

*THE BOARDING SCHOOL & CUSHMAN PROJECT*

**INTERVIEW WITH RHODA DUCHARME HAYWARD, SALISH TRIBE:  
MINIMIZATION OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE THROUGH BOARDING SCHOOLS**

This section shares one woman's personal story of her experiences attending Indian Boarding schools and Cushman Indian Hospital & Sanatorium. We are using this story as one final reminder that each of these individuals were human beings with a story to share. Please reflect on the information presented in "Interview with Rhoda Ducharme Hayward, Salish Tribe: The Minimization of Language and Culture through Boarding Schools" and answer the following questions.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE VIDEO**

1. Why was the Cushman Project started?
  - Answer: Amber Hayward's grandmother went to Cushman and that inspired her to start the project
2. Where was Amber's grandmother Rhoda born?
  - Answer: Flathead Reservation in Montana
3. What tribe was Rhoda from?
  - Answer: Salish Tribe
4. What tribe was her grandmother's family from on her mother's side?
  - Answer: Salish Tribe
5. What tribe was her grandmother's family from on her father's side?
  - Answer: Salish Tribe
6. Why do you think Amber listed out her grandmother's family line?
  - Answer: It is proper protocol in Indian Country to introduce your family line when meeting people or speaking in front of people. By doing this, people identify with you, your family members, your tribe, and where you grew up. Traditional Lushootseed greetings include: ʔəsʰid čəxʷ - How are you?, tul' čad čəxʷ - Where are you from?, gʷat kʷ(i) adsyayəʔ - Who is your family? By asking these questions, you learn and identify with others.
7. How old was Rhoda when she was picked up by a government agent to go to Cushman Hospital?
  - Answer: 9 years old
8. Why didn't Rhoda cry when she was taken to Cushman Hospital?
  - Answer: She listened to her parents and older relatives, did what she was told and didn't ask questions
9. Was Rhoda sick when she was brought to Cushman?
  - Answer: No, she was not sick

Written by Amber Sterud Hayward  
Lushootseed Translations by Zalmāi ʔəswəli Zahir  
Questions by Amber Sterud Hayward  
THE PUYALLUP TRIBAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM - 2020

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10. What treatment did she received while at the hospital?

- Answer: She was given cod liver oil daily

11. What did the children do all day long?

- Answer: They would get ready in the morning, take cod liver oil, went to the cafeteria 3 times a day, went to occupational therapy to make crafts, went to church, took naps, played in the dorms, and had a little bit of school.

12. How long did Rhoda stay at Cushman Hospital?

- Answer: One year

13. How did she feel when she went home?

- Answer: She missed her friends at Cushman

14. Where did her family live after she left Cushman Hospital?

- Answer: Montana, Yakama, Seattle, Tacoma

15. Where did Rhoda start a family and raise her children?

- Answer: Tacoma, WA – Puyallup Reservation

16. Where did she work as an adult?

- Answer: Cushman Hospital and Hawthorne Indian School

**QUESTIONS FROM RHODA'S VIDEO INTERVIEW**

1. What school did Rhoda attend in Montana?

- Answer: Ursuline Catholic Indian Boarding School - St. Ignatius, Montana

2. What school did her father attend?

- Answer: Cushman Indian Boarding School – Puyallup Reservation, Washington

3. What school did her mother attend?

- Answer: Ursuline Catholic Indian Boarding School - St. Ignatius, Montana

4. What school did her grandmother attend?

- Answer: Carlisle Indian Boarding School – Carlisle, Pennsylvania

5. What languages did Rhoda hear growing up on the Flathead Reservation in Montana?

- Answer: English, French, Spanish, Kootenai and Salish

6. Why didn't Rhoda speak any of her ancestral languages?

- Answer: Her family was trying to go mainstream, they got punished for speaking their language, they went to boarding schools where their language was not allowed, they hid

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the language and didn't pass it on to her, the languages were taken out of them, there were no more words left.

7. How many generations did it take for Rhoda's family to speak their ancestral language?
  - Answer: 5 generations
8. What did Rhoda live to see her grandchildren doing?
  - Answer: Speaking their language, sing their songs, play the drum, dance and have their own school
9. How many tribal languages were Rhoda's great-grandson's speaking?
  - Answer: 6 - Salish, Lushootseed, Navajo, Crow, Tlingit, and Lakota

Now that you've answered questions from the video, it's time to begin looking into how these events impacted one person's life and her future.

**PERSONAL REFLECTION**

1. What new information did you learn?
2. Please list out your family lines on your maternal and paternal sides.
3. How many generations did you list in your family line?
4. Was this easy or did you have some difficulty with this list?
5. How did it feel listening to Rhoda Hayward's personal account of her time spent in boarding schools and Cushman Hospital?
6. Were you able to see how Rhoda's ancestral language was wiped out of her family? If so, explain using evidence from the video as well as inferences you can make.
7. How did the Boarding School and Cushman Hospital negatively affect Rhoda's life and the life of her family? Try to be as specific as possible, take some time to infer how Rhoda's family might *still* be affected.
8. How did Rhoda make the best of her experiences at the Boarding School and Cushman Hospital?
9. Pierce County Washington has a high urban Native population. Locally, the Puyallup Tribal Health Authority serves approximately 10,000 Native members representing 200 tribes. After hearing Rhoda's story of relocation, can you see why other Natives might have stayed on the Puyallup Reservation? Explain.