



UBCIC RESEARCH

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SKWEKWEK'WELT CHRONOLOGY

OCTOBER 9, 2000 -AUGUST 30, 2001

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Skwelkwekwelt Chronology

October 9, 2000

Secwepemc exercise and assert their title to their traditional territory at Skwelkwekwelt (at the entrance to Sun Peaks Ski Resort) and establish the Skwelkwekwelt Protection Center.

November, 2001

Protection Center was moved across the road where Secwepemc people lived throughout the winter until July, 2001.

March, 2001

Secwepemc and supporters protest at Much Music Snow Job event which promotes Sun Peaks as a destination ski resort. Much Music has since said they will not return to Sun Peaks.

May, 2001

Secwepemc assert their rights to their lands and to protect lands from further destruction by erecting a permanent log building 5 km. from Sun Peaks Resort along the road leading to McGillvery Lake.

June 1, 2001

Secwepemc exercise their right to permanently live at McGillvery Lake (8 km. from Sun Peaks Resort) and to protect the area from further encroachment.

June 6, 2001

Secwepemc build traditional cedar bark lodge at the base of Mt. Morrissey which is slated for development.

June 8, 2001

British Columbia Lands and Assets Corporation, without consultation or consent of the Secwepemc, transfer the land where the Skwelkwekwelt Protection Center is located to Sun Peaks Corporation Master lease plan.

June 9, 2001

Sun Peaks Construction Workers destroy traditional cedar bark lodge which contained a sacred eagle feather.

June 24, 2001

Secwepemc woman gets assaulted by Sun Peaks resident at a peaceful protest at Sun Peaks. RCMP illegally seize tapes from an Aboriginal Peoples Television Network reporter who is doing a documentary of Skwelkwekwelt.

2.

June 26, 2001

Approximately 25-30 RCMP officers raid McGillvery Lake to arrest 6 Native youth involved in the Sun Peaks protest.

June 30, 2001

Permanent log home at Skwelkwekwelt is burnt by Sun Peaks supporters.

July 18, 2001

Sun Peaks receives an injunction and enforcement order to remove Secwepemc from their home at Skwelkwekwelt Protection Center in order to install water lines for Delta Hote.

July 23, 2001

Four Secwepemc, including two Elders, are arrested for refusing to obey court injunction and are charged with criminal contempt. Forceful removal of our people from their lands is GENOCIDE.

August 6, 2001

Secwepemc hold a pipe ceremony for guidance and protection for the people to construct a traditional winter home on Mt. Morrissey for a cultural and healing center.

August 13, 2001

Secwepemc find road to Mt. Morrissey de-activated. Secwepemc repair the road to proceed with building the winter home.

August 17, 2001

Sun Peaks workers totally demolish the road to Mt. Morrissey making it completely impassable. 4 trenches approximately 15 ft. deep and 20 ft. wide are dug in the road. RCMP are called and said they will do investigation. Ministry of Forests allows destruction of road.

August 24, 2001

Native Youth hold and information road block on the main road into Sun Peaks resort as a result of Sun Peaks destroying Secwepemc access to Mt. Morrissey. 9 people are arrested and charged with mischief and intimidation.

August 26, 2001

The Ministry of Highways workers demolish the Secwepemc homesite at the entrance to Sun Peaks resort. RCMP assist in destroying structures and deliver belongings to storage.

August 30, 2001

Native Youth in Victoria hold a demonstration at British Columbia Lands and Assets Corporation in support of actions at Skwelkwekwelt. BCAL is considering granting a lease at McGillvery Lake which is home to the Secwepemc.