

History of Hedley

10000-9000 BC	First people arrive in the area.
1400's	European settlement of North America begins.
1700's	Horse comes to Okanagan and Similkameen.
1813	Alexander Ross, earliest known European explored the Similkameen for the Northwest Fur Co.
1846	Agreement of the 49 th parallel as the western between Canada and U.S.A.
1883	Small-pox epidemic kills one out of every three Aboriginal people.
1886	Indian Reserves were formed.
1894	Flood and the last potlatch in the area.
1898	Hedley Gold mine opened.
1899	Typhoid epidemic.
1901	St. Anns Church, Chuchwayha.
1902	Mr. Welby started stage line from Penticton to Hedley.
1906	First train (Great Northern) arrived in Keremeos.
1909	Great Northern Railway arrives in Hedley.
1910	Hedley Hospital opens.
1914-18	WWI
1915	Hydro power dam completed on the Similkameen River at Hedley.
1930	Hedley Hospital closes.
1937	Nickel Plate Road completed.
1939-45	WWII
1939	Hedley rockslide. Hedley School (Grades 1-12) moved to present site from Red Zone.

- 1948 BC Aboriginal people receive the right to vote in Provincial election.
Big flood.
Hope-Princeton Highway completed.
- 1950 Hedley High School became Hedley Elementary School.
- 1956 Hedley Mine closes (big closure).
- 1957 Colonial Inn started operation.
- 1960 Aboriginal people given the right to vote in Federal Elections.
- 1972 Small flood.
- 1976 First kindergarten at Hedley Elementary.
- 1983 Hedley Elementary becomes K – 3 school.
- 1998 Town celebrates 100-year-old birthday.
- 2000 Hedley Elementary becomes a K – 4 school.