Stó:lō New Year – October 23rd, 2025

Prepared by Malila & Judy Cathers (Fall 2024)

Why do the Stó:lō celebrate New Year in October?

The Stó:lō celebrate the New Year in October because it is "time for things to be finished" - called "temhila'lxw".

- For example, the harvest is finished.
- The growing season is over.
- Berries, bulrush, cedar and plants have been harvested.

Because this season is called "time for things to be finished", now, something new is going to begin.

- This is the beginning of winter activities and ceremonies.
- The Sto:lo moved back to their Fall and Winter homes.
- Nets, bulrush mats, blankets, baskets, hats, and new clothing would be made – all from the material that had been gathered in the spring and summer months.
- Hunting, and torchlight fishing began.

This year, on October 23rd, the first sliver of the New Moon will show. This indicates that a new month will begin, and also the Stó:lō New Year.

Happy Stó:lō New Year!