



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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Sṇṣayṅckstx (Sinixt) Celebration and Honor Ceremony Set for March 15

Nespelem, WA—A celebration of the historic victory in the Colville Tribes' *Desautel* hunting case, which recognizes the rights of Sṇṣayṅckstx (Sinixt) people in Canada, will be held March 15 in Nelson, BC.

The event will feature Sṇṣayṅckstx, drums and artwork, as well as presentations from key participants in the case. The Colville Tribes invites everyone from communities in both Washington State and the Central Kootenay Region to honor and celebrate Sṇṣayṅckstx traditions, language and culture. The celebration will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at the Capitol Theatre, a premier performing arts venue located at 421 Victoria Street, Nelson, British Columbia.

“We would like to take this opportunity to share our vision of reconciliation with communities on both sides of the border,” Colville Tribal Chairman Dr. Michael E. Marchand, said today. “Not only are we grateful for the dedication and commitment of Rick Desautel, his family, and our legal team, but also for the welcome and support we received from the community of Nelson during the lengthy court hearings to date. This land is sacred to us, and the people that now live within this territory have come from all over the world to share this beautiful place with us. We look forward to sharing Arrow Lakes artists, Big Drum, Hand drum, Flute and speakers with insight into Sṇṣayṅckstx culture and history.”

The event will begin with words from Chairman Marchand, who is the grandson of Chief Aruaupakin, the last recognized Chief of the Arrow Lakes, or Sṇṣayṅckstx, people.

Rick Desautel will follow with his thoughts and experiences as the person at the center of this landmark legal battle which recognized the rights Sṇṣayṅckstx people to once again lawfully hunt on their traditional homelands, as they have done for thousands of years.

Cody Desautel, Colville Confederated Tribes Natural Executive Director and a Sn̓c̓ay̓ckstx, will speak about the Tribes' efforts to protect and sustain our lands and resources.

Finally, Mark Underhill, lead counsel in the case, will share his experiences and offer some perspectives on the reconciliation process that is to come.

The Big Drum will open and close this celebration. Brian Phillips and Larae Wiley will assist with the honoring of individuals.

RSVP for the event at <http://www.capitoltheatre.bc.ca/> OR CCT Eventbrite link and search for our event in Nelson, BC OR email Shelly.boyd.ora@Colvilletribes.com.

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,520 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The tribes, commonly known by English and French names, are: the Colville, the Nespelem, the San Poil, the Arrow Lakes, the Palus, the Wenatchi (Wenatchee), the Chelan, the Entiat, the Methow, the southern Okanogan, the Moses Columbia and the Nez Perce of Chief Joseph's Bands.