

BELLA COOLA ETYMOLOGIES

In this report we consider similarities between Bella Coola (Bc) roots and roots in other Salish (Sal) languages: Shuswap (Sh), Lillooet (Li), Thomason (Th), Kalispel (Ka), Coeur d'Alene (Cd), Puget Sound (Pu), Cowichan (Cw), Squamish (Sq) and Sechelt (Se).

The Bc phonemes are: p b m t t' c c' s n l l' k k' k° k° x x° q q' q° q° x x° w ' (h) a aa i ii u uu.

/h/ occurs rarely and is mostly found in loan words: yanahu "turnips" (Chi-nook).

The following data must be taken into account:

a) in Bc /q/, /q°/ have often coincided with /x/, /x°/ and in some cases alternate with the latter: Bc maa'xa "nose" - Se maqsén id., nii'x° "fire" (nu-'ii'x°) - Sq hi'q°, yəq° id., Bc qin'x "shoe" - qiqinqi "little shoe", Bc 'ass-iq° "crown of head" - cw-i'ix° "gray hair" ;

b) in many instances velars and uvulars have been delabialized: Bc tixca "tongue" - Se tix°caλ id., Bc x's "fat" - Sq x°əs "be fat";

c) n has usually changed to /a/ in Auslaut: λmsta "person" - Se λəmstan "house" (cf. Latin dom-inus). Before vowels /n/ is retained: 'mλmstni "small person".

If we are dealing with a-c, we consider the correspondence regular. We establish irregular correspondences, if:

d) proto-Sal /l/ is in Bc represented by /y/: Bc preserves the l-y distinction: thus, mayas "raccoon" does not regularly correspond to Cw mələs id.;

e) Bc /λ'/ versus elsewhere /t'/: λ'λ "dry" does not fully correspond to Sq təλ "shallow", since Sq distinguishes /λ'/ from /t'/, as does Bc;

f) Bc /x/, /x°/ versus elsewhere /q/, /q°/: Bc pax-paa'x°u "cowardly" - Li pəpəq'u'λ id.;

g) Bc velar represents uvular and vice versa: Bc sk'x "black" - Sq q'ix, s'x°ay'x°-m "wash one's head" - Sq x°áv'q°-mid.;

h) Bc /s/ continues /c/ and vice versa: Bc cyaa'x-m "take step" - Sh si'x-xn-m "to step"; 'usqa "go outside" - Sh 'úcqe id.;

i) \acute{K} has been deglottalized: l-pli "thin" - Se $\acute{n}\acute{i}\acute{o}\acute{s}l$ id.;

k) Bc lacks phoneme(s) in the roots, where other Sal languages have these:

Bc smt "mountain" - Sq smánit. Vice versa: qla "water" - Cw qa? id.

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Perfect correspondences

- (1) plt thick Sh pləlt Cd pel Ka plilt Sq pəl-, plul, Li pɬut
- (2) pl-ik-m capsized Sh púl-n-s "he turns it upside down" Li pəlpúl "capsized"
Th n-púvitsn "capsized". Cf. Sh plk-em "roll sth. over" Cd pelč "turn
flat things over" Ka pelč "turn" Sq pláčm snəx^oíλ "turnover canoe"
- (3) viq wide Se viq id.
- (4) vus grow, vus-m swell up Cd vu?us "swell, bubble, ferment"
- (5) vuλ come Sh vuł-m "emerge from wood" Sh c-put-m "come in from hunting
trip" Cd put "come to an end" Ka púlen "arrive at the end of sth."
- (6) pwi halibut Sq puay "black-dotted flounder" Kwakiutl pō'i "halibut"
- (7) ?mt sit, ?amat where it's been put Sq ?mut "assume sitting position"
Sh c-mut "be sitting", ?mut "sit down" Cw ?əmət "sit" Cd ?em "one sits"
Ka ?əmút "sit. be at home"
- (8) mncəta pus Li mácol Se məcə Se mácul Cw məcəλ Sh məcúlt
Cd mácul
- (9) mnk excrements Sh mnek Ka mneč Kwakiutl mənák
- (10) mna child Sq mən Cw mənə
- (11) man father Sq man Cw men
- (12) mal-iiχ° mix Sq mil-, mal- "be mixed up", mal-q° "be mixed"
- (13) milix° Indian tobacco Cd milx° "smoke tobacco" Sh s-menx "Indian
tobacco" Li s-ménix 'tobacco'
- (14) mu fishtrap Sh mu?
- (15) mus four Sh mus Cd/Ka mus Pu bas Klemtu múx°
- (16) mus-a feel, touch Sh mus-m "feel" Cd mus "feel about"

- (17) mul-m dive Sq muy "submerge, flood over" , may "sink" Sh mul- "dip"
Cd mul "dip up" Ka mul "go and fetch water", mal "to flood" Li mül-ən
'to put in the water'
- (18) muk° red Se k°əm Sh k°mk°im Cw ck°im
- (19) nu-tplq turn inside out Sh c-x-pleq "inside out"
- (20) tq go to shore Sh teq-m "to cross" , teq-t "land on other side"
- (21) tam-cla make a basket (cla "basket") Sq ta?-s "make, construct"
- (22) s-tam-ks what? Cw stem Sq s-tam, tam- Sh s-tém-i? Cd s-tim
Ka stem Li stem
- (23) s-tan mother Se tan Cw ten
- (24) tiiĥ° hit target Sq taĥ° "settled" Sh tuĥ°- "straight, right"
- (25) s-tls high cranberry Se tals
- (26) tĥ°-unx°-ulmx-ta broom , tĥ° sweep Li lĥ°éyluptn "broom"
- (27) tĥ°ul six Cw tĥəm Sq taĥm-ałšá? "sixty"
Li š-šenwn 'fish-skin'
- (28) s-twin hide Sh tenwn "skin of fish" s-tnw-éye "bat" (zool.) Li
š-xan-wéwye 'bat'
- (29) ck°-m pull out Cw ěk°at "pull" , ěk°ale? "tug-of-war"
cf. Bc ck° "heavy" Sq cák°-n "tug, pull" Sh ck°-um "pull"
Cđ cek° "drag, pull" Ka ck° "to drag" Li čak° 'to pull'
- (30) cactaw-łp cedar Li četew-ež (Bc -łp "tree", Li -ež id.)
- (31) cak° long Cw cak° "far"
- (32) cak° straight Musqueam səəłik° Li k°?ep 'straight'
- (33) cituma sleep Se ?ítutam Cw ?ítət
- (34) cut say Sh cut Sq cut Ka cu (NB Sh cut "want") Li čut 'to say'
- (35) c(')kt arrive Sh kic-n-s "reach sb., visit"
- (36) cla basket Li calé? Th cí?a
- (37) cima intestines Sh s-čm-enk "tripe, guts" , s-čem "fishbone" , s-čem-qín
"brain" Sq s-məc-álgñ "brain" Cw sčam? "bone" Cd s-čam "fishbone"
Ka s-čom "fishbone" Li š-čm-eňk 'guts'
čam-léne? 'fish-skull'
- (38) s-či-cĥ°-atwala-łp snowberry , cĥ° white Sq cāĥ°cāĥ° id. , cāĥ° "wash"
Cw cĥ°at "wash"
- (39) soyu auklet Sh soyu? "bird" Li špəzú? 'animal'
- (40) sō hit Sh sō-em Ka sō

- (41) s'ou fart Sh s'ou? Li j'u? 'to fart'
- (42) nu-sx-als scrape a hide Sq saxan "scrape" Pu sax "clear, scrape"
Sh seš- "scrape"
- (43) sq° fly, jump Se šəq° Li seq°
- (44) sis(s)i uncle Sq sisi? Sh sise? "mother's brother" Cd sasi? "mother's
brother" Li šišqe? 'uncle'
- (45) sutk winter Li šutik Se sutič Sq sutič Cw sásətəc
- (46) suk-ta sail, ?a-suk to blow Sh suk°-t- "get blown away" Cd suk°
"float with current"
- (47) nik-aaš-m hay, cut grass Sh nik-m "to cut" Li ník-in 'to cut'
- (48) s-lš-usmał hail Sh s-təš°-təš°-lúlse cf. Bc s-lš "spark"
- (49) láaš° tobacco Sq s-líq°-m "smoke" Sh š-q°ut-m "to smoke"
- (50) láš° hard Sq láš° Se láq° Li láš°-láš°-m Cf. Bc staš° "difficult"
- (51) λnus, λwaas- two (λnws, λwns) Sq ?anus Li ?éñweš
- (52) lš°-m run away Sh lš°-up "escape, get away" Cd ləš°p "escape"
Ka lš°up "escape", loš° "hole" Sh lš°- "pass sth. through a hole"
Cf. Bc lš°t "go through a hole"
- (53) lš°ta to spit Sq ləš°- Cw lš°at
- (54) laqs edible seaweed Se láqsta Sq láqas
- (55) nu-laš-lš clear water Sh x-laš-liš "clean, clear (of water)", leš "mind"
lšliš "sober" Li lšx|əx 'smart'
- (56) ?al-lik full Sq yəč Se ləč
- (57) kl- fall Sh kil-, kl- "come off, come apart, be released", kl-ekst-mn-s
"drop, let go" Cd čel "separate, divorce, part" Li kštan 'to take apart'
- (58) klax° muskrat Sh s-kléx°e? Th skəkeléx°e? Cd célex° Kwakiutl kelák°
Li š-kəkléx°
- (60) kikya grandmother Sh kyé°e Cd čəčəye? "maternal id." Th kežá
Li š-kúze?, 'zhed', kúkwé? 'grandmother', škíxze? 'mother'
- (61) kma bite Sq čəm
- (62) k°l hot Sh c-k°el "warmed up" Cd k°el "be hot, sunny, warm"
- (63) k°ul-t borrow Sq k°uln Sh k°əlen Ka k°uln Cd k°ul, k°ul "lend"
Li kútan 'to lend', kútanmin 'to borrow'
- (64) k°uk°pi grandfather Sh k°úk°pý "chief" Sq k°úpic "elder sibling"
Li kúkwpi? 'chief'

X

6/1/10 →
lšliš
čel

- (65) ?anu-k'na to aim Sq k'n-us
- (66) k'la belly Sq k'al "stomach" Se k'la. Cw/k'al?
- (67) xli penis Cw šále Sq šal
- (68) x'aax'i light of weight Se x'ix'xa Sq ?á'x'a , Li x'wéx'lam
- (69) x'ul-x'ul-m firedrill Sh x'ul-m "rub fire" , x'úləkp "match" , x'ul-ke "firedrill" Cd x'ul "bore hole" Sq šuy- "make holes with awl" , šayčəp "firedrill" Cf. Bc x'l-x'l-m "wrestle" Sh x'l- "turn, spin" Li x'ulun 'to bore a hole', x'ú?əl 'match', xul'éz 'match willow'
- (70) x'uk- to bathe Sq šuk'-um
- (71) qm-qm-i soft Sh qm-qem-t "lukewarm, cooled-off, gentle"
- (72) qluqs eye Se qálum Sq qlum Cw qáləm
- (73) qiqti baby, toddler Se qəti "youngest child" (= qíqti) Cw qeq
- (74) q'uluun beaver Sq sqlaw' Sh sqləw' Ka sqalé'u Li š-q'lew'-?ál
- (75) s-q'up-uc beard Se q'úp-ucin
- (76) q'uc- wash Sh q'ic-m "wash laundry"
- (77) s-q'ul bee, wasp Sh s-q'u'at "wasp, yellow jacket" Ka sqú'uł
- (78) q'ululuw'x'ou strawberry Li šc'aléo
- (79) q'laš fence Sh q'leš- "round" Sq q'íaš'an "fence, stockade" Li q'leš Cw q'eleš'actən
- (80) q'lita gull Sq q'ilita Cw q'əni
- (81) q'ay-us-m put charcoal on face Sh q'iy-, q'ey- "black" Cd q'ed "be black" , q'id "blacken" Ka q'ai "black"
- (82) q'umniq' skull Th q'umqn "head" Li q'umqn "head, skull" Sq s-q'umay "headhair" Ka q'omqən "skull" Cd q'omqən "head"
- (83) šlq-iiš' change over Sh šlq-em "roll" Sq šálq-m "roll/fall down" Cd šolq' "wind string evenly" Ka šolq' "to roll"
- (84) šic raw Se šic
- (85) š'nš'nm humming bird Sh š'áš'na Ka šš'š'əni
- (86) ?aosu- blow with mouth Sh ?épsə "sneeze"
- (87) ?asx' seal Sq ?asx' Cw ?esx' "hair seal" Li ?ešx' 'seal'
- (88) ?asikaaš timber Li šzik
- (89) sała river canoe , ?ála build a canoe Sh tye? "(birchbark) canoe" Cd tede? "cance" Ka liyé? "bark canoe" Li lez "canoe"

- (90) ?aλps eat Sq ?iλn Sh ?iλn Cd ?iλn Ka ?iλn
- (91) ?aǎc-m lie down Sq ?əǎic-s "lay down" Cw ?éǎəθ "lie down"
- (92) ?aǎǎ°ut cough Se ?aǎ°út Sq ?ǎǎ°u°n Sh ǎ°eǎ°ú? Ka λǎ°u?
- (93) ?ay-aw- change sth. Sh ?ey- "exchange, give in return, meet"
Cd ?ey- "exchange, barter" Sq nex°-?áy "exchange" Se ?áyiw-at
"change sth."
- (94) ?awλ- follow Sq ?awt "be behind, come after, future"
Sh ?awit "to be behind"
- (95) yałǎ round Sh yel-, yal- "be wound around", yal-p-ílx "turn
back" Sq hil-it "roll" Cd yar "circular object rolls"
Ka yal, yel "round"
- (96) ?ip- grab, catch Sq ?inis "to hold, grab", ?ipa°-ím "hold on to"
- (97) sλ-?imc grandchild Se ?ímac Li ?i°meč Sh ?imc Sq ?ímac
Cw ?íməθ
- (98) ?imaanta bird's nest Th nzəman Se yəmánultx°
- (99) ?icamni blanket, -lic skin, appearance Sh sicm "blanket", -íce?
"covering surface" Cd sic "be blanketed", -íce? "all around"
Ka sícəm "blanket", -íce? "all around" Cw s?íçəm "clothing"
- (100) ?isut to paddle Sq ?isun "paddle, make strokes"
- (101) ?ilk Indian rice Sh ?elk "kinnickinnick berry" Cd ?ilč "kinn.b."
- (102) s?ix°uλ illegitimate child Sq s?ix°aλ "child, baby"
- (103) walasya lynx Se wálaksya "wild cat" Kwakiutl wálasxə "lynx"
- (104) wac dog Th wacama "to bark" Klemtu wácà
- (105) wa-ks who? (wat-ks) Cw wet Sw s-wat Sh s-wét-i, s-wet-k
Cd ség°et Ka suwét
- (106) ?utak vomit Sh wetkx
- (107) ?uq° drift downstream Sq wuq° "go downstream" Li wúq°-wuq°-il

Regular correspondences (a)

- (108) puuḥ to mould Sq puq°- "be mouldy"
- (109) maaḥsa nose Se maqsán Sq máqsn Cw máqsən Fu bəqsəd See also 121
- (110) ciiḥ-a dig Sq ciq "get stabbed" Sh ciq-m "to dig" Ka ciq "dig"
Se ciq- "dig" Th n-ciq-m "dig a pit"
Cf. Sh/Sq ciq°- "dig" Cw Qiq°éls "dig"
Cf.? Ka cḡ-em "throw" , ck-em "hew, carve, whittle" Cā ceč "thunder strikes"
Bc cik vcke, stab Cw Qícat "stab"
- (111) snḥ sun Sq/Li snəq°əm See also 118
- (112) snḥt snot Li šnəqš
- (113) n-iiḥ° (nu-?iiḥ°) fire , ?iiḥ°-suλ build a fire Sq hi?q°/yəq°
Cw hay?q°

Regular correspondences (b)

- (114) puuḥ to mould Sq puq°- "be mouldy" (see also 108)
- (115) tixca tongue Se tíx°caλ Sh tíx°e?ck Cđ tix°cč Cw táx°θəλ
- (116) cxm disappear Sq cəx°
- (117) cḡm drip Li cəḥ°p Th cḥ°ip
- (118) snḥ sun Sq/Li snəq°əm (see also 111)
- (119) λq wet Cw λəq° Sq λəlq "soaked wet"
- (120) ḡs fat Bc ḡ°s "oil sth." Sq ḡ°əs "be fat" Sh ḡ°us- "foam"
Cf. Bc nu-ḡ°ski "soapberry" Southern Kwakiutl nəḡ°əskən

(121)

Regular correspondences (c)

- (121) maaḥsa nose Se maqsán Sq máqsn (see also 109)
- (122) cuca mouth Sq cúcin Se cúcin Li čúčin Cw Qáθən Sh səcínm
"to sing"
- (123) ʔmsta person Se ʔémstan "house" (Cf. dom-inus)
- (124) ʔima muscle Cw ʔíman "tendon" Sh tēm "feather, fur, animal hair"

(125) ?ixa leg, foot Se yašén Pu jašad

Irregular correspondences (d)

(126) mayas raccoon Se málalus Cw méles Klemtu mayas

(127) mamayu butterfly Se mamlawí? "bee, wasp"

Irregular correspondences (e)

(128) nu-λλ shallow Sq táλ

Irregular correspondences (f)

(129) pax-paaš°u cowardly Li pəqpəq°u?λ Sq ?ipāq°uλ "get scared"

Irregular correspondences (g)

(130) sš°a-yš°-m wash one's head Sq x°áy°-q°-m (Bc -i(i)š° "head")

(131) s-kx black Sq qix Cw cqiš

(132) k°ay°-alaqs bluejay Sh q°iy-, q°ey- "blue, purple" Ka q°ai "blue, green" Cd q°el "be livid, bluish, angry" , q°in "be blue"
Cf. Bc q°it "skyblue"

(133) q°li green, yellow Sh k°al- , k°lé-k°le "grass" Cd k°ar "be yellow"
-low" Ka k°ālí? "yellow" Sh k°le°élp , Sq k°lúlay "alder"

Irregular correspondences (h)

(134) cyaaš-m take a step Sh siš-xn-m "to step"

(135) k°tmc husband Sq k°tams Li k°utémč

(136) s-k°ac-ta name Sh s-k°est Li šk°éčič Musqueam sk°ixY

(137) ?usqa go outside Sq ?ucq Sh ?úcqe Cd ?acqe? Ka ?ocqe?

Irregular correspondences (i)

- (138) ?l-pli thin Se p'ib'el
- (139) papink snake Sh n'epi'se (Bc -nk "tail, rear end")
- (140) vac pierce Sq vac- "sew" Cw neç "sew" Sh s-vec-n "Indian hemp, twine, string" Ka sp'ec'an "Ind. hemp, hemp rope"
- (141) ?al-xapa carry Sq xi'xpiy'axa'n "carry in arms"

Irregular correspondences (k)

- (142) cal lake Li cel'el. Se cal(')al
- (143) smt mountain Sq sm'nit Pu sb'adet
- (144) sqim scar (? sq'im) Sq sqil' Se sqiyil' Ka s-qtim' Sh c-qit'
- (145) qla fresh water Cw qa' Pu qo' Li qu? 'liquid'
- (146) ?inax° morning Li netx° "tomorrow" , ?inətx°eš "yesterday"
Cf. Bc ka-ynux°-s "tomorrow" , ?al-tunix°a "yesterday"
- (147) ?ustx° enter Se ?ultx° Li ?ulx° Sq ?uys Th n?ulx°

Among the regular correspondences, there are 41 cases where cognates were found both in Coast- and Interior Salish, 41 where only a Coast Salish cognate was noted, and 39 with only Interior Salish cognates. *

Of the Bc - Coast-Salish cases, (3), (25), (75), (84), (103), (123) concern Sechelt exclusively; of the Bc - Interior Salish cases, (26), (30), (78), (88), (112) concern Lillooet exclusively.

*) These numbers, about even, reflect the comparative isolation of Bc within the Salish language-family as a whole.