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PRESS RELEASE



NĒHIYAWAK LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE TAKES ACTION TO REVITALIZE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AS THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES BEGINS

nēhiyawak Language Experience Inc. (nLE) is proud to support efforts to strengthen and revitalize Indigenous languages and is providing new tools for all Indigenous people to advance this work as the world enters the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022 2023). nēhiyawak Language Experience is excited to launch a FREE 'How to' Language Guide for starting and setting up an Indigenous Language Camp (face-to-face or on on-line). This is nLE's way of welcoming and celebrating UNESCO's proclaimed International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032).

"The call for Indigenous language revitalization camps and other opportunities for Indigenous people to learn and strengthen their languages far surpasses the availability of these important resources," said Dr. Belinda Daniels, Founder and Co-Director of nēhiyawak Language Experience Inc. "We want to play a role in reclaiming and revitalizing Indigenous languages and we hope these resources will help everyone participate in this essential work. The Decade of Indigenous Languages is a time for all of us to commit to ensuring we support Indigenous languages."

The "How to" Language Guide will be helpful for many communities and language activists who want to develop language camps but don't know where to start. There are 50 pages of instructions, step-by-step, to creating and making your own language camp. From looking at language through the gaze of land, to language methods, lesson planning ideas, teachers along with researchers put together this guide with nLE's process and long-time experience. Its focus is on language revitalization techniques and tips for the Cree language. However, this guide can be used for any Indigenous language. nLE has been doing language camps for 17 years, along with classes and teaching online. This organization is sharing all kinds of information, from ceremony to day-to-day instruction, language tips, practical procedures, surveys along with models of trauma informed approaches and pictures. You don't need to have it all figured out, you just need to get started. We are committed to the revitalization and reclamation of our Indigenous languages.

1. NEHIYAWAK LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE CAMP SINCE 2003.

Photo by Sweetmoon Photography



The nēhiyawak Language Camp is a one week of an immersion experience out on the land in the month of July. This is where teachers and participants, mainly families come and live together and Be in the language of nēhiyawēwin (Cree). Learners come and learn how to speak nēhiyawēwin through a variety of 2nd language methods stationed throughout the camp. Everything we do is nēhiyaw/Cree informed.

Contact:

For more information <u>www.nehiyawak.org</u> or contact Dr. Belinda kakiyosēw Daniels on the website or with the University of Victoria.