ensure work is done in a good way with our culture and protocols as the foundation. Knowledge keepers and those with traditional knowledge lead the project and – before delivery of activities, events, or ceremony – check the work. The Steering Committee guides the project while the Project Team actively works across multiple areas including health and wellness support, recording stories, archive and land-based research, and cultural practices. [Click here to view a diagram.](#)

Peter Baker is the Project Sponsor. Kwitelut, Carla George and Adina Williams are Community Liaisons and have been supporting our truth-tellers. In this [video](#) they speak about the project, the truth-telling phase, and their hopes for our community today and the generations to come. Content warning: residential schools

wa chexw yuusténa'mut (take care of yourself). Wellness, healing, and support look different for each person and the team is here to help you in whatever way you need. More information is available in the [Yúusnewás Wellness Guide](#).

Mackenzie Gomez – Yúusnewás Health Lead  
Phone: 604-360-3911 or 604-982-0332  
Email: [Mackenzie\\_Gomez@squamish.net](mailto:Mackenzie_Gomez@squamish.net)

Hannah Rushton – Yúusnewás Wellness Lead  
Phone: 778-233-4869 or 604-985-4111  
Email: [Hannah\\_Rushton@squamish.net](mailto:Hannah_Rushton@squamish.net)

chet wanáxwstúmi (respectfully),

Council Spokespersons  
Syexwáliya, Ann Whonnock and Sxwíxwtn, Wilson Williams