# **TLINGIT LITERACY SESSION**

Yukon Native Language Centre Whitehorse, Yukon

October 13-15, 2004

Guest Instructor:

Dr. Jeff Leer Alaska Native Language Center

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# **SCHEDULE**

	Wednesday Oct 13	Thursday Oct 14	Friday Oct 15
9:00	Opening Prayer	Opening Prayer	Opening Prayer
	Alphabet Review	Place Names	To Wear
	-		To Put On
10:45	Variations	Place Names (cont)	To Take Off
	Practice Sentences	· .	To Give
12	lunch	lunch	lunch
1:00	Directionals	Possessive Terms	To Have On
	Preverbs	Position Terms	To Place
2:45	Practice Sentences	Liquids	Wrap-up
			Closing Prayer
			·

**Tlingit Consonant Chart** 

	Labial Alveolar Velar middle of tongue				ular gue touches	l	ottal chords				
	lips tongue tip behind teeth middle of tongue agair roof of mouth						ack of throat				
					(s	Stops top off the brea	.th)				
							rounded		rounded		rounded rare-Note2
Plain	[	dâ	dlèt	<b>dz</b> èt	jâji	gán	gwêl	ghâ	ła <b>ghw</b> án	nay.á	ana.wèch
		weasel	snow	ladder, bridge, stairs	snowshoes	firewood	bag	(raven call)	tie it into a bow	(you folks) go!	it
Aspirated		tá	tlâ	tsâts	<b>ch</b> àn	<b>k</b> âni	kwêy	khâ	khwân		
followed by a puff of air		sleep	mother	bear root, hedysarum	mother-in- law	brother/ sister-in- law	mark, landmark	man	people from	,	
Glottalized		ťá	tl'átk	ts'ats'î	ch'âk'	k'ínk'	k'wát'	kh'atèł	kh'wátl		
eleased with a		king	earth,	bird	eagle	fermented	egg (not	pitcher	pot		
popping sound		salmon	ground	<u> </u>		fish heads	fish egg)	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		
	Fricatives  (breath flows through narrow opening creating friction)										
Plain			łûł	sà	shà	xíxch'	xwê	xhát	xhwàgùt	hás	yà-
			fireweed	name	mountain	frog	whew!	me, I	I went	they, them	nahwên is swim- ming along
Glottalized			ł'àk	s'ìkh		x'âx'	x'wán	xh'é	xh'wâł'	-	
produced with			dress	smoke,		apple	longjohns	mouth	down	,	
vocal chords closed				cigarette					feathers		
	Sonorants (softer, you can sing them continuously)										
Nasal	mâ-sá?	ná'			<del>.</del>	-					
vibration	how?	here; take									
through nasal cavity	(Note 2)	it									
Nonnasal	wàkh		dalèyí	]	<b>y</b> á						
	eye		trout		this		does not occur		<del></del>		

<sup>•</sup>Note 1: rounded w and hw do not occur in the Teslin dialect

# **Examples of Variations between Coastal and Interior Tlingit**

Interior Tlingit	Coastal Tlingit	English
gamdân	gawdân	horse
mâ sá?	wâ sá?	how?
sîm	sîw (south)	rain
sîw	-	rain
sûw	sûw (north)	rain
lingít	lingít	(Tlingit) person

In Coastal Tlingit the uvulars are underlined. In Interior Tlingit, "h" is put after the main letter.

Coastal:

g

<u>k</u>

<u>k'</u>

<u>x</u>

Interior:

gh

kh

kh'

xh

xh'

<u>x'</u>

# **Identifying Speakers**

Initials will be used to identify speakers.

**BC** - Bessie Cooley

JL - Jeff Leer

ES - Emma Sam

FS - Fanny Smith

LW - Lucy Wren

#### **Practice Phrases**

1. Hàt uwagút.

He/she came here.

2. Àdé wùgùt.

He/she went there.

3. Àdé nagût...

After he/she went there . . .

4. As.î.

He/she is cooking it.

5. Tlêl ùs.ì.

He/she is not cooking it.

6. Tlêł awus.í.

He/she did not cook it.

7. dâkh

inland

8. dakhká (dàkhâ - FS)

inland, interior (not coast)

9. Dàkh uwakhúxh.

He/she went upriver by boat.

10. Dàk uwakhúxh.

He/she went out by boat.

#### **Directional Words**

1. dikî up, above

2. diyî down, below

3. dâkh inland, back away from the beach

or shore

4. îkh beach, down towards the beach or

shore

5. dèkî out in open water

6. yán shore

yén (LW)

7. diyâ across

8. nèl inside (the house)

9. gân *outside (the house)* 

10. îx, ixkî downstream

ixkî south (Îx is not used with the

meaning "south")

11. nàkî *upstream, north* 

# **Directional Words: Combining Forms**

		. •	-de towards	-dachûn straight towards	-nâ -yinà	the _side the _part
	1.	dikî	kínde	kindachûn	dikìnà	
	2.	diyî	yínde	yindachûn	diyìnà	
	3.	dâkh	dákhde	dakhdachûn	daghinà dighinà	
	4.	îkh	íkhde	ikhdachûn	ighinà	
	5.	dèkî	dákde	dakdachûn	daginà [	to be checked]
	6.	yán yén (LW)	yánde yénde	yandachûn yendachûn		
	7.	diyâ	diyâde	diyàdachûn		
•	8.	nèł	nèłdé			
	9.	gân	gánde			
	10	. îx, ixkî	íxde	ixdachûn	ixinà	,
	11	. nàkî	nánde	nandachûn	nànà nànyà	

Note:

íxde

(towards) downstream

nánde

(towards) upstream

But:

ixkîde

northward

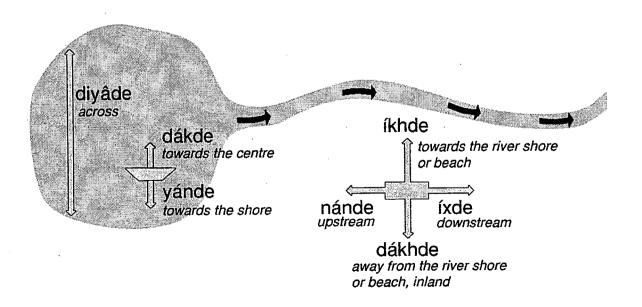
nàkîde

southward

#### **Preverbs**

1.	kè nagút	is going up
2.	yè nagút	is going down
3.	dàkh nagút	is going back inland
4.	yìkh nagút	is going down to the beach or shore, towards the water
5.	dàk nagút	is going out
6.	dàk uwakhúxh	went out into open water (by boat)
7.	yan uwakhúxh	went ashore (by boat)
8.	nèl uwagút	went inside

# **Directions Diagram**



#### **Sentences**

- Nánde has wùkhùxh axh îsh kha axh îk'!
   My dad and my brother (woman talking) went up the lake (by boat).
- Axh îk' íxde wùkhùxh.
   My brother went downriver.
- 3. Axh kîk' kindachûn wùnùk.

  My younger sister sat up straight.
- 4. Nànàdé has wù.àt.

  They went up the road.
- 5. Nás'k gàw ítdáxh áwé dàk xhwàkhúxh tatgé.

  I started out after 3 p.m. yesterday (by car).
- 6. Axh îk' Teslin-dáxh dàk uwakhúxh yâde.

  My brother (woman talking) left Teslin for here / he's driving here.
- 7. Axh îk' shà káxh kè nagút.

  My brother is walking up on the mountain (ascending).

#### **Adverbs formed with Directional Prefixes**

A large number of adverbs can be formed by combining the "towards" form of a directional word with a body part noun plus -(i)n.

The "towards" directional is modified in this case:
-de "towards" changes to -da- and high tone is lost.

This gives the following construction:

Directional - da - Noun - (i)n

For example, kín-de "upwards" + shá "head" + -(i)n combine to give kin - da - shâ - n "head up" (literally: with head upwards)

#### **Examples**

1.	yindashân	head down (yinde : downwards)
2.	yindatân	upside down (cup, pot, boat)
3.	kindatûghun	bottom up, with bum up in the air
4.	kindaxh'ùsín	feet up
5.	kindajínín	with hand(s) up
6.	yindayígín	upside down (boat)

# Examples (cont)

<sup>7</sup> 7	kindayîn	face up
8.	yindayîn	face down
9.	nèłdayîn	facing inside (nèldé : inwards)
10.	dakdayîn	facing out (dákde : outwards)
11.	nandayîn	facing upstream / facing north ( nánde: upstream, northwards)
12.	ixdayîn	facing downstream / facing south (ixde: downstream, southwards)
13.	wùshdayîn	facing each other (wûshde - together)
14.	wùshdashân	heads together
15.	wùshdak'ûł'in	stern to stern, with rear ends together (as people backed up in a circle)
16.	khuxhdak'ûł'in shgâw	barge going backwards, somebody doing something really stupid, clumsy [this is a coastal Tlingit idiom]

# **Tlingit Place Names**

October, 2004

•		
Coa	astal Orthography	Interior Orthography
1.	Naataase Héen "Fish camp in narrows between the lakes" Carcross	Nàtàse Hîn
2.	Taay.aa Shak.áak'u head-lake-little Fat Lake	Tày.à Shak.âk'u
3.	Kéitladi X'áat'i seagull island Seagull Island	Kêtladi X'ât'i
4.	S'áa <u>x</u> ' Kaháagu <i>ling cod eggs</i>	S'âxh' Kahâgu
5.	Dáa Héeni weasel creek Weasel Creek	Dâ Hîni
6.	S'aax yánde lishoowu yé "groundhog trail goes to the shore" (?)	S'àxh yánde lishùwu yé
7.	Gijukkúdi <i>golden eagle nest</i> ( gijùk <i>: golden eagle</i> )	Gijukkúdi
8.	L'awshaa Gúksh cut bank corner	Ł'awshà Gúksh

(l'awshà : cut bank or side hill)

#### **Coastal Orthography**

#### **Interior Orthography**

9. Yanax dei daak yashoowu yé trail out it extends place (yanax: along the ground, by there) "Place where the trail comes out"

Yanaxh dè dàk yashùwu yé

10. T'ási daadé aawagaaxi yé grayling for one cried place Johnsons Crossing

T'ási dàdé àwaghàxhi yé

11. At.s'éil'i X'aayí
rags point
Rag Point

At.s'êł'i X'àyí

12. L'éiw X'aayí
sand point
Sand Point

Ł'êw X'àyí

13. Nóosgu Xáadi wolverine fish lake

Nûsgu Xhâdi

14. Watsíx Téix'i caribou heart Caribou Lake

Watsíx Têxh'i

15. Daleiyi yádi trout little Trout Lake Dalèyi Yádi

16. Nóosgu Héeni wolverine creek Wolverine Creek Nûsgu Hîni

#### **Coastal Orthography**

## **Interior Orthography**

17. Gooch Áayi wolf lake Wolf Lake Ghùch Âyi

18. Shaa Tlein mountain big Hayes Peak Shà Tlèn

19. T'ási Héeni grayling creek Grayling Creek T'ási Hîni

20. Tseindoo Lutú
rock island point
(Athabaskan origin)
Koaklas Point

Tsèndù Łutú

21. Káax' Héeni grouse creek

Kâx' Hîni

22. Shaa Tlein Héeni mountain big creek Sterling Creek Shà Tlèn Hîni

23. Gíl' X'aayí
rock cliff point
Rocky Point

Ghíl' X'àyí

24. X'áat' Tlein island big Henry Island X'ât' Tlèn

25. Gooch Héeni wolf creek

Ghùch Hîni

#### **Coastal Orthography**

#### **Interior Orthography**

26. Yéil Lítayi Xoo crow knife among Tower Peak, "Crow Knife"

Yêł Łítayi Xhù

27. Héen Tlein river big Liard River

Hîn Tlèn

28. Xalak'ach' Héeni porcupine creek

Xhałak'ach' Hîni

29. Shaak'w Yádi little mountain little Spike Horn Shàk'w Yádi

30. Kayaanisht'úde Leaf Lake Kayànisht'úde

31. T'ási Áayi grayling lake

T'ási Âyi

32. Chíl Tlein cache big

Chíł Tlèn

33. Tsáats Lawoos'i bear roots tough

Tsâts Ławûs'i

34. Shaaná<u>x</u> Tlein Héeni

valley big river

Meister River

Shànáxh Tlèn Hîni

Origin of "Shakwak" (as in Shakwak Valley, Shakwak Highway Project, Shakwak St. in Haines Junction, Shakwak Air, etc.)

Shà Xh'âk mountain between i.e. mountain pass

Shà - x'w Xh'âk

mountain plural, between

many

i.e. pass between (many) mountains

Shàx'w Xh'âk (= "Shakwak")

The name "Shakwak" was first recorded by the journalist E. J. Glave.

E. J. Glave. 1890. Our Alaska Expedition. *Frank Leslie's Illustrated News*. New York.

In the morning we pulled over in the raft to the western shore of the lake [Arkell or Kusawa]. Here there was a big break in the mountains forming a wide pass leading away to the westward, known to the natives as **Shak Wak**.

E.J. Glave. 1892. Pioneer packhorses in Alaska. II. The return to the coast. *Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine*. 44(6): 869-881.

This part of the land is known to the Indians as **Shak-wak**, being an immense valley running northwest from Lake Kusu-ah almost to the eastern arm of the Copper River. [Copper River = present-day White River].

# **Position Terms and Sentences**

	axh jìwú.	I have
		is in my possession.
1.	axh khałtú	my pocket
	axh khałtûwu.	is in my pocket.
2.	nadâkw ká	on the table
	nadâkw káwu.	is on the table.
3.	gwêł tú	inside the bag
	gwêł tûwu.	is inside the bag.
4	axh jiká	on my hand
	axh jikáwu	is on my hand.
5.	axh xh'ùs ká	on my leg, on my foot
	axh xh'ùs káwu.	is on my foot.
6.	axh shá	my head
	axh sháwu.	is on my head.

# Possessive Sentences: "to have "

- 1. Łítà axh jìwú. *I have a knife.*
- Łítà axh khałtûwu.
   Łítà axh ghułtûwu. (LW)
   Łítà axh khałtût xhatîn.
   Łítà axh ghułtût xhatîn. (LW)
   I have a knife in my pocket.
- 3. Wákhdânà yê xha.û.

  I have glasses on. / I am wearing glasses. / I am using glasses.
- 4. Kinà.át yê xhà.û.

  I have a coat on. / I am wearing a coat.
- 5. Kinà.át kát xhadatîn. I have a coat on.
- 6. Xàsdugutîł xh'ùs xał.át. (LW) Xàsdugutîł xh'ùst xhal.át.

  I have canvas shoes on.
- 7. Tsâx' axh jikáwu. Tsâx' jikát xhał.át.
- 8. Tukh'atâł yê xhà.û.

  Tukh'atâł xh'ùst xhał.át.

  I have pants on.

- 9. S'âxw yê xhà.û. S'âxw shât xhadatîn.
- 10. Áxh îk' khudzitì.
- 11. Daxhnáxh yatì axh îk' hás.

  I have two brothers.
- 12. Shayadihên axh xhùnx'i hás.
  Shayadihên axh xhùnx'í.

  I have many relatives. (Literally, my relatives are many.)
- 13. Hà shâde háni khudzitì. Khà shâde háni hà jìwú. We have a chief. (Literally, our chief / leader is alive, exists.)
- 14. Axh shà áwu. *I have a head.*
- 15. Axh ùxh áwu.

  I have (my own) teeth. (Literally, my teeth are there.)

  Khà ùxhú axh jìwú.

  I have human teeth (in my possession). (Literally, I have somebody's teeth.)

- 17. Té axh jìwú. *I have a rock*.
- 18. Tlêł té axh jì.

  I don't have a rock.
- 19. Té áwu.

  There's a rock there.
- 20. Tlêł té á. *There's no rock there.*
- 21. Áwu á. *It's there*.
- 22. Tlêł á á.

  It's not there.

#### Summary - "to have \_\_\_ "

(thing) axh jìwú.

I have a (thing) in my possession.

Axh (relative) khudzitì.

I have a (relative). (Literally, my (relative) exists, is alive.)

Axh (body part) khudzitì. or Axh (body part) áwu. I have a (body part).

# Liquids

1. tlêkhw kahîni berry juice

2. tlêkhw dàhîni water (condensation) on berry

3. tlêkhw hîni berry creek

4. axh hîni my water

5. axh dàhîni my sweat (water on my body)

6. dlìy tuhîni liquid in meat

7. tlêkhw xhùhîni liquid among the berries

#### Sentences - to wear / to put on

#### Yê na.ù! Put \_\_\_ on!

- 1. S'âxw shât idatí! (LW) Shâxh ghidatí! Put a hat on!
- 2. Kinà.át nâxh ghidatí! Kinà.át káxh ghidatí! Kinà.át két idetí! (LW) Put a coat on!
- 3. Ł'àxh káxh ghida.àxh! Ł'àxh két idetí! (LW) Ł'àxh nâxh ghida.àxh! Put a dress on!
- 4. Ł'îx'wán xh'ùst idayíkh!

  Put socks on! (Literally, pull socks on your feet)
- 5. Tsâx' yê na.ù!

  Put mittens on!
- 6. Tîł xh'ùst idayíkh!

  Put a shoe on!

  I tîłi xh'ùst idayíkh!

  Put your shoes on!

  Idatíł!

  Put your shoes on!

- 7. Sèt sêxh ghastí!
  Sèt sêt idatí! (LW)

  Put a necklace on!
- 8. Ìlsík!

  Put a belt on!
- 9. Kîs jikát idatí! (LW)

  Put a bracelet on! (a solid, continuous bracelet)

  Kîs jikûlxh ghastí!

  Put a bracelet on! (a chain-link bracelet)
- 10. I nà.ádi kát ìł.á! (LW)
  I nà.ádi kâ yê nìsní! (FS)
  Nâ yê shìnda.ù! (JL)
  Get dressed!

## Sentences - take \_\_\_ off!

- 1. S'âxw shâdáxh idatí! (LW) S'âxw shâdáxh kè idatí! (FS) Take your hat off!
- Kinà.át nâdáxh gidatí!
   Kinà.át kàxh gidati! (LW)
   Take your coat off!
- 3. L'àxh i kàxh ga.àxh! (ES) L'àxh nâdàxh gida.àxh! L'àxh kàxh gida.àxh! L'àxh kàxh gidatí! (LW) Take your dress off!

- 4. Ł'îx'wán xh'ùsdáxh idayíkh!

  Take your socks off!
- 5. I tsâx'i jikàxh ìł.á! I tsâx'i jíndáxh idayíkh! Take your mittens off!
- 6. Tîł xh'ùsdáxh idayíkh!

  Take your shoes off!
- 7. Sèt i sêdáxh gastí!
  Sèt sêdáxh kè ìstí! (FS)

  Take your necklace off!
- 8. Sîk i kàxh gasyíkh!
  Sîk kàxh gìstí! (BC)
  I sîgi kàxh gidatí! (LW)
  Take your belt off!
- 9. I kîsi jikàxh gidatí!(LW).
  I kîsi jikàxh gìstí!(BC)

  Take your bracelet off!
- 10. Nâdáxh yê jîndané! (LW)
  Nà.át nâdàxh yê nìsní! (BC)
  I nà.ádi kàxh yê nìsní! (FS)
  Get undressed! Take your clothes off!

Sentences - to put \_\_\_ on

She put \_\_\_ on. (on herself) She put

She put (his) \_\_\_ on him.

hat S'âxw shât awditî. (LW) S'âxw a shât àwatî. (LW)

S'axw shâxh amditì. (BC) S'âxw du shâxh àwatî. (BC)

boots S'éł' tîł xh'us awdiyíkh. (LW) S'éł' tîł du xh'ùs àwayíkh. (LW)

S'éł' x'wán xh'ùst amdiyíkh. S'éł' x'wán du xh'ùst

(ES) àwayíkh. (BC)

chain-link Du sèdi sêt akawditî. (LW) Sèt a sêt akàwatî. (LW) necklace

Sèt sêxh amdzitì. (BC) Sèt du sêt amsitì. (BC)

#### Sentences - pronouns

Suppose a person is telling a story about two people: Grandma and a school teacher. The speaker identifies more closely with Grandma, so she is the main character in the story.

Àghâ áwé <u>ash</u> xhánt uwagút.

Then he (teacher) went to see <u>her</u> (Grandma).

Àghâ áwé <u>a</u> xhánt uwagút.

Then she (Grandma) went to see <u>him</u> (teacher).

Àghâ áwé <u>ash</u> jìt àwatî wé x'úx'.

Then he (teacher) gave the book to <u>her</u> (Grandma).

Àghâ áwé <u>a</u> jìt àwatî wé x'úx'.

Then she (Grandma) gave the book to <u>him</u> (teacher).

Àghâ áwé <u>du</u> jìt àwatî wé x'úx'.

Then he gave the book to <u>him</u>.

ash pronoun refers to the main character in the story, a person that the

speaker identifies with.

a pronoun refers to a lesser character in a story

du pronoun can be used on any occasion

## Sentences - I have \_\_\_ on, I am wearing \_\_\_ .

- S'âxw yê xhà.û.
   S'âxw shât xhadatîn.
   I have a hat on.
- Kinà.át yê xhà.û.
   Kinà.át nât xhadatîn.
   Kinà.át kát xhadatîn.
   I have a coat on.
- 3. Ł'àk tlèn kát xhada.áxh. (ES) Ł'àk tlèn kát xhadatîn. I have a dress on.
- 4. Łî x'wán axh xh'ùs káwu. Łî x'wán xh'ùst xhal.át. I have socks on.
- 5. Tsax' yê xhà.û.
  Tsâx' axh jikáwu.
  Tsâx' jikát xhał.át.

  I have mittens on.
- Tîł axh xh'ùs káwu.
   Tîł xh'ùst xhał.át.

   I have shoes on.

   Xhwaditíł.

   I put shoes on (and they are still on my feet).

- 7. Sèt yê xhà.û.
  Sèt kaxhdatîn.
  I have a necklace on.
  Sèt sêt xhastîn. [to be checked]
  I have a chain-link necklace on.
- 8. Xhwadlisík.

  I put my belt on. I have my belt on.
- 9. Kîs axh jikûł káwu. (BC) Kîs jikát xhadatîn. I have a bracelet on.
- 10. Axh nà.ádi nât xhal.át.

  Axh nà.ádi kát xhal.át.

  I am dressed. I have my clothes on.

#### **Cooking Terms**

sakwnên îwu sakwnên t'ûs' at îwu bread toast, fried bread something cooked

#### **Sentences - location**

- 1. S'âxw át tîn.

  A hat is lying there.
- 2. S'âxw át xhatîn.

  I left a hat there, I have a hat lying there.
- 3. "I shá nèlt ìtîn."

  "You left your head at home."
- 4. S'âxw du shât xhatîn.

  I've got his hat on his head.
- 5. S'âxw shât xhadatîn.

  I've got my hat on my head.
- 6. Tîł át tîn.

  A shoe is lying there.
- 7. Tîl át la.át.

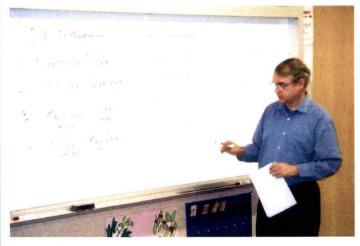
  Shoes are lying there.
- 8. Tîl át xhala.át.

  I left my shoes there.
- 9. Tîł du xh'ùst xhała.át.

  I've got his shoes on his feet.
- 10. Tîł xh'ùst xhał.át.

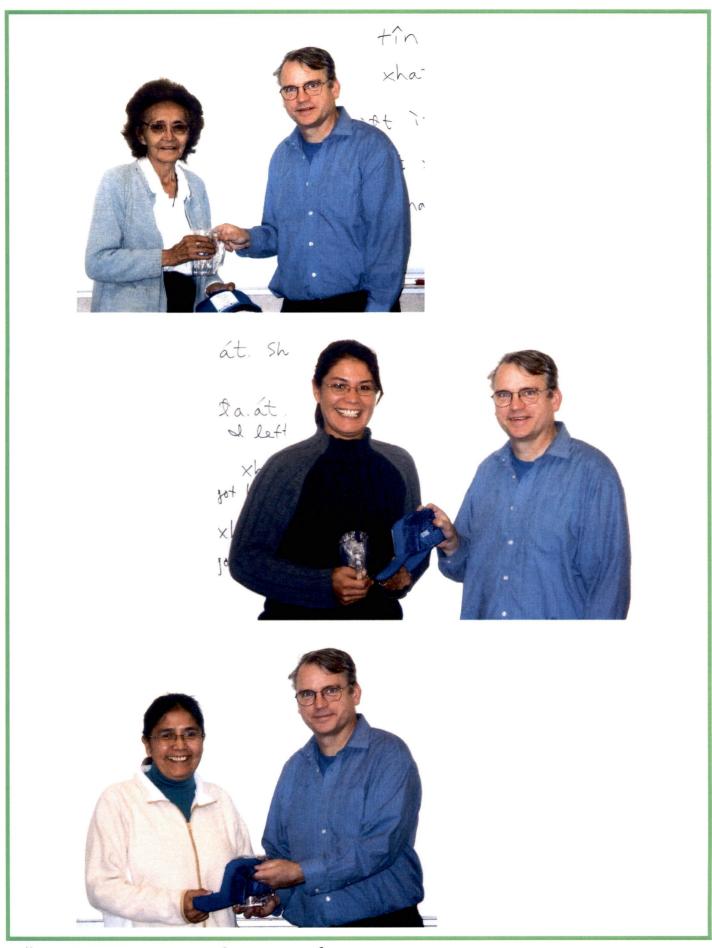
  I've got my shoes on.





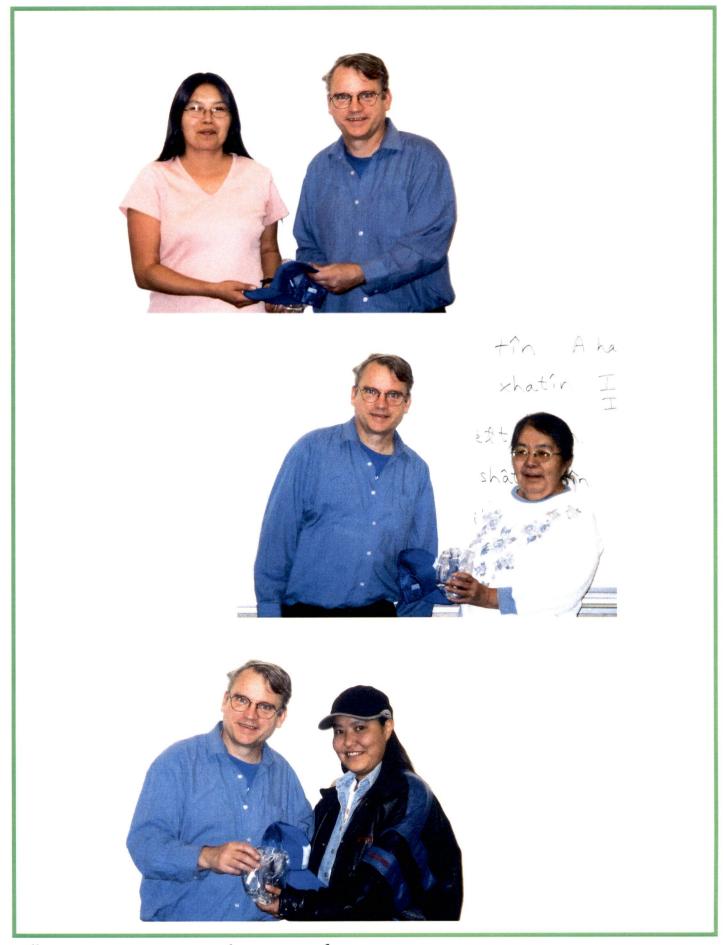


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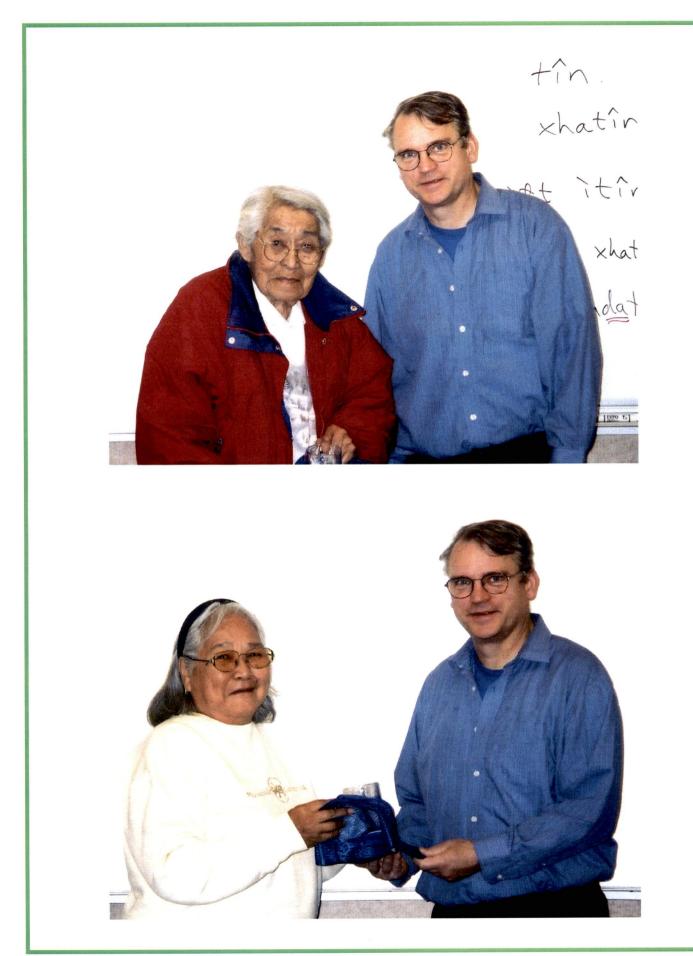


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# Photograph Identifications

#### **Page**

32: top: Fanny Smith, Marlene Smith, Lucy Wren

bottom left: Jeff Leer

bottom right: Jeff Leer

33: *top*: Fanny Smith, Jeff Leer

centre: Tina Jules, Jeff Leer

bottom: Margaret Bob, Jeff Leer

34: top: Emma Sam, Jeff Leer

bottom: Bessie Cooley, Jeff Leer

35 : *top*: Marlene Smith, Jeff Leer

centre: Jeff Leer, Bessie Jim

bottom: Jeff Leer, Sophia Smith

36: top: Lucy Wren, Jeff Leer

bottom: Ida Calmegane, Jeff Leer

