

## **Brenda Celesta - Biography**

Weytk-p, I am from the Secwepemc Nation/Territory, raised and reside at Simpcw First Nation community near Barriere, B.C. My family has lived in the Secwepemcul'ecw for countless generations. My great grandfather, grandfather and father hunted, fished and traveled throughout the area during their lifetime, and I have had many experiences on the land resulting from their sharing of knowledge of the territory.

I am a mother of two adult children who now both enjoy the activities, their connection to the land and the connection to the Simpcw community. My grandfather, Henry, was known to share his knowledge of the caribou herds that once roamed the northern portions of the territory and he loved to travel to the lakes, creeks and rivers to search for fish, as well as gather berries and plants. My father, Ed, loved to hunt and fish in the local area throughout his lifetime and now loves to share his stories with his children and grandchildren. He saw no other life than to live in the valley and in the community, giving much of his time as the Band Administrator over a 30-year period. I currently work in the Kamloops school district and share my cultural knowledge within the secondary schools as a District Resource Teacher. My knowledge base was generously shared from the stories, and experiences provided by my teachers, and family over my lifetime.

Kukwstsetsemc to those who have walked this land before me and were willing to share their knowledge.

