

#SLCCWhistler



SQUAMISH LIL'WAT CULTURAL CENTRE FREE TO VISIT DECEMBER 20 – JANUARY 24



Photo: Robin O'Neill

December 16, 2020, Whistler BC: From December 20 to January 24, the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC) will offer free admission, thanks to an innovative partnership with the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW). Hours of operation will be Wednesday through Sunday, 10am – 5pm.

Making the Indigenous-owned museum and cultural centre admission free provides for an accessible, barrier-free learning opportunity to advance Truth and Reconciliation within the Resort community. Locals and guests will experience a deeper connection to the land and our shared history, as Cultural Ambassadors from both Nations weave together Indigenous knowledge and cultural sharing at this world-class facility. This important partnership between the RMOW and SLCC delivers on a number of Reconciliation policies outlined in Whistler's Official Community Plan (OCP).

"The SLCC provides a welcoming space to learn about, and honour, the culture, history and language of the Lil'wat and Squamish Nations," said Mayor Jack Crompton. "The Resort Municipality of Whistler is extremely proud to partner with the SLCC to provide this important learning and cultural experience with the aim of supporting steps to help move towards reconciliation at a community level."

The SLCC is also part of the COVID-19 Whistler Recovery Working Group's community initiative, "12 Days of Joy", a community calendar of twelve local activities to lift spirits, inspire outdoor time and create connection. The 12 Days of Joy activities begins on Sunday, December 20, and will continue through to January 1. Learn more about the 12 Days of Joy at: artswhistler.com/12-days-of-whistler-joy



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SQUAMISH LIL'WAT CULTURAL CENTRE

"We thank the Resort Municipality of Whistler for their years of support for Indigenous culture, peoples, and heritage, and especially grateful for their support for the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre. The financial support to open the doors of the SLCC to all is a great way to build bridges and invite people to come and learn about our history and culture in a safe way during these challenging times. We are appreciative of this successful relationship and partnership and look forward to continue to work together." - Khelsilem, Squamish Nation Spokesperson

"I want to thank the municipality for helping bring the joyful community and visitors to our SLCC home, and welcome them to join in a celebration of the culture, language and history of our people. We hope every visitor will be inspired by our Ambassadors, getting to know them as neighbours and stewards of this land. I wish for you great meaning in your experience, and inspirations that keep you returning to our cultural centre as a path towards reconciliation and friendship. Kukw'stunc'kalap Cwítima (Thank You Whistler)" - Chief Gelpcal, Lil'wat Nation

"This partnership is a demonstration of Whistler's commitments to First Nations, as outlined in Whistler's OCP: we are holding space for the community to learn and celebrate the rich histories of the Squamish and Lil'wat peoples. This winter could be a turning point in Whistler's commitment to reconciliation, as well as a celebration of the history, presence, and leadership of the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations." - Heather Paul, Executive Director

About Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC)

Spo7ez Cultural Centre and Community Society is a registered Canadian charity and the first centre of its kind in Canada. The Squamish and Lil'wat Nations came together to celebrate and share our cultures with the world while creating meaningful employment opportunities for members of both nations. By sharing where we are from and where we are going, our visitors acquire a greater understanding of our Nations and the shared territories that Whistler resides upon. www.slcc.ca

Suggested Social Media post:

From December 20 to January 24, @SLCCWhistler will offer free admission Wednesday through Sunday, 10am – 5pm, thanks to an innovative partnership with @RMWhistler. By making this welcoming, educational space accessible to all, this is a significant step in working towards reconciliation at the community level.

SLCC Handle: @SLCCWhistler

Hashtags: #SLCCWhistler #IndigenousBC #IndigenousCanada #AuthenticIndigenous #DestinationIndigenous



Skw̓xwú7mesh Líl'wat7úl
SQUAMISH LIL'WAT CULTURAL CENTRE
WHISTLER

604 964 0995
marketing@slcc.ca
4584 BLACKCOMB WAY
WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA V8E 0Y3