

SIWLK

For Syilx Okanagan People, the ways of knowing siwlk^w—water—are embedded in our language and bequeathed to us by our ancestors. Maintaining the integrity of siwlk^w is essential to our identity and is entrenched in our responsibilities to our homelands. siwlk^w is our most sacred medicine.

The health of our water impacts everyone.

i? siwlk^w sx^wlx^waltət.

WATER IS OUR RELATION.

i? ı yſayſat stim siwlk^w
i? ılmix^wmtət.

**WATER BONDS US TO OUR ANCESTRY,
OUR DESCENDENTS AND OUR LAND.**

k^wu yſayſat i? k^wu
sqilx^w kscpúta?stm áli?
ılmix^wmtət i? siwlk^w.

**WATER MUST BE TREATED WITH
REVERENCE AND RESPECT.**

áli? i? ıx^wlx^wıtañtət
lut kstañmúsmñtm, áli?
ksctxístim yſayſat i? stim.

**OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH WATER
IS NOT TAKEN LIGHTLY, WE
ARE RESPONSIBLE TO ENSURE
THAT OUR RELATION CAN
CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE
HEALTH AND RESILIENCY OF
OUR LAND AND ANIMALS.**

I? siwlk^w ıx^wlx^wıtañs
i? tmx^wúla?x^w ul yſayſat i? stim

**WATER IS THE LIFEBLOOD OF
OUR LAND AND OUR ANIMALS
AND WE AS SYILX PEOPLE**

kscsux^wstm i? siwlk^w
ſa?ſá? knaqs ck^wisk^wsts
yſat a? cx^wlx^walt.

**RECOGNIZE WATER AS A
SACRED ENTITY AND RELATIVE
THAT CONNECTS ALL LIFE.**

i? siwlk^w yſat ta?kín
kıl kscx^wlx^walts i?
tmx^wúla?x^w ul kıl tmix^w.

**WATER COMES IN MANY FORMS AND
ALL ARE NEEDED FOR THE HEALTH
OF LAND AND FOR THE ANIMALS.**

mipnúntm i? ſſa?ſá? i?
siwlk^w kıl yſayſat i? stim.

**WATER IS OUR MOST SACRED
MEDICINE, WATER NOURISHES,
REPLENISHES, CLEANSSES AND HEALS.**

ıa ck^wulmstm i? siwlk^w
kscha?stim ul ksctxístim.

**ANY USE OF WATER SHOULD
BE AN ACT OF REVERENCE
AND A COMMITMENT TO
OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.**

yſayſat i? sx^wlx^waltət,
ſapná? ul cm t spñkin,
áli? k^wu s?uk^wna?qínx.

**OF ALL LIFE. NOW AND TO
COME, AS SYILX PEOPLE.**

i? siwlk^w cx^wuy tı tmx^wúla?x^w
tıl wist ul lut kscwsñcuts tıl stim.

**WATER COMES FROM THE SKY AND
THE HIGHEST PLACE YET IT NEVER
WILLFULLY RISES ABOVE ANYTHING.**

i? tayx^wút mi ctyap, naſmıl
tıl yſat tıl stim, misk^wæck^wáct.

**IT WILL ALWAYS TAKE THE
LOWEST PATH IN ITS HUMILITY.
YET OF ALL THE ELEMENTS, IT
IS THE MOST POWERFUL.**

k^wu scúnma?stm i? siwlk^w
k^wu k^wcæck^wact ul qm̄qam̄t.

**OUR SACRED WATER TEACHES
US THAT WE HAVE GREAT
STRENGTH TO TRANSFORM THE
HIGHEST MOUNTAIN WHILE BEING
GENTLE, SOFT AND FLEXIBLE.**

iwá ıa tqəqip ksksñmıxa?x itı?
kıl?ulx^w, tqıltkm̄s, km mlx^wuyms.

**WATER WILL ALWAYS FIND A
WAY AROUND OBSTRUCTIONS,
UNDER, OVER AND THROUGH.**

k^wu kscúnma?stm
ksck^wılñustm xi?mıx stim.

**IT TEACHES US ANYTHING
IS POSSIBLE.**

ıa ctyap i? siwlk^w lut stim
ta ctılx^wsts ul k^wu ksſıla?x itı?

**WATER MOVEMENTS, PATHWAYS
RESILIENCY AND POWER TEACH
US WHO WE ARE AND WHO
WE CAN BE AS PEOPLE.**

—SYILX NATION SIWLK^w DECLARATION

