

## Bella Coola by Angelica

**Where did the tribe live? Where do the people live now?** The Bella Coola tribe originated in the Pacific Northwest in British Columbia. They have built their tribe in the north shore of the Bella Coola River that ran from high in the Rocky Mountains down to the Pacific Ocean. To the present they still resided in the same area in the reservation of British Columbia but they have move to the southern part because of the big flood damage on the north.

**What did they eat?** Because of the River, there is a lot of Salmon and the main food of the Bella Coola tribe. The men also go hunting for seals, ducks and geese while the women would get nuts, berries and plants.

**What did they wear?** Bella Coola men wear no clothes and the women just wears skirts made from cedar barks and they just use capes during the cold season.

**What special ceremonies did they have?** Bella Coola celebrate events such as marriage, birth and deaths which they call the *POTLATCH* ceremony.

**What kind of homes do they build?** They build homes made from the cedar plank. The homes and the doorways have pole carvings of totems.



The Bella Coola's original name was Nuxalk but was later changed because of the location and the Bella Coola River. They like doing Ceremonies to honor their gods. They also wore masks for the rituals that they did. Because of the river, fishing was the way they could get their food. Today, the Bella Coola's are situated on a 2,023.9 hectares land and have 694 aboriginals living with 347 living off the reservation.

I have made a Bella Coola style mask design by Dale Faulstich which is a copyright from [http://www.chiefseattle.com/artists/faulstieh/mask\\_202.htm](http://www.chiefseattle.com/artists/faulstieh/mask_202.htm).