



MEDIA RELEASE | July 28, 2021

Syilx Okanagan Nation Celebrate Osoyoos Indian Band's Land Purchase on the Lower Arrow Lakes

snłux^wqnm (Castlegar), Syilx Territory: On July 28, 2021, the Syilx Okanagan Nation — including many Leaders, Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers — came together to celebrate the Osoyoos Indian Band's recent acquisition of 9.5 acres of land along the Lower Arrow Lakes, just outside of snłux^wqnm. We are grateful that our Traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders were present at this formal land recognition, as they grounded the gathering in prayer, our nsyilxcen language, and traditional Syilx songs specific to the region.

ki law na (yilmix^wm Clarence Louie), ONA Tribal Chair stated that "This recent land acquisition is not only for members of the Osoyoos Indian Band (OIB), it's for all Syilx Okanagan people to come out, enjoy and to use. This land provides a place for every Syilx person to be able to get out on the land and water, to be able to fish, hunt, and gather. The access to this land represents another step on the path to our Nation continuing to reconnect to salt'ik'wt and all parts of the eastern territories."

We would like to recognize and say lim' limpt to OIB for the recent purchase, and will look forward to further opportunities in the near future.

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The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) was formed in 1981 as the inaugural First Nations government in the Okanagan, which represents the 8 member communities of the Okanagan Nation. The ONA mandate is to work collectively to advance and assert Syilx Okanagan Nation Title and Rights over the Syilx Okanagan Nation Territory.

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Okanagan Nation Alliance

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