

Wey' Xast Sxelxalt! (Hello, it is a great day!)



My name is Derek Bryson, a member of the Osoyoos Indian Band and the Marketing manager for the Nk'Mip (Ink-a-meep) Desert Cultural Centre, located in Osoyoos, BC.



I have been with the Centre since 2006 and have been on reserve since 1990. My mother is from Utrecht in the Netherlands and my father is from the Osoyoos Indian Band. The Osoyoos Indian Band is part of the Okanagan Nation, a vast nation in BC that stretches into the United States and borders the Alberta border. Though this land is very large, it has shrunk due to reservations established as early as 1860.

Where I work is in Canada's Only Desert region. All our species, both flora and fauna are entirely endangered, as much of the surrounding lands have been turned into orchards, vineyards and housing complexes.

Our environment can also be extremely hot in the summertime with temperatures reaching over 40 Celsius.



Some of our creatures and plants you may have heard of; the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake, scorpions, prickly-pear cactus, sage, and many more.

Others, you may not have heard of so much; Solifugae (camel spiders), rubber boa, antelope brush.

Among these creatures and plant life lived the Okanagan people. A nomadic nation who travelled freely within the Okanagan Nation, following the game, fishing and picking roots and berries in the spring and summer. When winter arrived, temporary camps were formed which included the building of 'pit-houses', structures half in the ground and half out of the ground, covered with the natural land that it resided on.

When it comes to Aboriginality within the Okanagan we are proud to be a part of a bigger picture. There is more than 28 different types of Aboriginal groups within BC. Explore them! Explore us! [E](#)

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- Environmentally structured.
- The highlight of Nk'Mip Resort.
- Family oriented, easy accessibility, educational.
- Outstanding look at Canada's only desert and Okanagan People (Osoyoos Indian Band).
- BC's leaders in Aboriginal Tourism & economic development.
- Endangered species found nowhere else.

Open 7 Days a week
 See web site for admission fees

1000 Rancher Creek Road, Osoyoos
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