



MILLENNIA RESEARCH LIMITED

Mission Statement

Millennia Research Limited is committed to providing high quality services and products in the areas of Archaeological Inventory Assessments, Archaeological Overview Assessments, culturally modified tree and wet site studies, curriculum development and implementation, and public education. We seek to provide our employees with continuing training, professional development, and employment opportunities in a safe, flexible, edifying work environment.

To accomplish these objectives, Millennia Research Limited seeks to provide challenging opportunities for employees to learn new skills and refine existing abilities, to develop long-term working relationships with clients and First Nations, to provide opportunities for meaningful First Nation participation in archaeological projects, to generate products which contribute to our understanding of the past, and to share this information as freely as possible with concerned individuals and organizations.

Looking for more information?

Please contact us at:
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This is an in-house contest but you get to choose the winner. Choose your favorite photo submitted by our staff and the contest entry fees are forwarded to the winning staff member's charity of choice. Vote for the photo or the charity, but please VOTE! Send your vote via email: admin@millennia-research.com.

We'll announce the winning photo and total donated in the next edition.

Millennia Time

Connecting Space & Time

VOLUME 3

JANUARY 2011

Happy New Year from Millennia!

What's New?

Millennia had a busy fall in 2010, working on a variety of projects in and around Victoria, Vancouver Island, and Northeastern BC, and completing cataloguing of over 1100 artifacts collected in the spring and summer at Williston. Morley Eldridge presented on the Williston artifact assemblage for the Archaeological Society of BC Victoria Chapter. Millennia's 2011 calendar highlights our work through photos and maps, and can be downloaded from our website at www.millennia-research.com.



On January 26, 2011, Millennia participated in "The Great British Columbia ShakeOut", a province-wide earthquake drill.

Fundraising:

Millennia continued the fundraising tradition in 2010 with several different initiatives. We supported the Great Canadian Food Fight as well as the Mustard Seed Food Bank and Christmas Hamper program with our throughout-the-year fundraising efforts. Through our photo contest we raise funds for a number of different charities—see below. Please help us out in our efforts by voting for a photo!

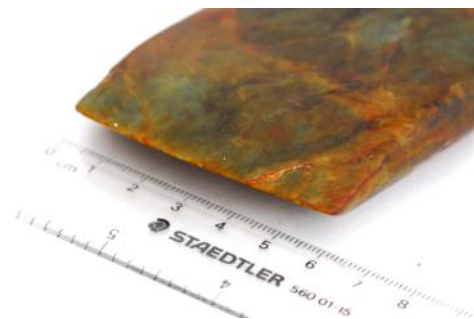
Points to Consider: Nephrite Celt

An artifact of particular interest was discovered at Williston in 2010, a finely crafted celt made from a beautiful multi-coloured nephrite. Nephrite is an extremely hard material that is highly resistant to breakage, making it ideal for the manufacture of extremely durable ground-stone tools. Nephrite was extensively utilized on the southern Interior Plateau of British Columbia as well as on the coast and was traded throughout and beyond those areas as a high value item. The presence of nephrite in the Williston assemblage indicates that local people were linked to a trade network that extended at least as far as the Fraser Canyon. It could also indicate that individuals were travelling great distances and carrying valued items with them.

The pristine, undamaged, sharp working edge of this object suggests that the item was not used for woodworking, the usual purpose of such tools, but was perhaps a status symbol, or used for warfare. Similar large celts from the southern Plateau were often hafted in tomahawk-like weapons. Experimentation has produced formulae, that when applied to this object, suggest it would have taken over 110 person-hours to create! Given the extreme level of effort required to fashion such an artifact and its durability, it would have certainly been considered a high value item in the Williston area.



5 cm



Profiles: Alyssa Parker, GIS Analyst

Alyssa recently celebrated her 5th anniversary at Millennia, where she has worked since her graduation from the University of Victoria with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography. She has spent the past five years building upon Millennia's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capabilities and expanding the use of GIS in archaeology in a variety of innovative ways. She is currently broadening her knowledge and experience in GIS through a part-time distance-learning Masters of Science program in Geographic Information Science at Birkbeck College, University of London. In her spare time, Alyssa enjoys spending time in the outdoors kayaking, hiking, cycling, and camping.

Photo Contest Theme: Winter Scenes

The winner of our last newsletter photo contest was Photo E, (the puppy sitting in the screen), and the winning charity, the SPCA.

Photo A: Butchart Gardens Christmas Lights. Charity: Mustard Seed Food Bank



Photo C: Moonlit totem. Charity: United Way



Photo D: Frosty leaf. Charity: Mustard Seed Food Bank

Clicking on the photos will take you to a webpage where you can view larger versions of the photos.



Photo B: Moonlit Nass River. Charity: United Way