

Themlúps te Secwépemc

(Kamloops Indian Band) OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Congratulations 2024 Graduates

Weyt-kp xwexwéytep Le7 te sitqt, Hello Everyone and Good Day to the Graduates of 2024. On behalf of Tkemlúps Council, we are excited to extend and say Yerí7 re sxexé7 (congratulations) to all the TteS Graduates of 2024. We honour your hard work and dedication that you have demonstrated to get you to this very important milestone – GRADUATION. High school presents its ups and downs, and we all can relate. Anything worth accomplishing in life is never easy. But as long as you let your passion lead the way and your inner courage light the path, you will always end up exactly where you were meant to be. The young people of our generations hold so much knowledge and power of the next direction we should be going in. Never be afraid to speak up for what you love and what you believe in. As you move through this world, know that at times it can be scary, but remember, its is a beautiful and precious opportunity to live life to the fullest and we do not do this alone.

Today and everyday, we must hold our hands up to the major supports that helped you get her today: Elders, kíke7ce (Moms), qéqtse7 (Dads), Aunties, Uncles, and len xpé7e lu7 (Grandpas), kyé7e (Grandmas) Teachers, Counsellors, and Coaches, mentors and your fellow grads have all played a role in your journey, and I encourage you to take a moment to connect with those that have guided and supported you and make your gratitude known. Going through school we all learned the value of creating friendships; know that as you go to university and the workplace and make your marks in this world know that we all lift you up and carry these relationships with you wherever you go.

As you move forward in life, we also want you to carry with great pride your identity as Tkemlúpsemc. Never forget your roots and the importance of culture, language, and traditions. These values are what links generations to generations. The recognition of the interconnectedness of all, and respect for our lands, water, medicines, plants, and each other, will help guide you towards a successful future. Try to maintain balance in your life to create health and happiness. Here are the words I live by: "Know your Passion, Visualize your Plans, Collect your Resources, and always be Determined to Succeed!" I practice those values in both my personal and professional life and share that with all of you as you continue with your journey, whatever that may be.



Again, on behalf of Council and all of us at TteS, we truly wish you so much success today and in the future!! You are our future and leaders. Congratulations to all the Grads of 2024!! You did it and we wish you success in all your endeavors. Le7es ke7s w7ec wel me7 yews (we wish you the best forever/always).

Yours truly, **Tkemlúps te Secwépemc**

Kúkpi7 Rosanne Casimir (Chief)