Land and Language R Tmicw-kt ell Xqwélten-kt

tsqey ri7 ne scenc tselxewílcste tems q7e7st.s r xqeltén-kt tskul te tmicw yi7éne r tmicw - Secwepemcúlecw ell qeqnímete r secpéwt te tkmesqt tkten skwelkwélt-uy te sqwmellqwélt.s-kuc kult r seqwlút m- secwepemctseném-et stek te tkmesqt kétes r tmicw tskitses r stelsqélecwes míxwes r skwelkwelt-uy r skwcust.s ec r ts7úmes kult r setétkwe kellekstméte r púsme-kt m-qeqnímete r tmicw ell wqwélten-kt it is written on rock and taught through oral pastime that our language is old that it was born from the land, this land—Secwépemculecw and that the reverberations rumbling from the sky to mountaintops and into our throats formed words creating Secwepemctsin streaming from earth and sky touching earth reaching our souls melting glacier tears weeping forming rivers and our hearts released sounds of land and language

by Garry Gottfriedson

Translation support from: Elder Flora Sampson and Dr. Janice Dick-Billy

Secwépemculecw - the territory of the Secwépemc people Secwepemctsín - the Secwépemc language

O Tina Mckay



MAKING THE CONNECTION

Secwepemctsín comes from the land and is a reflection of Secwépemc identity. Traditional place names often denote important natural features or food sources. How is your language and identity tied to the landscapes that you grew up with?





