Angry Raven and Friends: Three new stories for Hul'q'umi'num' language learners

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wuxwaxtunaat

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Abstract

Storytelling is an important tool for sharing knowledge and language across generations. Stories teach us about our way of life and our perspectives on how to be as First Nations peoples. In this project, I share three new stories that I have created inspired by real-life experiences—the importance of singing in the Quw'utsun' culture, the fixation of the younger generation on video games, and the cultural activities of our people as witnessed by a young sasquatch. Each story has an important life lesson that is presented through humour. Together with elders Delores Louie and Ruby Peter, I have brought these stories to life in Hul'q'umi'num', a Coast Salish language of British Columbia. These stories are designed to engage the younger generation and inspire them to gain fluency in the Hul'q'umi'num' language.

Keywords: Indigenous languages, Coast Salish, Hul'q'umi'num', stories

Dedication

My work and life-long legacy of learning the Hul'q'umi'num' language is a long journey of many trials and tribulations. With great honour and respect, I am humbly dedicating my master's degree to my late uncle and mentor Willie Seymour from Stz'uminus, who wore the names Qwulthutstun and Sxwultun. During my lifetime I have listened and witnessed my uncle represent as a *shqwii'qwal'* "ceremonial speaker" in many of our sacred homes. Qwulthutstun was a fluent speaker of our language. He started speaking for our sacred home at the tender age of eighteen years old.

When I was initiated into our sacred longhouse, Qwulthutstun was of great support. He made sure that my new life ceremony was conducted in the most honourable and accurate way. I will never forget the many teachings and hours he spent with me. This intense journey of pursuing my master's degree and writing my master's thesis is full dedicated to my late uncle Qwulthutstun with much love and respect.

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First of all, I would like to acknowledge our amazing Cowichan elders Dr. Ruby Peter | Sti'tum'at and Delores Louie | Swustanulwut for their tireless, extraordinary efforts in helping us translate our materials into Hul'q'umi'num', improve our pronunciation, and understand the structures of our language and the meanings it conveys. I also thank SFU linguist professor Donna Gerdts | Sp'aqw'um'ultunaat for her serious commitment to my learning and full belief in my capabilities. I thank her for her work in helping to edit the stories and prepare this project. I am very thankful to her for being my ambassador in Hul'q'umi'num' fluency.

I am thankful for all the instructors that have helped us with our program. I would like to thank the previous cohort class for laying down the foundations. Also, I thank my classmates for their efforts in making my learning experience a meaningful one.

I am thankful to linguist Thomas Hukari for his dedication to our language and for his very helpful resources, which we needed to assist in our studies during the whole duration of our graduate program. Also, I would like to thank Lauren Schneider for editorial assistance and Michelle Parent for digitizing my art. I thank Sally Hart for her kindness and generous use of building the Shhwulmuhwqun for us to have a place to learn and work.

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I would also like to thank my co-workers and supervisors at Cowichan Valley School District 79 for fully supporting my educational endeavours. It has been quite a long haul trying to balance my education and work, but my staff manages to fully understand and support me the best way possible.

Finally, I would like to fully acknowledge my three children for their understanding during my educational endeavours; my pursuit of endeavours is very time consuming but very necessary for us in the larger scale picture for my family and my community.

Hay tseep q'a'.

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Preface

I am Gina Salazar, Wuxwaxtunaat¹, a Cowichan Tribes member from the Lhumlhumuluts' reserve. My grandparents and parents were fluent Hul'q'umi'num' speakers so I spoke the Hul'q'umi'num' language as a child. Later, I went on to reclaim my first language with Cowichan Tribes apprenticing with respected native linguist Arvid (Luschiim) Charlie and his sister Myra Charlie (Q'atxumaat). I have been studying the language since 1994. In March 2018, I joined the SFU community cohort to further my university education while increasing my Hul'q'umi'num' linguistic skills.

For the last two decades, I have had the opportunity to teach Hul'q'umi'num' in a variety of programs from grades K-12 and post-secondary. I have also been involved with many community-based language revitalization projects, including the Shhwulmuhwqun – Language House. Going forward, I would like to specialize in the development and teaching of secondary and post-secondary fluency courses, and I also would like to help train language teachers in immersion methods and culturally based language materials.

I begin this project with some words in Hul'q'umi'num'—a little poem about myself.

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¹ Wux-waxtunaat is how this would be spelled in the new orthography.

'een'thu wuxwaxtunaat

I am Wuxwaxtunaat

```
yath tsun 'uw' tatul'ut tthu hul'q'umi'num' sqwal.
nu stl'i' kwunus xwte'stuhw nu tatul'ut sqwal.
suw' tatul'ut-s nu me'mun'u.
tl'i 'ul' tthu hul'q'umi'num' sqwal tst.
```

I teach the Hul'q'umi'num' language.

I love to learn the language.

I teach my children.

I cherish the Hul'q'umi'num' language.

'een'thu wuxwaxtunaat, 'een'thu p'e' ten.

lhhwelu tthunu me'mun'u, yey'sul'u suw'wuy'qe', na'nuts'a' slheni'.

'eli' sul'suli' tthunu me'mun'u.

tl'i'stuhw tst 'ul' tthu hul'q'umi'num' sqwal tst.

I am Wuxwaxtunaat. I am a mother.

I have three children, two boys and one girl.

My good-hearted children.

I love to teach the language to my children.

'uy'stuhw tsun tthu stl'eshun' ni' 'u tthu thi lelum'.

'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus t'it'ulum' ni' 'u tthu thi lelum'.

'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus hwiin'e' 'u tthu q'uwut.

'uy'stuhw tsun kws hwulmuhwquns tthu shqwii'qwal'.

I like to go to big house gatherings.

I like to sing at the big house.

I like to use my drum.

I like to hear them speak Hul'q'umi'num'.

Chapter 1. Introduction

As a language speaker and teacher of the Coast Salish language Hul'q'umi'num', my vision for the future is to help ensure the survival of our language by creating inspirational opportunities for the younger generation to become fluent early in their lives. I strongly believe that the memory and learning abilities of our youth will be an asset to the process of sustaining critical information in our culture. Including the youth and young adult learners in our research projects helps them build fluency while they learn important skills for their future careers as well as traditional and language revitalization skills.

1.1. Context

The Hul'q'umi'num' language is experiencing a rapid decline due to the loss of the remaining first language speakers. The work of passing the language down to the next generation has fallen on the second language speakers like myself. My experience of many decades of studying the language has brought me to the conclusion that we are in serious need of faster, more concise methods of transmitting the language from Elders to youth.

Currently, grade 8 to 12 language students are faced with lessons consisting of lists of vocabulary. In my teaching practice, I have sought to give students a more authentic language experience by anchoring the lessons in stories and cultural experiences. I also challenge them to increase their linguistic knowledge of their language, showing them how families of words based on the same root are formed and helping them learn to express their own ideas in elaborated sentences.

Why choose stories? Storytelling is an important tool for sharing knowledge across generations for us Hul'q'umi'num' people. Stories teach us about our way of life and our perspectives on how to be as First Nations peoples.²

1.2. Objectives

Part of the reason that youth are drawn to learning the language is the way it connects them with their Elders and their roots. The programs and materials we create need to help build their connection to traditional knowledge and cultural heritage. At the same time, we need forward-looking programs that relate to the interests of the youth and exploit modern technology. Having a balance of both the traditional world and modern life in our programs will keep our young speakers engaged in our language revitalization mission. It will increase the likelihood that they will aspire to careers as language champions and that they will use the language with their own children.

How can we best create materials that engage and inspire young speakers and help them strengthen their language use? My project focuses on story work: designing and translating original stories and providing materials to help teachers and learners use them.

1.3. Constructing stories

For my project, I share three stories that I created with youth learners in mind. They are:

- (1) xelu q'iq'wut Special Drum
- (2) hwquluwun spaal' The Angry Raven
- (3) tthu xelu skweyul 'utl' suli tth'amuqw'us Sully Sasquatch's Special Day

² My mentors — Ruby Peter | St'it'umat, late Willie Seymour | Qwulthutstun, Ellen White | Kwulasulwut, and my mother Georgina — all have a history of sharing stories, so I am naturally drawn to this enterprise. I also found inspiration from Louie (2019) and Seymour (2018), who also created new children's stories for their MA projects.

You will find these stories in Chapters 2 to 4 respectively.

I thank my aunties Delores Louie | Swustanulwut and Ruby | Sti'tum'at and also Donna Gerdts | Sp'aqw'um'ultunaat for helping with the Hul'q'umi'num' translation and editing of the stories, which will be presented in the chapters below. The process of creating a story requires many revisions until the storyline takes proper shape and the details are there to paint a picture in the listener's mind. I balance by stories between narration and dialogue. We achieved a very authentic-sounding story by not sticking too close to English in our work.³ I explained the design and message of the story to the elders first. Next I gave them a draft in Hul'q'umi'num' to show the words and phrases that I wished to use. Then I described the action and dialogue in English, getting them to retell it in Hul'q'umi'num' a piece at a time. This gave me a sound file to work with, and I transcribed the Hul'q'umi'num' and edited and rearranged it to give a revised version of the story, which was then translated back into English. Donna and Ruby did the editing and proof-reading. Besides the stories, I also present lists of vocabulary used in the stories arranged in semantic sets.⁴

There are so many limitations in our culture and today's world that we need to share Quw'utsun' teachings to our younger generation without being too serious. I hope the humour comes through in these three stories. I had the privilege the sharing them with students from grade K-9 and their response was that they liked hearing stories in Hul'q'umi'num' and they were hearing words they knew but also learned some new words. With the primary levels we focused on word recognition, and with higher grades the focus was on language arts, sentence structure, and meanings and the messages in the story.

-

³ During the study of stories in our MA course work, we learned much about pitfalls to avoid during translation, including avoidance of using too many noun phrases (cf. Gerdts, and Hukari 2008).

⁴ In editing the stories and constructing vocabulary lists, we relied on the electronic version of the Hul'q'umi'num' dictionary of Hukari and Peter 1995, transliterated into the new orthography.

Chapter 2. xelu q'iq'wut – Special drum

I composed this story *tthu xelu q'iq'wut* for children in primary and intermediate age levels. The setting of the story is at Somena, Cowichan, Duncan B.C. I was inspired by our cultural ceremonies that are held at the Somena longhouse. My concepts are based on learning about cultural protocol indirectly without children having to attend the longhouse. It is a story that doesn't contain any private ceremonial information and was intended to share with the general public.

2.1. Making the Special drum story

This story is about a mouse named Wilky who had a passion for singing but, due to the protocols, he was limited access to singing rights and a drum. Other characters are Johnny Wolf and Andy Bear who are the main singers at Somena longhouse. These two are very stern and are extremely talented at memorizing songs in the longhouse and singing. In the story the two singers are stern on the two-drum only rule. They are dismissive of the main character and shun the idea of introducing more drums to the longhouse.

Chief Eagle is a character who makes drums in addition to being Chief of his community. Chief Eagle sets a precedent in the longhouse and makes a new small drum just for Wilky Mouse. This sends a strong message to the community that the third drum was given official permission for Wilky Mouse to use. The story also gives an explanation about how the practice of using more than two drums was introduced to the village of Somena. All characters are inspired by real life people who work hard in our community as cultural leaders.

2.2. xelu q'iq'wut: story

tthu xelu q'iq'wut

The special little drum

by Gina Salazar & Delores Louie & Ruby Peter

Edited by Donna Gerdts

- (1) hay 'ul' 'uy' skweyul.

 It was a nice day.
- (2) sq'uq'ip tthu mustimuhw 'i 'u tun'a s'amuna'.

 The people were gathered here in Somena.
- (3) suw' t'it'ulum' tthu yuxwule' 'i' tthu spe'uth.

 And Wolf and Bear were singing.
- (4) nilh stqeey'e' tthu chi'chan' 'i' hay 'ul' 'uy' hwst'ilum hw'uy'uqun.

 Johnny the wolf was the best singer, with a strong voice.
- (5) 'i' hay tthu spe'uth hay nilh 'u'en'ti' 'i' tl'uw' hay 'ul' 'uy' hwthiqun kws t'ilums.Andy was a bear, and he also had a strong loud voice.
- (6) yath 'uw' t'it'ilutstus tthu ts'lhhwulmuhws tthu chi'chaan' stqeey'e' 'i' tthu 'u'en'ti' spe'uth.
 Johnny Wolf and Andy Bear always were singing for all the village.
- (7) 'i' hay tthu wilki hay kw'et'un' 'i' hay 'ul' qw'uqw'xwum.

 Wilky the mouse, was a shy little person.
- (8) 'i' yath 'uw' xi'xlhem' 'i' tl'uw' stl'i's kws t'ilums.

 He was always watching, and he wanted to sing too.

- (9) 'i' nan 'uw' qw'uqw'xwum, suw' 'uwu kws q'a'thut-s 'uwu kws t'ilums.

 But he was too shy, so he never joined in the singing.
- (10) kwus yu t'at'ukw' tun'ni' 'u tthu thi lelum' 'i' yu t'it'ilum' tthuw'nilh wilki kw'et'un', yu 'i'mush ni' 'u tthu hwthuthiqut.

 Walking home from the big house, Wilky Mouse would sing walking in the woods.
- (11) aaa suw' yu t'it'ulutstus tthu thuthiqut, tthu sta'luw', 'i' tthu kwasun.

 He would sing to the trees, the river, and the stars.
- (12) ts'hwule' 'i' hwi' nilh tthu sqw'uli'qw'lush ni' t'it'ulutstus. *Sometimes he would sing to the little birds.*
- (13) ts'hwule' 'i' tl'uw' hwtelqutum 'u tthu sqw'uliqw'lush t'ilutstum tthu wilki.

 And sometimes the birds would sing back to Wilky.
- (14) 'i' nan 'uw' qw'uqw'xwum tthuw'nilh wilki, skwey' kws t'ilutst-s tthu mustimuhw.

 But Wilky was too shy and embarrassed to sing for the people.
- (15) nuts'a' skweyul 'i' wulh hwthtiwun tthuw'nilh wilki, "stl'atl'um' kwunus q'a'thut 'u tthu st'ilum."

 One day, Wilky Mouse decided, "It's time I join the singing."
- (16) suw' ptem'utus tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e' 'i' tthu 'u'en'ti' spe'uth, "xwum 'u tsun 'i' tl'uw' t'ilum?

 So, he asked Johnny Wolf and Andy Bear, "Can I sing too?
- (17) xwum 'u tsun 'i' ha'kwush tthun' q'uwut?"

 Can I use your drum?"

- (18) suw' thut-s tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e', "'uwu. skw'ey. skw'ey kwun's t'ilum'.

 **But Johnny Wolf said, "No. You can't. You can't sing.
- (19) 'uw' yuse'lu 'ul' tthu q'uwut tst."

 We only have two drums."
- (20) 'u kw'un'a wulh hith, niilh 'uw' yuse'lu 'ul' tthu q'uwut ni' 'utl' s'amuna'.

 Long ago, there were only two drums at Somena.
- (21) nilh tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e' 'i' 'u'en'ti' spe'uth ni' kwun'et tthu q'uwut 'i' 'uwu stl'i'sus kws hakwushewut 'ukw' lhwet.

 Johnny Wolf and Andy bear had the drums and they didn't want anyone using them.
- (22) qul'et kweyul 'i' tl'e' wulh ptem' tthu wilki kw'et'un', "xwum 'u tsun 'i' tle' 'uw' t'ilum?
 So, on the next day, Wilky mouse asked again, "Can I sing too?
- (23) xwum 'u tsun 'i' hakwush tthun' q'uwut?"

 Can I use your drum?"
- (24) suw' thut-s tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e' 'i' tthu 'u'en'ti' spe'uth, "aaa, 'uwu, skw'ey. skw'ey kwun's t'ilum. 'uw' yuse'lu 'ul' tthu q'uwut tst."
 But Johnny Wolf and Andy bear said, "No, no you cannot sing. We only have two drums."
- (25) tl'lim' 'uw' stl'i' 'utl' wilki kw'et'un' kws t'ilums.

 Wilky Mouse really, really wanted to sing.
- (26) tl'lim' 'uw' kw'am'kw'um' tthu st'ilum ni' tthu tth'ele's.

 There was a strong song in his heart.

- (27) 'i' stl'i's kws 'utl'qs tthu t'ilums.

 And his song was trying to come out.
- qul'et skweyul 'i' ni' nem' t'un'ustus tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e' 'i' tthu 'u'en'ti' spe'uth.

 So next day, he just went over and stood beside Johnny Wolf and Andy Bear.
- (29) t'un'ustus sus 'uw' t'ilum 'u tthu st'ilums tthuw'nilh wilki kw'et'un'.

 Wilky Mouse stood next to them and he sang his song.
- (30) 'i' hay 'ul' kw'am'kw'um' hay 'ul' hwthiqun tthu st'ilums.

 His song was very strong and loud.
- (31) 'i' hay 'ul' 'uy'uy'mut tthu st'ilums.

 His song was very beautiful.
- (32) hay 'ul' tth'uykw'thut tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e' 'i' tthu 'u'en'ti' spe'uth suw' ts'ehwul' kwus t'it'ulum'.

 Johnny Wolf and Andy Bear were so surprised, they stopped singing.
- (33) hay 'ul' xelu 'uy'uy'mut tthu st'ilum 'utl' wilki. Wilky's song was so amazing.
- (34) 'i' nuw' yu thathi'uthut tthuw'nilh wilki yu t'it'ulum'. Wilky kept on singing.
- (35) hay 'ul' ni' hwu hwthiqun tthu st'ilums 'i' hay 'ul' ni' hwu kw'am'kw'um' tthu shqwultuns.

 His song got louder, and his voice got stronger.
- (36) wulh lhulxilush tthu s'ul'eluhw, se'tssum ts'iitus tthu wilki 'u tthu st'ilums. *All the Elders stood up and raised their hands to praise Wilky for his song.*

- (37) suw' se'tssum tthu chi'chan' stqeey'e' ts'iitus tthu wilki kw'et'un', "aaah si'em', kw'am'kw'um' tthun' st'ilum."
 And Johnny Wolf raised his hands to praise Wilky, "Oh si'em', your song is strong."
- (38) 'i' tl'uw' se'tssum tthu 'u'enti' spe'uth, tl'uw' ts'iitus tthu wilki kw'et'un', "oo, si'em', 'uw' thu'it.

 And Andy Bear raised his hands praising Wilky Mouse, "Oh si'em', it's true.
- (39) hay ch 'ul' hw'uy'uqun.

 You have a beautiful voice.
- (40) hay ch q'u 'u tthun' st'ilum."

 Thank you for your song."
- (41) qul'et kweyul 'i' ni' hwu'alum' tthu wilki 'u tthu thi lelum'.

 The next day, Wilky came back into the big house.
- (42) 'i' slhelhuq' tthu lhihw q'uwut ni' 'u tthu lhuxunuptun.

 And there were three drums laying on the floor.
- (43) suw' slhelhuq' tthu q'uwut 'utl' chi'chan' stqeey'e'. *Johnny Wolf's drum was lying there.*
- (44) 'i' tl'uw' slhelhuq' tthu q'uwut 'utl' 'u'en'ti' spe'uth.

 Also, Andy Bear's drum was lying there.
- (45) 'i' tl'uw' ni' tthu qe'is q'uwut, 'e'uhwiin' q'uwut, q'iq'wut.

 And there was a new drum, a tiny little drum.

- (46) suw' thut-s tthu yuxwule', yuw'i'na'qw, "oo, wilki, 'i tsun xte'um 'u tu'i q'iq'wut, nilh nu swe'stamu.

 Eagle, the chief, said, "Wilky, I have made this little drum for you.
- (47) ni' tsun hakwush tthu smuyuth kw'uluw', 'i' ni' tsun thukw'thukw't. *I have used deer hide and I have stretched it and attached.*
- (48) nilh nu swe'stamu."

 I made it for you."
- (49) tthu lhhwelu, chi'chan' stqeey'e' 'i' 'u'en'ti' spe'uth 'i' wilki kw'et'un', lhhwelu kwuna'tul' lhulxilush hwu nuts'umat.

 The three of them, Johnny Wolf, Andy Beer, and Wilky Mouse stood together as one.
- (50) sus 'uw' q'uwutum 'u tthu q'uwut-s sus 'uw' t'ilum 'eelhtun 'uw' lhhwelu.

 And they played their drums and the three of them sang.
- (51) lhxilush tthu s'ul-hween, se'tssum ts'iitus tthu lhhwelu.

 The Elders all stood and raised their hands thanking the three of them.
- (52) ts'uy'ulhnamut 'u tthu hay 'ul' tthu ts'i'elh xew's hwst'ilum ni' ha'kwushus tthu qe'is q'iq'wut.

 They expressed their gratitude for their new singer with his new little drum.
- (53) nilh kwu'elh hwu sht'es tthu s'amuna' 'u shus hwu lhixw tthu q'uwut-s.

 And this is how three drums came here to Somena.
- (54) 'i' tun'a kweyul hay 'ul' qux tun'a q'uwut ni' hwu ha'kwushum' 'i 'u tun'a s'amuna.
 - And today there are a lot of drums at Somena.

2.3. Vocabulary

Characters

wilki kw'et'un' Wilky Mouse chi'chan' stqeeye' Johnny Wolf 'u'en'ti' spe'uth Andy Bear yuxhwule' yuw'i'na'qw Chief Eagle

Location

S'amuna' Somena (village with longhouse in Duncan, BC)

Time

skweyul day

qul'et kweyul next day stl'atl'um' it's time

Items in the story

q'uwut drum

q'iq'wut little drum lelum' house kw'uluw' hide/skin

Other characters or beings in story

mustimuhw the people

hwulmuhw native people

ts'lhhwulmuhw fellow native people

s'ul'eluhw old people

s'ul-hween elders smuyuth deer

sqw'uli'qw'lush little birds

hwst'ilum singer

Parts of people, descriptions for people

tth'ele' heart shqwultun voice

hwthiqun strong loud voice hw'uy'uqun beautiful voice

uy'uy'mut beautiful

qw'uqw'xwum shy embarrassed

ts'i'elh respected, high status

si'em' respected

Descriptive Words

thi big
'uhwiin' little
'e'uhwiin' tiny
xew's new
kw'am'kw'um' strong
xelu special
thu'it true

Land and nature

thuthiqut tree

hwthuthiqut forest, woods

sta'luw' river kwasun star

lhuxunuptun floor (in longhouse the floor is dirt)

Action verbs

sq'uq'ip gathered kwuna'tul' together q'a'thut join t'ilum sing t'it'ulum' singing

t'it'ilutst sing to him/her hwtelqut answer him

xi'xlhem' always watching

t'akw' go home t'at'ukw' going home

'i'mush walk
ptem'utus asked
hakwush use
ha'kwush using

ha'kwushewut being used

hwu'alum' return

se'tssum raise hands lhxilush stand up

lhulxilush (many people) stood up

ts'iit praise him/her

thukw'thukw't attached

ts'uy'ulhnamut expressed gratitude

xte'um made

thathi'uthut keep going

slhelhuq' laying

Numbers

nuts'umat as one group

yuse'lu two lhihw three

lhhwelu three people

2.4. The message of the story

We can read this story and share our pride of Quw'utsun' traditions with a subtle approach with four characters that hold strong positions in our community. Wilky Mouse

is a youth in the community. Johnny Wolf is a prominent singer for the village. Andy Bear is a prominent singer for the Village. Chief Eagle who is a leader in the Village.

I really admire the character Wilky for his determination and persistence to sing for his people. My story teaches children patience with others and also how to share gifts within the community in a respectful way. It also teaches children to stick to their goals and not to give up on their dreams even when there are limitations.

Chapter 3. hwquluwun spaal' – Angry Raven

I took my experience as a mother of my ten-year-old son and animated it into this story, *tthu hwquluwun spaal'* | The Angry Raven. My son Daniel's nickname is Hammy. Like many parents, I found difficulties dealing with my son and his home game console and online arcade gaming. He had mild issues with everyday activities due to his overindulgence of playing games. So, my story reveals about the trials and tribulations of an intelligent child, Hammy Raven. I exaggerated some information for dramatic effect. I am a teacher to many students in grade four to grade twelve who have similar experiences with computer gaming.

3.1. Making the *Angry Raven* story

As the story develops, some of the effects of gaming are brought out. It is very evident that Hammy Raven manages to neglect important tasks and people in his life. I mention people that are concerned about Hammy Raven like his father, Papa Raven, his mother, Mama Bear, his teacher, Wise Owl Teacher, and his sister, Sister Hummingbird.

I conclude the story of Angry Raven with teachings on how memorable times with family; how daily learning is very important; and how self-care is optimal on a daily basis. I also mention that Hammy realizes the importance of balancing essential things in his life and that games are not essential, only just an extra-curricular activity.

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⁵ He received that name from his sister Charlyse, who could not pronounce "handsome" well when she was two years old. The nickname stuck to this day.

3.2. hwquluwun spaal': story

tthu hwquluwun spaal'

The Angry Raven

By Gina Salazar and Ruby Peter

Characters

Hammy the Angry Raven: hwquluwun spaal'

Mama Bear: spe'uth ten

Teacher Wise Owl: shlhetth'ul tsiitmuhw hw'iiw'tssun'uq

Sister Hummingbird: shuyulh sxwut'ts'uli

Papa Raven: mens spaal'

Introduction

(1) hemi nilh hwquluwun spaal' 'i' tthu suw'a'lum's compoutu,

Hammy the Angry Raven and his computer games,

(2) we' tthu ts'lhhwulmuhws 'i' ni' tl'uw' xiq kwsus skw'ey kws tul'nuhws tthu ni' tatul'utus.

it even affects his family and his ability to concentrate in class.

(3) 'uwu te' stem ni' tul'nuhwus.

He couldn't learn anything.

Story

(4) tun'a sqwul'qwul' 'i' nilh tthu hwquluwun xut'ustum' hemi spaal' yath 'uw' hiiw'a'lum'.

This story is about Hammy, the Angry Raven who always played games.

- 'uwu kws hwiineem's 'u thu tens spe'uth 'i' thu hw'iw'tssun'uq tsiitmuhw. yath 'ul' 'uw' t'et'iyuq' tthuw'nilh hemi spaal'.

 He didn't listen too well to his Mama Bear, and his Wise Owl teacher got too overwhelmed with Hammy Raven's anger issues.
- (6) 'uw' thu'it stsuw'et tthuw'nilh hemi spaal'.

 Hammy Raven is wonderfully smart.
- (7) hay 'ul' 'uy'st-hwus tthuw'nilh tthu xut'ustum' pitsu.

 He loves to eat pizza.
- (8) 'uy'st-hwus kws 'ula'ulhs 'u thu puysukuls.

 He loves to ride his bike.
- (9) yath tl'uw' kwun'atul' 'u tthu mens, spaal'.He also always spends time with his Papa Raven.
- (10) nuts'a' skweyul 'i' wulh hwthtiwun kws lemut-s tthu xut'ustum' kumpoutu, kwthu suw'a'lum'.One day Hammy Raven decided to look into the popular games on his computer.
- (11) 'i' wulh kwunnuhwus tthu hay 'ul' 'uy'st-hwus suw'a'lum'.

 And he found a game that he really liked.
- (12) hwun' xut'u 'i' ni' wulh tl'lim' 'uw' t-hwhay 'ul' shna'us tthey' suw'a'lum's.

 After a while, he became overly focused on this game.
- (13) nuw' t-hwhay 'ul' ni' sul'uthut-s kwsus hiiw'a'lum' ni' 'u tthey', hay 'ul' qux tintun sus 'uw' hwu mel'qtus tthu shni's ni' hwu luplupum' tthu lelum's.

 He was spending so many hours on his game that his nest became messy.

- (14) we' tthu stl'quens 'i' nuw' hwu nets' 'ul'.

 Even his feathers were different.
- (15) wulh qwulstum 'u thu tens spe'uth, "'uy' kwun's thuyula'qwum 'u kwun' shni', hami spaal'."
 Mama Bear said, "You'd better clean up your nest, Hammy Raven."
- yu hwqwi'qwul'een'u tthu hemi spaal' 'i' nilhulh 'uw' xwum 'ul' kws thuyula'qwum 'u tthu shni's.

 Hammy Raven would grumble and quickly clean up his nest.
- (17) pte'mutum 'u thu tens, "xwum 'u ch 'i' tuw' 'iput tthun' shlhakwuls?"

 Mama Bear asked, "Can you brush your beak?"
- (18) hay 'ul' 'uw' wulshuq' tthuw'nilh hemi spaal 'i' ni' thulh 'uw' 'iputus tthu shlhakwulsth.

 *Hammy Raven would sigh and go brush his beak quickly.
- (19) wulh thut-stum 'u tthu spe'uth tens, "'e'ut wulh saay' tthu shhwune'untqun."

 Mama bear told him, "Supper is ready."
- (20) nan 'uw' hay 'ul' tthu suw'a'lum' ni' shnu'as tthu shqwaluwuns suw' 'uwus niis tl'lim' 'uw' 'ulhtun.

 Hammy Raven was so focused on his games that he didn't even eat.
- 'uwu niis hith 'i' ni' hwi' kwey' tthu hemi spaal' sus 'uw' tsqul'qul'u.

 It wasn't long before Hammy Raven became hungry and thirsty.
- (22) we' kws nem's tseelhtun 'i' ni' tl'uw' hay.

 He even quit going salmon fishing.

- (23) nuts'a' skweyul 'i' wulh pte'mutum 'u tthu mens, spaal',

 One day, Papa Raven asked him,
- "mun'u, 'ilhe' nem' yu 'um'mush!"
 "Son, let's go hunting!"
- (25) hwi' thut-st-hwus tthu mens, "'uwu, 'uwu nu stl'i'us kwunus nem' yu 'um'mush 'u tun'a kweyul."

 Hammy Raven said to Papa, "No, I don't feel like hunting today."
- (26) thut-stum 'u tthu mens spaal', "nilh q'u nuw' hay 'ul' 'uw' tl'i' tun'a kwun's shtatul'nuhw sht'es kwun's nem's yu 'um'mush."

 Papa Raven said, "This is very important for you to learn how to go hunting."
- (27) hwmutth'unqintus tthu mens spaal', hwi' thut-st-hwus, "'uwu tsun niin' sthuthi'. *He lied to Papa Raven, saying, "I'm not well.*
- (28) 'i tsun tuw' q'aq'i'."

 I'm sick."
- (29) xtsuthut tthu tsi'tsut spaal' sus 'uw' huye' nem' 'uw' yu 'um'mush 'i' 'uwu te' 'utl' hemi spaal'.So, Papa Raven decided to go hunting without Hammy Raven.
- (30) kwus wulh huye's tthu mens spaal' 'i' hwi' wulh 'utl'qul 'u tthu lelum' shni's, *After Papa Raven leaves, Hammy Raven gets out of his nest,*
- (31) 'i' wulh nilh tl'uw' suw' hiw'a'lum' 'u tthey' suw'a'lum's. and starts playing his games.

- (32) hwi' t'eyuq' tthuw'nilh hemi spaal'. *Hammy Raven gets angry*.
- (33) wulh kwunutus mukw' tthu suw'a'lum's 'i' wunwenshus, mukw' 'untsu shnem's nemust-hwus kwus wenshus.
 And he starts throwing his toys around everywhere.
- (34) sus 'uw' yu ya'yukw'um' 'u tthey' ni' lelum's t'amun.

 And wrecking his nest's walls.
- (35) sus 'uw' thut-stum 'iye'qtum tthu nuhiimut-s hwquluwun spaal'.

 *Hammy's new reputation is "Angry Raven".
- (36) 'i' nilh thu shhw'aqw'a's, sxwut'ts'uli, nilh sun'tl'e'.

 Sister Hummingbird is Hammy Raven's older sister.
- (37) hay 'ul' 'uyaas tthey' shhw'aqw'a's, sxwutt'ts'tuli. Sister Hummingbird is very beautiful.
- yathulh 'uw' hiths kwun'atul's 'u thu shhw'aqw'a's, sxwut'ts'tuli. *Hammy Raven used to spend a lot of time with Sister Hummingbird.*
- (39) pte'mutum 'u thu shhw'aqw'a's sxwut'ts'uli, pte'mutum tthu hemi spaal', Sister Hummingbird asked Hammy Raven,
- (40) "m'i ch tse' xlhem'ut thu xal'qthut kwun'atul' 'utl' 'een'thu," thut-stum 'u thu shhw'aqw'a's?"

 "Come watch a movie with me."

- (41) wulh thut-stum 'utl' hemi spaal', "'uwu, 'i tsun nan 'uw' tituya'xw 'u tthunu suw'a'lum'."

 Hammy Raven replied, "No, I am busy with my games."
- suw' huye' sxwut'ts'uli shhw'aqw'a's nem' hwu'alum' nem' 'u tthu swe' shni's yu xulhultslh.

 Sister Hummingbird just went back to her nest feeling sad.
- (43) kwus nem' skwoukwul' tthu hemi spaal' 'i' hwi' nan 'uw' lhtsiws skw'ey kws xtsuthut-s.

 At school, Hammy Raven was too tired to concentrate.
- nilh kws yaths 'uw' 'a'mut 'u tthu hay 'ul' hiths snet hiiw'a'lum' 'u tthey' kompoutu suw'a'lum'.This was because he was up late playing computer games.
- (45) hwi' skw'ey kws hwiine's 'u tthu ni' tatul'ut ni' shtatul'ute'wut. *He had no patience to listen to the lessons.*
- (46) tsiitmuhw hw'iw'tssun'uq xut'ustum' tthu hemi spaal' 'uw' 'uy'us kws hwineem's 'i' 'uwu nilhus kws t'et'iyuq's ni' 'u tthu shni's kws hw'iw'tssuste'wut.
 Wise Owl Teacher would remind Hammy Raven to focus and not to get too angry in class.
- (47) wulh 'uwu kws hwiineem's tthu hemi spaal'. *Hammy Raven wouldn't listen*.
- (48) tthey' ni' shnu'asth suw'a'lum' 'i' stl'atl'um' tul'newut 'utl' hemi spaal' nilh suw' tahw 'ul' suw'a'lum's.

 Hammy Raven needs to learn that computer games are just a toy.

- (49) nilh tl'i's kws thuyula'qum tthu shni's lelum' 'i' kws yath 'uw' 'iput tthu shlhakwulsth.What's important is cleaning his nest and keeping up with his beak brushing.
- (50) 'uwu nilhus tl'i'stum tthey', 'uwu niis st'e' 'u tthu yu 'um'mush 'i' kwun's tse'tsululhtun' kwun'atul' 'u kwthu mens spaal'.

 They are not an important activity like hunting and fishing with his Papa Raven.
- (51) nilh tl'i's kwun's kwun'atul' 'u thu shhw'aqw'a's sxwut'ts'uli.

 What's important is spending time with his sister Hummingbird.
- (52) kwthu hay 'ul' ni' tl'i' 'i' nilh thu tsiitmuhw hw'iw'tssun'uq kws tatul'ut-s tthu ni' s'amustewut sniw' 'i' kws he'kw'me't-s.

 What's important is listening to his Wise Owl Teacher and learning to embrace the wisdom he was given to remember.
- (53) 'uw' thu'it stsuw'et tthuw'nilh hemi spaal'.

 Hammy Raven is wonderfully smart.
- (54) nilh shni's 'i' ni' tul'nuhwus kwsus suw' tl'ul'im' tthu shhwuw'welis.

 He realizes that his parents are right.
- (55) nilh hay 'ul' tl'i' kws hwiineem's 'u thu tens spe'uth 'i' kws hwiineem's 'u tthu mens spaal' kws yaths 'uw' sthuthi'st-hwus tthu shqwaluwuns 'u tthu shhwuw'welis.
 - What's important is listening to his Mama Bear, listening to Papa Raven, and respecting his parents.
- (56) thuytum 'utl' hemi tthu shsaay's sht'es kws hiiw'a'lum's.

 So Hammy fixes up his behaviour, and he limits the amount of time that he spends playing computer games.

(57) nilh shni's 'i' ni' hay kws nans 'uw' hwquluwun.

And now Hami is not an Angry Raven anymore.

(58) ni' 'uw' hwu 'iyus 'ul' spaal'.

Now he is a Happy Raven.

(59) ni' hay. hay tseep q'u.

The end. Thank you all.

3.3. Vocabulary

Characters

hemi spaal' Hammy Raven (Main Character)

tens spe'uth his Mama Bear

hw'iw'tssun'uq tsiitmuhw Wise Owl Teacher

mens spaal' his Papa Raven

sxwut'ts'uli shhw'aqw'a's his Sister Hummingbird

Locations

lelum' house, nest

skwoukwul' school: location of schooling

Time

skweyul day
hith late
tintun hour

Items/Misc. Objects

suw'a'lum game

kumpoutu suw'a'lum' computer games

pitsu pizza
puysukuls bike
t'amun wall
stl'qeen feathers

shlhawkwuls beak

shhwune'untqun supper stseelhtun salmon

xal'qthut TV/movie

shtatul'ut lessons

Descriptive Words

hwquluwun angry

t'et'iyuq' angry, mad

stsuw'et smart
luplupum' messy
kwey' hungry
tsqul'qul'u thirsty
q'aq'i' sick

'uyaas beautiful

tituya'xw busy
xulhhultslh sad
lhtsiws tired
'iyus happy

Verbs of speech and cognition

qwulstuhw speak to him/her/hem

qwulstum he/she/they are spoken to

thut-stuhw tell him/her/them

thut-stum he/she/they are told pte'mut ask him/her/them

pte'mutum' he/she/they are asked

thu'it to be true

hwmutth'unqint to lie to him/her/them

hwqwi'qwul' grumble wulshuq' sigh

'uy'stuhw like/love it

hwiine' listen, pay attention

hwiineem' listen, hear lemut look at it xlhem'ut watch/view

xtsuthut decide, think, concentrate

tatul'ut learn it

he'kw remembering

Action Verbs

huw'a'lum' play

hiiw'a'lum' playing

'ula'ulh ride (bike), be on board (vehicle)

kwunnuhw get, find

thuyula'qwum clean up house

'iput brush
'ulthun eat
wensh throw

wunwensh throw things
ya'yukw'um' wrecking
'um'mush' hunting
tseelhtun go fish

tse'tsululhtun' going fishing

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Traditional culture words

nuhiimut the name you carry, your reputation

sniw' wisdom

s'amust what you are given to embrace and hold

3.4. The message of the story

There is a message embedded in this story: "Don't allow an inessential activity like gaming take over important people and important activities." The Angry Raven expresses some unnecessary anger towards his environment and neglects his room and himself. It is critical to recognize that gaming issues are common in our youth and we need to address this issue in a very subtle and calm method. You can see sample of the art developed for the story in Appendix A. The colourful art helps create a humorous tone for the story.

In a way The Angry Raven story is an excellent way to reach out to our youth and help relate to their lives. It is very satisfying to conclude The Angry Raven story with some positive solutions with a positive ending. Not all disasters require a negative reaction, but some require careful understanding. The message is clear for the parents, teachers, and students: just like Hammy, they have the ability to change for the better.

Chapter 4. suli tth'amuqw'us – Sully Sasquatch

I have always had an interest in our great fabled creature, the sasquatch. There are many legends regarding the sasquatch in various First Nation Tribes story archives. I particularly wanted to invent a story of a sasquatch for my elementary students to enjoy. My story Sully Sasquatch has a character in it by the name Xeel's who we know as the Creator of all things. I am quite pleased to present this piece because speaking of two highly powerful beings is such an honour.

4.1. Making of the *Sully Sasquatch* story

My story is about a young sasquatch named Sully who always was mesmerized with the human daily activities of the Cowichan People and wanted to become a human for one day. So Xeel's heard Sully's prayers and acknowledged his good deeds and then granted Sully his wish. As the story unfolds, Sully experiences a day filled with excitement and adventure, doing things he always watched the humans doing. One thing he got to experience was bonegame, *slihel'*, a popular pastime of Indigenous people. In Appendix B, I have given some information about *slihel'*.

4.2. suli tth'amuqw'us: story

tthu xelu skweyul 'utl' suli tth'amuqw'us

Sully Sasquatch's special day
by Gina Salazar wuxwaxtunaat and Ruby Peter Sti'tum'at

- (1) yath 'uw' huy'thusta'lum' 'u tthu s'ul-hween tst, xwixwi'am'usta'lum' 'u tthu tth'amuqw'us kwus 'i 'u tun'a quw'utsun'.
 - Our elders always share information about the sasquatch in our Quw'utsun' territory.

- (2) tun'a sxwi'em' 'i' nilh tthu nuts'a' tth'amuqw'us, 'i' nilh snes kws sulis.

 This is a story about one sasquatch and his name is Sully.
- (3) ts'uhwule' 'i' 'uy'st-hwus kws xi'xlhem'ut-s tthu mustimuhw ni' t'it'ulum', qw'uyul'ush.

 Sometimes he likes watching people singing and dancing.
- 'u kwsus ts'elhum'utus tthu st'ilum' sus nem' 'uw' t-suthut tthu suli.

 When he heard them singing, Sully would approach.
- (5) ha' ni' hwiine'mutus tthu t'it'ulum' qw'uyul'ush sus 'uw' tel tthu sxun'us kwakwuhwshe'num' 'i' tthu sxuy'usth hwihwusutus kwus hwiine'mutus, He would hear them singing and dancing and his feet would start tapping and his head would start shaking to the sound.
- (6) xi'xlhe'mutum' 'utl' suli tthu mustimuhw kwus 'i'lhtun' 'u tthuw' swe's s'ulhtuns, nilh sus 'uw' tam'mutus tl'e'.
 Sully would watch the people eating their food, and he would really crave some.
- (7) yath 'uw' hwiine'mutum 'utl' suli tthu q'uwut 'i' tthu t'it'ulum' ni' 'u tthu thi lelum'.

 Sully always heard the loud drumming and singing at the bighouse.
- (8) 'i' hay 'ul' 'uy'st-hwus kwus hwiine'mutus tthu quw'utsun' mustimuhw kwus hiiw'a'lum' 'u tthu sluhel'.
 He loved watching the Quw'utsun' people play bonegame.
- (9) sht'eewun' tthu suli, "nan 'uw' 'iyus tthu suw'a'lum'! Sully thought to himself, "This game look so fun!

- (10) nu stl'i' kwunus tl'uw' huw'a'lum'." *I wish I could play too.*"
- (11) tthu ni' t'it'ulum' q'uw'utum' suw' sht'eewun'mutum 'utl' suli kws hays 'ul' 'iyus.

The people singing and drumming seemed to be so fun to Sully.

- (12) xi'xlhe'mutum' 'utl' suli tthu stl'ul'iqulh kwus tetul' 'u tthu suw'a'lum' ni' 'u tthu xal'qthut sus 'uw' 'iyus 'ul'.

 Sully watched the kids playing games on the tv and saw how excited they were.
- (13) hay 'ul' 'uy'stum 'utl' suli kwus ha'qwun'uhwus tthu stseelhtun, ni' sts'ey'hwul's.

 Sully loved the scent of the salmon drying.
- sus tl'uw' stl'i' kws ten'hws tthu stseelhtun ni' s'a'kw'us kwus ts'ey'hwtum',sq'i'laam'.And he liked the smell of the preserved salmon hanging up to dry.
- "nuts'ehw 'ul' p'e' kwunus t'en'hwt tthu sts'uy'hw stseelhtun!" sht'eewun' tthu suli."Just one taste of the smoked salmon!" Sully thought.
- (16) nuts'a' skweyul 'i' xi'xlhem'utum' 'utl' suli tthu mustimuhw kwus yu hwukw'ustus tthu thqet nem' nuw'ushum 'u tthu lelum'.One day Sully saw the people dragging a tree into the house.
- (17) sus 'uw' sht'eewun', "'i 'a'lu q'u tsukwsta'mut?"

 Sully thought, "What's going on?"

- (18) ni' lemutum 'utl' suli tthu thqet 'i' ni' thuytum sus 'uw' hay 'ul' 'uw' hwu 'uy'uy'mut kwus wulh saay'stum.
 Suli looked at how the tree was fixed up and it was decorated really beautifully.
- (19) le'lum'utus tthu s'ul-hween s'i'tth'um' 'u tthu tskwim, ni' yu lhelhuq'utus tthu syuxtsa' stl'pal'we'lh 'u tthu thqet.

 He saw an old guy dressed in red, laying presents under the tree.
- 'uy' shqwaluwun 'utl' suli, suw' sht'eewun', "tl'uw' nu stl'i' kwunus kwun'nuhw kw'unu syuxtsa'.

 Sully was delighted and he thought, "I wish I could also receive a present."
- (21) nuts'a' snet kwus wulh 'itut tthu suli 'i' wulh tth'i'hwuthut 'utl' xeel's, "tth'ihwum lhu, xeel's, 'i' hwu st'estam'sh ch 'u tthu ni' le'lum'uteen' 'u kw' nuts'a' skweyul.
 One night before Sully went to bed, he asked Xeel's, "Please transform me to be like them for just one day.
- (22) nu stl'i' kwunus tul'nuhw tthu ni' sht'ees kwus hay 'ul' 'iyus tthu ni' lumnuhween'."

 I want to know what it's like to be happy like what I've seen."
- (23) sus 'uw' thu'it 'uw' ts'elhum'utum 'utl' xeel's tthu st'i'wi'ulh 'utl' suli ni' stth'itthu'hwuthut-s.

 And Xeel's actually heard Sully's request.
- (24) ni' wulh le'lum'utum' 'utl' xeel's kws 'uy's stl'i'tl'qulh tthu suli.

 He saw that Sully was a good kid.

- (25) yath 'uw' hwiinem' 'u thu tens, ts'ets'uw'utus tthu ts'lhstl'ul'iqulhs, 'i' yath tl'uw' yu 'ey'itus tthu hwthuthiqut.
 He always listened to his mom, he always helped the other children, and he always showed respect for the forest.
- (26) nem' 'uw' lhakw' tthu xeel's nem' 'amustum tthu suli 'u tthu ni' st'iim's ni' 'u tthu st'i'wi'ulh.

 Xeel's flew down and granted Sully's prayer.
- (27) qul'et netulh kwus wulh hwuy tthu suli, wulh tth'uykw'thut. *Next morning, Sully woke up, and he was surprised.*
- (28) "o.o.o muy! tl'lim' tsun 'uw' tth'alhum'! "Oh my! I am very cold!
- (29) o.o.o muy! 'i tsun hwu tl'utl'iits'umutth'!

 Oh my! I am very short!
- (30) o.o.o muy! 'e'ut hwu 'uwu te' nu qwinuws!

 Oh my! I am very hairless!
- (31) a.a.a! 'e'ut hwu mumun'lh tthunu sxun'u!"

 Ah! My feet are tiny!"
- (32) sht'eewun', "nihw 'a'lu nutsim' nush 'i hwi' tth'alhum'?"

 He thought, "Why I'm I suddenly so cold?"
- (33) tul'numut suli kws 'uwu te's ni' she'itun 'u tthu smustimuhws. *Sully realized that he had human hair.*

- (34) yelh sus tul'nuhwus kwus hwu mustimuhw, hwu swuy'qe' mustimuhw. *And then he realized that he had transformed into a human, a male human.*
- (35) ts'uy'ulhnamut, "hay ch q'a', xeel's! hay ch q'a'!"

 He gave thanks, "Thank you, Xeel's, thank you!"
- (36) suw' sht'eewun' tthu suli, "'uy' kwunus tl'uhwtsunum. So, Sully thought, "I'd better cover myself up.
- (37) nu stl'i' kwunus 'itth'um'." *I need to get dressed.*"
- (38) sus nem' 'uw' t'ahw tun'ni' 'u tthu tsa'luqw xwte' tl'lhumlhumuluts'. *So, he went down the mountain going to Clemclem.*
- (39) nem' xwte' 'u tthu lelum's tthu mustimuhw, yath 'uw' xi'xlhem'utus. *He went to the house of the people, where he was always watching.*
- (40) wulh lumnuhwus tthu s'a'kw'us stth'xwulwutum ni' 'u tthu shq'uq'uwul'wutum. *He saw some clothes hanging on the clothesline.*
- (41) "a.a.a, 'uy'! ni' tsun ts'twa' stl'atl'um'."

 "Oh, great! Maybe these will fit me."
- (42) sus 'uw' 'itth'um' tthuw'nilh.

 And he put them on.
- (43) nem' 'u tthu shhwul'mastun 'i' lemutus. *He went over to the window and looked.*

- (44) "o.o.o, 'i 'uwu te' p'e' lhwet 'a'mut! "Oh, there's nobody at home!
- (45) niihw nem' tseelhtun."

 They must have gone fishing."
- (46) sus 'uw' ni' 'ul' tthuw'nilh, nem' nuw'ilum. So, he just went there and went in.
- (47) suw' kwuyxtus tthu xal'qthut.

 He went over to the TV.
- (48) 'uy'st-hwus tthu ni' lumnuhwus.

 He liked what he saw.
- (49) kwuyxtus tthu suw'a'lum' ni' huw'a'lum' 'u tthu st'eekw' yuse'lu tintun.

 He played computer games for over two hours.
- (50) "nu suw' st'eewun' kwus wulh tl'am!" "I think that is enough!"
- (51) hwun' xut'u 'i wulh ts'elhum' 'u tthu q'uwut ni' 'u tthu thi lelum'. Sully heard the drums at the big house.
- (52) xwchenum nem' lemutus 'iihw 'a'lu tsukwsta'mut tthu q'uwutum'.

 He ran over to see what was going on.
- (53) 'a.a.a 'i wulh huwu'a'lum' 'u tthu sluhel'.

 There was a bonegame starting.

- (54) sht'eewun', "'uy' kwunus nem' tl'uw' q'a'thut huw'a'lum'.

 And he thought, "It would be great to join in a game.
- (55) nem' tus 'i wulh thu'it 'uw' wulh thuythut tthu sluhel'.

 He got there and there was actually a game setting up.
- (56) hay 'ul' 'uw' 'uy' shqwaluwun hiil'ukw tthu suli.

 And Sully was very excited.
- (57) sus 'uw' 'umut q'a'thut 'u tthu mustimuhw, sus 'uw' hwkwetsusutum 'u tthu sluhel'.

 Sully sat down and joined a team.
- (58) sus 'uw' hwkwetsusutum 'u tthu sluhel'.

 And he covered up the bones.
- (59) sus 'uw' kwuy'xtus tthuw'nilh tthu sluhel' ni' kwune'tus.

 And he was shaking the bones that he was holding.
- (60) t'emutum tthu suli 'i' 'uwu niis yu kwun'num'. *They guessed on Sully, but they didn't get him.*
- (61) ni' 'uw' shtatul'stum 'utl' suli 'uw' niis tsehwtsel' tthu t'et'um'ul's.

 Sully knew which way they would guess.
- tl'lim' nuw' qw'uyul'ushum' 'utl' suli tthu sluhel', qw'uyulush 'u tthu st'ilums tthu sluhel'.Sully was really making the bones dance, dancing to the bonegame song.
- (63) sus 'uw' yu kwi'kwul'shus tthu sluhel'. *And he hid the bones.*

- (64) 'uwu niis yu kwun'num', yu qwi'qwuxw 'u tthu t'et'um'ul's.

 And they didn't get him but guessed wrong.
- (65) lhew' qwixwutum tthu suli 'u tthu nutse'ehw, thume 'i' nuw' tus 'ul' 'u tthu slhhwelhs kwus qwixwutum, lhew'.

 Sully got away once, and then twice, and the third time.
- (66) ni' 'u tthu sxuthunelhs kwus lhew' 'i' ni' wulh t'ilum 'u tthu s-hitelqlh.

 Sully got away the fourth time, and he started to sing the bonegame song.
- (67) hay 'ul' 'uw' tl'itlhwun'eq tthu suli.

 Sully was the big winner that day.
- (68) hay 'ul' hiil'ukw tthu suli kwus luhel'namut wulh hay hith kwus xi'xlhem' yelh sus huw'a'lum'namut.
 - It was very thrilling for Sully to finally play bonegame having watched for so long before he managed to play.
- (69) kwus wulh nem' t'akw' tthu suli 'i' hay 'ul' 'uw' stth'utth'ekw' kwus hay 'ul' kwus t'un'usnuhwus tthu hay 'ul' hwsluhel' mustimuhw.

 Sully went home and felt amazed to sit with the bonegame people.
- (70) wulh kw'ey' tthu suli sus 'uw' suw'q'lhenum 'u tthu shni's tthu s'ulhtun. Sully was getting hungry as he looked around in the pantry.
- (71) haqwnuhwus tthu sq'i'lu stseelhtun.

 He could smell the smoked salmon.

- (72) kwus hwun'a' q'ikw'utum 'utl' suli tthu sq'i'lu stseelhtun 'i' hay 'ul' 'uw' stth'utth'eq' 'u tthu ni' t'en'hwus s'ulhtun.

 One bite of the smoked salmon and Sully was extremely amazed with the taste of the treat.
- (73) wulh lumnuhw 'utl' suli tthu suw'a'lum' ni' 'u tthu lhuxunuptun. *Sully saw the toys on the floor.*
- (74) 'uwu niis le'shum 'u kwthu shhwunum'uste'wut.

 They were not put away where they belong.
- (75) sht'eewun' tthu suli, "niihw 'a'lu nutsim' kws 'uwus niis s'a'lhstum' tthu ni' s'a'muste'wut 'u kwthu swuy'qe' s'itth'um 'u tthu tskwim?"

 Sully wondered, "Why aren't the gifts that the red suit man gave to them not being treated properly?"
- (76) xlhul'tslh tthuw'nilh suli huw'a'lum' 'u tthey' s'uw'a'lum''i' nuw' 'iyusst-hwus kwus hiiw'a'lum'.

 Sully felt sad about the toys and started playing with them and really enjoyed that.
- (77) ni' wulh hith hwune'unt 'i' ni' wulh nem' lhtsiws tthuw'nilh suli.

 It was getting late and Sully got tired.
- (78) wulh nuqw tthuw'nilh suli wulh hwuni'nsum 'utl' xeel's, squlquluthuns. Sully fell asleep as Xeel's came into his dream.
- (79) suw' thut-stum, "tthu nuwu tl'i'tl'qulh ch tth'amuqw'us, nan ch p'uw' 'uy' tthu ni' 'un' sht'e kw'un's 'i'mush.

 He said, "You, young sasquatch, you have been so good on your adventure.

- (80) nus nuw' 'aanthamu, 'amusthamu 'u tthu ni' t'iituhw.

 I have honored you and granted you your wish.
- (81) nem's ch kwu'elh wulh hwu'alum' 'u tthuw' 'un' swe' 'un' lelum'.

 Now you must return to your own home.
- (82) ni' ch kwu'elh tul'nuhw tthu ni' 'un' sht'e, st'e 'uw' niis xelu tthu ni' shtuhim'. You must realize that you are unique just the way you are.
- (83) ni' stl'atl'um' kwun's 'uw' 'uy'stuhw 'ul' tthu ni' wulh 'un' sht'e, tthu ni' 'un' shkwun'neem'.
 You'd better enjoy the way you are, the things you possess.
- (84) 'i' 'uy' kwun's 'uw' 'uy'stuhw tthu ni' s'amusthamut ni' kwun'etuhw 'i' 'uw' xelu 'i' stl'atl'um' kwuns' 'uw' ts'uy'ulh 'ul' kw'un's ni' st'ee kw' nets'."

 You need to enjoy the gifts that you have—treasure how special you are and appreciate your differences."
- (85) ni' 'u kwthey' 'i' ni' hwu'alum' tthu suli 'utl' ts'uw'xilum smeent.

 And then Sully returned to Mount Tzouhalem.
- (86) kwus wulh qul'et netulh 'i' ni' hwuy tthu suli ni' 'u tthu shqwuhi'wun' lelum's. *Next morning, Sully work up in his cave home.*
- (87) thxutum 'u thu tens, thut-stum, "mun'u, stl'atl'um' kwun's hwaythut!

 His mom nudged him and said, "Son, time to wake up!
- (88) m'i xlhas 'u tthu shnetulhqun," thut-stum.

 Come eat breakfast, " she said.

- (89) hwtulqun, "'uy', te'."

 Sully answered, "Okay, Mom."
- (90) 'i' 'uw' 'uy' 'ul' shqwaluwuns 'u kwthu ni' sht'ee kw' lumnuhwus 'u kwthu nuts'a' skweyul.

 And he was very happy for all that he had seen in that one day.
- (91) 'umut tthuw'nilh suli, lemutus tthu sxun'us.

 Sully got up and looked down at his feet.
- (92) "tsunee! 'e'ut tuw' thithu tthunu sxun'u! "Hey! My feet are big!
- (93) 'i' 'i tsun 'uw' tl'ehwum' 'i' tuw' stl'atl'um'."

 And I am nice and warm."
- (94) sus 'uw' hwu st'ee kw' 'uy' shqwaluwun 'utl' suli kwus tth'amuqw'us. *Sully felt glad to be a sasquatch.*
- (95) suw' 'i' hwu 'uwus tl'i's 'u kws hwu nets's.

 And he didn't want to be something different.
- (96) sis 'uw' 'uy' shqwaluwuns kwsus st'ee kw' s'amustewut 'utl' xeel's.

 And he was very happy for the gift that Xeel's gave him.
- (97) ni' hay. hay ch q'a'. *The end. Thank you.*

4.3. Vocabulary

Sully Sasquatch Vocabulary List

Characters/Beings

s'ul-hween elders

tth'amuqw'us Sasquatch

mustimuhw people/human

xeel's Creator/God

st'i'tl'qulh youth/kid/child

ten mother

swuy'qe' male/man

Body Parts/Human anatomy

smustimuhw body sxuy'us head she'itun hair sxun'u feet

Locations

quw'utsun' Cowichan

lhumlhumuluts' Clem Clem

ts'uw'xilum Tzouhalem

smeent mountain/rock

hwthuthiqut forest

lelum' house

thi lelum' bighouse

Items/Misc. Objects

q'uwut

s'ulhtun food

stseelhtun salmon

sq'i'lu smoked preserved food/fish

drums

thqet tree

s'i'tth'um' clothes

syuxtsa' present

shq'uq'uwul'utum clothesline

shhwul'mastun window

lhuxunuptun floor

shnetulhqun breakfast

suw'a'lum' games/toys

xal'qthut television

slihel' bonegame

s-hitelqlh bonegame song

squlquluthun dream

shqwaluwun feelings/thoughts

Descriptive Words

'iyus fun/excited

ts'uy'hw smoked

'uy'uy'mut beautiful

thuytum decorated, fixed up

tskwim red

stl'pal'we'lh under 'uy' good

xelu special, unique

nets' different

tth'alhum' cold

tl'am enough

thu'it true

tth'uykw'thut surprised

stth'utth'ekw' amazed, shocked

kw'ey' hungry xlhul'tslh sad, sorry

lhtsiws tired s'a'kw' hung up st'uts'iqw' dried

Action verbs

nuqw fall asleep hwuy wake up

'umut sit down/get up out of bed

tl'uhwtsunum cover up

'itth'um' put on clothes

nuw'ilum go in
hwu'a'lum' return
lhakw' fly
xwchenum run

t'ahw go down

huw'a'lum' play
kwi'kwul'sh hiding
qw'uyulush dance
qw'uyul'ush dancing
t'it'ulum' singing

q'uwutum drum (verb)
kwey'xt moving it
hwihwusut shaking it

kwakwuhwshe'num' stomping feet

kwune't hold it

kwun'num' get caught

t'it'um'ul's guessing (in bonegame)

t'emutum get guessed on (in bonegame)

qwi'qwuxwut guessing wrong (in bonegame)

thxetum' get nudged, poked hwukw'ustum' getting dragged

lhelhuq'ut laying it down

Verbs of cognition, speech, and social interaction

'uy'stuwhw likes/admire

stl'i' wish
tth'ihwum please
tth'i'hwuthut ask/plead
tth'ihwum please

tul'nuhw know

'ey'it show respect

q'a'thut join

ts'uy'ulh appreciate, thank, be grateful

t'iit wish for

'a'must give it to him/her/them

lumnuhw see

lemut look at him/her/it/them

le'lum'ut looking at him/her/it/them

xi'xlem'ut watching

ts'elhum' hear
hwiine'mut listen
t'en'hwus taste
sht'eewun' think
thut-stuhw say

4.4. The message of the story

The message of my story Sully Sasquatch is the comparison and contrast of two very different worlds. How Sully sees others and their life and how he sees himself and his own life. Sully gets mesmerized with the life of the Cowichan humans and their daily activities, which has him wishing for a different life. Sully doesn't see his own life as interesting. In life, it seems like some people get too focused on other people and want what they have. Sometimes this leads to envy and sometimes jealousy. Sometimes it is just sheer amazement of other people's lives as well. It is fair to say it becomes a gift blocking habit to see how others shine and you don't see your own gifts.

It is nice to see Sully enjoy all the events in the story as it unravels. At the end of the day Sully is gently reminded by Xeel's that his own life is miraculous and needs to be valued. Xeel's sees and validates Sully as a good child, respectful to his mother, and how respectful Sully is to the forest. The message to recognize your own gifts and uniqueness is strong in my conclusion of my story. I find that the youth that I work with tend to focus on their friends' lifestyle and wish they had the same or similar life. I want to gently inform my students tjat each of them is an individual, special and unique in their own way. I want them to shine in their own life and accept we all have own unique life and are each equally valued.

I like the transformation of Sully becoming a human and also going back into a Sasquatch. I concluded the story with Xeel's reassuring Sully that he is amazing just the way he was made and very unique. Xeel's spoke gently to Sully and told him he needed to return to his home at Mt. Tzouhalem.

Chapter 5. Conclusion

Storytelling is a tradition for our Coast Salish people. Stories are used to convey lessons and teachings, to preserve our knowledge, relate our history, landmark our places, and carry our language forward. Stories are also an important way of documenting our language and culture and providing resources for language teachers and learners. I chose storytelling because it is a fun way to express ideas. I thoroughly enjoyed being creative with my ideas, having to imagine all three stories, transforming from real life events to the story world to engage a child's mind.

My sincere hope is that these stories will inspire young students to aspire to and achieve fluency in Hul'q'umi'num'. I am happy to share these stories filled with our rich, authentic Hul'q'umi'num' language. I am confident that sharing these stories in our language will help children reinforce basic and advanced vocabulary as well as experience the sentence structures of Hul'q'umi'num'. When I presented one of my stories at my oral defense, one audience member suggested that a simpler version of the story would be needed if youth were to understand it. But in my teaching practice, I find that the youth are ready, after many years of learning words and phrases, to listen to full-sized stories. I am looking forward to designing more teaching modules around my stories to help learners understand them. I have a desire to continue with writing and illustrating books for young people, and I want to help others write stories as well, including the youth. Our dream is to one day have an entire library full of books in the Hul'q'umi'num' language and to be able to read them out loud to each other.

Storytelling has proven to be a useful exercise on my own path toward fluency. I also learned a lot about linguistic analysis in my MA program—pronunciation, word architecture, sentence grammar, and narrative structure. I want to use these skills as well as new skills that I can learn as I go forward, focusing my attention on language revitalization, designing materials for secondary and post-secondary classes that use naturalistic methodologies, including TPR and theatre-based immersion, and supporting language champions in their work.

We Hul'q'umi'num' language advocates play a very critical position in helping sustain the efforts of our elders. We need to carefully carry the knowledge that they have passed down to us and pass it on to our future learners. Language preservation is not just an occupation; it is a legacy to humbly grasp onto and give to our next generations to come.

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Appendix A.

Making the art for the stories

The three stories are being prepared for publication. One of the enjoyable aspects of the work was to create drawings to go with the stories.

I spent a lot of time visualizing what illustrations of Hammy Raven and his family would look like. All characters are real life characters in my immediate family, and I drew on their personalities when designing my art. I made a similar image of Papa Raven to Hammy. In real life my son looks a lot like his father, so I made it evident in my story. As for Sister Hummingbird, my daughter Charlyse is very beautiful and in our culture, hummingbirds represent beauty. As for Wise Owl Teacher, I stated the obvious, teachers are always wise, and owls are known globally for wisdom. I had a lot of fun creating the illustrations for my story, trying to make it very contemporary and fun for the young readers to enjoy.

My line drawings were coloured digitally by Michelle Parent. Here I show a few of examples of the illustrations for *hwquluwun spaal' – Angry Raven*.



Hammy Raven loves to eat Pizza and ride his bicycle.



Papa Raven and his hunting/fishing attire.



Sister Hummingbird and her movie snacks



Wise Owl Teacher

Appendix B.

sluhel' - Bonegame

qux nu siiye'yu ni' 'utl' pestun. mukw' tum'kw'e'lus 'i' nem' tsun ni' 'u 'utl' pestun' ne'nuts'uw'hwum' thunu' ts'lhhwulmuhw nu suw' li'hel'.

I have lots of friends and family in the States. Every summer I like to travel to the States to play bonegame.

Here is a picture taken June 1, 2019, in Tulalip, Washington, where our team placed second out of 160 teams nationwide.



Photo taken by my daughter, Charlyse Brown, with my phone. Used with permission.

Below I share a short poem that I wrote about bonegame, give some instructions on how to play in English, and give some bonegame vocabulary and phrases.

Sluhel'

I like to win.

```
poem by Gina Salazar
'uy'stuhw kwunus hunum' 'u tthu sluhel'.
'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus li'hel'.
I like to play bonegame.
I like bonegame.
'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus t'i'tul'um'.
'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus t'et'um'ul's.
I like to sing.
I like to guess.
ts'uhwle' 'i' ni' tsun piq'ut.
ts'uhwle' 'i' ni' tsun nuqum.
Sometimes I point outside.
Sometimes I point inside.
'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus peptitul'.
'uy'stuhw tsun kwunus tl'e'hwun'uq.
I like to compete.
```

How to play sluhel'

Items you need for sluhel'

- A set of bones, 2 white bones and 2 marked bones to hide
- 11 sticks, 5 with one pattern and 5 with a different pattern and one king stick to mark the score of the game
- 1 or 2 drums to sing songs

Minimum of 2 teams of 1 player each to unlimited amount of players

Objective of the game sluhel'

- 1. You need two team captains to hold onto one set of bones to compete for the stick known as the king stick. Dual with the bones and whomever get caught first with the white bone exposed loses the king. The winner of the king stick gets to start the game.
- 2. To start the game, you will need to start a song and take out a stick set. Once you handed five sticks over to the other team. You hand out the two sets of bones out to two of your players. The two players holding the bones are to hide the bone in hopes that the guesser on the other team guesses the for the marked bones.
- 3. The guesser on the other team has four choices:
 - Outside, which get means both white bones are on the outside of the two hiders.
 - Down the Middle, which means both white bones are on the inside of the two hiders.
 - To the Right, which means both white bones are to the right of the two hiders
 - To the Left, which means both white bones are to the left of the two hiders.
- 4. If the guesser gets both the sets of white bones right, he gets the sets of bones on his team and two of his players gets to hide the bones. Each miss of the white bones, you have to throw a stick over for your miss. You need to keep competing for the sticks until all eleven are on one side of the game.
- 5. The winner usually wins wagers, material items, or moves up on the bracket on a true double knock out of a Round Robin.

Hul'q'umi'num' language for bonegame

```
Here are some words and phrases about bonegame (adapted from Hukari & Peter 1995).
luhel' bonegame (to play it)
       nem' tsun luhel'.
       I am going to play the bonegame.
li'hel' bonegame (be playing)
sluhel' bonegame
hwsluhel' bonegame player
ts'ultsus switch to the other hand (e.g., in the bonegame)
stth'kwu'iw's left side, arm, hand
       nemustuhw 'u tthun stth'kwu'iw's.
       Put it in your left hand (e.g., in the bonegame).
s'i'a'lum'iw's right side, right arm, hand
       nemustuhw 'u tthun' s'i'a'lum'iw's.
       Put it in your right hand (e.g., in the bonegame).
t'emut guess it (in the bonegame)
t'emuls guess (in the bonegame)
t'et'umul's guessing (in bonegame)
       piq'ut ch kwun's t'emuls.
       Pick the outside when you guess.
piq'ut guess the outside, pick the outside (in playing the bonegame)
hwts'ut middle: put in the middle
       nuqum hwts'ut.
       Guess the middle (both plain ends in the middle, in the bonegame).
tqet challenge (e.g., in bonegame), refute
       nem' ch p'e' tqet.
```

Go challenge him.

tqetham'sh challenge me

'i tsun thay'thut 'u kwthu 'i tse' m'i tqetham'sh.

I am getting ready for the one who is challenging me.

sthakwula' bet (noun)

stem tse' kw'un' sthakwula' 'uw' ne'muhw luhel'? What are you going to bet when you go to the bonegame?