

First Peoples' Cultural Council

Indigenous Language Legislation Community Engagement Session



Agenda

Morning

- Intro to FPCC
- Context for the new legislation; how to provide input
- Overview of Indigenous language legislation in Canada
- Legislation framework discussion

Afternoon

- New language funding and the ALI
- How can we prepare for success?



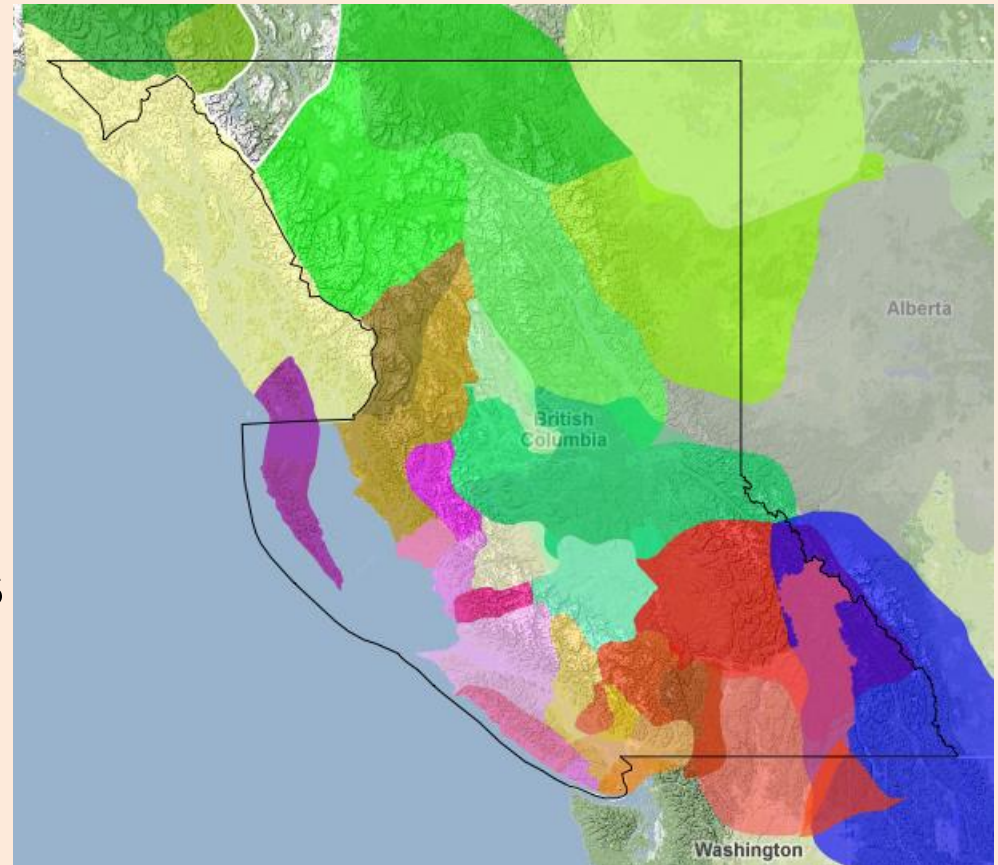
First Peoples' Cultural Council

- Established in 1990
- Crown Agency: Federal and Provincial funding
- Funding, Resource Development, Support and Advocacy



Who We Serve

- 203 First Nations communities
- 34 B.C. languages and 61 dialects
- First Nations communities, individuals and Aboriginal artists and arts organizations



Governance

Advisory Committee

34 positions representing
each B.C. First Nations
language

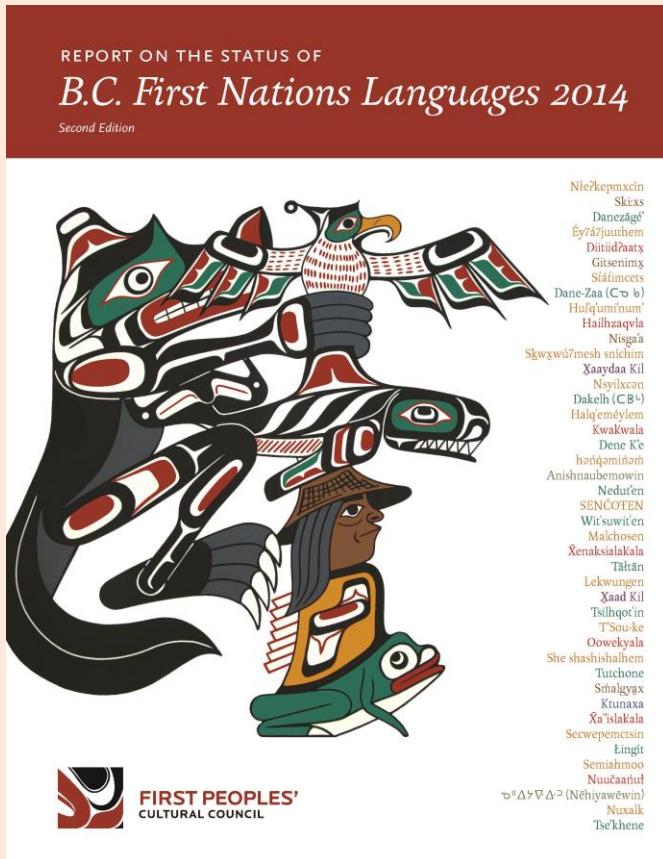


Board of Directors

9 First Nations representatives selected by
application & 3 government appointed seats



B.C.'s Language Context



- B.C. home to 60% of Canada's First Nations languages
- 4% of B.C. First Nations speak an Indigenous language
- 59% of speakers are 65 years +
- 65% of communities have access to recordings of their language



Process for Legislation

June 22-23, 2017

Language Legislation Engagement Session

- Hosted by BC Assembly of First Nations in partnership with National AFN, the Yukon, and Métis

Department of Canadian Heritage and the National AFN will be drafting the legislation.



Process for Legislation

How to Provide Input

The FPCC encourages all communities provide input in the development of the legislation. The legislation needs to reflect communities' needs and goals.

- **Who:** AFN, Canadian Heritage, other organizations
- **What:** a letter, position paper, report, or?

Discussion: *How to Provide Input* handout (FPCC)



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Federal:

- *Official Languages Act* (French and English)
- Bill S-212

Provinces/Territories:

- Manitoba: *Aboriginal Languages Recognition Act, 2010*
- Yukon: *Language Act, 2002*
- Nunavut: *Official Languages Act, 2008*
- NWT: *Official Languages Act, 1998*



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Federal: *Official Languages Act 1988* (French and English)

Three main objectives:

- to ensure respect for English and French and ensure equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in federal institutions;
- to support the development of English and French linguistic minority communities; and
- to advance the equal status and use of English and French.



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Federal: *Official Languages Act 1988* (French and English)

The Act **does not** apply to provincial and municipal governments, or to private businesses. It **does** apply to **federal** institutions, and includes:

- parliamentary proceedings
- legislative papers
- justice
- communications with and services to the public
- the right to work in official languages in designated bilingual regions



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Provinces/Territories:

- Manitoba: *Aboriginal Languages Recognition Act, 2010*
 - Recognition (not official status) for Indigenous languages
 - Manitoba Aboriginal Languages Strategy (2015): partnership between Manitoba government, educational leaders, and First Nations.



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Provinces/Territories:

- Yukon: *Language Act, 2002*
 - French and English official languages
 - The Act “**recognizes the significance** of Aboriginal languages in the Yukon and wishes to take appropriate measures to preserve, develop, and enhance those languages in the Yukon”
 - The Act provides for the Commissioner in Executive Council to make regulations in relation to the provision of government services in any of the Indigenous languages of the Yukon.



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Provinces/Territories:

- Nunavut: *Official Languages Act, 2008*
 - official status to the Inuit language, English and French
 - use of any official language in the Legislative Assembly and court
 - some service in official languages from the head or central office of any territorial institution



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Provinces/Territories:

- Nunavut: *Inuit Language Protection Act 2008*
 - K-3 have the right to instruction in the Inuit language.
 - Language Authority to establish language standards.
 - Inuit will have the right to work for the government in their own language.
 - Municipalities must offer services in the Inuit language.

By 2019, all school grades will have the right to an Inuit language education. **However, this will likely be delayed due to teacher shortage and lack of resources.**



Overview of Language Legislation in Canada

Provinces/Territories:

- NWT: *Official Languages Act, 1998*
 - 9 Indigenous languages have official status, plus English and French
 - equal rights and privileges for use in government institutions (legislature, courts).
 - People can receive government services in a language where there is a significant demand for that language.
 - There is a language commissioner and an Aboriginal Languages Revitalization Board



A Legislation Framework

A focus on **outcomes**:

What we want	Outcome
Reclamation and Revitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ New fluent speakers➤ Documentation
Language Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Curriculum➤ Teacher training➤ Immersion programming
Recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ National recognition➤ Local implementation
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ National office to support languages➤ Regional offices for localized support➤ Collaborative approach across all ministries, institutions and organizations



A Legislation Framework

A focus on **outcomes**:

What we want	Outcome
Capacity-building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Language planning➤ Leadership➤ Training
Guaranteed support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Funding
Indigenous leadership and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ All decisions and actions lead by Indigenous experts➤ Ownership, control, access and possession (OCAP)



A Legislation Framework

Discussion:

What we want	Questions
Reclamation and Revitalization	<i>How does the government support this, beyond funding? What policy is needed? What organizations/institutions need to be on board?</i>
Language Education	<i>What supports do you need to make language education happen? Policies? Infrastructure?</i>
Recognition	<i>What does recognition or official status mean to you? What does it achieve? What is the outcome you want?</i>



A Legislation Framework

Discussion:

What we want	Questions
Infrastructure	<i>What kind of infrastructure for funding, training and support is going to help you?</i>
Capacity-building	<i>What kinds of skills are needed? What are the best ways to receive training and support? Who are your language teams who will lead the work going forward?</i>
Guaranteed support	<i>How is this funding delivered? Who receives and administers it at the community level?</i>
Indigenous leadership and control	<i>Who are your language leaders? What is the body that speaks for/protects your language?</i>



A Legislation Framework

Discussion:

- What do we want and why?
- What do we want to get out of it? (*outcomes*)
- What is going to change as a result of this legislation?
- How will it revitalize and maintain languages in the long-term?



New Language Funding and the ALI

Aboriginal Languages Initiative (ALI)

- Launched in 1998
- Funding for First Nations, Inuit and Metis languages
- Original allocations: historical annual amount for all regions of \$232,470
- 2011 – 2012: changed to a base amount + additional per language
 - In BC = increase to \$818,228 annually

FPCC is the third-party delivery agent of ALI for B.C.



New Language Funding and the ALI

Aboriginal Languages Initiative (ALI)

Challenges:

- Program timeline (July – March)
- No multi-year funding
- Complex application and reporting processes
- No payment for language apprentices
- Limitations on food and travel (limits language camps)



New Language Funding and the ALI

Aboriginal Languages Initiative (ALI)

New funding: \$69 million

(place holder for 3 years, all of Canada)

Opportunities:

- How can we be ready to successfully implement ALI projects?
 - FPCC training, support and resources
- Open-strategy funding = creativity of projects
- What are the revitalization strategies and methodologies that have the needed results (proficient speakers)?



New Language Funding and the ALI

Discussion:

- Do you have a **language plan**?
- What **strategies** will you invest in?
- What are the **outcomes** of those strategies?



New Language Funding and the ALI

Examples (domain focus):

Domain	Strategy	Outcome
Daycare/ Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mentor-Apprentice for staff ➤ Language Nest 	= Fluent ECE staff = 1 st Language Speakers
School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Curriculum development ➤ Teacher training (i.e. MAP) ➤ Immersion K - 12 	= Immersion curriculum = Fluent teachers = 1 st Language Speakers
Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Home kits for parents ➤ Parent language classes 	= Increased language in the home
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Signage, language camps ➤ Community language events 	= Awareness & interest = Community learning
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Resources for leaders ➤ Language policies 	= Support from leadership
Workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Language skill requirements ➤ Training for staff 	= Increased language use



New Language Funding and the ALI

Examples (demographic focus):

Demographic	Strategy	Outcome
0 – 5 years	➤ Language Nest	= 1 st Language Speakers



- Provide language training for ECE Staff (e.g. MAP)
- Hire fluent speakers
- Find a space
- Gather & develop materials and resources



New Language Funding and the ALI

Community Readiness: (Identifying community resources)

- Existing language programming using **effective** strategies
- Fluent speakers
- Language resources
- Trained language leaders (CALR, DALR, MILR, ?)
- Commitment of own-source revenue
- Collaboration with other bands, organizations, institutions
- Youth engagement
- Other?



Questions

- What strategies do you want to implement that will achieve the **outcomes** you need? (i.e. language revitalization, new speakers)
- What do you need to do to get ready for the new funding?
- What can FPCC do to support you?



FPCC Website

www.fpcc.ca/language/Legislation

The screenshot shows the FPCC website's 'Language Legislation' page. The header features the FPCC logo and navigation links: Home, News Room, Publications, Support Us, and Contact. The main banner image shows a scenic view of a lake and mountains with the text 'weyt-k SECWEPEMC FIRST WORDS'. Below the banner is a navigation menu with 'LANGUAGE' selected. The left sidebar contains a 'LANGUAGE' menu with items: Programs, FirstVoices, Language Map, Resources, Language Report, Language Toolkit, ELP, Exhibition, Legislation (highlighted), and Training. The main content area is titled 'LANGUAGE LEGISLATION' and contains the following text:

The First Peoples' Cultural Council is holding regional sessions in May and June 2017 to talk about the promised Indigenous language legislation for Canada. Our goal is to ensure that B.C. language experts are well-informed so that when the national Assembly of First Nations (AFN) does its consultations, everyone will be prepared to provide input.

FPCC will be compiling a report based on the information we gather at these sessions, and First Nations communities are encouraged to develop their own position papers to submit to the Minister of the Department of Canadian Heritage and the national AFN. We will also be talking about the new federal language funding and how we can prepare to effectively invest this new money.

We will be using this web page to share information about the upcoming sessions, as well as general information about Indigenous language legislation. It will be updated regularly as this process develops.

Regional Engagement and Information Sessions on Language Legislation

Save the Date Poster [\[PDF\]](#)
RSVP Form [\[PDF\]](#)

On the right side of the page, there are three buttons: 'APPLY FOR GRANTS >>', 'SIGN UP FOR NEWS >>', and 'CONNECT AND SHARE' with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn.



www.fpcc.ca

www.firstvoices.com

www.fp-artsmap.ca

maps.fphlcc.ca

www.endangeredlanguages.com



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CULTURAL COUNCIL