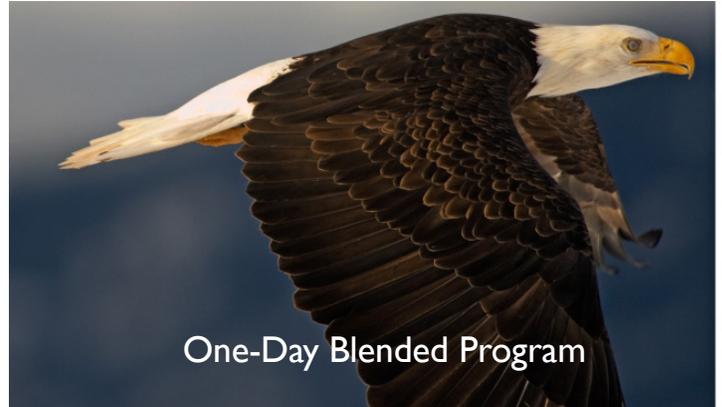


## Experience Nature and First Nations Culture in Canada

Discover the wonders of the natural Canadian landscape, while sharing the beauty and vibrancy of Skwxwú7mesh First Nation culture



### One-Day Blended Program

Experience all Cheakamus Centre has to offer in this One Day Blended Program, specially designed for international student groups. Over the course of a single day, students explore both the natural beauty and cultural significance of the Cheakamus River Valley. Students learn about critical environmental habitat and ecology, while experiencing traditional First Nations culture and practices.

### Program

A well-rounded, seasonally inspired experience, the One Day Blended program offers students the opportunity to learn about the life cycle of salmon in a working hatchery, and to explore an extensive trail network to understand forest processes, animal habitat and the human role in influencing them. In small groups, students learn about life in a traditional Coast Salish longhouse and the different roles of family groups from hunting and fishing to weaving and plant gathering. Indigenous program interpreters lead sessions in traditional cultural practices and engaging, hands-on activities.

### Place

Cheakamus Centre is located on 165 hectares of ecological reserve within an hour's drive north of Vancouver, and less than 30 minutes south of Whistler resort. In nature's outdoor classroom, Cheakamus program staff engage students in hands-on exploration of ancient forests, salmon spawning habitat and cycles, pond ecology and interpretive trails. In the heart of the campus is the state-of-the-art Environmental Learning Centre that serves as a model for sustainable building design. Cheakamus Centre offers a warm and welcoming ambience that puts students at ease. Chef Wade's talented food service team prepare delicious, nutritious meals and snacks, using seasonal produce from onsite gardens and local producers. Most special dietary requirements can be accommodated.



### Day Programming

In this unique educational day program, students experience the highlights of Cheakamus Centre's 165 ha ecological reserve. The program combines environmental and indigenous cultural activities that connect student learning through direct and authentic hands-on experiences. Through engaging activities, students gain a strong understanding of the cultural and natural influences that have shaped the Canadian landscape.

### Environmental Field Studies

Out in the field, students discover a wide range of natural connections in an authentic Canadian setting. Students examine the life cycle of Coho, Pink and Chum salmon in a working hatchery and spawning habitat, explore ancient cedar forests, and investigate local aquatic and farm life, all while building personal connections to the rich biodiversity of the site. This diverse outdoor classroom promotes an environmental learning approach where traditional disciplines come alive through hands-on experiences.

### Indigenous Cultural Experience

In this journey back in time, students engage in daily life in and around a traditional Coast Salish longhouse, providing a unique opportunity to experience the rich culture of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) people. An interpretive walk along the side channels of the Ch'yákmesh (Cheakamus) River brings students to the longhouse, where they are welcomed by indigenous cultural program staff. At the longhouse, students learn how stone, bone and wood tools were used to chop wood, strip and pound bark and how these practices are still linked to current values and beliefs.



Experience all Cheakamus has to offer:

- Examine the life cycle of salmon
- Explore ancient cedar forests
- Investigate local aquatic and farm life
- Engage all 5 senses through nature
- Discover Coast Salish traditions and culture



### Program Details

Program Length	Grade Level	Additional Information
9:30 am - 3:00 pm	7 - 12	Minimum # of Students: 60 Maximum # of Students: 100 *Please contact us for pricing

Program fee includes lunch, programming and materials. Transportation is not included.

**To register, please contact:**  
604.898.5422  
[programs@cheakamuscentre.ca](mailto:programs@cheakamuscentre.ca)