The Stó:lō, S’ólh Téméxw, & Intellectual Properties Issues in Cultural Heritage

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STÓ:LO

(‘People of the River’)  
- Central Coast Salish -
Cultural Heritage... An inter-connection between people, places, things; A field of knowledge and network of intellectual properties
SXWÓXWIYÁM

- Stó:lō Oral History - Narratives of the Distant Past describing how the World came into being;
- A Period of Time – The Age when the World was ‘Not Quite Right’
Stó:lō [People of the River] believe that shxwelí is our life force in all of us.

Everything in S’ólh Téméxw (Our World)/Our land has a shxwelí, has a spirit and is alive.

- Elder Joe Aleck, Cheam FN

(Qa:lmetes tl' Sto:lo kw'es semikw' te s'aylexw te shxwelitest wiyoth. Mekw'stam li te S'o:lh temexw kwelam te shxweli qas te s'aylexw.)
Interconnected dimensions of Stó:lō culture
STÓ:LŌ HERITAGE POLICY MANUAL

Xólhmet te mekw'stám ít kwelát.
We have to look after everything that belongs to us.

Approved by the
Stó:lō Nation Lalems ye Stó:lō Si:ya:m (LYSS)
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**Stó:lō Intellectual Property** - knowledge, the nature of use of which has been transmitted from generation to generation, which is regarded as Stó:lō and as belonging to Stó:lō individuals, families, communities, or the Nation as a whole... though rooted in the past, is contemporary knowledge that changes with time. Stó:lō Intellectual Property includes:

**Place Name(s)**
- the Halkomelem name(s) of a place or places in the landscape of S’ólh T’éméxw.

**Oral History**
- Sqwelqwel, sxwôxwiyám and other forms of oral history and narratives originating from the Stó:lō.

**Family Names**
- culturally inherited and owned names.

**Songs**
- culturally inherited or spiritually acquired songs.

**Dances**
- culturally inherited or spiritually acquired dances.

**Designs / Images / Crafts / Arts**
- Traditional Stó:lō images, designs and artistic styles.

**Language**
- the Halkomelem (Halq'eméylem) language.
S’ólh Téméxw – ca. 200 years ago
S’ólh Téméxw – today

...A vastly transformed landscape of heritage and intellectual properties issues
The Journey of Xexá:ls
“Making the World Right”
Lhxe:ylex
(Doctor’s Point)
Lhelheqey (Mt. Cheam)

Sqwemá:y (Lady Peak)
Tewit (the Hunter)
Lightning Bolt

Xéylxelmós

Th’exlis (Gritting his Teeth/ Scratch Marks)
Xpá:ylehp - Western redcedar
Liyómxetel (DgRm-1)

1,800 year old redcedar-root basketry – wet-site mitigation
(Schaepe 2002)
Burial Mounds & Cairns
EAYEM MEMORIAL
1938 A.D.
ERECTED BY
THE STALLO INDIANS
IN MEMORY OF MANY HUNDREDS OF OUR
FOREFATHERS BURIED HERE. THIS IS ONE OF
SIX ANCIENT CEMETERIES WITHIN OUR FIVE
MILE NATIVE FISHING GROUNDS WHICH
WE INHERITED FROM OUR ANCESTORS
R. I. P.
‘Learning to live together in a Good Way’...

Requires addressing issues of Indigenous Intellectual Properties – rights, practice, policy, theory
Le Hoy!

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