

# Our History

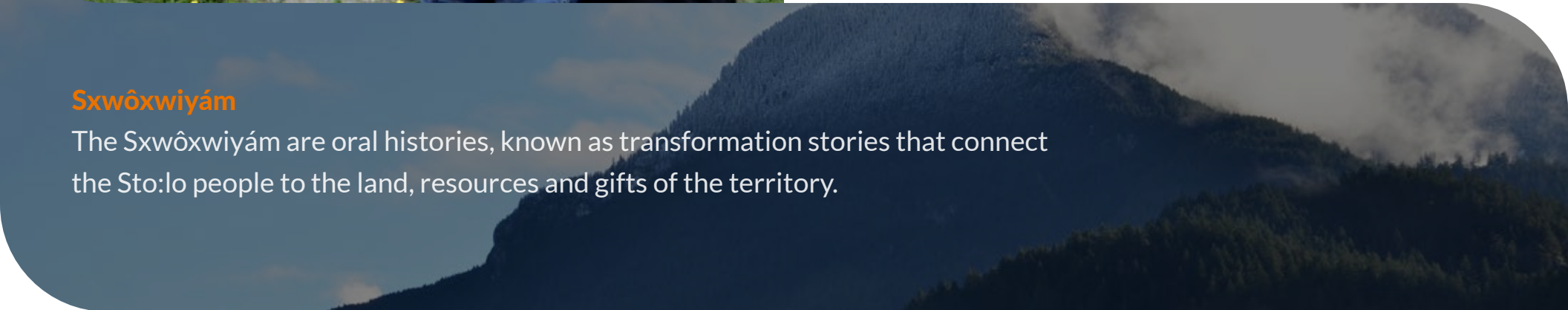


## Halq'eme'ylem

Three dialects of the Halq'eme'ylem language are spoken across the Coast Salish territory from southeastern Vancouver Island to the lower Fraser River watershed: Hul'q'umin'im (Island dialect), Hun'qumyi'num (downriver dialect), and Halq'eme'ylem (upriver dialect). In the Chilliwack School District, the Halq'eme'ylem language instruction is in the upriver dialect. No official writing system of Halq'eme'ylem existed prior to 1970.

## Sxwôxwiyám

The Sxwôxwiyám are oral histories, known as transformation stories that connect the Sto:lo people to the land, resources and gifts of the territory.



## Coqualeetza:

Teaching about the history of Indian Residential schools in Canada, specifically Coqualeetza in Sardis (1888 – 1940) advances and supports inclusivity and the “truth” in our community. Coqualeetza in Halq'eme'ylem refers to a small spring stream, a place of cleaning and “beating the blankets.”

