

SECWÉPEMC FIELD SCHOOL

JUNE 30-JULY 31, 2025

WEEK 1 UPDATE



July 14, 2025



Arrival & Welcome

The University of Alberta Secwépemc History Field School had a busy and meaningful first week in Tk'emlúps! On July 7, we were warmly welcomed at the CLC Assembly Hall by members of the Language & Culture Department, Museum and Archives staff, other TteS staff, and band members.



Student researchers enjoyed Welcome and Honour Songs and connected with community members. We heard engaging presentations on archival research from Ken Favrholt (Secwépemc Heritage Park) and Mitchell Fridman (Kamloops Museum and Archives), followed by a tour of the redesigned Secwépemc archives.

Many of us also joined the Secwépemc Song Sharing night and had a wonderful time!



Touring the new museum!

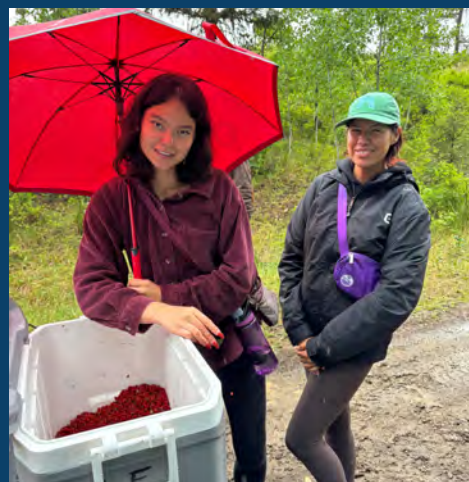


Harvesting sxúsem

On Wednesday, Amanda Johnson, Hailey Hamelin-Wilson, Danielle Lapatack, and Sarah Nickel joined Greg Ferguson and Lyle Paul for sxúsum picking, returning with a half-cooler of berries to prepare for the Elders' Cache.

Activities

- The week continued with archival visits, project meetings, and time spent getting to know each other and the Tk'emlúps community. We were grateful to use the Sc.wé'ñwen Economic Development Corporation boardroom for two days and the Language & Culture classroom for the rest of the week.
- Student researchers in Tk'emlúps include:
 - Valerie Wood, Annabelle Ouellet, Iona Chelsea, Nikki Fraser, Lucinda Paul, Simone Paul, Bug Sylvestre, Tirza Lanza-Bosch, Natasha McConnell, Ashley Churchill, Kristiana Green, Kendall Acker, Rayna John. Dylana Twitney, Hailey Hamelin-Wilson, Amanda Johnson, Danielle Lapatack, Jessica Owen, Lydia Kinasewich, Denee Reansbury. Led by: Dr. Sarah Nickel (TteS member) & teaching asst. Patrick Erickson



Hailey Hamelin-Wilson and Danielle Lapatack learning on the land as they harvest sxúsem in the rain.



Cleaning berries

Patrick Erickson, Bug Sylvestre, Danielle Lapatack, and Janet Doucette get to work separating the berries from the extras we brought back. A dedicated bunch!

Teamwork!



Preserving



Greg Ferguson, Jackie Jules, and Janet Doucette bringing the final product home to create 96 jars of sxúsem juice for the Elders' cache.

Bug, Dylana, and Patrick