

## History of Keremeos/Cawston

- 10000-9000BC First people arrive in area.
- 1400's European settlement of North America begins.
- 1700's Horse comes to Okanagan/Similkameen.
- 1813 Alexander Ross, earliest know European explored the Similkameen for the Northwest Fur Co.
- 1846 Agreement of the on the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel as the western boundary between Canada and the U.S.A.
- 1860-72 Hudson Bay Co. present in Similkameen. In 1865 the post moved from Cawston to Keremeos.
- 1861 Dewdney Trail was completed.
- 1865 Richter and Barcelo settled in area.
- 1877 Grist Mill constructed by Barrigton Price.
- 1880 Richter planted first fruit trees in Similkameen Valley.
- 1883 Small Pox epidemic kills one out of every three Aboriginal people.
- 1886 Indian Reserves were formed.
- 1887 First Post Office operated at the Tom Daly Ranch.
- 1892 First school built on Dan McCurdy's property (log cabin).
- 1894 Flood and the last potlatch in the area.
- 1899 Typhoid epidemic.
- 1902 Mr. Welby started stage line from Penticton to Hedley.
- 1907 First train (Great Northern) arrived in Keremeos.
- 1908 School built on Bench, where the present Elementary school is located.
- 1914.18 WW I.

- 1916 Cawston is officially named after R.L. Cawston.
- 1919 Famous cattle rustling trail – Jenson Brothers.
- 1920 First telephone office in Keremeos.
- 1931 Present road to Penticton completed.
- 1938 Cawston School moved to present site.
- 1939-45 WW II.
- 1948 Flood.  
Hope-Princeton Highway completed.
- 1949 BC Aboriginal people receive the right to vote in Provincial elections.
- 1950 Bench land opened up as a Soldiers Settlement (V.L.A.).
- 1951 Keremeos High School was completed.
- 1952 Packing house burned down.
- 1956 Keremeos became incorporated.
- 1958 Osoyoos Primary School opened.
- 1960 Aboriginal people given the right to vote in Federal elections.
- 1965 Richter Pass was opened.
- 1972 Flood.
- 1973 Opening of the Keremeos Museum.
- 1975 Diagnostic Centre built.
- 1992 Cawston Primary School renovated.