

Version 4

<http://www.nickdoe.ca/pdfs/sul-3.way>

click for my version of “Sul-h^wā:n Xpāy” after coaching by Elder Ellen White.

The name of the new nature reserve on North Road is “Elder Cedar Nature Reserve”. It was interesting to observe that many people at the 2007 GaLTT AGM were unaware that it also has a Snunéymux^w name. Nobody present knew or had any idea what it was.

According to the Management Plan the Snunéymux^w name is written: S’ul-hween X’pey. The plan unfortunately does not include a translation of the Hul’q’umi’num, but as I remember it being explained to me, the name, besides being that of a tree, has spiritual connotations that “old” or “ancient” does not have. “From times long ago” is a sense of it.

My interpretation of how to pronounce S’ul-hween X’pey is:

S as in “sit”, no “z” sound

’ usually indicates a glottal stop, as in the English street pronunciation “bu’n” for “button”. In this case however it is better to omit the stop rather than overdo it. It is just meant to indicate that the “s” and the “ul” are run rapidly together, but without slurring. The end of the “s” and beginning of the “ul” should be clear.

ul as in “gull”

- a brief silence, but no glottal stop

h^w like the “wh” in “who”. The “w” is not pronounced; it is only there as a symbol to indicate that the lips should be rounded. Breath out, as if indicating to a foreigner the difference between “watt” and “what”.

ee the double “e” indicates the “eh” sound should be held slightly longer than normal. The “e” here is a short “a”, sometimes written phonetically as “ā”. “een” rhymes with “train”.

X pronounced right at the back of the mouth or even in the throat (as if you were trying to clear it). Like the English ‘x’ in “box”, NOT the English “ex”.

’ This glottal stop is not really needed as it is hard to run the “X” and “pey” together anyway.

pey “pay”
