

Ethnohistory Field School Report 2022

Sqwélqwel: A Preliminary Corporate History of the Stó:lō Archives and Library, 1994-2022

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The Ethnohistory Field School is a collaboration of the
Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre, Stó:lō Nation & Stó:lō Tribal Council, and the
History Departments of the University of Victoria and University of the Fraser Valley.



Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Introduction	2
Research project objective	4
Evidence, Methodology, and Analysis	6
Researcher positionality	9
Historiography	12
Corporate History	18
Historical overview	19
Mandate	29
Users	31
Policies	32
Both an archives and a library	32
Noteworthy successes and milestones.....	34
Noteworthy challenges.....	35
Looking to the future	35
Conclusion	37
Bibliography.....	38
Primary sources	38
Interviews	38
Textual and video records	38
Secondary sources	39
Appendix A: A Timeline of the Stó:lō Archives and Library	41
Appendix B: Interview Guide and Questions	55
Appendix C: A consideration checklist for other communities.....	57



Figure 1. Sign above entrance to Stó:lō Archives and Library. Photo credit: Pia Russell, May 2022

Introduction

“It is not only about the books.”

—Stó:lō Nation Grand Chief Clarence Pennier¹

On a cool, rainy May morning, Clarence “Kat” Pennier and I sat across a desk from one another in a second-floor corner office of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC). We had found a quiet place to chat amongst rolled up maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) equipment. From the window behind Kat, was a commanding view of the Coqueleetza Educational Longhouse alongside a freshly cut hay field and the suburban sprawl of Sardis. Chilliwack Mountain in view at a distance. Kat told me how the Stó:lō Archives and Library began when he had responsibility for it as Director of the Aboriginal Rights and Title Department in the 1990s.

“It is not only about the books,” he said. “You see the other stuff that’s displayed there from different collections, like the basket collection. It is there and demonstrates what our people used to do.”

In his distinctively powerful, yet humble, way Kat emphasized how information is always important to Stó:lō people, not only as a way to remember who they are and share this with others, but that it is also an essential part of how people tell stories about their families and know themselves today. This deeply personal knowing is one’s Sqwéłqwel. Stó:lō Sxweyxiuam (historian) Naxaxalhts’l

¹ Clarence Pennier interview, 19 May 2022.

“Sonny” McHalsie translates Sqwélqwel from Halq'eméylem into English as akin to ‘true news’ or ‘true histories’ but also ‘personal histories’ or ‘family histories.’ Kat told me that the Library and Archives were created to bring a lot of disparate information specific to Stó:lō together into a shared collection. He went on to describe all the good people who helped build it over the years, many who are Xwelítem (Halq'eméylem for non-Indigenous). For Kat it was far less about his management, and far more about the contributions of others. Kat lacks pretention. He is respected for his quiet leadership. Many of the people I spoke to about the history of the archives and library referred to him as the best boss they ever had. As Professor Keith Carlson said, “Kat is a Siyá:m.”

As our conversation concluded, below we saw dozens of people filing into the longhouse’s small door. They were leaders from Indigenous communities throughout the province here for a special gathering hosted by the Stó:lō Nation on the one year anniversary of the discovery of 215 unmarked graves in Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc homelands at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School (IRS). In the following days, attendees discussed ways to respectfully and authoritatively conduct this sensitive work through the use of tools such as ground penetrating radar (GPR). As Stó:lō Grand Chief and a former pupil at both St. Mary’s and Kamloops residential schools, Kat’s presence here was crucial.

The Stó:lō Nation is a community with considerable capacity to not only host such an event, but also support the research efforts of counterpart communities throughout the province if called upon. This Indigenous-centred research capacity is possible because of the large, multidisciplinary team of archeologists, archivists, genealogists, GIS technicians, historians, librarians, and administrators based at the SRRMC. The SRRMC is a formidable institution informed by Stó:lō ways of knowing and much of its success draws upon large and enduring archival and library collections. Through the SRRMC, the Stó:lō Nation possesses a strong sense of who they are, who they have always been, and who they wish to be in the future. Through their archives and library, the Stó:lō share understandings of their true news and family histories. Their archives and library are essential to their Sqwélqwel.

Research project objective

“The archives and library is answering first and foremost the question:

Who are the Stó:lō? And putting it all in one spot.”

—Aylexwlemot Tracey Joe, SRRMC Managing Supervisor²

This report was conducted as part of the 2022 Stó:lō Ethnohistory Field School which is a long-running experiential graduate course offered jointly by the University of the Fraser Valley and the University of Victoria. For the month of May, students lived in community throughout Stó:lō homelands and each participant completed a research project on a topic determined by the SRRMC. What follows is a preliminary corporate history of a specialized research archives and library within an Indigenous community. It is intended for both internal and public audiences and seeks to answer the leading research question: what is the institutional history of the Stó:lō Nation’s Archives and Library. What will become clear, is that while answering this research question, this report will also speak to how the archives and library support wider community understandings of Sqwélqwel.

Hopefully, this report will be of use to SRRMC staff and Stó:lō community members wanting to understand precedence and rationale for past practices in the archives and library. Broader, public audiences will also find some aspects of this report useful should they wish to use the Stó:lō Archives and Library as a model for the development of similar collections in their own communities. To be clear, this is not an exhaustive history of the collections or the complex and changing organizational structures which govern the archives and library. Rather, this report is a preliminary corporate history with a focus on institutional highlights and lessons learned. Given the space limitations of this report, the brevity of time spent on site (May 2022), and the three decades of history to consider, it is not possible to write a comprehensive history of an institution so deserving of more in-depth study. The Stó:lō Archives and Library exists within a broader unit of the SRRMC which also includes departments such as GIS, tourism, land stewardship, and language. Because the research infrastructures of this unit are at a mature level

² Tracey Joe interview, 24 May 2022.

of institutional development, a worthwhile—albeit large—task would be the compilation of a comprehensive corporate history for the entire SRRMC and its predecessor departments. Such an endeavor would be better scoped for a Master’s thesis or PhD dissertation, or a discussion paper written in-house by the SRRMC itself. To be mindful of potential bias and to ensure authorial independence, a commissioned piece of original research by an external consultant, trained as a historian may also be worth considering.³

For over thirty years, research has been key to many of the recent cultural, legal, economic, and political successes of the Stó:lō people. Inevitable challenges encountered along the way also serve as illustrative lessons that stakeholders have learned from. A sixty-page report could never adequately capture this legacy. That said, what this preliminary corporate history report will do is provide a broad strokes overview of how the archives and library’s mandate, users, and collection policies changed over time. These will be considered in relation to the larger organizational structures that the Stó:lō Archives and Library has existed within since its establishment in the 1990s. Important milestones, successes, and challenges will be considered. Finally, potentialities for the future will also be discussed. This preliminary corporate history of the Stó:lō Archives and Library report will specifically outline the department’s historical trajectory, some key people involved along the way, the intentions of selected policies, the effectiveness of facilities used, the technical infrastructures relied upon, and some professional practices routinely applied.

³ Some examples of corporate histories to consider include: Arundell Esdaile, *The British Museum Library: A Short History and Survey* (Milton: Taylor & Francis Group, 2021). David Laurence Jones, *Railway Nation: Tales of Canadian Pacific, the World’s Greatest Travel System* (Victoria: Heritage House, 2020). George Colpitts, “Knowing Nature in the Business Records of the Hudson’s Bay Company, 1670-1840,” *Business History* 59, no. 7 (2017): 1054–1080. Simon J. Potter, *Broadcasting empire: the BBC and the British world, 1922-1970* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012). Giles Mandelbrote and Barry Taylor, *Libraries Within the Library: The Origins of the British Library’s Printed Collections* (London: British Library, 2009). Geoffrey Jones, *Renewing Unilever: Transformation and tradition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).

Evidence, Methodology, and Analysis

To take an ethnohistorical approach, that is to draw upon a series of methods to understand something of the minds and issues of people and events in the past, multiple lines of historical evidence were gathered. Leading sources of evidence included primary and secondary sources. Both varieties came in diverse formats such as audio recordings, institutional documentation, grey literature, published literature, websites, and videos. Primary sources consulted included interviews or oral histories as well as textual documentation produced by the Stó:lō Nation itself, such as annual reports and policy documents. Specific text-based documentation are listed in the historiography section below as these serve the dual purpose of both providing information not only by the archives and library but also *about* the archives and library. Numerous textual sources were located through querying the Stó:lō Archives and Library's online public access catalogue (OPAC) called Past Perfect and searching various Stó:lō Nation websites. Original interviews with a selection of key informants and stakeholders involved in the archives and library over time were conducted throughout the month of May 2022. Table 1 below indicates each informant's name and current or previous role in the archives and library. If a record of this conversation is available in the Stó:lō Archives and Library, this is indicated. While conversations were held with each informant, not all conversations were digitally recorded. Some informants did not wish for their conversation to be shared publicly, therefore recordings and notes are kept securely with the researcher and not disseminated further. Detailed field notes were recorded, but due to the frequent personal nature of much of this content, none of these were submitted to the archives. A list of consulted primary and secondary sources appear in this report's bibliography at the end of the document.

Informant name	Previous or current role in Stó:lō Archives and Library	Record availability in Stó:lō Archives and Library (Y=Yes, N=No)	
		Audio	Transcript
Amber Kostuchenko	Manager of Library and Archives, Cultural Education, and Tours, SRRMC	N	N
Ashley Edwards	Previous Library Assistant at the Stó:lō Archives and Library	N	N
Aylexwlemot Tracey Joe	Managing Supervisor, SRRMC and previous researcher in various Stó:lō departments	N	N
Clarence 'Kat' Pennier	Stó:lō Nation Grand Chief Clarence Pennier and previous Director of the Aboriginal Rights and Title Department	Y	Y
Dave Schaepe	Director & Senior Archaeologist, SRRMC	Y	Y
David Smith	Previous and inaugural Librarian & Archivist, Stó:lō Archives and Library	Y	Y
Keith Thor Carlson	Professor of History at UFV and previous historian and research manager in various Stó:lō departments	Y	Y
Naxaxalhts'i Dr. Albert "Sonny" McHalsie	Cultural Advisor & Historian, SRRMC	Y	Y
Stephen Shurgold	Current Librarian & Archivist, Stó:lō Archives and Library	Y	Y
Tia Halstad	Previous Librarian & Archivist, Stó:lō Archives and Library	N	N

Table 1: Key informants interviewed including relevant position and availability of audio and/or transcript

Methodological approaches of the textual sources included close readings of both the primary and secondary sources with attention to recurring conceptual and event-based themes. The consideration of professional descriptive sources, such as the Rules of Archival Description (RAD), Library of Congress (LC) classification, Canadian Subject Headings (CSH), and the Brian Deer Classification System (BDCS) were sought where necessary. Methodological approaches to the interviews were multifaceted. There exists ample scholarly literature on conducting ethnographic field work which can include collecting oral

histories through the empirical, qualitative method of interviewing. When engaged in interviewing, the following methodological considerations were kept front-of-mind. Very helpful was Naxaxalhts'i's guidance provided during our course seminar on May 6th for how to conduct interviews in Stó:lō communities, specifically for how to build enduring relationships and respect protocols around eye contact, active listening, and leaving lots of time for pause between questions and responses. Russell Barnard's unstructured and semi-structured interview techniques were particularly helpful in developing the interview question guide which allowed for organic conversational flow and question adaptation (see Appendix B).⁴ Cruickshank and Soucy's work on key informants and recurring issues of control were also considered.⁵ Concordia's Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling was also helpful, especially for transcription.⁶ Methodological consideration of conducting corporate history writing was also conducted; but not as comprehensively as hoped given time constraints and the challenge in locating quality sources meeting this criteria.⁷ Scholarly literature on the application of corporate history approaches in the field of Library and Information Science (LIS), archival studies, and special libraries was sought, but few relevant sources were located.

The analytical approaches taken were informed by Indigenous values to community research as well as ethnohistorical approaches. Commonly used qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods were relied upon when relevant. After data collection through interviews and close readings of textual sources, a grounded theory-informed approach was taken that also adhered to the Indigenous research

⁴ H. Russell Barnard, Chapter 9 "Unstructured and semi-structured interviews," in *Research Methods in Anthropology : Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. 5th ed. (Lanham, Md: AltaMira Press, 2011).

⁵ Julie Cruickshank, "Oral Tradition and Oral History: Reviewing Some Issues." *The Canadian historical review* 75, no. 3 (1994): 403–418. Alexander Soucy, "The Problem with Key Informants," *Anthropological Forum*, Vol. 10, No. 2, 2000.

⁶ Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling, "Digital Toolbox," <https://storytelling.concordia.ca/>.

⁷ Agnès Delahaye, Charles Booth, Peter Clark, Stephen Procter, and Michael Rowlinson. "The Genre of Corporate History." *Journal of organizational change management* 22, no. 1 (2009): 27–48. Peter Cox. "Ties to the Past in Organization Research: A Comparative Analysis of Retrospective Methods." *Organization*. 14, no. 4 (2007): 475–497.

principles outlined by Tuhiwai Smith and Shawn Wilson.⁸ Grounded theory is a theoretical framework for qualitative data analysis that I frequently draw upon and the work of Kathy Charmaz is particularly constructive.⁹ In brief, this is an inductive, bottom-up view to see what emerges from the data, rather than a deductive (and potentially pre-determining) lens to apply. The analysis took an *a posteriori* stance over an *a priori* one. In addition to recording, I also took extensive concurrent notes as well as post interview reflections. Centering Indigenous voices and being mindful of post-colonial and settler colonial history specific to Stó:lō contexts was ever-present in my analytical considerations. Stó:lō specific work such as that of Naxaxalhts'i, Joanne Archibald, and Keith Thor Carlson informed my historical consciousness during the design, implementation, and writing up of the research project. This report seeks to raise up Stó:lō ways of knowing and being in gaining an understanding of the history and futurity of the archives and library.

Researcher positionality

In Stó:lō homelands and throughout my life and work on the continent I call home, I am Xwelítem—I am non-Indigenous in these lands. Outlining positionality is an act of trustworthiness that is important to my integrity as a researcher. Numerous Indigenous scholars describe such approaches and I particularly appreciate Wilson's concept of relational accountability.¹⁰ Given this guidance, my positionality is as follows. I was born and raised in Musqueam homelands at the river estuary of the Stó:lō. I was taught nothing of this culture and history when I was a pupil in public school during the 1980s and 1990s. On one side, I am a second-generation citizen of the Canadian state meaning I am the child of an immigrant.

⁸ Linda Tuhiwai Smith, "On Tricky Ground: Researching the Native in the age of Uncertainty," in *The Landscape of Qualitative Research*. Edited by Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln. Fourth edition. (Los Angeles: SAGE Publications, 2013). Shawn Wilson, *Research Is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods*. (Halifax, Nova Scotia: Fernwood Publishing, 2008).

⁹ Antony Bryant and Kathy Charmaz. *The SAGE Handbook of Grounded Theory*. (London: SAGE Publications, Limited, 2019).

¹⁰ Wilson, *Research is Ceremony*, 2008

One the other side, I am a fourth-generation settler to Canada's Pacific coast. My ancestry is mostly Danish; I grew up bilingual. I am the first person in my family to attend university and even though I am now a PhD student, I often still feel that I see academia with the eyes of an outsider. Professionally I am trained as a librarian, archivist, educator, and historian. Currently I am employed by the University of Victoria (UVic) as the Education and Children's Literature Librarian and I am also a PhD student in UVic's Department of History. Among other identities, I am a white woman with a variety of personal experiences and intersectionalities that have both advantaged and disadvantaged me in complex ways. These have led to various challenges, but race is not one of them. As a white person I move through a settler colonial world with an ease that my BIPOC friends and colleagues most often do not. My awareness of this privilege continues to grow as I work to decolonize myself in ways that are specific to the lands where I reside. My goals as a historian and researcher are to make space for and raise up marginalized voices in my scholarship through collaboration. My approach is relational and active. While I make the time to listen, I am also ready to do the hard work of rolling up my sleeves for action to confront societal challenges in big and small ways that support anti-racism, decolonization, gender inclusion, and socio-economic awareness. I have learned that when we are in good relationship, much is possible; when we are in poor relationship, little is possible. In my work, I take the time and heart necessary to get this right. I leave judgement of my success in this endeavour to those I am in relationship with. My scholarship focuses on the history of childhood, the history of the book, and the place often known as British Columbia. When I am in Stó:lō homelands, I keep the advice of Stó:lō scholar, Dr. Jo-Anne Archibald, in focus: "to listen with three ears and one heart."¹¹

This field school research project about the history of the Stó:lō Archives and Library was selected for me to complete because I am well-acquainted with the professional practice of librarianship

¹¹ Jo-ann Archibald, *Indigenous Storywork: Educating the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit. Indigenous Storywork: Educating the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2014.

and archival studies; I am also trained as a historian. I hold a Bachelor's degree in history (BA), a Master's in Information, Library, and Archival Studies (MIST), a Master's in Education (MEd), a Master's in Public History (MA), and am currently a doctoral student in the Department of History at UVic. I have worked in academic libraries for over twenty years and currently am part of the Special Collections and University Archives team at UVic Libraries. My subject librarian expertise includes: Education, Children's Literature, Indigenous Studies, Gender Studies, and Government Publications. While researching and writing this field school report, I constantly had these professional and educational experiences to frame my methodological and analytical approaches.

Historiography

The existing literature on the history of the Stó:lō Archives and Library is small and almost exclusively takes the form of unpublished, internal documents. A handful of local newspaper articles mention the archives and library in the context of the opening of Building 10 in 2010, but such sources focus on the establishment of the SRRMC as a whole. These include pieces by local reporters, Jennifer Feinberg and Paul Henderson.¹² It is worth noting that while the Stó:lō Archives and Library has not often been a subject of study itself, it has regularly been acknowledged in the publications of authors who have made good use of its collections for their own work. Examples include Madeline Knickerbocker's 2018 dissertation "Sovereign culture: Stó:lō cultural heritage and political activism in the twentieth century" and books by local historian Chad Reimer.¹³

The historiography that follows is organized chronologically and includes a variety of published and unpublished sources; for the most part, these sources would be defined as 'grey literature' which the *Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science* (ODLIS) defines as:

Documentary material in print and electronic formats, such as reports, preprints, internal documents (memoranda, newsletters, market surveys, etc.), theses and dissertations, conference proceedings, technical specifications and standards, trade literature, etc., not readily available through regular market channels because it was never commercially published/listed or was not widely distributed.¹⁴

¹² Paul J. Henderson, "New Stó:lō centre innovation winner," *Chilliwack Progress*, Oct 18, 2010. P1. Jennifer Feinberg, "Doors open at Stó:lō Resource Centre," *Chilliwack Progress*, Oct 22, 2010. P1. Jennifer Feinberg, "Stó:lō centre rooted in cultural pride," *Chilliwack Progress*, Oct 25, 2010. P1.

¹³ Madeline Knickerbocker, "Sovereign culture: Stó:lō cultural heritage and political activism in the twentieth century," (PhD dissertation, Simon Fraser University, 2018). Chad Reimer, *Deadly Neighbours: A Tale of Colonialism, Cattle Feuds, Murder and Vigilantes in the Far West* (Qualicum Beach, BC: Caitlin Press, 2022). Chad Reimer, *Before We Lost the Lake: A Natural and Human History of Sumas Valley*. (Qualicum Beach, BC: Caitlin Press, 2018).

¹⁴ Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science, 'Gray Literature,' https://products.abc-clio.com/ODLIS/odlis_g (accessed 9 July 2022).

Grey literature is inherently valuable and pervasive in special libraries and the Stó:lō Archives and Libraries is no exception. However, such material can be challenging for libraries as it is difficult to locate, describe, acquire, and preserve. Also, as the ODLIS identifies, a lack of editorial control or standardized descriptive language makes the determination of authenticity and reliability challenging. As mentioned in the methodology section above, a number of my sources are both primary and secondary evidence. Many textual records serve the dual purpose of both providing information by the archives and library and also *about* the archives and library itself. This evidentiary and historiographical tension is noteworthy, but not uncommon, particularly when considering institutional ethnographies or corporate histories. This historiography will be locally meaningful to Stó:lō Nation administrators, SRRMC staff, and those involved in Stó:lō governance structures more broadly.

An internal document titled 'Basic Outline of Staff Roles and Responsibilities: Departmental Structures and Procedures (with an historical context)' is comprised of five typed pages and four hand drawn images with words providing organizational charts of relationships between the various Aboriginal Rights and Title (ART) departments. While no date appears in the typed portions of these pages, Tia's handwriting on the bottom corner of the first page reads: "Circa, 1998, Tia."¹⁵ This internal document, as well as additional ones produced in later years, will be discussed in further detail throughout the corporate history section below.

According to Naxaxalhts'i in 2001 the Stó:lō Nation was organizing a video to be produced to celebrate an upcoming local cultural event and he and Dave Smith saw an opportunity for a short video to also be created about the archives. What resulted was a 12-minute long DVD titled "Caring for our collections: Stó:lō nation archives and material cultural repository" which was released in 2002.¹⁶ This

¹⁵ Stó:lō Aboriginal Rights and Title, 'Basic Outline of Staff Roles and Responsibilities: Departmental Structures and Procedures (with an historical context),' circa 1998. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022.

¹⁶ Stó:lō Archives, "Caring for our collections: Stó:lō nation archives and material cultural repository," Producer and Director are unclear. 2002.

film was narrated by Naxaxalhts'i and featured Archivist Dave Smith. It introduces viewers to basic Stó:lō history and culture and outlines how the archives was established in 1996 as part of the Aboriginal Rights and Title (ART) department. An overview of the research registry process is provided and a summary of leading users is described. Collection features such as field note collections, conference proceedings, in-house reports, archeology impact assessments, books, photographs, journals, field school reports, maps, and publications such as the historical atlas. The oral history collection is described as “the heart of the Stó:lō Nation archives.” Dave Schaepe appears in the film to outline the material cultures repository and show examples of some artifacts and belongings held within it. While this is an excellent, short video to introduce viewers to the archives and material cultures repository, it provides limited information about the development and governance of these units. This is not surprising given the promotional and education emphasis of the video, which it achieves ably.

Several shorter documents are worthy of mention. Byron Plant's 2002 Field School report, “In Principle': Stó:lō Political Organizations and Attitudes Towards Treaty Since 1969” provides readers with important historical context on the origins of the Stó:lō treaty processes.¹⁷ In Plant's report, the importance of accurate record keeping and historical research is emphasized and his piece reads somewhat as a prelude to the Stó:lō Archives and Libraries. The Stó:lō Nation's promotional brochure titled “The Stó:lō Resource Centre: Working Together” was likely produced in the late 2000s, though it is unclear. This outlines collection features which appear to have grown from those quoted in the 2002 film. Unfortunately an electronic copy of this document does not exist. A 33-page ‘Stó:lō Heritage Policy Manual’ dated May 5, 2003, discusses policies of heritage sites and artifacts, but makes minimal reference to the archives and library.¹⁸ This was approved by the Stó:lō Nation Lalems ye Stó:lō Si:ya:m (LYSS).

¹⁷ Byron Plant, “In Principle': Stó:lō Political Organizations and Attitudes Towards Treaty Since 1969,” (Field School report, University of Victoria, 2002).

¹⁸ Stó:lō Heritage Policy Manual, 5 May 2003. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022.

A revised draft document titled, 'Stó:lō Archives and Library Policy Statement' dated September 2011 provides useful context on the purpose of the unit as well as provides policy language around ownership, access, copyright, freedom of information, protection of privacy, and services and fees.¹⁹ This is listed as a draft and it is unclear whether this was implemented as written in this revision. The note of a \$100 research registry fee, seems high and throughout the interviews I conducted, I heard no mention of this fee ever being charged. A Stó:lō Archives Acquisition Policy as well as a Preservation Policy, and Processing Procedures document are dated 2012.²⁰ A Stó:lō Nation Briefing Note prepared by Tia Halstad, SRRMC Librarian and Archivist, on May 24, 2012, outlines an upcoming agenda item.²¹ Background on the archives and library is provided as are sections about the 'current situation' and 'recommendations.' Stó:lō Nation resolution BD 0512.03 notes that the Stó:lō Service Agency Board of Directors supported and approved the mandate and purpose of the Stó:lō Archives and Library on May 31, 2012.²² These internal documents will be discussed in further detail throughout the corporate history section below.

Ashley Van Dijk is a former Stó:lō library assistant who gave a paper titled "Stó:lō Library: Transitioning from the past to the present" the *BC Studies* Conference held in 2013 at Douglas College, New Westminster.²³ Unfortunately, the slide presentation was not available but the paper text was from the SFU Libraries' Institutional Repository *Summit*. Ashley's last name is now Edwards and she is the Indigenous Engagement Librarian at SFU. She was a key informant in this field school report. Her *BC*

¹⁹ Stó:lō Archives and Library Policy Statement, September 2011. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022.

²⁰ Stó:lō Archives, Acquisition Policy, May 2012. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022. Stó:lō Archives, Preservation Policy, May 2012. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022. Stó:lō Archives, Processing Procedures, May 2012. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022.

²¹ Stó:lō Nation, Briefing Note prepared by Tia Halstad, May 24, 2012. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022.

²² Stó:lō Service Agency (SSA) Board Resolution No. BD. 0512.03, May 31, 2012. Internal documentation, photo taken 9 May 2022.

²³ Ashley Van Dijk, "Stó:lō Library: Transitioning from the past to the present," BC Studies Conference (Douglas College, New Westminster, 2013), <https://summit.sfu.ca/item/12753> (accessed 9 July 2022).

Studies paper outlines how Stó:lō culture thrives in the present time and that the library is a key part of this cultural identity through activities such the ethnohistory field school, community collaborations, participation in the Reciprocal Research Network and hosting researchers from around the world to understanding the rich material culture of S'ólh Téméxw. Much of this excellent piece describes Ashley's personal reflections of the Sto:lo Archives and Library as well as her professional trajectories in the library sector.

Unfortunately, a 2016 unpublished essay titled "Sto:lo Library & Archives" by Pauline Joly de Lotbiniere could not be located.²⁴ Nor could Tia Halstad's 2017 periodical article "Archives and Aarchivists [*sic*]: Sxwoxwiyam and Sqwelqwel: The Sto:lo Archives."²⁵ Tia's unpublished document titled, "Department History" circa 2018 is a five-page text-based hardcopy which outlines some key events between the early 1990s and 2018.²⁶ A double-side print brochure titled 'Welcome to the Sto:lo Library and Archives' provides contact information, an overview of holdings, the Reciprocal Research Network, several paragraphs about the library, as well as the archives, links to the online catalogue, and recommended resources. The date of this creation is unclear, however, it does list Stephen as a contact which means it is newer than about 2018.²⁷ Finally, MemoryBC's website's current entry for the archives and library is listed as "Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre- Library and Archives."²⁸ This is a brief digital record outlining the mandate, records management and collection policies, holdings, and contact information; no critical or interpretative information is provided.

²⁴ Pauline Joly de Lotbiniere, "Sto:lo Library & Archives" (unpublished essay). Sto:lo Library & Archives, Call number 001978, 2016.

²⁵ Tia Halstad, "Archives and Aarchivists [*sic*]: Sxwoxwiyam and Sqwelqwel: The Sto:lo Archives." Sto:lo Library & Archives, Call number 001989, 2017.

²⁶ Tia Halstad, "Department History", internal documentation, circa 2018.

²⁷ Sto:lo Library & Archives, brochure, 'Welcome to the Sto:lo Library and Archives,' circa 2018.

²⁸ MemoryBC, "Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre- Library and Archives," <https://www.memorybc.ca/sto-lo-research-and-resource-management-centre> (accessed 9 July, 2022).

Annual reports and quarterly performance reports for the Stó:lō Nation often, though not always, include mention of the archives and library. Annual reports produced between 2003 to the present can be found on the nation's website.²⁹ Finally, various Stó:lō Nation affiliated publications are deeply connected to the Stó:lō Archives and Library as their creation would not have been possible without the extensive collections housed within it and the superb skills of staff such as David Smith.³⁰ These monographic publications are not about the archives and libraries, *per se*; however, they serve as a significant textual event and outcome of the archives and libraries which cannot be ignored within a historiographic overview.

²⁹ Stó:lō Nation Annual Reports, 2003-2022, <https://www.stolonation.bc.ca/annual-report> (accessed 9 July, 2022).

³⁰ Keith Carlson, Maia Joseph, Naomi Pauls, Albert Jules McHalsie, Jan Perrier, and Steven L. Point. *A Stó:lo-Coast Salish Historical Atlas*. Edited by Keith Carlson, Maia Joseph, and Naomi Pauls. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 2001. Keith Carlson and Stó:lō Heritage Trust. 1997. *You Are Asked to Witness : the Stó:lō in Canada's Pacific Coast History / Edited by Keith Thor Carlson*. Stó:lō Heritage Trust. Keith Carlson with Albert 'Sonny' McHalsie, *I Am Sto: Lo! Catherine explores her heritage*. (Vancouver, BC: Douglas & McIntyre, 2000).

Corporate History

The intended outcomes of this corporate history were outlined in a project overview meeting held on May 6, 2022, with the following SRRMC and field school stakeholders: Amber Kostuchenko, Dave Schaepe, Keith Carlson, John Lutz, Naxaxalhts'i, and Stephen Shurgold. At this meeting, it was suggested that the report answer questions about the following:

- What is the historical trajectory of the Stó:lō Archives and Library?
- What was its mandate or purpose and has this changed over time?
- What policies were developed?
- How were research materials and institutional records collected and preserved?
- How did organizational shifts impact the archives and library collections and stakeholders?
- Where did directives originate?
- What were key milestones in its development?

The scope of these questions and the context of such a project fall neatly into the category of a corporate history. Rowlinson defines corporate history as:

a genre of written narrative history that has as its object the history of a corporate body. The term corporate body here refers to a corporation in the broadest sense as an entity that has a proper name and a legal existence, such as business organizations, trade unions, schools, universities, regiments, or municipalities.³¹

As mentioned in the introduction above, in the future it may be prudent for the Stó:lō Nation to consider developing a more comprehensive corporate history for the SRRMC as a whole as the various

³¹ Michael Rowlinson, "Corporate History" in *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Corporate Reputation* edited by Carroll, Craig E., 194-95. (Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, 2016).

units within it are so interconnected and well-established. Methodological considerations for this type of historical writing are a small, but growing field of scholarship.³²

The section which follows draws upon stakeholder interviews and primary and secondary textual records to better understand the Stó:lō Archives and Library's mandate, users, and policies throughout its thirty year history. Focused discussion covers unique topics such as how archives and libraries are complementary but also differ in important ways, how the Stó:lō Archives and Library has had to respond to broader organizational structures, some noteworthy successes and challenges, and what the archives and library might consider when looking to the future.

An additional goal was to develop a set of recommendations that other Indigenous communities could consider should they wish to establish their own archives and libraries. The SRRMC is a well-developed research centre and the Stó:lō Archives and Library is a key aspect of this success. Because the Stó:lō are so well organized with respect to their research endeavours, other Indigenous communities who are at earlier stages of building their research capacities, regularly reach out to the Stó:lō Archives and Library for advice and guidance. This report provides both historical context and considerations for other communities to consider modelling for their own purposes, if they wish (see Appendix E).

Historical overview

Preceding the establishment of the archives and library nation-wide events such as the 1969 White Paper or 'Statement of the Government of Canada on Indian Policy' and very localized initiatives such as the collection of large numbers of oral histories with Stó:lō elders. These and many others informed the political and cultural tone within which the archives and library would respond to. In fact, the

³² A. Delahaye, C. Booth, P. Clark, S. Procter & M. Rowlinson, The genre of corporate history. *Journal of Organizational Change Management* 22(1), 27–48, 2009.

preservation of many of these oral histories was a leading priority for the archives and library. Of all the key informants, Clarence Pennier is the stakeholder involved the longest as his time with Stó:lō governance began in the 1970s. Naxaxalhts'i was hired as an assistant in the Tribal Council in the mid-1980s and Keith Carlson was hired as a consulting historian in 1992, and served as staff historian until 2001.

The amalgamation of Stó:lō Nation Canada and Stó:lō Tribal Council into the Stó:lō Nation in 1994 was a key event. On September 30, 1994 it was incorporated as a non-profit society under the BC Societies Act and as a collective Stó:lō people began the treaty process. To prepare for this important work ahead, the Aboriginal Rights and Title (ART) Department was established in 1995 and Clarence 'Kat' Pennier was Executive Director. The ART formalized an Archives and Library as a unit within its responsibility and a physical location was found in Building 5. A GIS unit also developed. Initially this collection was simple, comprised of published and grey literature collated from a number of people's home and work offices. Sonny, Keith, and Tracey Joe were heavily involved. The following year, the need for a trained archivist was identified and a job description was developed. The first round of posting was unsuccessful so Keith shared it with Dave Smith, a former UVic Masters student classmate completing archival studies at UBC. Dave was interviewed and hired; his first day was January 8, 1996. Keith was Dave's supervisor. The collection and staff also moved from Building 5 to Building 1 and just in the nick of time too as just weeks after the move a large rain storm caused extensive water damage to the former location, luckily damaging only a few copies of maps that remained, still to be transferred.

The late 1990s were a very busy time for the archives and library as a complete new infrastructure had to be established. Descriptive practices had to be established and system decisions made. Policies were developed and workflows were established. In 1997 the team's first publication was released, *You Are Asked to Witness: The Stó:lō in Canada's Pacific Coast History* and Dave Schaepe was hired by Clarence Pennier to work as an archeologist in the ART Department. The Stó:lō Aboriginal

Rights and Title document 'Basic Outline of Staff Roles and Responsibilities: Departmental Structures and Procedures (with an historical context),' circa 1998, provides an excellent overview of why this unit was so important to the treaty process and how the ART Department operated. The Archives is listed at the bottom of the third page. This document was authored by Keith Carlson (in part as a way to inform new staff of the collaborative relationship between departments, and in part to better inform a wayward environmental assessment officer of the need for her to go through her supervisor Sonny in communications with the Executive Director. The tone reads as highly collegial and thorough. It recognizes that the ART Department is comprised of a team of skilled researchers who "float" from project to project depending on their skills and interests. Also, emphasized is how: "Each staff member is expected to initiate and maintain appropriate relations with Stó:lō Nation communities and community members, as well as outside agencies."³³ Annual work plans guide people's activities and supervisors are "responsible for facilitating a positive employment environment for those who work with them." The supervisors listed are Sonny and Keith. Following the text portion of this document are three pages of drawings which visualize the work as a flower with each petal representing an individual's area or sphere of responsibility. A second image of a flower indicates eight petals representing the ART department's objectives and goals: environment, archives, admin support, history, justice, cultural heritage, GIS, and archeology. A third image includes two bumble bees (presumably Sonny and Keith) "who, for administrative purposes and for strategic planning, act as the liaison between staff and the Executive Director. Information is like pollen. The fourth and final image is of a large bee within a hive. The caption reads: "The great Queen Bee (or King Bee) represents the ART Department's Executive Director. Though generally silent, the Queen conveys all of her directions through mysterious body language which her workers cannot refuse."

³³ Stó:lō Aboriginal Rights and Title Department, 'Basic Outline of Staff Roles and Responsibilities: Departmental Structures and Procedures (with an historical context),' circa 1998, p. 3.

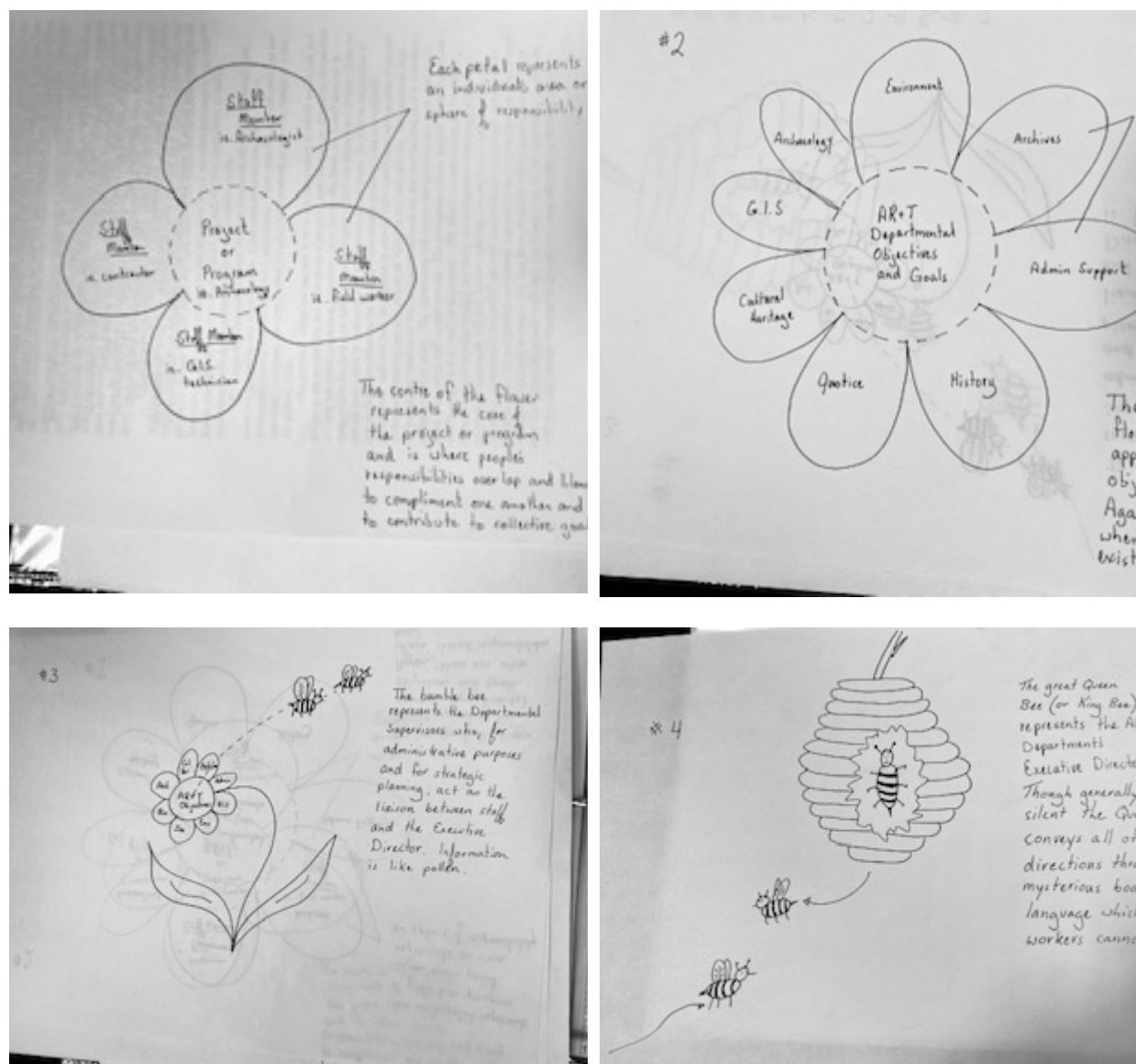


Figure 2. Stó:lō Aboriginal Rights and Title Department, 'Basic Outline of Staff Roles and Responsibilities: Departmental Structures and Procedures (with an historical context),' circa 1998, p. 3. Photo credit: Pia Russell, May 2022.

As far as institutional documentation goes, this is as charming as it gets. Whether or not this was formalized into practice, is unclear, but given conversations with multiple stakeholders who were employed within the ART during this time, this high level of collegiality described seems to also have been realized. Kat was referred to by many as a highly respected leader and this period of time served in many ways as the Archives and Libraries' "Golden Years"—sweet as honey, to be sure! Also in 1998, the Stó:lō Nation Annual General Meeting on September 2 describes archives and library, though minutes from this meeting could not be located. Tia Halstad was hired as Dave Smith's assistant to deal

with a processing backlog. Given her background in libraries, her skills were a good compliment to Dave's passion for archives. Keith reduced to part-time hours in order to pursue doctoral studies. In 1999, the archives and library moved to building 7.

In the early 2000s there was considerable research conducted to produce two publications: *I Am Stó:lo! Catherine Explores Her Heritage* and *Stó:lo-Coast Salish Historical Atlas*; these are milestones for the archives and library. In 2001 Keith Carlson resigned to take a faculty position at the University of Saskatchewan and in 2002 the ethnohistory field school was expanded to involve faculty and staff from both UVic and USask; having been established at UVic in 1998. In 2002 the video "Caring for our collections: Stó:lō nation archives and material cultural repository" was released.³⁴ The ART department is now referred to as Treaty Services and Kat became part of the Stó:lō Negotiating Team. The 2003 Heritage Policy document is identified as an influential source.³⁵ Approved by the Stó:lō Nation Lalems ye Stó:lō Si:ya:m (LYSS) in May of that year, it does not have a specific author listed. This document focuses on archeology and outlines such constructs as "Central Principles and Policies on the Respectful Treatment of Stó:lō Heritage" and "Recognized Sites, Objects, Activities, and Knowledge." Neither the archives or library are referred to in this document.³⁶ The 2003-04 Stó:lō Annual report, however, does include content on the archives and library and describes that the librarian managed 1000 reference interactions, developed an Archives Policy, and managed holdings, acquisitions, and databases. A website was developed, newsletter articles were written, and language tapes were stored. The Research Registry Process was initiated. Also the Traditional Use Study database was maintained, the field school coordinated as well as other duties. In the summer of 2003 David Smith resigned to take a

³⁴ Stó:lō Archives, "Caring for our collections: Stó:lō nation archives and material cultural repository," Producer and Director are unclear. 2002.

³⁵ Dave Schaepe Interview, May 2022.

³⁶ Stó:lō Heritage Policy Manual, 5 May 2003. Internal documentation, <http://www.srrmcentre.com/files/File/Stolo%20Heritage%20Policy%20Manual%20-%20May%202003%20-%20v1.2.pdf> (accessed 16 May 2022).

position as a librarian at the University of Saskatchewan and Tia Halstad took over the role of Archivist/Librarian.

To say 2004 was a turbulent year for the Stó:lō Archives and Library, would be an understatement. Many key informants were still sore from the turmoil. The Stó:lō Nation (split due to political differences) resulted in the formation of a second entity called Stó:lō Tribal Council; program funding cuts resulted in April. And on August 10, treaty operations were suspended. All staff were laid off and the ART was shut down. In October, the Treaty Services programs resumed and the staff that were temporarily laid off were now back at Stó:lō Nation. ART was reformed into the Treaty Department. The annual report entry for the archives that year makes no reference to this intense disruption, though the overall introduction does. The activities of the librarian are reported and include handling reference requests, processing archival materials, and supporting the Privacy and Repatriation Committees. Records Management activities and responsibilities are outlined in the annual report. The 2005 annual report indicates that: “At the end of the fiscal year, the Treaty Department was closed and the staff was terminated because there was no Assumption Agreement between the SNTT and the STC.”³⁷ Dave Schaepe became Director and redirected focus in some ways towards archeology and impact assessments as a source of sustainable external funding.

The 2006 Annual report indicates that the Librarian and Archivist was busy with a large number of professional tasks and the unit was referred to as the SRRMC Archives and Library, rather than the Stó:lō Archives and Library. The unit received 17 research registry applications and responded to 172 reference queries. The database used to organize the collection using Inmagic software. T'xwelátse returned home from the Burke Museum in Seattle, WA, and Dave Schaepe and Sonny McHalsie were

³⁷ Stó:lō Nation Annual Report, 2005-2006, <https://www.stolonation.bc.ca/annual-report> (accessed 9 July, 2022), p. 60.

listed as SRRM Staff on the Sto:lo Nation Treaty Table Treaty Negotiating Team.³⁸ (2006 Annual Report, p. 48).

The Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) was established in 2007, though it was referred to in the previous year's annual report. The 2007 annual report lists the sections within the SRRMC as: Stó:lō Nation Treaty Table (SNTT); Treaty Negotiating Team; Lalems Ye Selyolexwe/Referrals; Heritage; Field Archaeology; Events/Publications; GIS; Archives; Genealogy; SN Treaty Outreach Program. The application for institutional membership to the Archives Association of BC was in progress and the conversion of Inmagic to PastPerfect Museum software was implemented to integrate library, archives, and material culture catalogues. Archival and library collections moved again, this time from Building 1 to Building 7. The unit was referred to slightly differently again in 2008 as being part of the Stó:lō *Nation* Research and Resource Management Services (emphasis added). In addition to routine activities, the Librarian/Archivist assisted with planning for a new building. There were 14 research registry applications and more than 850 reference questions, which is a considerable increase from previous years. The Librarian/Archivist supported the Material Culture Repository and prepared a membership application to the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN).

A breaking-ground ceremony for the new Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC) was held on September 23, 2009. The 2009 annual report lists 'Archives, Library and Material Culture Repository' as part of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Services (SRRMS). This unit became involved in the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) and 3,250 records were uploaded pertaining to Stó:lō culture. The number of items in the library collection was described as 4,050. Also in 2009, 14 research registry applications were made, and 900 research questions were asked. The librarian was involved in the Chilliwack Museum board and the Historical Society. The House of Respect Care Taking Committee

³⁸ Stó:lō Nation Annual Report, 2006-2007, <https://www.stolonation.bc.ca/annual-report> (accessed 9 July, 2022), p. 48.

became active and the librarian supported this work. Aboriginal Rights and Title reappeared as a section of the annual report and Sonny's 'Place Names Tours' appeared as a separate entry. Ashley Edwards was hired as a library assistant to work with Tia Halstad.

If 2004 was the archives and libraries most challenging year, 2010 was one of the most successful. Building 10, titled the Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC) in the annual report, was opened on October 22 (the Stó:lō New Year). A section titled 'Archives and Repository' was listed within the heading for Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services. Approximately 6,632 objects and photographs were available online and received nearly 11,000 hits. The RRN continued to be a priority. More than 950 research questions were asked and 11 research registry applications were completed. The SRRMC Librarian was deeply involved in the Field School and the Stó:lō House of Respect Care Taking Committee.

In 2010 there is an entry for 'Archives and Repository' within the section for the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services, and the Stó:lō Library and Archives were emphasized as public facilities. The transition from the Inmagic system to Past Perfect was finally completed and contained 3,695 items. Digital preservation included converting VHS to DVD. The total number of Stó:lō RRN entries was listed as 9,375; the total number of hits received was 173,911. Over 950 research requests were responded to and nine Research Registry Applications were submitted. The Research Registry was replaced with a Research Log, and these applications were required for academic research involving Stó:lō Nation archival materials. In 2010, 58 research log forms were completed, twenty-five percent of them representing multiple visits to the library and archives. The Assistant Librarian was very active in the BC Library Association and with the UFV library technician program. The librarian supported treaty negotiation processes throughout the spring.

As with the previous two years, in 2012 the archives and library collections were listed as 'Archives and Repository' within the section titled 'Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre

(SRRMC) Services.’ However, within this section the collections were collectively referred to as the Stó:lō Library and Archives. More than 1,000 requests for information were submitted and 200 items added to PastPerfect. And, the remains of eleven Stó:lō ancestors who had been housed in the Laboratory of Archaeology at UBC were returned. Both the Librarian and the Library Assistant were involved in the British Columbia Library Association’s First Nations Interest Group and with the board of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives. Library staff frequently provided public tours.

In 2013, the archives and library do not appear in the annual report table of contents though the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) does appear. Only subheadings for cultural heritage, archaeology, fisheries, and lands appeared. Within the text of the report a Stó:lō Material Culture Repository entry was separate from a subsequent entry titled ‘Stó:lō Archives and Library’. Over 1,500 research questions were asked. The assistant librarian, Ashley Edwards, left to complete a masters degree in library science.

Within the section titled ‘Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)’ of the 2014 annual report, is an entry titled ‘Stó:lō Archives and Library’. Within a section titled Stó:lō Material Culture Repository, it indicated that SRRMC heritage and library staff took care of the material culture repository and objects. A table of library usage was included, though it is challenging to compile totals from this visual. The Stó:lō Library and Archives is presented as a space to welcome everyone who would like to learn more about Stó:lō culture and history.

In 2015, The Stó:lō Archives and Library appeared as a section of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) among numerous other areas such as cultural education and tourism, fisheries, and language programs. PastPerfect could now be searched online and a collaboration with the Chilliwack Museum involved an exhibition on basketry. Again, library staff are identified as caring for material culture alongside other heritage staff. The field school appeared to be a large focus. Tables of stats for search numbers and questions were difficult to compile totals from. In

2016, an entry titled 'Library and Archives' was listed within the section for Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC).

In 2017 and 2018, the 'Library and Archives' is listed as a section of the 'Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)' and listed activities were much the same as in the previous five years. However, the total length of the entire annual report has nearly halved, meaning less information is provided overall. Perhaps most notable for this year is that in 2018 Tia retired.

The 2019 annual report length increased to about 52 total pages. There was an entry for 'Language, Archives, Cultural Education & Tours (LACET)' within a section titled Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC). The phrase "SRRMC heritage and library staff continued to take care of the material culture repository and objects curated there on behalf of the Stó:lō" made clear the inclusion of this team to tasks relating to material culture caretaking. Activities were similar to previous years, with the important addition of plastic sheeting within the archival vault area to protect the artifact collection from the new fire suppression sprinklers. Stephen Shurgold was hired as Archivist/Librarian by Dave Schaepe and he started on April 26, 2019.

In 2020, the COVID pandemic dominated the year's activities. There was an entry titled 'Language, Archives, Cultural Education and Tours (LACET)' within a heading for 'Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC).' While the space was physically closed, support was provided digitally and over the phone. The digitization of materials was prioritized. There were 22 research registry applications, archival materials were processed from a backlog, and oral histories were digitized. Amber Kostuchenko was hired as Manager, Language, Archives, Cultural Education, and Tourism. At the time of the 2022 Field school, no SRRMC annual reports yet appeared for 2021.



Figure 3. Interior of the Stó:lō Archives and Library . Photo credit: Pia Russell, May 2022.

Mandate

In the years following the establishment of the Stó:lō Archives and Library, its mandates aligned closely with the Stó:lō treaty process. Nearly all the interview respondents agreed that the original purpose or intent of the Stó:lō Archives and Library was to support the information gathering required for treaty negotiations. The archives and library were formalized as a discreet entity within Stó:lō Nation in the early 1990s and existed organizationally within the Aboriginal Rights and Title (ART) department. In 2004 the archives and library temporarily closed due to the dissolution of the Stó:lō Nation. When some library and archives staff were re-hired several months later, the mandate shifted towards a broader Stó:lō heritage awareness for both Stó:lō community members and the public. Archeology and cultural heritage were emphasized and the library and archives supported this closely.

Description area	
History	The Stó:lō Research & Resource Centre Library and Archives opened in 1996..
Mandates/Sources of authority	The mandate of the Stó:lō Archives is to: provide appropriate archival services that contribute to the health and productivity of the Stó:lō through education, cultural awareness and language preservation; promote knowledge and understanding of Stó:lō history, culture, and traditions; and to facilitate research and information exchange with other knowledge institutions.
Records management and collecting policies	« The Stó:lō Library and Archives will accept and acquire multi-disciplinary materials, especially those with a focus on the Coast Salish and, more specifically, the Stó:lō, in any medium, including textual records; sound and oral history recordings; photographs and other visual records; maps, plans and architectural records; books; journals; reports; digital records and ephemera.
Holdings	« Total Volume: ca. 103.5 m of material, ~1,232 oral interview recordings, ~1,744 photographs Inclusive Dates: 1875 - 2019 Predominant Dates: 1990's - 2019
Finding aids, guides and publications	https://stolonation.pastperfectonline.com/ provides information about the services and holdings of the Library and vertical files. We are currently working on making our archival holdings digitally accessible.

Figure 4. Screenshot of the MemoryBC entry for the Stó:lō Archives and Library.

The MemoryBC database maintained by the Archives Association of British Columbia is a directory of archives in the province. It includes an entry for the Stó:lō Archives and Library which outlines the following mandate:

provide appropriate archival services that contribute to the health and productivity of the Stó:lō through education, cultural awareness, and language preservation; promote knowledge and understanding of Stó:lō history, culture, and traditions; and to facilitate research and information exchange with other knowledge institutions.³⁹

This was updated between 2019 and 2022 as the contact listed is the current archivist, Stephen Shurgold, who started in 2019. Additionally, the current website lists the following mandate:

The Stó:lō Archives was established in 1996 by the Aboriginal Rights and Title department with a mandate to support and encourage all the Stó:lō to re-establish,

³⁹ MemoryBC, "Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre- Library and Archives," <https://www.memorybc.ca/sto-lo-research-and-resource-management-centre> (accessed 9 July, 2022).

protect and assert self-government through research, documentation and communication of Stó:lō rights and title. The Archives contains supplementary information to the Library holdings such as maps, transcripts, oral history, photographs, video recordings, archaeological reports and unpublished material.

Aspects of the management measures outlined in the Stó:lō Heritage Policy include access to the Stó:lō Library & Archives by way of the Stó:lō Research Registry process. Straight forward requests for information that do not require significant staff time can be sent directly to the librarian. More in-depth research requests will be dealt with by the Registry which is intended to coordinate research projects involving the staff and resources of the SRRMC.⁴⁰

When we compare and contrast the mandate indicated in MemoryBC and on the Stó:lō Archives and Library website, we see that considerable change has occurred from the mandates identified in its creation in the mid-1990s to specifically support the treaty process. Cultural heritage and supporting community and public audiences has grown in significance.

Users

The nature and number of users of the Stó:lō Archives and Library grows from a small team of in-house researchers in the 1990s to 1,500 research questions in 2013 and 22 research registry applications in 2020. Users include: SRRMC team members, Stó:lō Nation employees, Stó:lō community members (particularly when researching their own genealogy), post-secondary students (notably the biennial Ethnohistory Field school) and instructors (particularly from UFV), local high school students, independent researchers such as local historians, and occasionally lawyers and government employees.

⁴⁰ Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre, “Library and Archives/Repository,” <http://www.srrmcentre.com/archiverepository> (accessed 11 July 11, 2022)

Policies

While a number of older hardcopies of policy documents were located, very few policy documents newer than about 2012 could be located. It may be that these exist within individual computer files of employees. Surely these must exist, however, they are not easily located through the archival holdings themselves. It is possible that further policy insights will be gained through a review of records management files, however, access to these is challenging because many are backlogged for accession or these files exist within other Stó:lō units such as the service agency. More thorough internal, institutional research is required to identify these records. That said, the following hardcopies were located:

- Stó:lō Archives and Library Policy Statement—DRAFT, revised September 2011. This includes sections on purpose, ownership, access, copyright, freedom of information and protection of privacy, services and fees.
- Stó:lō Nation, BRIEFING NOTE, prepared by Tia Halstad on May 24, 2012. This includes sections titled background, current situation, and recommendations
- A Stó:lō Archives Acquisition and Preservation Policies, as well as Processing Procedures document are all dated May 2012.
- An undated document titled Stó:lō Nation Archives: How to Use the Archival Material is also included.

Both an archives and a library

While the Stó:lō Archives and Library are frequently referred to in both terms—as a library and an archive—in documentation it is almost exclusively referred to only as the Archives. Such is the case with the 1998 ‘Basic Outline of Staff Roles and Responsibilities’ document mentioned above.

Halstad's 2018 document describes the archives and library as: "A department within Stó:lō Nation first known as Aboriginal Rights and Title, then Treaty, then SRRMC."⁴¹ Throughout the 2010s, the name varies considerably:

- 1996-2003: Generally referred to as the Archives with an Archivist/Librarian
- 2005: A Librarian is identified on staff
- 2006: SRRMC Archives and Library
- 2007: Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) established and includes an Archives with a Librarian/Archivist
- 2008: Stó:lō Nation Research and Resource Management Services as a section on the activities of the Librarian/Archivist
- 2009: 'Archives, Library and Material Culture Repository' as part of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Services (SRRMS)
- 2010: 'Archives and Repository' is listed within the heading for Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services, yet 'Library and Archives' staff are referred to later on
- 2011: 'Archives and Repository' within the section for the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services
- 2012: 'Archives and Repository' within the section titled 'Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services
- 2013: Stó:lō Material Culture Repository entry is separate from a subsequent entry titled 'Stó:lō Archives and Library'
- 2014: 'Stó:lō Archives and Library' is an entry titled within the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)'

⁴¹ Halstad, 2018, p. 1.

- 2015: The Stó:lō Archives and Library appear as a section of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)
- 2016: An entry titled 'Library and Archives' is listed within the section for Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC).
- 2017: 'Library and Archives' is listed as a section of the 'Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)'
- 2018: 'Library and Archives' is listed as part of the Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC).
- 2019: 'Language, Archives, Cultural Education & Tours (LACET)' within a section titled Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC)
- 2020: 'Language, Archives, Cultural Education and Tours (LACET)' within a heading for 'Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC)
- 2022: Stó:lō Library & Archives/Repository within SRRMC as listed on website

Noteworthy successes and milestones

Each informant had their own recollections of noteworthy successes and milestones. These included:

- In 1995 the ART department's creation of an Archives
- Creation of the video on the Archives
- Regular moves to newer, more spacious facilities
- Physical publications such as the Stó:lō Historical Atlas
- Digital publications such as "Digital Skowlitz"
- Digital shifts, particularly moving from the Inmagic system to PastPerfect
- Digitization of many materials, particularly language work and oral histories

- Getting rolling shelves
- Moving to Building 10
- Return of T'xwelátse from Burke museum and ancestors from UBC
- Ethnohistory field school

Noteworthy challenges

- Insufficient funding, space, staffing, equipment, and technological infrastructure
- COVID temporarily closed down the physical space
- Broader organizational challenges within governance structures, most notably when the Stó:lō Nation broke into two separate entities along lines of political difference. This resulted in the Archives and Library being shut down
- Water damage in 1998, could have been much worse however
- Processing backlogs, particularly for archival materials needing description

Looking to the future

- The current physical space is already near capacity and there is little room for further growth without considering off-site storage or building renovations or expansions
- All stakeholders identified the need to further engage Stó:lō communities members through outreach. Doing so could result in members using the collections more for their own or community purposes. Also relationships could be built with individuals who could potentially donate or loan-for-digitization various family *fonds*, objects and documentation
- Additional staffing to assist with processing back logs, curating and maintaining recommended reading lists, and answering research questions

- Decolonizing descriptive practices and adopting more Indigenous-centred, and Stó:lō-specific practices for metadata, subject headings, classification, and description more broadly

Conclusion

After speaking with informants and reviewing print and digital institutional documentation for this research project, what stuck with me most was the interview that had been the shortest--most memorable had been my time with Kat. When I asked him a question from my interview guide, I learned to be comfortable with longer pauses. I simply listened, as Jo-Anne Archibald had advised. Within Kat's words were feelings of identity, purpose, collective action, and hope. Through our conversation I learned important aspects of both Kat's and the broader Stó:lō community's Sqwélqwel.

After the interview, Kat and I joined the line of people filling into the longhouse's small door to participate in the gathering on identifying unmarked graves. Kat sat at a table in the centre of the longhouse while I found a quiet spot on a top corner bench. During the closing remarks, a representative from each visiting community stood up to thank the Stó:lō Nation for their generosity and invited members to visit their communities to enjoy reciprocal hospitality. A young Haida man bore witness and committed to sharing with others how well they had been hosted in Stó:lō homelands.

Final words were offered by Chief David Jimmie, chief and CEO of Squiala First Nation, president of the Stó:lō Nation Chiefs' Council, and president of Ts'elxweyeqw Tribe representing seven Stó:lō nations. Chief Jimmie finished his remarks by pledging to support other Indigenous communities across the province if they did not have the resources needed to complete the essential and sensitive work of identifying unmarked graves. His words were sincere and committal; it was an offer he made because he knew he could deliver. Chief Jimmie recognized that his community had assets and resources to share during a significant time for Indigenous communities across Canada. This strength is based largely on the research capacity of the SRRMC and its predecessor units, and the Archives and Library has been foundational from the start. This is a model of self-assuredness to learn from. The Stó:lō Archives and Library, along with its complement units such as GIS and genealogy, have not only ensured that the Stó:lō know their Sqwélqwel, but that the Stó:lō's position of strength can serve others as well.

Bibliography

Primary sources

Interviews

Amber Kostuchenko, interview by Pia Russell, May 10, 2022, her office in the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Ashley Edwards, interview by Pia Russell, May 25, 2022, (via zoom) Ashley was at SFU Library and Pia was in the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Clarence 'Kat' Pennier, interview by Pia Russell, May 19, 2022, the GIS technician's office of the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Dave Schaepe, interview by Pia Russell, May 10, 2022, second floor office of the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

David Smith, interview by Pia Russell, May 16, 2022, (via zoom) David was at his home in Saskatoon and Pia was in the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Keith Carlson interview by Pia Russell, May 18, 2022, Elder's Lounge of the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Naxaxalhts'i also known as Dr. Albert "Sonny" McHalsie, interview by Pia Russell, May 25, 2022, second floor office of the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Stephen Shurgold, interview by Pia Russell, May 20, 2022, Archives vault of the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

Tia Halstad, interview by Pia Russell, May 18, 2022, Archives vault of the SRRMC, Chilliwack.

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Appendix A: A Timeline of the Stó:lō Archives and Library

This brief and selective timeline was compiled with information from key informant interviews and internal documents. This includes information about the Stó:lō Archives and Library as well as adjacent units as this work often overlaps. Broader governance structures are noted where relevant as these often have consequence on the operations of units like the Stó:lō Archives and Library. This table should be considered a draft and not a confirmed timeline. It is a constructive start, but not a finalized document. Its content should be verified for accuracy by multiple stakeholders before it is shared publicly.

Year	Event
1969	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White Paper
1970s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large collection of community based oral histories gathered by Stó:lō leaders and hired researchers
1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Naxaxalhts'i hired at Tribal Council
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stó:lō Nation Canada formalized
1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keith Carlson hired as a consulting historian
1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amalgamation of Stó:lō Nation Canada and Stó:lō Tribal Council into the Stó:lō Nation and incorporated as a non-profit society under the BC Societies Act, September 30 Treaty process begins
1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Rights and Title (ART) Department established and Executive Director was Clarence 'Kat' Pennier. ART formalizes an Archives and Library located in Building 5 Sonny, Keith, and Tracey were heavily involved Ryan Ross and Matt Bonner hired to establish the Stó:lō Nation GIS unit
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ART and Stó:lō Archives and Library moved from Building 5 to new location in Building 1 David Smith hired as Archivist/Librarian to establish the Stó:lō Archives and Library. First day January 8, 1996. Hired and supervised by Keith Carlson. GIS unit includes Traditional Use Study (TUS) datasets GIS Trails Study, Sumas Energy project, the Wahleach hydro project, Family Sites study, the Fishing Inventory project, the Pitt Lake Place Names project
1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>You Are Asked to Witness: The Stó:lō in Canada's Pacific Coast History</i> published Dave Schaepe hired by Clarence Pennier in ART Department to work with archeological projects Various staffing changes in GIS

1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stó:lō Nation Annual General Meeting on September 2 describes archives and library • Tia Halstad hired as Dave Smith's assistant • Keith drops to part-time employment at Stó:lō to pursue doctoral studies • First ethnohistory field school in Stó:lō homelands established through UVic
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archives and library move to Building 7
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I Am Sto:Lo! Catherine explores her heritage</i> published
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Stó:lo-Coast Salish Historical Atlas</i> published • Keith Carlson resigns to take a position as a professor at the University of Saskatchewan
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnohistory field school expands to include USask along with UVic • Video created by Stó:lō Archives, "Caring for our collections: Stó:lō nation archives and material cultural repository,"
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ART becomes Treaty Services • The Stò:lō Negotiating Team consists of Chief Negotiator Dave Joe, and Stó:lo Yewal Siya:m Grand Chief Clarence (Kat) Pennier. • Heritage Policy becomes a key source • "The Librarian has been responsible for the Archives management including reference services (1000 annually), Archives Policy, holdings, acquisitions, and databases. The archives outreach work includes assisting with the website development, newsletter articles, and storage of Stó:lo Shweli language tapes. The Research Registry Process, maintaining the 1998 Traditional Use Study database, Field School coordination and archaeological material repository are among the coordination and overseeing responsibilities of the position." (2003 Annual Report, p. 62) • David Smith resigns to take position as a librarian at the UofS in July 2003 • Tia Halstad takes on position as Archivist/Librarian • Wildzone Films filmed a documentary on the "Lynching of Louie Sam"
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stó:lō Nation split resulted in formation of a second entity called Stó:lō Tribal Council. • In April, 2004, Stò:lō Nation was faced with program funding cuts. • The Stò:lō Nation, originally serving nineteen (19) member First Nations has encountered major political instabilities resulting from political differences. A resurrected Stó:lō Tribal Council (STC) has enlisted eight (8) of the Sto:lo Nation nineteen First Nations, as members. • August 10, 2004, the Stó:lō Nation Treaty operations were suspended. All staff were laid off as the Nation had not been able to secure any new funding for FY 2004- 2005. ART was shut down and staff were laid off.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October, 2004, the Treaty Services programs have resumed and the staff that were temporarily laid off are now back at Stò:lô Nation. ART is reformed into the Treaty Department • “The Librarian continues to handle reference requests from staff, the Stò:lô Treaty Table and Working Groups, researchers, lawyers, and community members, including topics regarding the Jay Treaty, Khahtsahlano Jack, the Royal Commission, Coqualeetza, and St.Mary’s. The Librarian is also involved in the Privacy Committee and the Repatriation Committee and continues to catalogue, classify, appraise, arrange, and describe the materials in the Archives” (2004 Annual Report, p. 65). • GIS unit work on Douglas Reserves mapping, 3D models of village areas, Interior to Lower Mainland Hydro Project • Some land additions to Coqualeetza site added to Reserve (ATR) • The Records Manager (RM) took on the responsibilities of Records Management and the Administrative Coordinator took on the responsibilities of Information Technology. Implementation of the Records Management System (RMS), Maintenance of the Records Classification System (RCS)/Records Retention Schedule (RRS).
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Schaepe becomes Director focus includes archeology as a source of external funding • “At the end of the fiscal year, the Treaty Department was closed and the staff was terminated because there was no Assumption Agreement between the SNTT and the STC” (2005 Annual Report). • “The Librarian processed reference requests from staff, mostly for the Stó:lô Treaty Table and Working Groups, researchers, lawyers and community members. Other involvements include: Ethno-History Field School with the University of Saskatchewan and University of Victoria; People of the River Conference; and inquired about the membership with the Archives Association of British Columbia which may allow eligibility for federal funds. In addition to routine administration and clerical duties, the Librarian catalogued, classified, appraised, arranged and described Archival materials, researched, compiled, and collated Treaty binders to provide information of previous treaty work done by the department and the Stó:lô Treaty Table; prepared former staff files, drafted Terms of Reference and provided additional technical support to the Repatriation Committee, conservation of wet-site artifacts, UCFV’s Elder College; and established network with other agencies including the Chilliwack Museum and Archives and the UBC Museum of Anthropology” (2005 Annual Report, p. 62). • Heritage Manager has numerous projects underway such as People of the River Conference (PORC). GIS technician and genealogist also very active • Museum Research Intern hired
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Librarian and Archivist continues the administration and management of the SRRMC Archives and Library including the following tasks: cataloguing and classifying library materials; maintaining the InMagic database; maintaining the book and vertical file collection; purchasing new materials; ordering “free” materials from Canadian Book Exchange; arranging and describing archival

	<p>materials; processing acquisitions; facilitating archival research; and researching alternative archival databases (e.g., PastPerfect). A total of 17 Research Registry applications were processed and responded to 172 reference/research queries. Other services provided: technical support for the SN Treaty Table; records keeping and administrative support for the Main Table meetings; research and administration supporting the SN Nation Treaty Negotiating Team, SN Treaty Table, and SN Treaty Working Groups; and treaty-related document archiving and technical support for the ad hoc Stó:lō Repatriation Committee” (2006 Annual Report, p. 50)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T'xwelátse returns home from the Burke Museum in Seattle, WA • Treaty Services not listed as a department in the Stó:lō Nation annual report • Dave Schaepe/Sonny McHalsie are listed as SRRMC Staff on the Sto:lo Nation Treaty Table Treaty Negotiating Team (2006 Annual Report, p. 48). • GIS and genealogy units list various related and important projects
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) established. Annual report lists the sections within it as: Stó:lō Nation Treaty Table (SNTT); Treaty Negotiating Team; Lalems Ye Selyolexwe/Referrals; Heritage; Field Archaeology; Events/Publications; GIS; Archives; Genealogy; SN Treaty Outreach Program; • “The Librarian/Archivist worked on Library management including cataloguing and classifying library materials, maintaining the InMagic database, maintaining the book and vertical file collection, purchasing new materials, and ordering “free” materials from the Canadian Book Exchange. Archives management involved arranging and describing archival materials, processing acquisitions and facilitating archival research. Liaison with other libraries and archives was also established. The application for institutional membership to the Archives Association of BC is in progress and the conversion to PastPerfect Museum software to integrate library, archives, and material culture catalogues was done” (2007 Annual Report, p. 48). • Archival and library collections move from Building 1 to Building 7 • Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association forms • GIS unit hires more archaeologists and analysts
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report lists archives as part of Stó:lō Nation Research and Resource Management Services which is a title change from the previous year’s report • “The Librarian/Archivist worked on the Library management: cataloguing and classifying library materials; maintaining the InMagic database; maintaining the book and vertical file collection; purchasing new materials; reference services, archives management including: arranging and describing archival materials; processing acquisitions; and facilitating archival research. Other accomplishments include moving library and archives into Building 7, assisted with planning for new building, conversion to Past Perfect Museum software to integrate library, archives, and material culture catalogues- material culture collection completed – library and archives conversion in progress. Also processed 14 Research Registry Applications, responded to more than 850 reference/research queries, monitored the Material Culture Repository, applied for and received membership in the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), loan of artifacts to Abbotsford

	<p>Cultural Centre, provided administrative support for the SRRMC, provided administrative support for the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Table (Main Table Working Groups, Treaty Negotiating Team, Working Groups), provided support for SXTA Community Liaison Program, provided support for the House of Respect Care Taking Committee (formerly Repatriation Committee), student Career Placement Program –funding application; supervision of 21 post-secondary students who worked in the archives and material culture repository; compiled reports in compliance with requirements of SCP policy requirements, provided storage and inventory service for Stó:lō Shxweli language materials. Other duties include assistance with ceremonies as member of the Cultural Committee and participated in the Stó:lō Nation Pension and Benefits Committee as department representative on. Also attended the West beyond the West BC Digitization Symposium 2008 and performed liaison with other libraries and archives” (2008 Annual Report, p. 53).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willy Hall is Executive Director and supports funding proposal development with feds to design new space • Lower Mainland Hydro project and Old Growth Management Areas projects • Consultation with Terry Tobias around best practices for cultural data • Stó:lō Heritage Database (SHeD) established and ACCESS database developed • Traditional Use Study with Matsqui • Sonny works with Sue Formosa on places names review and tour maps
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC) held on September 23, 2009 • Entry in annual report lists ‘Archives, Library and Material Culture Repository’ as part of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Services (SRRMS). Page 48 describes the Stó:lō Resource Centre Project which is the building under construction. Page 50 lists various research projects within the SRRMC such as the Reciprocal Research Network, Heritage and Sovereignty Project, Archaeology Field School, and Journey Home Project. Various Archaeological Research and Heritage Management initiatives are discussed on page 50. • “The Library, Archives and Material Culture Repository have been busy this past year. The Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) is an online research space where images can be viewed and descriptions of First Nations treasures that are currently held in twelve different institutions around the world can be read. As one of the developers of the RRN, SRRMC was among the first to have Stó:lō collections uploaded. More than 3, 250 items in this collection are available by visiting http://www.rrnpilot.org. Library and archaeology employees are continuing to digitize the collections for the RRN. The new Assistant Librarian has scanned more than 1, 575 photographs and added them to the PastPerfect database. Work to identify individuals and events to complete the archival records is ongoing. The Librarian and Assistant Librarian are actively working to make the collections more available to researchers by improving the library and archives catalogues. As new books, reports, or other library or archival materials are received they are added to the catalogues before being put away. To date, there are more than 4,050 items in the library collection including written documents, oral histories and maps. In FY 2009–2010, the library staff responded

	<p>to more than 900 requests for information, processed 14 Research Registry Applications and added a total of 250 new reports, articles, and publications to the catalogue. The librarian is an elected member of the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society Board of Directors and facilitates communication and cooperation between the two organizations. The librarian also provides support to the Stó:lō Xolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'eq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Care Taking Committee)" (2009 Annual Report, pages 51-52).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Rights and Title reappears as a section of the annual report and Sonny's 'Place Names Tours' appears as a separate entry. • Ashley Edwards hired as a library assistant to work with Tia Halstad • GIS and Genealogy units grow. • Stó:lō Connect web portal launched and becomes main tool for the People of the River Referrals Office • Lisa Davidson and Karen Brady design referral review, referrals are digitized
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building 10 opens October 22 (the Stó:lō New Year) as is titled the Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC). "The SRC is a 24,800 square-foot, three-story office building housing the SRRMC, Stó:lō Development Corporation(SDC) / Stó:lō Community Futures (SCF), Shxwt'a:selhawtxw Longhouse Extension Program (LEP), and Sto:lo Shxwelí (Sto:lo Halq'eméylem Language Program)" (2010 Annual Report, p. 56). • A section titled 'Archives and Repository' is listed within the heading for Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services • "The Library and Archives staff are able to offer greater access to the books and other materials in the collection, now that the SRRMC is settled into the Stó:lō Resource Centre. It is still a reference collection to be used on site, but the Library and Archives location now has comfortable tables and chairs in the library, as well as a photocopier, a research computer, and other outlets for guests to plug their laptop in. The SRRMC Assistant Librarian has continued to add information on the Reciprocal Research Network (http://www.rnnpilot.org). The online SRRMC collection now consists of 6,632 objects and photographs. Since the collection went online in April 2010, there have been nearly 11,000 web 'hits' on the SRRMC collection alone. Contributing to the RRN will be an on-going project, and the SRRMC encourages everyone to have a look at the new website. All of the books in the library collection and many of the reports are now searchable on the PastPerfect database in the library. The next step is to make the library catalogue fully available online. In FY 2010–2011, the library staff responded to more than 950 requests for information and processed 11 Research Registry Applications. A total of 201 new reports, articles, and publications were added to the catalogue. The Universities of Victoria and Saskatchewan will be bringing a group of 10 university students to participate in the bi-annual Ethnohistory Field School hosted by the SRRMC. The librarian and assistant librarian started to prepare for the students' arrival in February. Each student prepares a research paper about some aspect of Stó:lō history and a copy of each paper is sent to the library. The SRRMC librarian is an elected member of the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society Board of Directors, and facilitates communication and cooperation between the two organizations. The librarian also provides support to the Stó:lō Xolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'eq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Care Taking Committee)

	and the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty negotiations” (2010 Annual Report, pages 51-52)
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As in 2010 there is an entry for ‘Archives and Repository’ within the section for the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services. • “The Stó:lō Library and Archives are public facilities, open to visitors of all types including community members with general interests, students and researchers from numerous institutions throughout the Fraser Valley/Lower Mainland/S’ólh Téméxw. The collection includes historical and contemporary materials related to Stó:lō and Coast Salish people and territory. There are books, maps, oral history tapes, photographs, and a wide range of reports and articles including archaeological, anthropological, environmental, cultural, health, legal, and many other topics, as well as copies of all reports produced by the nearly 100 students who have participated in anthropological and ethno-historical field schools since 1993. All the books and reports in the library collection have been moved from the old InMagic Database to the PastPerfect Database which now contains 3,695 items. The move to PastPerfect allows for the integration of library, archives, museum and photographic records to facilitate finding related information. Including the books and reports transferred from InMagic, 1,400 additions have been made to the PastPerfect Library catalogue and 607 photographs have been scanned this fiscal year. Ninety-one VHS recordings were transferred to DVD for preservation purposes and work on copying the oral history from cassette recordings into digital format is ongoing. Community members, staff and academic researchers are able to use the database in the library to search for information. The Assistant Librarian has continued to add information on the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN), bringing the Stó:lō online collection to 9,375, an increase of 2,743 items. The network has moved from its pilot stage and is now live at http://www.rrncommunity.org. Since the launch of the pilot site in April 2010, the SRRMC collection has had a total of 173,911 ‘hits’ or searches/viewings. Contributing to the RRN will be an ongoing project and SRRMC encourages everyone to explore the website. In FY 2011–2012, the library staff responded to more than 950 requests for information and processed 9 Research Registry Applications for academic research involving Stó:lō Nation archival materials and input. The Library and Archives are now accessible that the need for the Research Registry has diminished and a ‘Research Log’ has been developed to record statistics and usage. During FY 2011–2012, 58 research log forms were completed, twenty-five percent of them representing multiple visits to the library and archives. Others have dropped and looked at the materials or asked questions. As part of the ‘Cultural Experience Series at the SRC’ (see below) the Library staff hosted a showing of the video T’xwelátse Me T’ókw’ Telo Qáys/is Finally Home on July 20. The guests enjoyed a salmon dinner and a performance by the Semoya Dance Group as well as a talk by T’xwelátse (Herb Joe) and the opportunity to participate in a discussion about the sxwoxwiyám and sqwélqwel of this transformed ancestor. The Assistant Librarian joined the British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) and is now the co-chair of the Fraser Valley Branch of the Library Technicians group which meets bi-monthly to discuss library issues and facilitate professional development. A good working relationship with the Library and Information Technology (LIBIT) Department of the University of the

	<p>Fraser Valley has been developed with the Assistant Librarian attending events and speaking to new graduates about a library career in a cultural centre. The Ontario Association of Library Technicians published an article written by the Assistant Librarian about the place of First Nations in library classification systems. A copy of the article is available in the library. The Librarian and Assistant also provided administrative and document management support to the Stó:lō Xolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'eq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Care Taking Committee) and the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty negotiations. The Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty negotiating table met for 15 days between April 2011 and the end of March 2012. The Librarian prepares for and attends these meetings in the capacity of recordkeeper and document manager” (2011 Annual Report, pages 56-57).</p>
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As with the previous two years, the archives and library collections are listed as ‘Archives and Repository’ within the section titled ‘Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) Services.’ However, within this section the collections are collectively referred to as the Stó:lō Library and Archives. • “The Stó:lō Library and Archives, located in the Stó:lō Resource Centre, contains information about all aspects of Stó:lō history and culture. It is a reference collection open to anyone who would like to learn more about the Stó:lō. Visitors this past year have included community members, high school students, university students, researchers, authors, and the people who just drop in to see what the library and archives are all about. The number of visitors has been steadily increasing since the library moved into the SRC. This year there were more than 1,000 requests for information. There are many books, reports, oral histories, photographs and maps available for use in the library. To find the material on a specific subject, the library staff prepared catalogues and finding aids. This year more than 200 items have been added to the library catalogue. The librarian provides support for the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association’s negotiations work by: preparing for negation meetings, attending meetings and keeping records, keeping track of all treaty documents, conducting and supporting research to inform the negotiations, and assisting with treaty outreach activities. The librarian also assists with the Stó:lō Xyolhmet S;olhetawtxw Sq’é’ip (House of Respect Caretaking Committee). This year the remains of eleven Stó:lō ancestors who had been housed in the Laboratory of Archaeology at the University of BC were returned. Work to facilitate the return of five more ancestors who have been in the Museum of Vancouver since the early 1920s is almost complete and the ancestors will come back on May 14th, 2013. Outreach and liaison activities have included participation in the British Columbia Library Association’s First Nations Interest Group and on the board of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives. Both the Librarian and the Library Assistant have contributed articles to Sqwelqwels Ye Stó:lō. Being located on the first floor of the Stó:lō Resource Centre also means that the library staff are routinely asked to conduct tours of the building and talk about the collections on display as well as the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design elements of the building. The Library Assistant also worked on the Scowlitz Digitization Project in addition to uploading and managing data on the Reciprocal Research Network” (2012 Annual Report, pages 57-58).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 Stó:lō bands form S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance (STSA) a collective focused on stewardship and protection of S'ólh Téméxw and enforce Stó:lō rights and interests
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The archives and library do not appear in the annual report table of contents though the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) does appear. Only subheadings for cultural heritage, archaeology, fisheries, and lands appear. Within the text of the report a Stó:lō Material Culture Repository entry is separate from a subsequent entry titled 'Stó:lō Archives and Library'. • "The Stó:lō Library and Archives located on the first floor of the Stó:lō Resource Centre (SRC) continued to be a reference collection, open to everyone. The on-line searchable library catalogue went live this year. Anyone with an internet connection anywhere in the world is able to search the catalogue by visiting www.srrmcentre.com and clicking on the Stó:lō Library and Archives Online button on the left of the screen pictured below. The graph illustrates how many times an individual has searched our catalogue online. The online catalogue is an excellent tool for reaching out to those who cannot visit our library and archives and in the coming year we will be adding links to many full-text reports and documents. Many researchers continued to visit the Stó:lō Resource Centre to make use of our collections. In this fiscal year we responded to approximately 1,500 questions for information related to Stó:lō language, history and culture. Library and archival materials must be processed in order to make them available for research use. The Assistant Librarian catalogued 179 individual items, digitized 61 photos and digitized 204 cassette recordings over the year. The Material Culture Repository, containing thousands of cultural objects, located in the same building as the library and archives, contained a collection of objects that could be viewed by visiting the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) and choosing the Stó:lō Research and Resource Centre Collection. The RRN also contained information and photos of objects held by museums throughout North America, providing virtual access to Coast Salish materials in repositories such as the U'Mista Cultural Centre, the Royal BC Museum, the Burke Museum, and many others. SRRMC had a new employee join the library staff in April 2013 to complete a work placement for the Work, Earn & Learn Program (a Skills Link Project). The employee worked primarily on updating the library guide to Stó:lō Sxwōxwiyám, and learned a bit about how the library and archives worked" (2013 Annual Report, pages 58-59). • Ashley Edwards resigns to train as a librarian • GIS data moved into Enterprise Geodatabase
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the section titled 'Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)' is an entry titled 'Stó:lō Archives and Library'. Within a section titled Stó:lō Material Culture Repository, it indicates that SRRMC heritage and library staff take care of the material culture repository and objects (page 62). • "The Stó:lō Library and Archives welcomes everyone who would like to learn more about Stó:lō culture and history. It is a reference collection and space is available for researchers to look at library and archival materials, to plug in their laptops or other devices or to use the public access computer. Last fiscal year we launched our online catalogue allowing anyone with an Internet connection to

	<p>discover what is in our collection. In 2014-15 we continued to provide increased access to materials in our collection by uploading many reports and documents. These can be viewed by searching the online database and clicking on the link to the full-text document. Copyright law governs which documents we are able to upload. Other initiatives to improve access to our materials include an edit and update to the very useful “Summary of Sxwōxwiyám” which is an annotated bibliography of Stó:lō stories and the ongoing digitization of the oral history collection. Almost 500 cassette tapes were transferred to digital files and burned to CD’s or DVD’s, ensuring that they will be available for use in the future. The digitization project will continue into the next fiscal year.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-SFWBrko3emZRgvxlw5ylw is the location of our new YouTube channel. In conjunction with the Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program, we uploaded several illustrated Halq’eméylem stories in addition to a video about the construction of Building 10 and the T’xwelátse story. Look for new videos in the future! Collaboration with other knowledge institutions has been an important element of our work this year. The upswing in our statistics for the last quarter of the year reflects increased use of our collections by students from the University of the Fraser Valley. One of the School District 33 Grade 4 teachers brought his class in to learn about Stó:lō using Augmented Reality using Aurasma (https://studio.aurasma.com). The students had a wonderful day with technology ancient and modern. We also collaborated with the Chilliwack Museum and Archives on their very successful exhibit of Coast Salish basketry running from February 21st to May 22nd. Shxwetetilthet (the Stó:lō Alternate School) students visited the library to learn how to conduct research and library staff worked with the students to create a time capsule” (2014 Annual Report, pages 60-61). A table of ‘Library Usage’ stats appears on page 61.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Interest Module web portal developed by SRRMC GIS in collaboration with Culture Code and DataBC • Kinder Morgan project cultural use study completed for National Energy Board hearings
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Stó:lō Archives and Library appear as a section of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC) among numerous other areas such as cultural education and tourism, fisheries, and language programs. • Again library staff are identified as caring for material culture alongside other heritage staff (page 62). • “The online library catalogue was launched in 2014, providing increased access to the information contained within our collections as we continued to digitize reports and documents. These can be viewed by searching the online database at http://stolonation.pastperfectonline.com and clicking on the link to the full-text document. Copyright law governs which documents we are able to upload. Highlights of collaboration with other knowledge institutions this fiscal year included the Chilliwack Museum request for assistance with a display of Coast Salish basketry and the Library and Information Technology students from the University of the Fraser Valley site visit as part of their course work. Reference services were provided for students from the University of British Columbia’s Creative Writing and Journalism programs; the University of the Fraser Valley’s

	<p>First Nations Studies, Geography, History, Anthropology and Teacher Education programs; and various other institutions. Twelve ethno-history field school students were hosted from the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Victoria during May of 2015. The students worked closely with community members to produce reports about war canoe racing, Matsqui I.R. No. 2, historical Stó:lō logging experiences, cultural teachings around birth, the Salish Weaver's Guild, education, continuing with the Soowahlie research project from 2013, boxing, and the Coqualeetza Indian Hospital. Copies of these reports are available in the Stó:lō Library and Archives and willsoon be posted on the website. Many thanks went to the families who hosted the students and provided them with a warm welcome and introduction to Stó:lō Traditional Territory. Library, archives and genealogy staff provided research and editing support for the Sq'ewlets Virtual Museum of Canada and the Ts'elxwéyew Tribes projects throughout the year. Digitization of library and archival materials, including oral histories, continued to be a high priority for the library staff. Digitization preserves materials for future generations as well as increasing the accessibility of information in the present. In conjunction with the Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program, several illustrated Halq'eméylem stories, in addition to a video about the construction of Building 10 and the T'xwelátse story, were uploaded on the youtube channel. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-SFWBrko3emZRgvxlw5ylw." Tables of numbers of Past Perfect searches and library usage are also included (2015 Annual Report, pages 58-60).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stó:lō Lands Office closes as the land sections of the Indian Act change to transition land codes to individual communities. • Sema:th First Nation asked SRRMC to partner on a Traditional Use and Occupancy study
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An entry titled 'Library and Archives' is listed within the section for Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC). • "Highlights from the Library and Archives included: Preparation for 2017 Stó:lō - University of Saskatchewan - University of Victoria Field School; Provision of a practicum placement for a student from the UFV Library and Information Technology Program; Participation in Local Contexts Tribal Partners project to further the use of Traditional Knowledge labelling; Assistance with 'Being Ts'elxwéyew', a book about the Ts'elxwéyew Tribe; Library and Archives orientation tours for students from UFV Geography, Education, and Library and Information Technology programs; Professional development – Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education; Support for community initiatives such as the Semá:th Traditional Use and Occupancy Study and ongoing legal cases; Support for the Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance sturgeon project; Initiated digitization of the oral history and the files gathered for the 1996-97 Stó:lō Traditional Use Study to ensure long term preservation and access; and Assisted with Sq'ewlets Virtual Museum project www.digitalsqewlets.ca." Tables of numbers of PastPerfect searches, library statistics, and annual totals are included (2016 Annual Report, pages 70-71). • STSA increases membership to 16 bands • Lisa Davidson becomes SRRMC genealogist

2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Library and Archives' is listed as a section of the 'Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre (SRRMC)' • "The 2017 Stó:lō Ethnohistory Field School ran May 5 – June 2, 2017. Lisa Davidson, Sandra Bonner-Pederson, Jason and Jennifer Campbell, Dianne Garner and Sonny McHalsie generously hosted the students for the first week before they moved into the Coqualeetza Longhouse for the duration of their stay; • The field school received a Halq'eméylem name – Xwelalámsthóxes which translates as he/she called me to witness; • Support for ongoing projects such as the Semá:th Traditional Use and Occupancy Study, legal cases, Being Ts'elxwéyeqw: First People's Voices from the Chilliwack-Fraser Valley, British Columbia; • Significant progress on the digitization of the oral history recorded during the 1996/97 Traditional Use Study to ensure long term preservation of and access to this important material; • Addition of photograph collection to the online Library Catalogue http://stolonation.pastperfectonline.com ; • Outreach – Fraser Valley Regional Library, Chilliwack Museum and Archives, Reach Gallery, University of the Fraser Valley; • Provided support for the Stó:lō Xyolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'éq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Caretaking Committee); • Supported Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association negotiations with the Federal and Provincial governments." Library statistics and PastPerfect online searches are listed (2017 Annual Report, page 34). The total length of the entire annual report has approximately halved from previous years. • Leq'a:mel First Nation requests their Traditional Ecological Knowledge study data be entered into SHed for use in referral reviews • Sq'ewa:lxw collaborates with SRRMC GIS in a Traditional Land Use Study and data is entered into the SHed
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Library and Archives' is listed as part of the Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC). • "Support for ongoing projects such as the Semá:th Traditional Use and Occupancy Study, legal cases, Being Ts'elxwéyeqw: First People's Voices from the Chilliwack-Fraser Valley, British Columbia. • Significant progress on the digitization of the oral history recorded during the 1996/97 Traditional Use Study to ensure long term preservation of and access to this important material. • Addition of photograph collection to the online Library Catalogue http://stolonation.pastperfectonline.com. • Outreach – Fraser Valley Regional Library, Chilliwack Museum and Archives, Reach Gallery, University of the Fraser Valley. • Provided support for the Stó:lō Xyolhmet S'olhetawtxw Sq'éq'ip (Stó:lō House of Respect Caretaking Committee). • Supported Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association negotiations with the Federal and Provincial governments. • Maintained / updated SRRMC website" (2018 Annual Report, page 28). • Tables of library statistics and PastPerfect searches are included. • According to interviews with Tia and Stephen, Tia Halstad retires in 2018.
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual report length as increased to about 52 total pages. There is an entry for 'Language, Archives, Cultural Education & Tours (LACET)' within a section titled Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The phrase “SRRMC heritage and library staff continued to take care of the material culture repository and objects curated there on behalf of the Stó:lō community, past and present” reappears from previous annual reports on page 36. • “This year requests to access Archival material increased. This can be a result of greater access to archival and oral records through PastPerfect and improved descriptions. It is expected that we will see a rise in archival records referenced as we increase public’s access to these records through our online catalogue. PastPerfect is the information system that researchers interact with online and is used by staff to locate material. A focus on the archives this year resulted in a surge of accessioning and cataloguing from 8 records to a staggering 208. Of course, the library was not neglected during this year as we still saw 143 new library materials inputted into the catalogue. Before material could be catalogued, however, it had to be processed and described. Our archival collections totaled 399 boxes and, prior to April 2019, we had 279 boxes which were unprocessed by archival standards. After processing 99 boxes, 180 boxes remain to be processed and catalogued. Other Highlights included: Retirement of long time Librarian, Tia Halstad in June 2019, and welcomed a new Librarian and Archivist. Once again hosted the bi-annual Ethnohistory Field School in May 2019 and the Library/Archives supported the research of students from the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Victoria. Continued to support the House of Respect Caretaking Committee, and connected with the Canadian Museum of History in Ottawa as a step towards possible future repatriation of Stó:lō belongings. Received a First Peoples’ Cultural Council’s Digitization Grant to digitize and preserve the Stó:lō Shxwelí Halq’eméylem tapes, and brought on a digitization assistant who has made great progress – digitizing over 60 tapes. Created and strengthened connections with the Chilliwack Museum and Archives as well as the Chilliwack Military Museum. Became an institutional member with the Archives Association of British Columbia, as well as a local Fraser Valley affiliate, and the Association of Canadian Archivists. Provided an orientation to the Library and Archives for 96 UFV Education department students. As a conservation precaution, the archives rolling shelves were covered with plastic sheeting to protect the material in the event the fire suppression sprinklers are ever triggered.” Library stats, PastPerfect search numbers, and archival backlog numbers are provided in tables (2019 Annual Report, pages 36-37). • Stephen Shurgold hired as Archivist/Librarian by Dave Schaepe. First day is April 26, 2019
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID pandemic • There is an entry titled ‘Language, Archives, Cultural Education and Tours (LACET)’ within a heading for ‘Stó:lō Resource and Research Management Centre (SRRMC)’ • “Due to the pandemic, we were not able to welcome researchers into the Stó:lō Library and Archives. However, we did receive research requests from several sources digitally or over the phone. This led to an increase of digitized library materials for circulation in conjunction with a lowered number of circulated research material. The research requests we did receive via email or telephone were predominately from community members, teachers, or commercial

	<p>interests – demonstrating a strong connection to these sectors. Furthermore, we digitized over four times the amount of records this year when compared to last year. This is due to the ongoing digitization project for the Stó:lō Shxweli materials as well as the changing way we connect with researchers. Catalogued Library Materials: 82. Processed archival boxes: 38. Catalogued Archival Materials: 929. Circulated Library Materials: 65. Circulated Archival Material: 22. Circulated Oral Histories: 44. Researchers: 13. In House Queries: 5. Reference services via telephone / email: 22 Research Registry Applications: 5. Photo request: 3. Digitized (records): 931. Scanned photos: 1. The material catalogued in PastPerfect showed an overwhelming emphasis on developing the archival content. This was due to the ongoing digitization project which saw several hundred tapes being digitized and accessioned into our catalogue. Digitized Stó:lō Shxweli tapes were part of a single accession described but constituted hundreds of individual archival materials catalogued - which is why there was such a high percentage of growth in archival materials catalogued. Took part in several professional development programs: 2020 Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) Conference. Special Interest Sessions to discuss the TRC-Task Force and the implementation of TRC Call to Action #70. Special Interest Session on Privacy and Access. o AGM's for the ACA and the Archives Association of BC. Secured grants to obtain funding for archival materials. Assisted with the installation of the Project of Heart Canoe in our Shxwt'a:selhawtxw ("House of Long Ago and Today") Interpretive Centre and with the associated lightbox set up at the Chilliwack Museum. Began planning for interpretive panels for several locations: Xá:ytem Interpretive Longhouse, the Grave House at Coqualeetza, and the downtown Chilliwack development at Woolly Dog Alley." Tables titled 'Access to Archives and Library' and 'Material Catalogued and Processed' appear (2020 Annual Report, pages 39-40).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amber Kostuchenko hired as Manager, Language, Archives, Cultural Education, and Tourism
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No 2021-2022 Annual Report yet available • Emergency accession of 300+ boxes of institutional documents needing to vacate the old hospital building which was going to be demolished
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnohistory field school PhD student and UVic Librarian, Pia Russell, compiles a preliminary corporate history of the Stó:lō Archives and Library • Key informant interviews are conducted with leading Stó:lō Archives and Library stakeholders as part of this field school report. Some of these interviews are made available in the Stó:lō Archives and Library

Appendix B: Interview Guide and Questions

This interview guide includes semi-structured, open-ended questions. I try to keep in mind what Gracie Kelley told me her sister, Professor Jo-Anne Archibald, suggests: “Listen with three ears and one heart.” Intuitive probing also helps.

After establishing a productive level of rapport, signing the interview consent form, and ensuring the functionality of the recording technology, I asked the following guiding questions. If a question was already answered or seemed less relevant to the conversation, I adapted as we went.

1. Please share with me what your role was at the Stó:lō Archives and Library and approximately when you were involved with it.
2. During your involvement, what was your understanding of the Stó:lō Archives and Library’s mandate? Why was it created, for what purpose did it exist?
3. I would be curious to know who the leading users of the Stó:lō Archives and Library were during your involvement. Who sought out the collections and what types of research brought them there?
4. The Stó:lō Archives and Library share space and organizational structure but they serve different purposes and rely upon different practices, can you tell me how the archives and library collections are both similar and different? How do they overlap and how are they distinct?
5. How would you describe the relationship between the Stó:lō Archives and Library and broader Stó:lō governance structures? How has the Stó:lō Archives and Library had to respond to broader organizational changes?
6. What do you remember are some of the important events or milestones in the history of the Stó:lō Archives and Library
7. Throughout your time at the Stó:lō Archives and Library, what do you remember were some of leading collection policies? For example, how was material acquired? What was deemed in and out of scope for
8. Throughout your involvement, what do you remember were some of the leading challenges for the archives and library?
9. When you reflect upon your involvement at the Stó:lō Archives and Library, what were some of the leading successes?
10. During your involvement with the Stó:lō Archives and Library, what are you most proud of having been a part of? What are some of your fondest memories or what were some of your best days?

11. If you could go back and change anything related to the Stó:lō Archives and Library, what might that be? If you could, would you do anything differently?
12. If you think to the future, how do you imagine the Stó:lō Archives and Library ideally fulfilling its mandate? What might an exceptional Stó:lō Archives and Library look like?
13. How might Stó:lō culture have a unique understanding or definition of an archive? How about for a library? In other words, what do libraries and archives mean culturally?
14. What else might you like me to know that we have not already covered?
15. If I have follow-up questions, would you mind being contacted a second time? We can chat over the phone if that is easier.

Thank you so much for your time today. It was a pleasure to learn about your unique contributions to the Stó:lō Archives and Library.

Appendix C: A consideration checklist for other communities


This checklist is also the course submission for the Stó:lō audience assignment. The guidance for this assignment is to modify the research paper so it is designed to be accessible to the general Stó:lō community. Suggested forms include a newsletter article, a Wikipedia entry, community update, poster, brochure, or similar form. While I am pleased to write a newsletter article or Wikipedia entry, my sense from speaking with stakeholders is that there is another type of documentation that would be more valuable. That is a Stó:lō-specific, kind of ‘lessons learned’ document that can be shared with other Indigenous communities who may wish to establish their own archival and library collections, facilities, and practices. What follows is a Stó:lō guide for counterpart First Nations. A poster would be of value to hang in the library itself or to share at community events, unfortunately time constraints prevent this. A brochure would be redundant as Stephen has already created a very good one that addresses this information need well. From discussions with key informants during the initial project meeting, it is clear that the SRRMC and the Archives and Library in particular get frequent inquiries from other First Nations communities seeking advice on how they might proceed. In an effort to save the time of Archives and Library staff which is already stretched and to serve as a ready reference for other Indigenous communities, what follows is a checklist of considerations. Given that I possess over twenty years of employment in libraries and archives throughout the Canadian state, I felt uniquely positioned to utilize my expertise in this way. Below is a starting point document ready for modification by stakeholders far more knowledgeable of the Stó:lō Archives and Library than myself. In particular, I welcome any additions and edits that Naxaxalhts'i Dr. Albert “Sonny” McHalsie, Stephen Shurgold, and Amber Kostuchenko may wish to make.



A consideration checklist for communities wishing to establish their own archives and library

By Pia Russell, Librarian at UVic and Ethnohistory Field School Student
[and any Stó:lō Archives and Library stakeholder who wishes to edit]

What follows is a checklist of reflections for counterpart First Nations to consider when initiating their own community-based archives and libraries. The Stó:lō Archives and Libraries was developed nearly 30 years ago. Throughout that time many lessons have been learned about how to develop archival and library collections, facilities, and practices in ways that support Indigenous communities and the histories and research that steward their stories and cultural heritage.

Aspect		Questions to consider
Governance		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Within what broader governance structure will your library and/or archive exist?• Will it report to a board of trustees, council, or individual?• When changes occur within governance structures, how will this effect your library and/or archive?• Who sets the budget?• What community needs will your library and/or archive address?
Collection		
		<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is in and out of scope for the types of materials included in your collection?

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are you a special collection? Your materials take a certain form, are on a specific subject, cover specific periods of time and/or geographic regions, are in vulnerable condition, or are particularly valuable • Are you an archives? Typically noncurrent records of a corporate body such as a business or organization, unique personal or collective papers. • Are you a library? A collection of published materials in print or digital form, organized and maintained for use. • Perhaps your collection is a little bit of each. • Media types. Will you limit your collection by material type? For example, will you include maps, photographs, books, and audio recordings? These can take both print and digital forms.
		<p>Selection and acquisitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and who will decide what materials are added. Upon what criteria will these decisions be based? Will you accept recommendations? How will you deselect and withdraw titles you no longer require?
		<p>Accession workflows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once materials arrive, individual records of each item can be recorded in an accession list. This is different from cataloguing
		<p>Descriptive practices and metadata</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will your materials be arranged and described? • Will you use existing description, classification, and subject heading taxonomies such as Rules for Archival Description (RAD), Dewey Decimal, Library of Congress, Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR2), or in-house cataloguing systems? • Who will determine authority control and subject analysis? • Who is responsible for determining bibliographic description? • Who assigns classification notation and call numbers? • Who and how are bibliographic records maintained over time? • How will your materials be described in culturally respectful ways? Will you adopt Indigenous descriptive practices like the Brian Deer classification and those established by the Union of BC Indian Chiefs? • How will you ensure OCAP Principles (Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession) • How will broader considerations be included such as UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action for Libraries and Archives
		<p>Processing for use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For physical items, will you use stamps, labels, or barcodes? • Will book-jackets be retained or discarded? • Will magnetic strips be applied?

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What protective containers may be required. How will you mend or bind materials?
		<p>Shelving and maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How and when will materials be reshelfed? Who is responsible for this? Will users be allowed to reshelve? How often will items be shelf-read, to ensure proper ordering? Will shelving statistics be kept?
		<p>Electronic resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will third-party licenses be maintained? Who will liaise with vendors? What systems will organize these resources? How will these systems link with related systems? How will you ensure electronic rights are adhered to?
		<p>Digitization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will you acquire digital materials? Will you digitize existing print materials? If so, do you have the rights? Will you outsource digitization or do this in-house? How will you manage your digital assets?
		<p>Curation and finding aids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will collection materials be curated in the most effective ways for users? What finding aids will be created to provide intuitive access points for users? What systems will you use? Who and how will these systems be maintained over time?
		<p>Professional organizations and associations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What associations will you affiliate with? The Archives Association of British Columbia? The BC Library Association? The Society for American Archivists? Institute of Museum and Library Services?
		<p>Records management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will the official records of your organization be accurately and efficiently retained, conserved, shared, and disposed? Will you need a retention schedule? What criteria will you use to determine what is in and out of scope for records acquisition?
		Preservation and protection

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will you preserve and protect against light, temperature, humidity, pollution, disaster, mutilation, and human error? • Will special protective equipment be required such as acid free paper, laminated sleeves? • How will digital materials be preserved and backed-up?
		<p>Ethical and legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copyright <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How will you determine rights and permissions of the materials you house? ○ Does your institution hold the rights? ○ How might you extend those rights to users? Under what conditions? ○ Can materials be reproduced? Under what conditions? • Privacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How will you ensure the privacy of individuals whose words or images may be contained within your materials? ○ How will you ensure the privacy of your users?
Policy development and maintenance		
		<p>Access and Borrowing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What materials are available for access and by who? Do any conditions or restrictions apply? • A key question will be whether or not to allow loan privileges. Most special libraries do not allow materials to circulate outside the building. This is called 'closed stacks'
		<p>Donations and Gifts-in-kind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine what is in and out of scope for potential donations • Procedures for recording 'deeds of gift' to transfer ownership or physical custody • Are there terms or conditions on donations • How will you solicit donations of identified material of need?
		<p>There are numerous policies to consider. Here are just a few: 'Collection scope,' 'Use of technology,' Selection and acquisition,' 'Rights, copyright, and reproduction,' 'Deselection,' 'Records Management Retention Schedules,' 'Culturally sensitive materials,' 'Research help and referral'</p>
Facilities		
		<p>Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What storage needs will your print and electronic archival repository require? These can require environmental control and security • How often will you be open and when?

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the opening and closing procedures? • What type of security system will you maintain? • How will you ensure accessibility for users with diverse mobility and learning needs, for example?
		<p>Disaster planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What written procedures are in place to deal with unexpected events. • Are these specific to different occurrences such as flood, fire, earthquake? • Is there a salvage priority? • What are the communication flows for emergencies? • What preventative measures are in place, such as plastic sheeting, fire extinguishers, and silverfish traps? • What health and safety requirements are there for ergonomics, toxic materials, and active threat intervention?
Users		
		<p>Research requests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is entitled to use the library? Is it a public facility or only for designated users? Will potential users have to apply for permission? • Will you maintain a registry or a researcher log? • If so, how will this be kept confidential?
		<p>Research help</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What level of help will you provide to users? Simply retrieving materials they identified? Or will you assist with exhaustive searching of materials in your collection or beyond? • How will users contact you?
		<p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will you keep track of in-house and circulated usage?
		<p>Outreach and engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will you promote your collections, facilities, and services? Do you want more foot-traffic and website hits? • Will you participate in community events? • Will you maintain social media? • Will you require promotional material such as banners and swag?
Managing		
		<p>Budgets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who determines total available funds and for what duration? • How will funds be allocated?

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who has signing authority? • Who will prepare regularly financial reporting? • Who will conduct the banking workflows? • Who will pay bills to vendors? • Who orders supplies? • Who is responsible for payroll? • Will you maintain petty cash?
		<p>Program assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What statistics will you maintain and how? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physical item use ○ Digital item usage ○ Website hits ○ Social media ○ Research Help volume and duration ○ Tours and group visits ○ Presentations ○ Hours spent on specific projects • How and when will these be reported to trustees and the public
		<p>Supervising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is responsible for supervision? • How are staff hired? • Who is responsible for conflict resolution within the team and with users? • How will performance be managed? • Will you accept volunteers?
		<p>Strategic and project planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will you set priorities and achievable objectives? • What underlying values or principles inform your approach? • What duration of time are you planning for? • What governance structures establish planning approaches? • What other units will you need to coordinate with? • What are your team's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats?
Staffing		
		<p>Hiring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will new workers be hired? By what criteria and with what qualifications? • Who is responsible for onboarding such as posting positions, interviewing, checking references, and completing HR and payroll paperwork?

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is your library or archives part of a larger organization that can manage these HR considerations?
		<p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will your new staff be trained? How will non-Indigenous staff be welcomed and trained in cultural protocols? Who will create and maintain training procedures?
		<p>Professional learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will staff be supported to complete regular professional training during work hours?