

PRESS RELEASE



March 31, 2021

Congratulations *ȷilmixʷm* ki law na Chief Clarence Louie on being named as an Honorary Degree recipient from the University of British Columbia

tkwəłniwt (Westbank), Syilx Okanagan Territory: It is our Syilx tradition to celebrate the achievements of our people and we would like to celebrate the University of British Columbia's (UBC) recognition of *ȷilmixʷm* ki law na, Clarence Louie, as one of UBC's 2021 Honorary Degree recipients. Today, we acknowledge and honor ki law na for this extraordinary achievement and recognition of his contribution to the Osoyoos Indian Band and the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

UBC's recognition stated, "Since his election in December of 1984 as Chief of the Osoyoos Indian Band of the Okanagan Nation, Clarence Joseph Louie has consistently emphasized economic development as a means to improve his people's standard of living. Under his direction, the Band has become a multi-faceted corporation that owns and manages eleven businesses and five joint ventures, employing approximately one thousand people. At the same time, he has consistently demonstrated his belief that First Nations leaders have a responsibility to incorporate First Nations language and culture in all socio-economic initiatives as a means to preserve Indigenous heritage."

Chief Louie has received numerous recognitions and awards including a number of aboriginal business awards over the years. In 2006 he was awarded the Order of British Columbia, in 2017, was named to the Order of Canada and in 2019 he was the first Indigenous inductee into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame.

On behalf of the Syilx Okanagan people, we want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to ki law na, for his years of leadership and commitment to economic development and serving his community and Syilx Okanagan Nation for over 34 years. Lim' Limpt.

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