

# Gwich'in Alphabet

These are the symbol and symbol combinations used to represent the phonemes of Gwich'in in the writing system used by the Yukon Native Language Centre.

## Consonants

← front of mouth ..... back of mouth →

	labial	dental	alveolar	retroflex	lateral	palatal	velar	labial velar	glottal
aspirated plosives (stops)			t				k	kw	'
unaspirated plosives (stops)	b		d				g	gw	
ejective plosives (stops)			t'				k'	k'w	
nasals	m		n						
prenasalized plosives	mb		nd			nj			
voiceless fricatives		th	s	sr	ɬ	sh	kh	khw	h
voiced fricatives	v	dh	z	zr	l	zh	gh	ghw	
aspirated affricates		tth	ts	tr	tl	ch			
unaspirated affricates		ddh	dz	dr	dl	j			
ejective affricates		tth'	ts'	tr'	tl'	ch'			
voiced approximants	w			r		y			

## Vowels

- Nasalized vowels are written with a nasalization hook under the vowel, as for example ɥ̃.
- High tone vowels are unmarked, as for example u.
- Low tone vowels are indicated with a grave accent, as for example ù, àa.

### Vowels

	Long Vowels			Short Vowels		
	front	central	back	front	central	back
close	ii		uu	i		u
mid	ee		oo	e		o
open		aa			a	



Council of Yukon  
First Nations



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## Consonants

← front of mouth ..... back of mouth →

	labial	dental	alveolar	retroflex	lateral	palatal	velar	labial velar	glottal
aspirated plosives (stops)			t, /t <sup>h</sup> /				k, /k <sup>h</sup> /	kw, /k <sup>hw</sup> /	ʔ, /ʔ/
unaspirated plosives (stops)	b, /b/		d, /t/				g, /k/	gw, /k <sup>w</sup> /	
ejective plosives (stops)			t', /t'/				k', /k'/	k'w, /k' <sup>w</sup> /	
nasals	m, /m/		n, /n/						
prenasalized plosives	mb, / <sup>m</sup> p/		nd, / <sup>n</sup> t/			nj, / <sup>n</sup> tʃ/			
voiceless fricatives		th, /θ/	s, /s/	sr, /ʂ/	ɬ, /ɬ/	sh, /ʃ/	kh, /x/	khw, /x <sup>w</sup> /	h, /h/
voiced fricatives	v, /v/	dh, /ð/	z, /z/	zr, /zɻ/	l, /l/	zh, /ʒ/	gh, /ɣ/	ghw, /ɣ <sup>w</sup> /	
aspirated affricates		tth, /tθ <sup>h</sup> /	ts, /ts <sup>h</sup> /	tr, /tɻ <sup>h</sup> /	tl, /tɬ <sup>h</sup> /	ch, /tʃ <sup>h</sup> /			
unaspirated affricates		ddh, /tθ/	dz, /ts/	tr, /tɻ/	dl, /tɬ/	j, /tʃ/			
ejective affricates		tth', /tθ'/	ts', /ts'/	tr', /tɻ'/	tl', /tɬ'/	ch', /tʃ'/			
voiced approximants	w, /w/			r, /ɻ/		y, /j/			

## Vowels

- Nasalized vowels are written with a nasalization hook under the vowel, as for example ɥ.
- High tone vowels are unmarked, as for example u.
- Low tone vowels are indicated with a grave accent, as for example ù, àa.
- There are vowel combinations such as aii, eii, aoo, etc.

## Vowels

	Long Vowels			Short Vowels		
	front	central	back	front	central	back
close	ii, /i:/		uu, /u:/	i, /ɪ/		u, /ʊ/
close mid			oo, /o:/			o, /ɔ/
open mid	ee, /ɛ:/			e, /ɛ/	a, /ə/	
open			aa, /ɑ:/			



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