

MESSAGE FROM THE ELECTED CHIEF OF SEMIAHMOO FIRST NATION

“O Siam e Nes Chalacha Siam”

Dear respected friends and relatives,

My traditional name is Xwopokton, English name Harley Chappell. I am the Elected Chief of Semiahmoo First Nation.

Thank you for supporting our National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration and Wellness Event held on June 21st at the Bill Reid Millenium Park on the Cloverdale Fairgrounds in Surrey.

As you may or may not know, Surrey resides on the unceded traditional territory of three land based communities; Semiahmoo, Katzie, and Kwantlen, and has the highest Urban Indigenous population in British Columbia, according to Statistics Canada, (2011).

For me, the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration and Wellness Event is a great opportunity to showcase and celebrate the diverse Indigenous cultures of these lands, as well as all others who have made this beautiful part of British Columbia their home.

With sincere thanks,

Harley Chappell

Xwopokton, Harley Chappell

