

The Yukon Native Language Centre is excited to release our first YNLC Newsletter "Neek" – meaning *News* or *To Tell* in Tlingít.

Welcome to the first edition of Neek. The goal of *Neek* is to ensure Yukon First Nations, community partners, and the public stay connected and informed about the work YNLC is carrying out to uphold all Yukon First Nation languages. Within each issue, you will find updates on the language initiatives, programming, and projects that the YNLC is leading. Issues will include community spotlights, comics, audio links and more!



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YNLC Project Highlights

Archives

YNLC Archive staff are working to develop archival policies to ensure that the Yukon First Nation language records are protected and accessible. The YNLC Archive contains material in all the different mediums and formats (audio/video/textual, etc.).

We are excited to continue our Listen, Hear Our Voices project that focusses on audio cassettes digitization and enhancing the quality. Two new Digitization and Audio Editing Technicians, Tyra Gill (SFN) and Nints'ia Murphy (CAFN), have been hired and are jumping into their training! Prioritization of cassette digitization are based on lists of recordings prioritized by Yukon First Nations. We are also excited to start working with other recordings, such as noun dictionaries and books. In addition to audio cassette digitization, we plan to commit time to scanning transcripts that were created with the cassettes. This project is made possible through funding received through Libraries and Archives Canada



Tyra Gill, one of YNLC's Digitization and Audio Editing Technician, renaming digitized files to improve public access.



Myles Blattmann, Archivist & Nints'ia Murphy, Digitization and Audio Editing Technician



YNLC Archives room housing textual and audio language content.



YNLC Archives Lucy Wren cassette tape.

Interested in accessing language archival recordings, texts, photos and more? Archival request forms can be found here: https://ynlc.ca/translations/#ynlc-archives-request-form

Archives catalogue can be requested by emailing <u>archives@ynlc.ca</u> or drop by to talk to our archivist!

Read Along Storybooks

We are excited to share that we now have 21 YNLC storybooks in 6 different languages, which are available in a read-along format on our website! This means you will be able to listen to a speaker read the book as you follow along, with/without English subtitles.

Language specific books can be found in the Learning Resources section of the YNLC website under the Storybook section on each language page.

Access to the language resources: https://ynlc.ca/learning-resources



If you're interested in creating your own read-along book, check out the written instructions under the Teaching Resources bar on the YNLC Website. In addition, we will soon have an instructional video to help walk you through the process!

If you notice any typos as you follow along, please email Abigial Turner, Language Resource Officer at: aturner@ynlc.ca

A Project in Progress



Elder Keyishi Bessie Cooley translating a book into Tlingit.

The Robert Munsch project partners include First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, Champagne and Aishihik First Nation, Little Salmon Carmarcks First Nation, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Liard First Nation, Kluane First Nation and Selkirk First Nation. The Robert Munsch translation project is finally nearing completion! We currently have 17 books, in 4 languages (Tlingit, Kaska, Southern Tutchone and Northern Tutchone) that are in various stages of the design process, with a number of others in the vetting process.

Adax taat ku.aa wé déix táakw kúnáx wuwádi atk'átsk'u táach ujaakch, du x'awoolí héide ashunatánch ka wé t'aaká áx yaa kdag át'ch. Du tláa awusteení wé du yádi x'éig aa táach wujaag í aax aksanúkch ka anashánch héide ka héide, héide ka héide tsú.

Ka ch'a as.háni áwé yéi at gasheech Tleix ikkwasaxán. Tleix ax tuwáa kei iguxsagóo.

Ch'a ax daséigu kaanáx ax tláa yéi ikgwatée.



Robert Munsch I Love You Forever in Tlingit.

Meet our Staff



Abigail Turner Language Resource Officer

Yagee Kadáan łdakát yeewháan, Hello Everyone, Ch'áak' Yádi yóo xat duwasáakw Lingít x'eináx ka Abigail áyá ax saayi dléit kaa x'éináx. My name in Tlingit is Ch'áak' Yádi and Abigail in English. Gus'k'ikwáanx ka Dakl'awéidi áyá xat. I am European & Tlingit, part of the Dakl'awéidi clan. Deisleen Kwáandáx yei xat yatee ku.a Kwalinx' kuxa.oo yeedát. I come from the Teslin people but live in Whitehorse right now.

I started working for YNLC as part of the *Youth Today Language Leaders Tomorrow* program in 2021, studying Łingít Yóo X'atángi. My position as Language Resource Officer began part-time in January 2024, moving to

full time this past September. Although I am still learning the ins & outs of my role here, I am keen to help support the creation and improve the accessibility of language resources across the Yukon. Please reach out to me if you have any questions about existing resources or any ideas for resources you'd like to see created!



Myles Blattman Archivist

Sratthegan uuzhi, Myles Blattmann uuzhi hu guchan k'i. Ezhet Yukon Native Language Centre zhu edisile, ts'en Archivist ichi. Iyelan tage cho hudan ts'in yachi. Dän k'i eju si husi ts'en ditthak hu. Mahsi cho ke sedintthak.



Upcoming Dates to Note:

January 2025: 100-Hour Intermediate MAP starts

January 21-23, 2025: MAP Train-the-Trainer

February 3 - April 10, 2025: Kaska Level 3 (Online)

For more information on these events, contact info@ynlc.ca



