



2022-2023

Annual Report on Official Languages

February 2024

Government of
Northwest Territories

K'áhshó got'jne xədə k'é hederi ɻedjhtl'é yeriniwé ní dé dúle.

Dene Kədá

ɻerihlt'ís Dëne Sųliné yati t'a huts'elkér xa beyáyatı theɻq ɻat'e, nuwe ts'ën yólti.

Dëne Sųliné

Edı gondı dehgáh got'je zhatié k'éé edat'léh enahddhé nide naxets'é edahlí.

Dene Zhatié

Jii gwandak izhii ginjík vat'atr'ijahch'uu zhit yinohthan jì', diits'at ginohkhìi.

Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik

Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta.

Inuvialuktun

Ć̄dÀ ɻɻbΔc ɻɻLJΔc Δōbɻɻc̄bɻɻb, ɻɻc̄b̄āōc̄b̄c̄āōc̄b̄c̄ōc̄.

Inuktitut

Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit.

Inuinnaqtun

k̄spin ki nitawiht̄n ē n̄h̄iyawihk ōma ácimōwin, tipwāsinān.

n̄h̄iyawēwin

TɄchq yati k'èè. Dı wegodi newq dè, gots'o gonede.

TɄchq

Indigenous Languages

request_Indigenous_languages@gov.nt.ca

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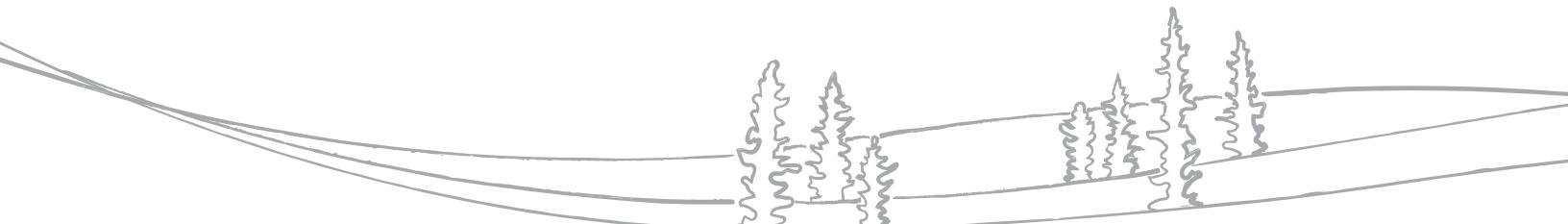
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Message from the Minister

I am pleased to release the 2022-2023 Annual Report on Official Languages. This year's report lets us look back on the language initiatives and efforts of the government institutions¹ listed in the *Official Languages Act* over the last year that have contributed to the enhancement, promotion, development and delivery of public services in the official languages of the Northwest Territories (NWT).

2022 marked the beginning of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Global Action Plan of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. The Global Action Plan sets a vision for the International Decade to see a world in which Indigenous Peoples will entrust their languages to future generations creating a better society for everyone. The plan identifies ten interlinked outputs intended to increase the number of Indigenous language speakers, increase language fluency levels and promote greater daily use of Indigenous languages for their preservation, revitalization and promotion. The NWT Indigenous Languages Action Plan is focused on meeting the goals of Indigenous language revitalization and language access in the NWT, contributing to the outcomes of the Global Action Plan.



The last year marked the final year of the Government of the Northwest Territories Strategic Plan for French Language Communications and Services 2018-2023 (Strategic Plan 2018-2023). As per the Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan 2020, an evaluation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023 was conducted by a third-party contractor towards the end of its life cycle. The purpose of this evaluation was to determine the overall success and value of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023 and to inform the redevelopment of the next five-year Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

The Standing Committee on Government Operations released the [Report on Bill 63: An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act](#) and the [Report on the 2021-22 Review of the Official Languages Act](#) in early 2023. I appreciate their commitment to the NWT's official languages as we continue to work toward our shared goal of language revitalization and affirmations of language rights, rules and responsibilities.

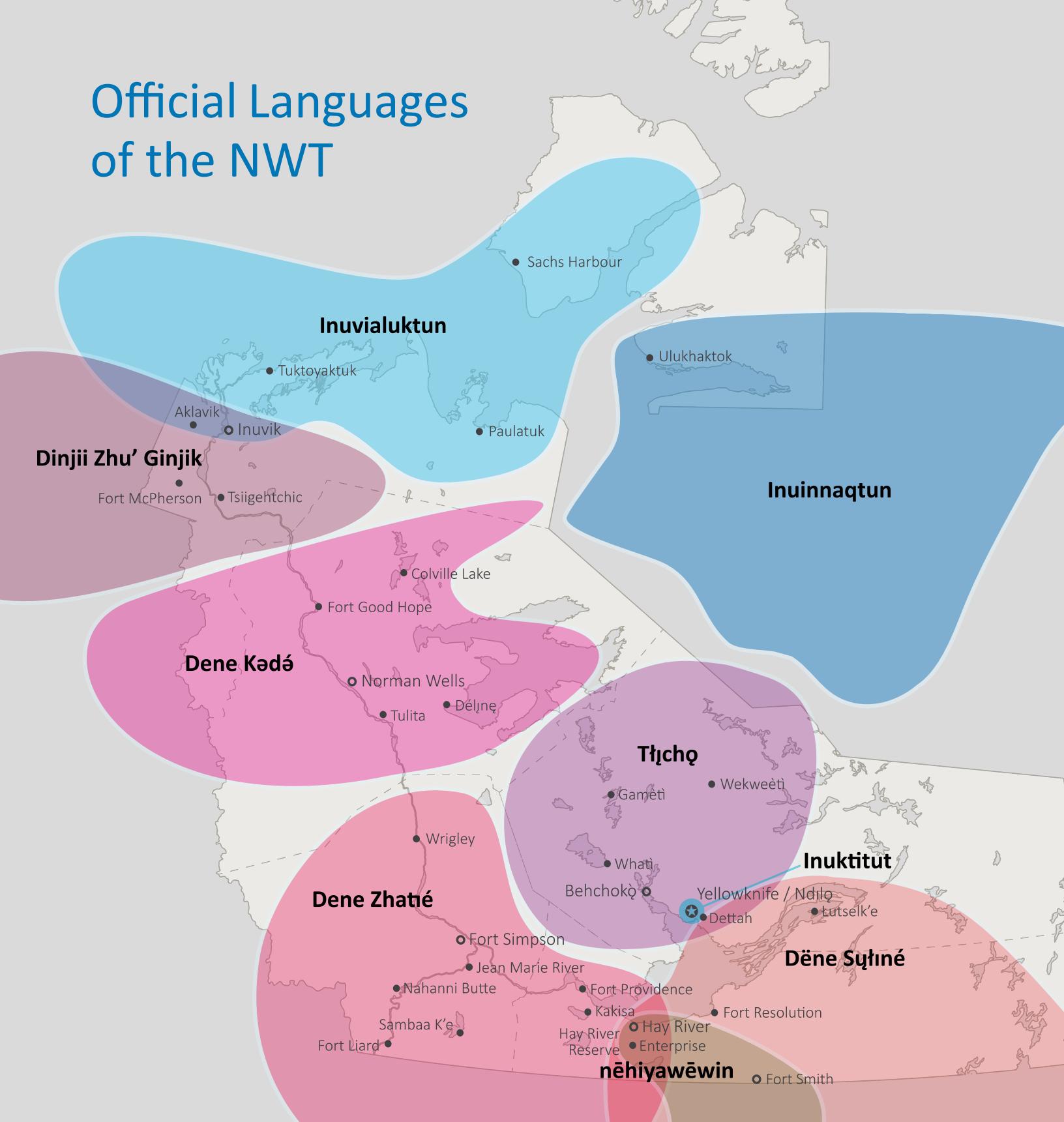
The languages of the NWT define our identity, people, and culture. By continuing to work to affirm language rights and support NWT residents to communicate, learn, and express themselves in their chosen language, we help to strengthen our communities, preserve our identity and ensure a vibrant and prosperous culture for future generations.

Honourable Caitlin Cleveland

Minister of Education, Culture and Employment
Minister Responsible for the Official Languages

¹ *Government institution means a department or ministry of the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Office of the Legislative Assembly, and an agency, board, commission, corporation, office or other body designated in the Government Institution Regulations.*

Official Languages of the NWT



This map shows the approximate geographic areas where the NWT's various Indigenous languages have historically been spoken. Although the names of languages and dialects vary from community to community, the language regions outlined in the map represent widely used and agreed-upon designations.

French is mostly spoken in Hay River, Fort Smith, Inuvik and Yellowknife. English is spoken throughout the NWT.

Official Languages

The NWT's [Official Languages Act](#) (Act) recognizes 11 official languages: Dene Kədá, Dëne Sųłiné, Dene Zhatié, Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik, English, French, Inuinnaqtun, Inuktitut, Inuvialuktun, nēhiyawēwin and Tł̨chǫ. These official languages have equality of status and equal rights and privileges in all government institutions as provided in the Act. The Act also requires that a committee of the Legislative Assembly periodically review the provisions and operations of the Act.

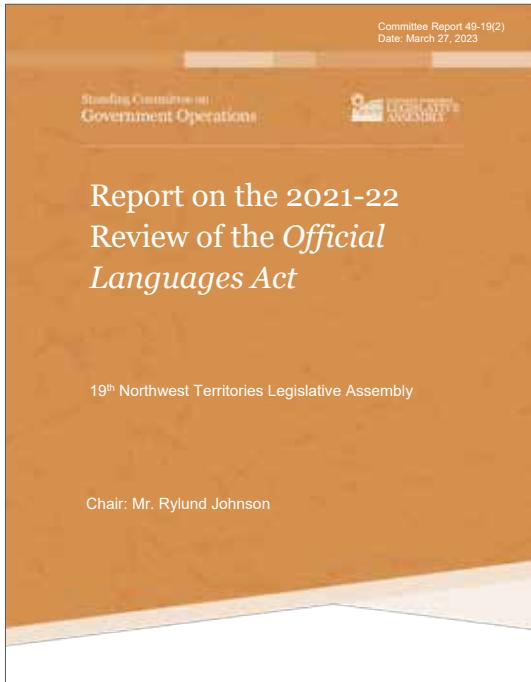
As per the Act's [Government Institution Regulations](#), there are four 'significant demand' communities for French language communications and services: Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith and Inuvik. As for the Indigenous languages, they are spoken across the territory in communities of all sizes.

Bill 63: An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act

In 2020, the Standing Committee on Government Operations started its review of the Act. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, work on the review was delayed and the [Report on the 2021-22 Review of the Official Languages Act](#) was released in March 2023. The report outlined four transformative changes and thirteen specific recommendations for the Government of the Northwest Territories.

On March 28, 2023, [Bill 63: An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act](#) received a third reading and assent to:

- Clarify and strengthen the role of the Languages Commissioner.
- Merge the Languages Boards.
- Update language in the Act to enhance protection of the language rights of all communities in the NWT.
- Emphasize the importance of language protection by implementing the Articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



Roles and Responsibilities

Minister Responsible for Official Languages

The Minister directs and coordinates the language policies and programs offered by the Government of the Northwest Territories, including the promotion of language education, the use of official languages when delivering public services and the revitalization of Indigenous languages.

Languages Commissioner of the NWT

The Languages Commissioner is an officer of the Legislative Assembly and is responsible for ensuring recognition of the rights, status, and privileges of each of the territory's official languages and compliance with the provision of public services in official languages. Passed in March 2023, Bill 63 makes amendments in four areas to enhance clarity and strengthen the Languages Commissioner's role, as follows:

1. Imposing time limits for responses to requests made by the Commissioner.
2. Empowering the Commissioner to mandate actions that must be taken to address concerns.
3. Allowing the Commissioner to refer matters to Alternative Dispute Resolution where appropriate.
4. Permitting the Commissioner to obtain an order from the court where no action has been taken based on the Commissioner's recommendations.

Official Languages Board

The Act created the Official Languages Board. Members and alternates represent the NWT's language communities on two-year terms by advising the Minister on promoting language rights, using official languages in public services, and revitalizing Indigenous languages. Indigenous Governments and community organizations of the NWT recommend language board appointments to the Minister.

In 2022-2023, many board members' terms expired. Minister R.J. Simpson reached out to the nominating bodies to seek nominations for new members, and department administration completed the appointment process for returning and new members. The Official Languages Board is the merger of the Official Languages Board and the Aboriginal Languages Revitalization Board, two separate boards before Bill 63 received assent. By becoming a single entity, the Official Languages Board aims to improve efficiency and update its role under the Act.

In 2022-2023, the Official Languages Board met in June 2022 and March 2023. At the June meeting, the Government of the Northwest Territories provided an update to the Official Languages Board on various language initiatives happening across government institutions and discussed board operations.

During the March meeting, the Official Languages Board motioned to have Tammy Steinwand-Deschambeault remain the Chair and Mandy Bayha to be Vice-Chair. Lani Cook facilitated a portion of the meeting and, with her experience in board development, the board was well set up for their 2023-2024 meetings.

The board made several recommendations to the Minister during their meetings in 2022-2023. The below table summarizes the Board's recommendations to the Minister, the Minister's response, and information on implementation progress.

Table 1: 2022-2023 Composition of the Official Languages Board

| Representative | Appointments | Official Language Delegation |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Tammy Steinwand-Deschambault (Chair) | Re-appointed | Tłı̨chǫ Member |
| Julia Naedzo | Re-appointed | Tłı̨chǫ Alternate |
| Mandy Bayha (Vice Chair) | Newly appointed | Dene Kədá Member |
| Sharon Tutcho | Newly appointed | Dene Kədá Alternate |
| Maro Sundberg | Appointed | Dëne Sųłiné Member |
| Cheryl Cli | Newly appointed | Dene Zhatié Member |
| Mary Jane Cazon | Newly appointed | Dene Zhatié Alternate |
| Renie Koe | Re-appointed | Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik Member |
| Jacey Firth-Hagen | Re-appointed | Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik Alternate |
| Beverly Amos | Newly appointed | Inuvialuktun Member |
| Susan Peffer | Newly appointed | Inuvialuktun Alternate |
| Emily Kudlak | Re-appointed | Inuinnaqtun Member |
| Joshua Oliktoak | Re-appointed | Inuinnaqtun Alternate |
| Debora Heron | Newly appointed | nēhiyawēwin Member |
| Doris Bourke | Newly appointed | nēhiyawēwin Alternate |

Note: As of March 31, 2023, Inuktitut, English and French are vacant of a representative, with Inuktitut and English currently lacking nominating bodies.

Table 2: Board Recommendations/Motions to the Minister and Responses

| Motion | Response |
|---|---|
| The board requested the Minister ask how much funding is allocated to government institutions for Indigenous language interpretation and translation work, for example, signage and promotional activities, and if the monies are not spent, what happens to those monies. | Government institutions have been asked to code Indigenous language spending accurately and consistently to the correct account. The funding amounts for 2022-2023 can be found on page 14. |
| The board requested that administration draft a letter to the Minister to ask for a more strategic approach to Indigenous language services (plan) to not place an undue burden on interpreter and translators towards the end of the fiscal year. | The request to integrate translation needs into project planning was brought to the inter-departmental Indigenous Languages Coordinators Committee, which reviewed the draft of the Indigenous Languages Communications Guidelines and provided input to help develop a consistent approach to getting translations. |
| The board requests the Minister to task administration with drafting a pay schedule for interpreters and translators that reflects their credentials, training and years of experience. | As clients of interpreters and translators, the Government of the Northwest Territories cannot mandate their salaries. The government is gathering information to help interpreters and translators create accurate invoices, including what professional rates should be and what additional fees should be included on invoices, such as paying an elder for their involvement in translation services. |

Canada-NWT Languages Agreements

Since 1984, the Government of Canada has partnered with the Government of the Northwest Territories to fund Indigenous languages programs and services in the territory and French Language Services through a Cooperation Agreement.

In February 2021, the Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories signed a three-year French Language Services Agreement to support French language services and communications in the NWT up to March 31, 2023.

In March 2022, the [Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories signed the three-year Canada-NWT Agreement on Indigenous Languages for 2021-2024](#). This agreement marks no significant change from the previous agreements,

which provided \$5.9 million per annum to NWT Indigenous language programs and initiatives under the Canada-NWT Action Plan for Indigenous Languages Support 2022-2024.

In April and May 2022, discussions with Indigenous Governments took place to review and revise their Indigenous Language Plans to reflect evolving priorities and to improve accountability. Upon receiving activity and financial reporting, the government distributed funding to Indigenous Governments to continue to support Indigenous language revitalization initiatives led and managed by partners such as broadcasting societies, community radio stations and territorial language organizations.

Indigenous Languages

The Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat enhances the protection, revitalization, and strengthening of Indigenous languages in the NWT. The work that the Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat does is guided by the extended [NWT Indigenous Languages Action Plan](#) to 2025 — an overarching blueprint for revitalizing the NWT's threatened languages and enhancing the territory's public services.

The goals of the action plan are to ensure:

- All people in the NWT maintain the strength of Indigenous languages as a means of communication and as a connection to culture.
- All people in the NWT can use and benefit from high-quality public services in all official Indigenous languages.

The major responsibilities of the Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat include administering the Canada-NWT Cooperation Agreement on Indigenous Languages, funding Indigenous Government-led language programs, implementing the [NWT Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 \(JK-12\) Indigenous Languages and Education Policy](#) and facilitating regular meetings of the Official Languages Board.

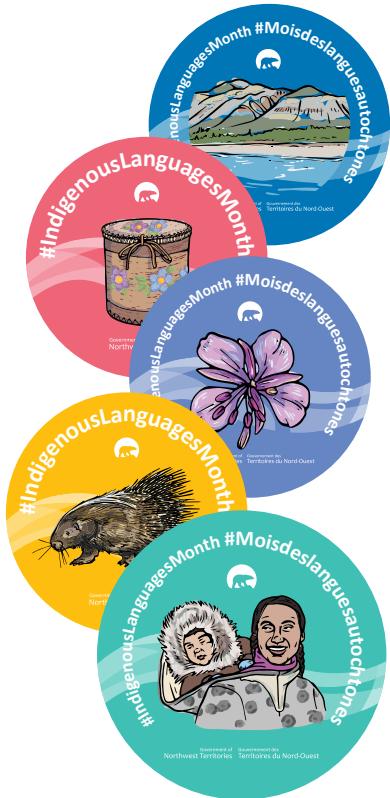


Programs and Services

Indigenous Languages Month

The theme for Indigenous Languages Month in 2023 was 'I'm in!' and encouraged Indigenous language use in our everyday lives. In addition to the activities listed below, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment promoted the month through the use of a news release, coffee sleeves, stickers, a virtual scavenger hunt, an Indigenous languages resource toolkit and more.

The graphic features a map of Canada in the background. Superimposed on the map are several colorful illustrations of Indigenous people, including a man in a parka, a woman in a blue beanie, a woman with glasses, an older woman, and a person playing a violin. In the top left corner, there is a black and white illustration of a bear's head. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner. A red call-to-action box in the bottom center contains the text: "Find ideas for community events and activities: www.ece.gov.nt.ca/ILM-toolkit".



- A [promotional video](#) with a message from the Minister Responsible for Official Languages was developed and shared on social media to highlighting ways to support language revitalization.
- A series of Pilot Immersion Circles was coordinated by the Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat for Dene Kádá and involved language holders and knowledge keepers sharing their language with interested learners using language learning activities and games.
- The Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat held Lunch and Learns with their department to introduce Indigenous language programs, such as the Mentor-Apprentice Program, Pilot Immersion Circles, and Indigenous Language Communications, to staff.
- Downloadable greetings cards were translated into all nine official Indigenous languages that included the translations and phonetic spellings of: Hi/Hello, Good Morning, My name is _____, and Thank you.
- Coffee, tea, and bannock was shared at the Legislative Assembly to celebrate Indigenous Languages Month and to honour the interpreters that support language services in the NWT.
- The month was promoted with print ads in NNSL and L'Aquilon, digital ads on NNSL, CKLB, Cabin Radio, and L'Aquilon websites, Facebook posts/ads, and radio ads in Dëne Sųłiné, Dene Zhatié, Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik and Tłı̨chǫ on CKLB.
- Minister R.J. Simpson gave a Minister's Statement in nēhiyawēwin during session in February to celebrate the NWT's official Indigenous languages.

Mentor-Apprentice Program

- The Mentor-Apprentice Program had 45 pairs in six language groups apply for the program in 2022-2023, an increase of 12 compared to 2021-2022, and program coordinators expect an even higher number for the upcoming 2023-2024 year.
- The Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat held four Mentor-Apprentice Program workshops in:
 - Inuvik in July 2022 for Dinjii Zhu' Gjinjik and Inuvialuktun
 - Yellowknife in July 2022 for Dene Kədá and Tłı̨chǫ
 - Yellowknife in July 2022 for Dëne Sųłiné and Dene Zhatié
 - Yellowknife in August 2022 for Dene Kedá, Dëne Sųłiné, Dene Zhatié and Tłı̨chǫ
- In March, the Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat hosted the Mentor-Apprentice Program Gathering. Program participants completed their final Oral Proficiency Assessments and program evaluations, listened to keynote presentations, and participated languages panels and workshops. The event ended with an evening gala that celebrated Indigenous languages and honoured the success and dedication of the program's participants.



Mentor-Apprentice Program Number of Participants





Indigenous Languages Education

- The Government of the Northwest Territories launched the children's book Full of Feelings in September 2022. The book was available in most Indigenous languages, including specific dialects: Dene Dedlíné Yati, Dene Zhatié, Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik, Inuinnaqtun, Inuvialuktun, nêhiyawêwin, K'ásho Got'ı̨nê, Sahtú Got'ı̨nê and Shúhta Got'ı̨nê, Tłı̨chǫ and Wiliìdeh Yati.
- The book was written and illustrated in the NWT and is a resource for families with young children to teach of the importance of their feelings and emotions. Licensed early learning and child care programs across the NWT received copies of the book for use in their programs and to distribute to the families in their programs, with copies also sent to Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten classrooms and community libraries. The book was also [made available online](#) for download.



Interpreter and Translator Workshop

- 11 Indigenous language Interpreters and Translators from across the NWT met on March 10, 2023, for a training workshop and brunch with the NWT Languages Board and Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat staff. The morning workshop was led by long-time Indigenous language advocate and Interpreter/Translator Sabet Biscaye, and the afternoon was dedicated to introducing a new online professional learning network to interpreters and translators, followed by a survey and roundtable discussion.



Indigenous Language Revitalization Scholarships

- 18 scholarships of \$5,000 were awarded to NWT students completing education that supports Indigenous language revitalization.
- Normally, 10 scholarships are awarded per year. However, there was a substantial increase in applications from qualified applicants for the 2022-2023 fiscal year compared to previous years, and budget was available for additional scholarships to be awarded.

Apply for an Indigenous Language Revitalization Scholarship

Are you passionate about revitalizing and promoting Indigenous languages? Are you enrolled in, or are interested in attending a program in that will support Indigenous language revitalization?

You might be eligible for a \$5,000 scholarship to assist with tuition.

► **Application deadline:**
December 1, 2022 at 5 pm (MST)

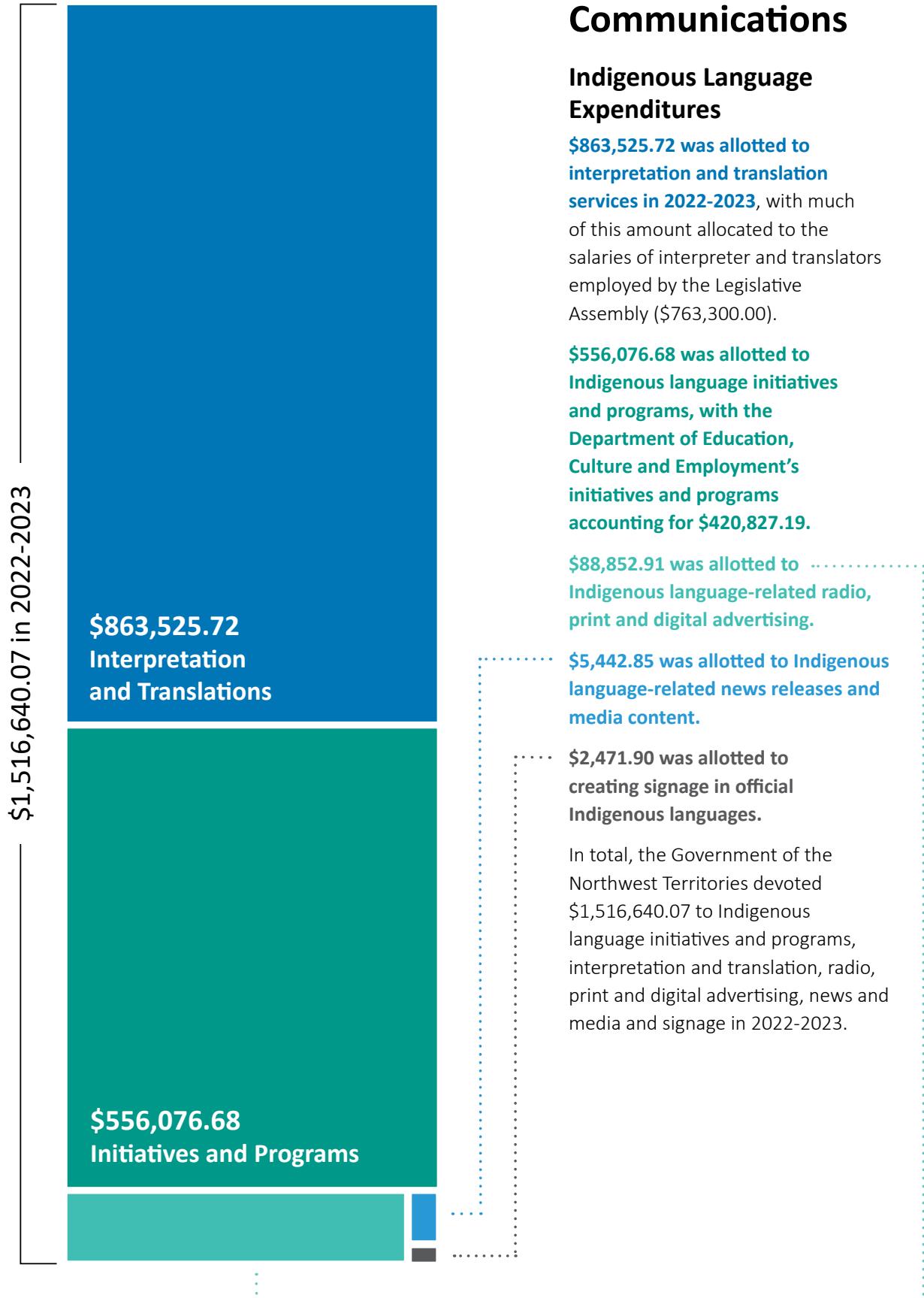
Scan the QR code to learn more.



Government of
Northwest Territories

Indigenous Language Revitalization Scholarships Awarded





Initiatives and Programs

- During Indigenous Languages Month, the Department of Health and Social Services invited its employees to attend a Tłı̨chǫ language class during their lunch hour on Monday, February 20. The class was taught by two teachers from Collège Nordique francophone, and the 20 participants learned basic greetings, self-introductions and location descriptions in Tłı̨chǫ.
- [In 2022, the GNWT approved 13 Shúhta Got'jne place names in Náátsihchoh National Park. Reserve to be made official place names.](#)
- The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority created four Senior Indigenous Patient Advocate positions. This initiative was developed to:
 - Provide system navigation to all residents and guests in the NWT.
 - Work to ensure patients receive culturally safe and equitable care to help deal with the impact of illness and hospitalization.
 - Provide cultural, spiritual and emotional support.
 - Help make connections with family members, elders and community organizations.
- Provide support and solutions for Indigenous residents and their families based on their needs.
- Advocate for Indigenous residents and guests.
- As part of Indigenous Languages Month, the Legislative Assembly launched the Tłı̨chǫ Audio Tour. The English audio tour script was translated into Tłı̨chǫ, interpreted and recorded.
- The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs funded the NWT Youth Corps Program, which supports eligible organizations with large-scale development projects that offer a structured and varied program aimed at supporting youth. In an average year, 30 projects are supported across every region, including the Take a Kid Trapping program and Dechinta Bush University Centre for Research and Learning. Courses provided through Dechinta's curriculum include traditional knowledge, Indigenous languages and cultural teachings.

The department also provides application-based funding under the Youth Contributions Program to eligible Indigenous cultural events geared towards youth under 25 years of age. In an average year, 60 projects are supported in most communities, including education events, youth and elder leadership camps and traditional skill building.





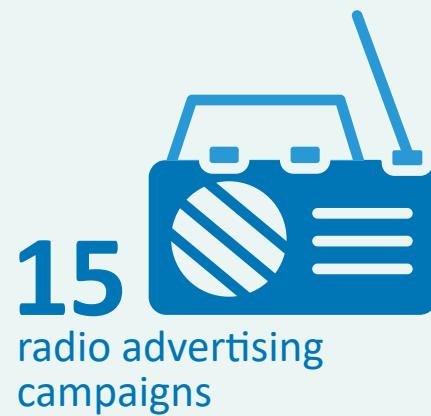
print advertisement campaigns & projects

were released in 2022-2023, consisting of posters, flyers, charts, newspaper and magazine ads and books.



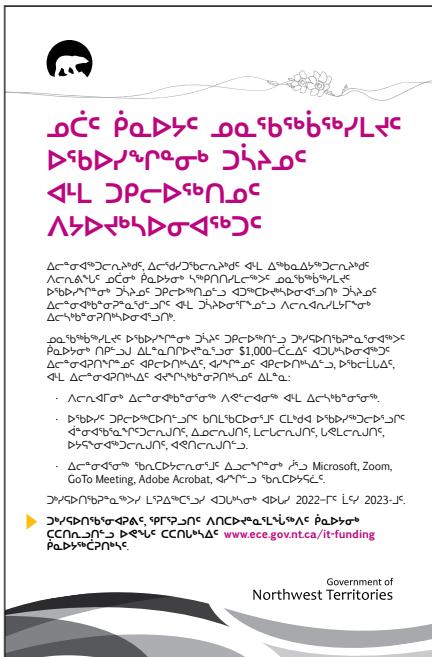
digital advertisements

were coordinated by government institutions in 2022-2023.



radio advertising campaigns

went out across the NWT in 2022-2023, primarily translated and broadcasted by CKLB.

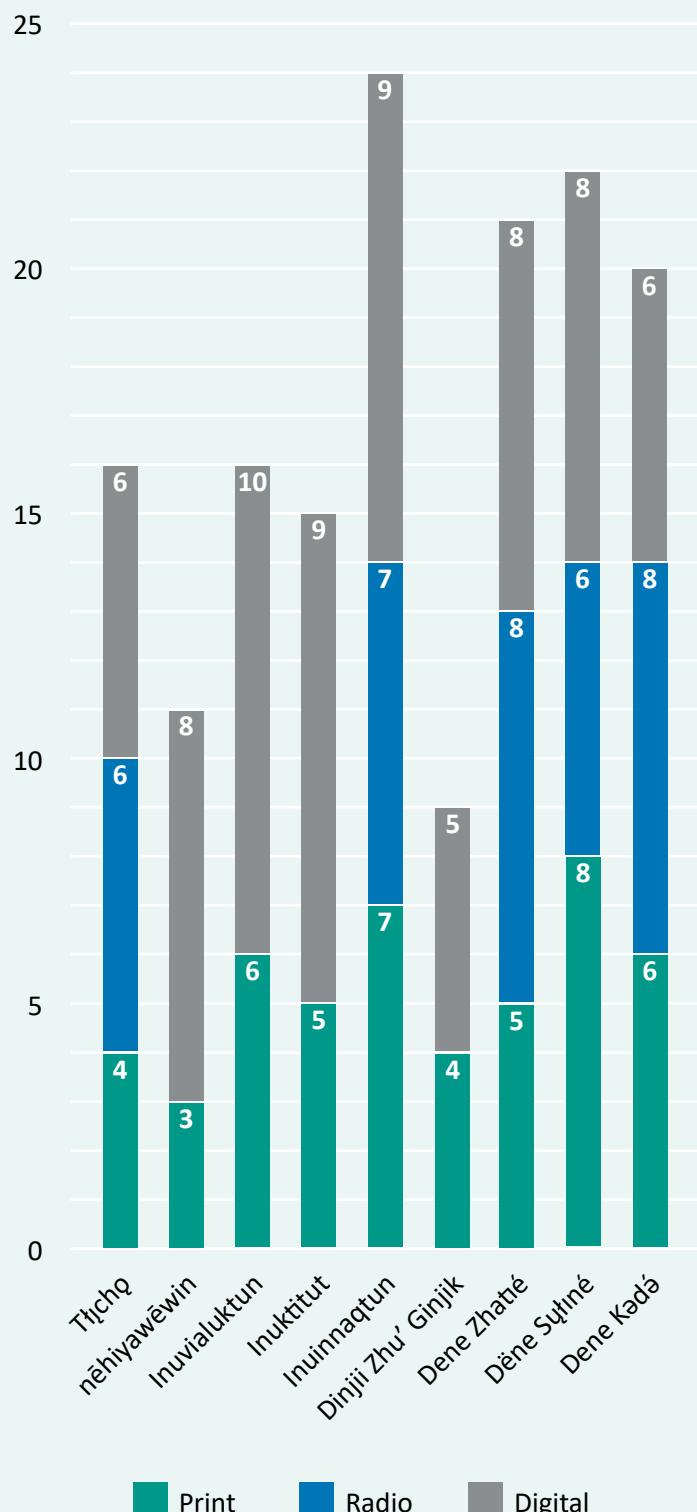


Radio, Print and Digital Advertising

- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment used Indigenous languages in a multilingual social media post to celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day. A print ad was placed in Up Here Magazine to promote the Mentor-Apprentice Program, which included participant testimonials in various Indigenous languages, and 'Be Kind' posters were created in all official Indigenous languages for the program to promote awareness of lateral violence. The department used print ads, Facebook posts and website content in Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik, Inuktitut and Inuvialuktun to advertise a new funding program for Interpreters and Translators.

Two different radio ads were run on CKLB in to remind seniors to apply for the subsidy and to advise of the one-time payment to address concerns about the cost of living, and ads were used to notify people of the deadline for Indian Federal Day School settlement claims and how to access historical student records. CKLB radio ads for the call for applications for the NWT Arts Council Grant aired in Dene Kədá, Dene Suliné, Dene Zhatié, Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik and Tłı̨chǫ.

Total Radio, Print and Digital Ads by Language



- Housing NWT used its social media to advertise and promote Indigenous Languages Month and advertised with CKLB for the Housing NWT Renewal Strategy and Energy Management Strategy.
- The NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation created digital and radio ad campaigns on CKLB to promote public engagement for legislation review and the Canada Digital Adoption Program.
- The Department of Infrastructure coordinated radio ads in Dene Kädá and Dene Zhatié and transcribed a variety of engagement material, including an interactive map and presentation.
- The Department of Justice ran 30-second radio ads in Dene Kädá, Dëne Sųliné, Dene Zhatié, Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik and Tł'chǫ on CKLB to promote public engagement on Seasonal Time Changes.
- Radio ads were translated into Dene Kädá and Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik for the Surface Rights Board and Gwich'in and Sahtú Land Use Planning Boards.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission ran ads on community radio stations, translated by the announcers, in Dene Kädá, Dëne Sųliné, Dene Zhatié, Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik and Tł'chǫ via CKLB. Public service announcements in Inuit languages were run on CBC North.



NWT 811 Health Advice Line

To access health advice in the NWT, please dial 8-1-1 or call toll-free at 1-844-259-1793. 811 is a toll-free health information and advice phone service available to NWT residents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Registered nurses can answer questions about general health issues for you and your family. 811 is a quick and easy way to speak to a nurse, instead of going to a primary care clinic.

Examples of some questions people ask 811:

- My child has a fever. Should I be concerned?
- I have a headache. Do I need to go to the ER?
- The NWT is cold. When should I go to the ER?
- Are my symptoms COVID?
- Chickenpox is spreading. What symptoms should I look for?
- What dosage of Tylenol should I give my child?
- My abdominal pain isn't going away. Should I see the Community Nurse?

Srī Tr'igwiheendaii Geenjīt Diits'āt Tr'īnjiijī Gwī'ehdīchii 811 NWT Gwīzīt Diyyēenjīt Goo'āii

811 gwīt'sāt tr'igjikhī dāi' duuleh jīl geenjīt gwūt'sāt tr'igjikhī:

- Shīr'īnjiit ts'ik nīdīhaa dī'nh. Lēe veenīng' ulahsātāk.
- Shīr'īt'sīk. Līt'sīk khanh tr'īnjiijīn gwīdēek'it lee gwīt'īt hīshān.
- NWT gwīzīt ts'ik izuu, syphīs gwīt'sāhnuu dīlat nāhdāttār'āk. Jīl ts'ik duuleh shīl'sīn geenjīt rūjuk dāl' dīe shīr'īt ahnāh'ah?
- Koh hān lēe dītītik gōo le COVID dīlīch'ūh?
- Shīr'īnjiijīn vīgē tr'īnōnāt zheh dānch chickenpox dīlat nāhdāttār'āk. Jīl hān tr'īt'sīk dāl' nītsoo dīe tr'īt'sīk?
- Tīlēna dātēlii dīe shīr'īnjiijīn hānāh'ah?
- Shīr'īt'sīk, nāt'īlīzih kwāh. Elts'īk kānalliti lee hanāh'ah?
- Dīlītīt chīt'īt COVID/appendicitis/ dīlītīt gwīt'sāt dāi' nītsoo dīe jīl thāk hār'īt'sīk?
- Shīr'īt'sīk nījuk dāl' dīe tr'oochit shīh'āfah?

NWT gwīzīt Srī Tr'igwiheendaii Geenjīt Diits'āt Tr'īnjiijī Gwī'ehdīchii 811 gwīzīt tr'īnjiijī geenjīt nīlīh kwāh. Dīhats'īk k'īlīghe' goodhāa iimlii jīl tr'īyah zīt 911 gwīt'sāt gwījikhī gōo tr'īt'sīk khanh tr'āhnāh'aa geenjīt goo'āii gwīt'sāt chījīhāh.

Jīl geenjīt gwīyēendoo gahvīdān'īl nothān jīl internet kāk www.gov.nt.ca/811/gwinoh/inh.

News and Media

- The Legislative Assembly translated the message from the Speaker in the 2022-2023 Annual Report to Dinjii Zhu' Gjinjik.
- As part of Indigenous Language Month, the Speaker unveiled the Legislative Assembly Meeting Room Re-naming Project and launched the [Tjcho Audio Tour](#) to the public during Session and through a news release.
- The Department of Lands had the Executive Summary of the Land Use Planning Annual Report translated into all official Indigenous languages.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission published all its media releases, website content, e-newsletters and resources in Inuktitut.

Signage

- Housing NWT had signs for the Sahtū district office translated and posted.
- The Department of Infrastructure completed signage regarding Wayfinding at Jtłó School in Yellowknife.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission has permanent signage in its offices in all official Indigenous languages and its public-facing materials are translated into Inuktitut as part of the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission's visual identity.
- The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs has permanent directional/informational signage in local Indigenous languages in all five regional offices.
- The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Agency, Fort Smith region, has an ongoing project for permanent directional signage for the Fort Smith Health Center. Translations of all necessary signage have been recently completed in Dëne Sųłiné and nēhiyawēwin.



Interpretation and Translation

- The Department of Health and Social Services prepared oral health educational videos and an oral health book available in all official Indigenous languages. The department also translated brushing charts, promotional midwifery posters, Hay River flooding Evacuation Mental Health Support information, 8-1-1 video advertising and 8-1-1 flyers.
- The Standing Committee on Government Operations performed a review on Increasing Indigenous Representation in the Public Service in which they sought public consultation. A one-page information sheet was produced and translated into the official Indigenous language of the communities in which they held public meetings.
- The Standing Committee on Government Operations performed a review of the *Official Languages Act*, which is done every five years. The Committee created a one-page information sheet and translated it into Dëne Sųłiné and Dene Zhatié for the communities where they held public meetings. From this review, a report and a one-page visual summary were created. The visual summary was translated into all official Indigenous languages.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission has a strong contingent of

Inuktitut-speaking staff to help serve Inuit stakeholders, and though external interpreter-translators are contracted, most interpretation and translation services are provided by these bilingual staff.

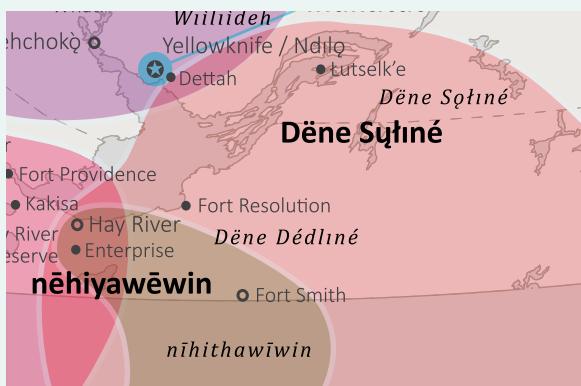
- The Interpreter Program continues to be utilized at the Legislative Assembly for Session and public meetings. During session, the Assembly has the capacity to offer live interpretation in five Indigenous languages at a time.
- New technical interpreter equipment and updated mobile travel kits were purchased for the interpreters of the Legislative Assembly. This allows more Indigenous languages to be recorded during Session and the ability to provide better interpretation services during travel. The equipment was installed in phases throughout 2022-2023 and will be fully operational by June 2023.
- Legislative Assembly Public Affairs and Communications presented a proposal to the Board of Management to rename common areas throughout the building. Each designated area was named after a significant northern animal. Each room name was translated into one of the nine Indigenous languages and signs were unveiled during Indigenous Language Month.

Interpretations and Translations by Indigenous Language



Dene Kədá

- The NWT Rental Office of the Department of Justice used Dene Kədá interpretation services once.
- The Courts Services Division of the Department of Justice used interpretation services seven times in Déljnę Got'łnę.
- Interpretation services for three rounds of engagement meetings with the Department of Infrastructure.
- Translation services were provided during four Ts'udé Niljné Tuyeta Protected Area management board meetings.

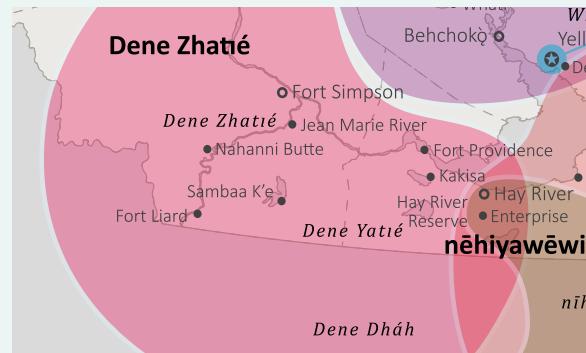


Dëne Sųłiné

- Translations were contracted for a First Aid poster and business ideas poster for the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- Translation services were provided during Thaidene Nëné workshops and management board meetings (June 23-24 Aurora Village; August 17 Lutsel K'e; November 2 Fort Resolution; January 19 Yellowknives Dene First Nation).
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment had key phrases ('Apply Now', 'Funding Program', etc.) translated to enhance inclusion of Indigenous languages in communications materials.

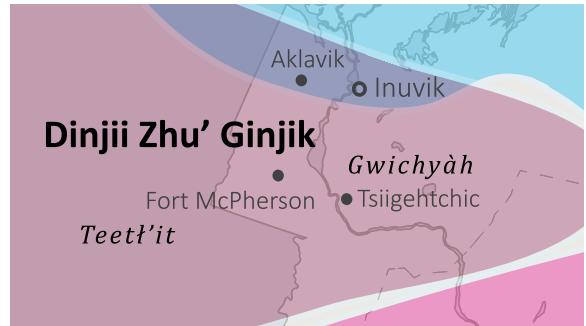
Dene Zhatié

- The Legal Aid Division of the Department of Justice used Dene Zhatié interpretation services seven times, and the Court Services Division used interpreter services two times in Dene Zhatié.
- Interpretation services for three rounds of engagement meetings with the Department of Infrastructure.
- The Hay River Health and Social Services Authority covered nine Indigenous language translations in Dene Zhatié.
- A letter from Hay River Health and Social Services Authority to the Chief Sunrise School for public health was translated in Dene Zhatié.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment had key phrases ('Apply Now', 'Funding Program', etc.) translated to enhance the inclusion of Indigenous languages in communications materials.



Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik

- The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs utilized Indigenous language translation services to publish the document Charter Communities and Hamlets – Frequently Asked Questions in Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik.



Inuinnaqtun

- There were two housing meetings held in Ulukhaktok, with a translator for Inuinnaqtun provided as part of the meeting.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission had several business cards translated into Inuinnaqtun.





Inuktitut

- The Court Services Division of the Department of Justice used interpreter services four times in Inuktitut.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment had key phrases ('Apply Now', 'Funding Program', etc.) translated to enhance the inclusion of Indigenous languages in communications materials.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission had several business cards translated into Inuktitut.



Inuvialuktun

- The Corporate Services Division of the Department of Justice used Inuvialuktun translation services for a sign at the Inuvik Court Registry.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment had key phrases ('Apply Now', 'Funding Program', etc.) translated to enhance the inclusion of Indigenous languages in communications materials.



nēhiyawēwin

- The Hay River Health and Social Services Authority covered nine indigenous language translations in nēhiyawēwin.
- Minister R.J. Simpson delivered a Minister's Statement in the Legislative Assembly on February 13, 2023 celebrating Indigenous Languages Month and delivered a portion of it in nēhiyawēwin.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment had key phrases ('Apply Now', 'Funding Program', etc.) translated to enhance the inclusion of Indigenous languages in communications materials.

Tłı̨chǫ

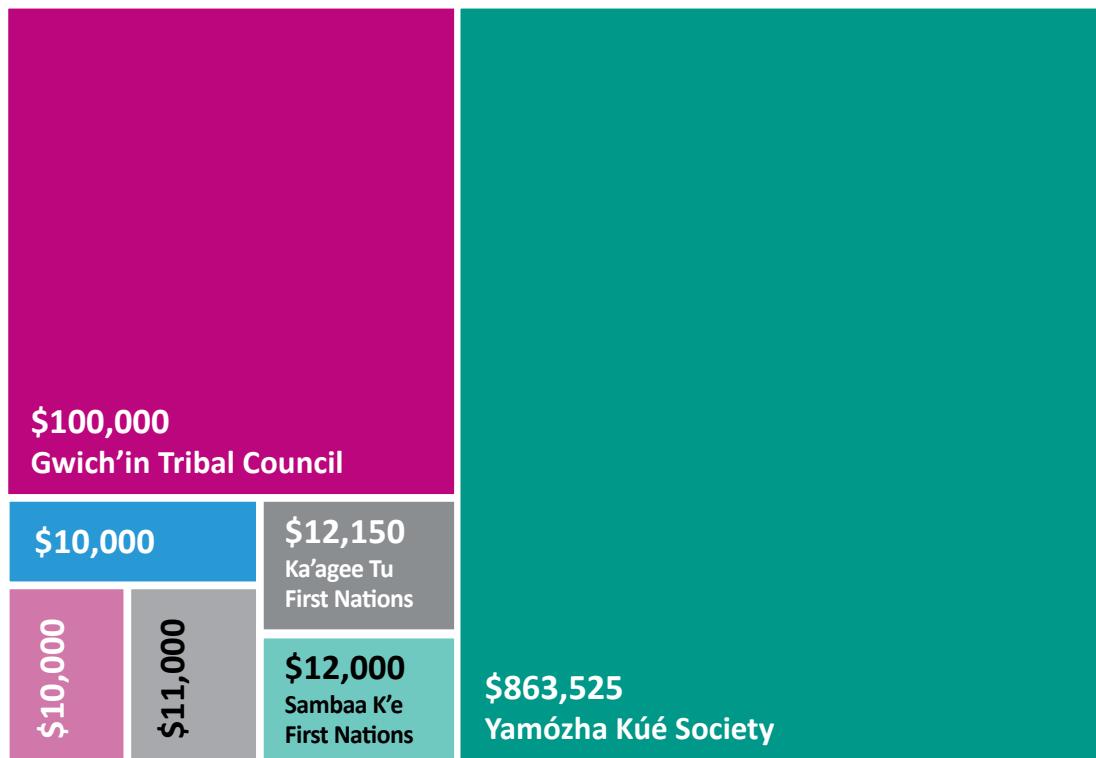
- The NWT Rental Office of the Department of Justice used Tłı̨chǫ interpretation services once, the Legal Aid Division used interpreter services 87 times, and the Court Services Division used interpreter services 43 times.
- The Corporate Services Division of the Department of Justice used Tłı̨chǫ translation services once for the Fort Smith Correctional Complex Search Policy Poster.
- Translations were contracted for a First Aid poster and business ideas poster for the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- The Department of Infrastructure arranged interpretation services for the Tłı̨chǫ Highway Corridor Working Group Meeting in Whąti on June 13, 2022.
- The Department of Environment and Natural Resources had translation services and provided equipment during the Dìnàgà Wek'èhodì multiparty meeting and story sharing by elders on April 5, 2022, and interpreters were used at community engagement meetings in the Tłı̨chǫ on Wek'èezhìi Forest Management Planning.



Community Language-Related Programs

The Government of the Northwest Territories provided funding to seven Community Language-Related Programs in 2022-2023.

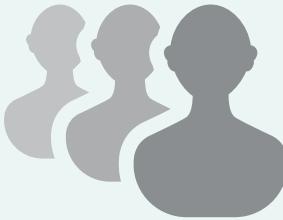
\$1,018,675 in 2022-2023



| Indigenous Government/ Organization | Funding Use |
|--|---|
| Yamózha Kúé Society | For operations funding to support goals in Dene language and education activities. |
| Gwich'in Tribal Council Department of Cultural Heritage | For operations funding to support activities in Dinjii Zhu' Gjinjik language and cultural preservation work. |
| Ka'agee Tu First Nations | The creation of the "Straight from the Heart" Storybook, which represents Ka'agee Tu First Nations history and culture through interviews with elders and youth. |
| Sambaa K'e First Nations | The creation of an interactive cultural website that includes language, stories, images, audio stories, videos, and elder biographies for young people to learn traditional knowledge, culture and history. |
| Town of Inuvik | To host a series of Culture Connections workshops for local artists and storytellers to share traditional and cultural knowledge. |
| Inuvik Drummers and Dancers | To attend the Spirit of the Drum celebration in Whitehorse, Yukon. |
| Tłı̨chǫ Drummers and Dancers | To attend the Spirit of the Drum celebration in Whitehorse, Yukon. |

Human Resources

There was a total of **30** applicants hired through the Indigenous Career Gateway Program.

A graphic element consisting of two teal speech bubbles. The larger bubble on the right contains the number '153'.

153

employees received the bilingual bonus for Indigenous languages in 2022-2023, totalling **\$181,808.27**.



48 employees of the NWT Teachers' Association received an Indigenous language allowance, totalling **\$246,974.59** in Indigenous language employee allowances.

Funding and Expenditures

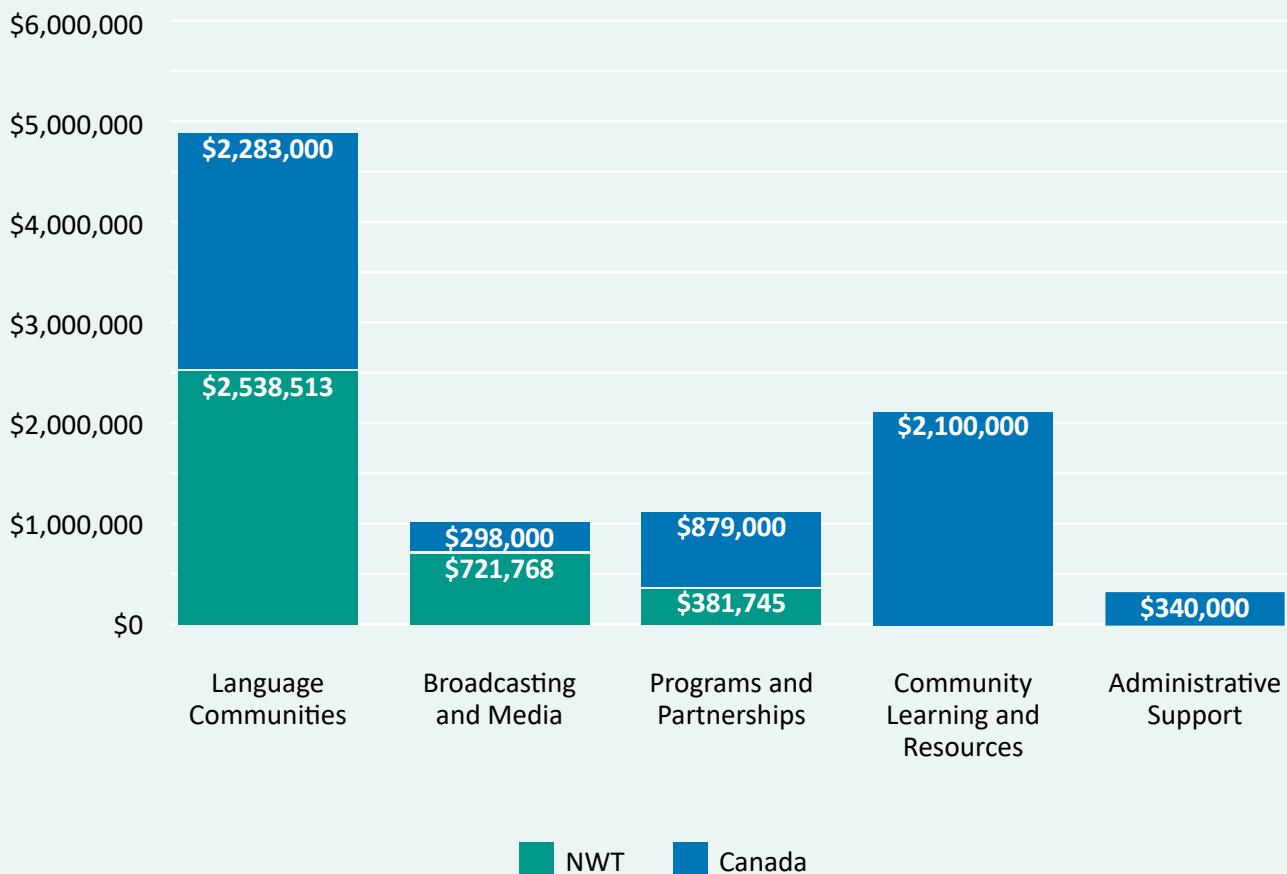
The GNWT spent \$9,430,467 to support Indigenous language revitalization, community partnerships and public services in 2022-2023.

| Description | Actual Expenditures |
|---|---------------------|
| Language Communities (Indigenous Governments) | \$4,821,513 |
| Broadcasting and Media | \$1,019,768 |
| Programs and Partnerships | \$1,260,745 |
| Community Learning and Resources | \$2,100,000 |
| Administration and Services | \$228,441 |
| TOTAL | \$9,430,467 |

The Government of the Northwest Territories spent \$2,100,000 of the Canada-NWT Cooperation Agreement for Indigenous Languages funds for Community Learning and Resources, plus an additional \$10,009,438 of JK-12 funds for education bodies to provide a combined total of \$12,109,438 toward Indigenous language and culture education in 2022-2023.

| Description | Actual Expenditures |
|--|---------------------|
| Community Learning and Resources (Canada-NWT Cooperation Agreement funding) | \$2,100,000 |
| JK-12 Language and Culture Education (Department of Education, Culture and Employment funding) | \$10,009,438 |
| TOTAL | \$12,109,438 |

Distribution of funds under Canada-NWT Cooperation Agreement for Indigenous Languages (2021-2024)



French

The Francophone Affairs Secretariat offers advice, tools, and support to government institutions in the development, implementation, monitoring and reporting of the offer and delivery of French language communications and services to the public.

In addition, the Francophone Affairs Secretariat coordinates the provision of French Translation Services government-wide and manages Services TNO.

French Language Services Coordinators

French Language Services Coordinators play a key role in the implementation of the Strategic Plan – they are responsible for championing and coordinating the provision of quality French language communications and services for their government institution. French Language Services Coordinators work with the Secretariat to develop plans and strategies for the active offer and effective delivery of French language communications and services.





Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2018-2023

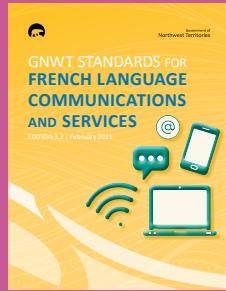
The [Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2018-2023](#) (Strategic Plan 2018-2023) guides government institutions in the development, offer and delivery of French language communications and services to the Francophone community. It includes four parts and six guidelines to facilitate the application of the [Official Languages Act](#). 2022-2023 marked the last year of this 5-year Strategic Plan.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan 2020

The Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan 2020 for the Government of the Northwest Territories French Language Communications and Services helps track and assess the progress and results of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023. The document establishes indicators, monitoring and evaluation approaches and schedules, and accountability structures related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023.

Operating Plans on French Language Communications and Services 2022-2023

Each government institution develops its own Operating Plan on French Language Communications and Services that aligns with the Strategic Plan but that is specific to their unique institution's situation and covers their French language communications and services offered to the public. Goals included in the Operating Plans 2022-2023 directly link to the Strategic Plan 2018-2023.



Government of the Northwest Territories Standards for French Language Communications and Services

The [Government of the Northwest Territories Standards for French Language Communications and Services](#) assist government institutions in the offer and delivery of French language communications and services to the public. The document provides advice and examples on nuanced questions related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The Standards are updated regularly, and they complement and work in tandem with the Government of the Northwest Territories Visual Identity Program and communications directives.

Operating Plan Monitoring Grids 2022-2023

Deputy Heads are responsible for ensuring regular monitoring of their institutions' French language communications and services. Every year, French Language Services Coordinators produce their Operating Plan Monitoring Grid to report on the advancement of their unique Operating Plan's targets and activities.



Minister's Council on the Canadian Francophonie

The Minister's Council on the Canadian Francophonie is an intergovernmental organization created in 1994; it is made up of federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for the Canadian Francophonie. The Minister's Council on the Canadian Francophonie works on various issues related to the Canadian Francophonie, provides direction for intergovernmental cooperation, and plays a unifying role in support of the country's Francophonie.

In June 2022, in Regina, Saskatchewan, the Government of the Northwest Territories participated in the Council meeting. Motivated by the desire to develop more government services in French and to promote the Canadian Francophonie, the ministers made concrete commitments to promote the vitality of the communities.

2021 Census Language Data



For the first time, the 2021 Census provided data on the number of children eligible to receive instruction in a minority official language.

In the NWT, 1,100 children under the age of 18 were eligible to be educated in French.



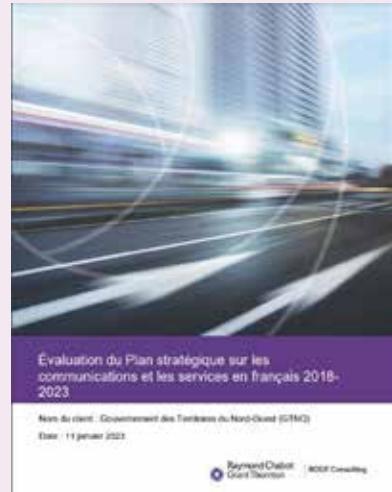
In the NWT, the number of persons with **French as a mother tongue** increased from 1,360 in 2016 to 1,475 in 2021.

10.8%
of the NWT population can speak French.



Evaluation of the Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2018-2023

As established in the MEA Plan 2020, the Evaluation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023 (Evaluation) was to be conducted by a third-party contractor towards the end of its life cycle to determine its overall success and value and to inform the development of the next Strategic Plan 2023-2028. The Evaluation was conducted between June and September 2022 by Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton. Francophone organizations leaders, members of the Francophone community, Government of the Northwest Territories French Language Services Coordinators and other government employees, including Deputy Ministers, took part in focus groups and interview sessions.



Findings from this Evaluation reflect the effectiveness of the Government of the Northwest Territories French language communications and services has remained consistent, with a notable improvement in the delivery of bilingual communications. The final Evaluation report made 23 recommendations for improvement.

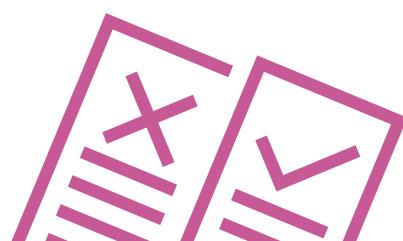
Government of the Northwest Territories Response to recommendations from the third-party Evaluation

The GNWT accepted 22 of the 23 recommendations from the Evaluation report. Recommendations will be used to inform the development of the next Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

Votre avis GTNO

Receiving and responding to public feedback plays a key role in improving the Government of the Northwest Territories' French language communications and services. Via 'Votre avis GTNO', the government provides two options for feedback:

- Anonymous feedback – no formal response
- Non-anonymous feedback (but can be confidential) – formal response



Got something to say?

We are listening!

Some public feedback gave the Government of the Northwest Territories opportunities for improvement. For example, the French version of the Facebook page for Cabinet Communications – 19th Legislative Assembly (Communications du Conseil exécutif – 19^e Assemblée législative) was created.

Programs and Services

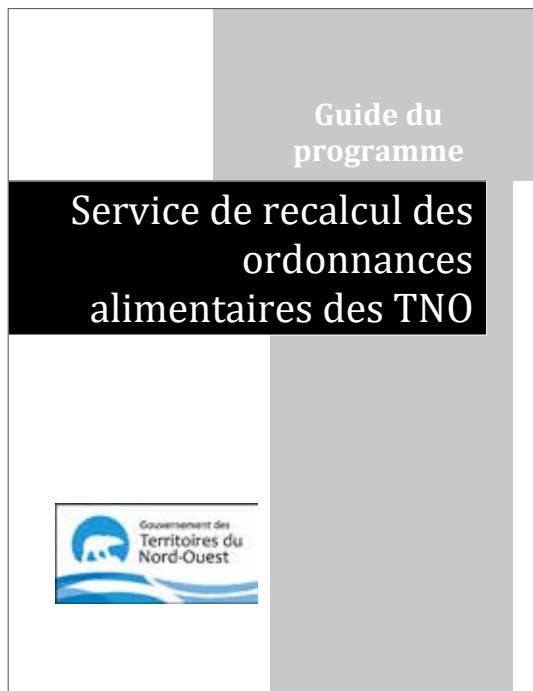
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment launched the bilingual certification portal for JK-12 educators, CertifiED NWT, where educators can apply for their certification in French and in English.
- The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority Office of Client Experience was launched as a single point of system feedback; information is available in French and staff were trained on active offer and language requirements.
- Direct service in French is available at the front desk of the Yellowknife Primary Care Centre and the Frame Lake Community Health Clinic.
- In November 2022, the Yellowknife Airport launched a new bilingual parking ticket system.
- Early 2023, the Department of Justice launched the Child Support Recalculation Service to help parents with child support orders or agreements meet their legal obligations to update child support amounts to pay based on their income. This free service is intended to reduce time, expenses and stress that can result from Court processes when the amount of child support needs to be changed due to a variation in income.
- The Legislative Assembly provided guided and self-guided audio French tours.



In 2022-2023, Services TNO processed a total of

**1,260
requests.**

59% This represents a increase from 2021-2022.



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NUMÉRIQUE**

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Renouveau du curriculum de la prématernelle à la 12e année

C'est une période passionnante pour les écoles des Territoires du Nord-Ouest!

Nouvelles exigences minimales requises pour l'obtention du diplôme d'études secondaires aux TNO

De nouvelles exigences d'obtention du diplôme d'études secondaires entrent en vigueur dans les prochaines années pour les élèves du secondaire aux TNO. Ces exigences comprennent notamment :

- plus de temps consacré à l'éducation au choix de carrière;
- un changement au système de crédits;
- le passage à des évaluations de littératie et de numérité au lieu des examens de diplôme.

Ces changements n'entreront en vigueur qu'à partir de l'année scolaire 2024-2025.

Pour en savoir plus : www.gov.nt.ca

Communications

Translation Services

- In 2022-2023, a total of 2,740,768 words were translated for Government of the Northwest Territories communications in French to the public (Government of the Northwest Territories Translation Services + Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission + Legal Translation)
- 162,540 words were translated for social media, which represents 3,261 posts (Government of the Northwest Territories Translation Services only)
- 157,845 words were translated for Human Resources purposes; this represents 895 job posters and 10 job descriptions.
- 98,950 words were translated for news releases, which represents 237 publications.

Government Institutions

- The NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation ran two ad campaigns and one promotional campaign (a contest) during Small Business Week to promote the Canada Digital Adoption Program – the campaigns were in French and English.
- All new NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation website content was done in French and English, including a redesign of its home page and the introduction of two new sections for public engagement and the Digital Support Program. Additionally, the NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation posted over 250 tweets in French.
- All of the Department of Education, Culture and Employment's promotional campaigns were done in French and English. Among the notable ones are the Curriculum Renewal campaign, the New Graduation Requirements, the Northern Studies 30 Pilot Course and Treaty Simulations, the Supporting Seniors to Age in Place, and the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Labour, Development and Standards division published 54 fact sheets – one for each of the designated trades in the NWT.

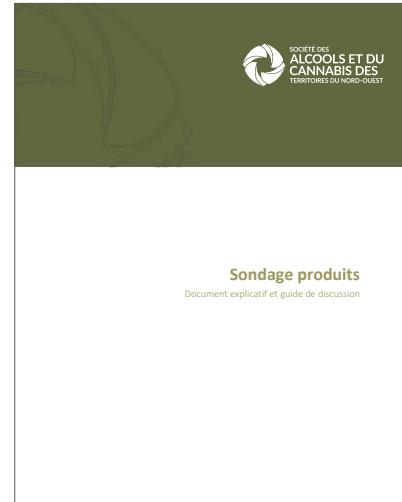
- In 2022-2023, the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs ran various bilingual advertising or promotional campaigns: Tłı̨chǫ Day, Campaign School for Women, Red Dress Day, Orange Shirt Day, Indigenous People Day and National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada.



- To improve user experience, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources made significant updates to its website – for example, the department introduced new pages on the Waste Recycling front to highlight a new funding program aiming to promote sustainable practices.



- The Department of Finance published various documents in French, such as the Northwest Territories Liquor and Cannabis Commission Product Survey Discussion Guide.
- The Department of Health and Social Services and Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority ran a few advertising and promotional campaigns, notably for Naloxone Awareness, Mental Wellness and Addictions Recovery Supports, NWT Help Line, Office of the Client Experience, etc.
- A television displaying Fort Smith Health Center information was added in the main reception waiting area of the facility. The contents are all bilingual.
- The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program, Skip the Line at the Yellowknife Driver and Vehicle Office, and the Greenhouse Gas Grant Program are examples of advertising and promotional campaigns that were done in French by the Department of Infrastructure.



- The Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment produced printed and radio campaigns for the Business Development Series and for the Lottery for Extended Stay Campsites.
- The Department of Lands ran advertising and promotional campaigns in French regarding Board Appointments and Unauthorized Occupancy.
- The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs completed the second year of the public emergency preparedness campaign 'Be Ready', and all resources were available in French. The campaign encompasses various topics, such as 'Be Ready: Make an emergency plan and kit', 'Be Ready: For floods', and 'Be Ready: For severe storms'.
- During spring flooding in 2022, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs provided daily flood updates posted in French on social media.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission launched a recruitment campaign for a new CEO, with ads running in French.

French Language Broadcasting Grant

- The Government of the Northwest Territories provides funding to help pay for the operation and equipment costs of the Yellowknife community radio station, Radio Taïga. The maximum grant is set at \$10,000 per year.



Human Resources

In 2022-2023, 174 employees received the bilingual bonus for French.

Number of employees receiving Bilingual Bonus for French



- 49 employees in bilingual required positions or employees with bilingual preferred status for French completed the French Language Proficiency Test. This test evaluates French language skills to ensure the employee has an adequate level of French to accomplish the position duties.
- 24 employees in bilingual required or bilingual preferred positions participated in the French Language Refresher Course. In partnership with Collège Nordique francophone, the Government of the Northwest Territories provides its bilingual French/English employees with the opportunity to improve their spoken and written French.
- 38 bilingual required job competitions were held.
- The Department of Finance added a new bilingual position to its team: Senior Bilingual Human Resources Officer.
- A total of 516 employees completed the Government of the Northwest Territories Onboarding Training for Employees' module on Official Languages.
- Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority recruited two new Bilingual Program Assistants for the Yellowknife Primary Care Centre and the Frame Lake Community Health Centre.
- Six new employees of the Department of Justice were tested for French language fluency and became bilingual bonus recipients.
- The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission has increased its capacity to translate and provide direct service in French by hiring a second Translator/Official Languages Coordinator.



Funding

Education and French

On behalf of Collège Nordique francophone, the Government of the Northwest Territories successfully applied for multi-year funding (2021-2022 to 2023-2024) from Canadian Heritage. This funding is being used to increase the institutional capacity of the Collège Nordique francophone. The Department of Education, Culture and Employment regularly engages with Collège Nordique francophone to discuss its plans for continued growth and development and considers it a valued post-secondary education partner in the NWT.

In a similar fashion to the additional money provided for French first-language programming for fiscal years 2019 to 2023, Canadian Heritage increased the funding for French second-language programs over three years. The Government of the Northwest Territories distributed an additional \$368,000 in 2021-2022 and \$575,000 in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 to French second-language education bodies. This funding is used for expanding and extending partnerships within the NWT education bodies, supporting teacher shadowing between NWT schools, and staffing.

In addition, the Government of the Northwest Territories has received \$224,800 to carry out activities for the Establishing Effective Retention and Recruitment Strategies for French minority language and French second-language Educators project. This funding was allocated over the fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 and is being used to support education bodies with teacher recruitment, professional development and mentorship programs. These initiatives will improve French second-language and French minority language teacher retention and recruitment in the NWT.

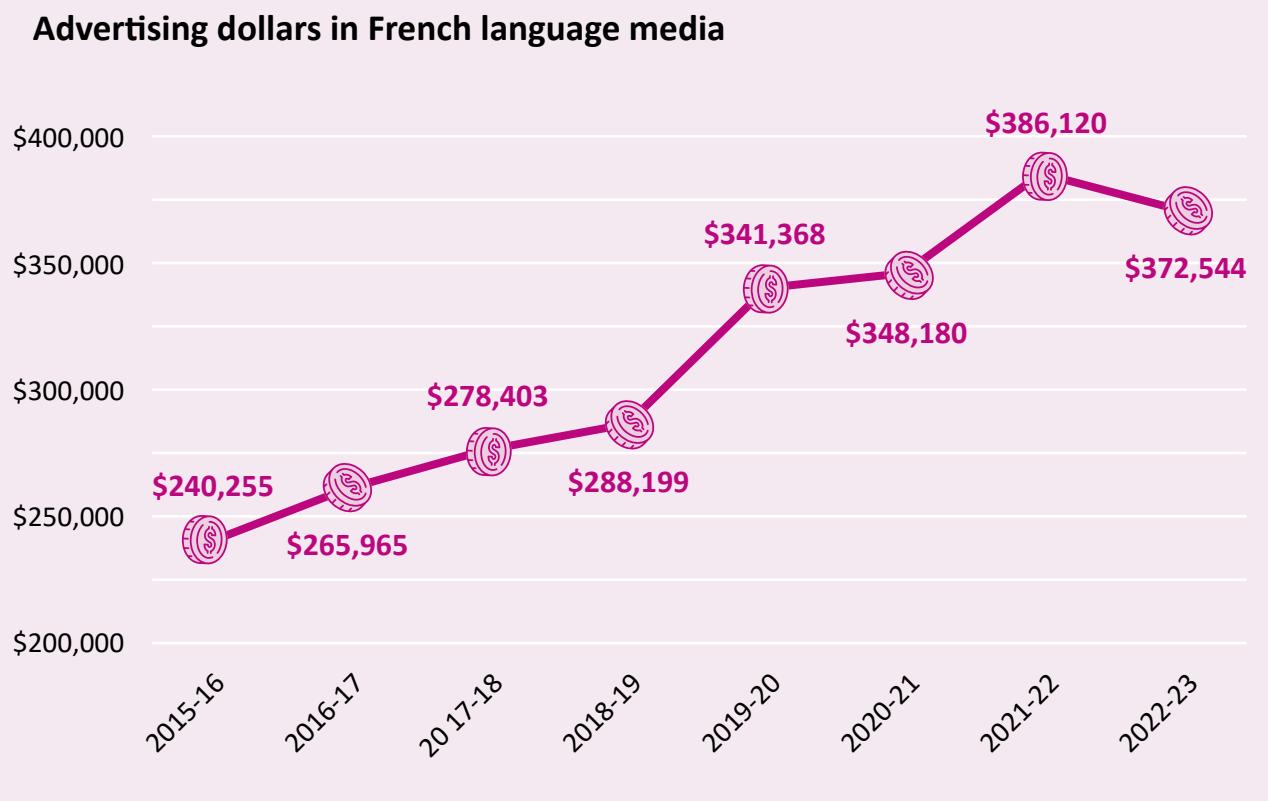
Government of the Northwest Territories Language Program Expenditures

In 2022-2023, the Government of the Northwest Territories spent \$5,832,863 for French Language Services. In the same fiscal year, it disbursed an additional \$5,516,616 for French Language Education programming.

| Description | Actual Expenditures |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| French Language Services | \$5,832,863 |
| French Language Education* | \$5,516,616 |
| TOTAL | \$11,349,479 |

*Note: This amount does not include the expenditures incurred by education bodies to deliver French Language Education programming.

Funding – Advertisement Expenditures





Collaboration and Engagement

- Between May and June 2022, NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation held 11 virtual public engagement sessions for the review and amendments to the *Business Development and Investment Corporation Act*, of which two sessions offered services in French. The Discussion Guide was provided in French and the published *What We Heard* report met French language requirements.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Culture and Heritage division partnered up with Collège Nordique francophone and Fédération franco-ténoise to deliver workshops about Francophone identity, storytelling, and marionettes. Those events, conducted entirely in French, took place at the Collège Nordique francophone and at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Early Learning and Child Care division engaged with the early childhood educators program operators and the NWT Early Childhood Association on changes to the *NWT Child Day Care Act*, the Early Learning and Child Care Standards Regulations and the Early Learning and Child Care Funding Regulations. Sessions were held online, and French interpretation was available.
- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Labour Development and Standards division continued to be an involved observer member (participating in discussions and sharing information on government resources without voting power) of the Réseau en Immigration Francophone des TNO. Among the other members of this committee are the Fédération franco-ténoise, Conseil de développement économique des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, and Collège Nordique francophone.
- In 2022-2023, the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs connected with the Francophone community via various online surveys and engagements, notably in regard to Emerging Stronger, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and Support for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.
- The Department of Finance hosted public engagement sessions to access more information about proposed changes to the Affirmative Action Policy – an online survey was available in French.
- Housing NWT sought public feedback from the Francophone community on the Energy Management Strategy via a survey available in French on the 'Have Your Say' engagement portal.

- On many occasions, the Department of Health and Social Services consulted the Francophone community via the ‘Have Your Say’ engagement portal. Here are some of the topics covered by the surveys in 2022-2023: Proposed Additions to Medical Profession Regulations for Physicians, Proposed Amendments to the Vital Statistics Act and Change of Name Act, Proposed Psychology Regulations, NWT Seniors Survey, Proposed Amendments to the Child and Family Services Act, Patient Experience Questionnaire, etc.
- In March 2023, the Réseau TNO Santé, Communauté francophone accueillante and Conseil de développement économique des Territoires du Nord-Ouest invited Francophone newcomers to an information session on French language health services. The Director of Réseau TNO Santé and the French Language Services Coordinator of the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority - Yellowknife region presented various existing resources and encouraged participants to ask for and use health services in French.
- In 2022-2023, the 10 public engagements the Department of Infrastructure had with the public were bilingual. A few topics for engagement were the Yellowknife Airport 20-year Master Plan, the Mackenzie Valley Highway Project and Hay River Harbour Dredging.
- The Yellowknife Airport worked in collaboration with the Fédération franco-ténoise to display Francophone organizations’ pamphlets and informative documents inside the terminal.
- The Department of Justice conducted public engagements in French via the ‘Have Your Say’ portal on the Seasonal Time Change, the *Missing Persons Act* and the Child Support Recalculation Service Regulations.
- Various Standing Committees under the Legislative Assembly asked for input from the Francophone community: stakeholder letters were sent in French to Francophone organizations to invite them to attend committee meetings to provide input or opinions on bills that are under review.
- In 2022-2023, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs completed public engagement in French on various topics, such as the Proposed changes to the *Western Canada Lotteries Act* Regulation, the review of the *Fire Prevention Act*, the Flood 2022 After Action Review and the *Real Estate Agent’s Licensing Act* Review.



Milestones



The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Culture and Heritage Division delivered programming in French to

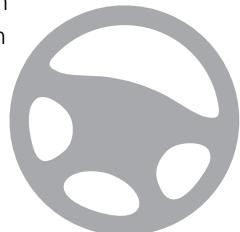
400 Francophone students
which comprised 35% of all student visits.

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Culture and Heritage Division lent

32 bilingual Edukits
to Francophone schools – this represented 23% of Edukit use for the fiscal year.



All 4 Driver's Manuals are now available online in French, and three of them are also offered in printed copies.



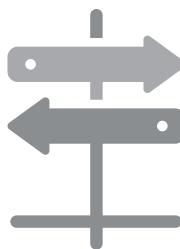
In the Fall of 2022, the Northwest Territories Nominee Program launched a Francophone Stream,

which allows French-speaking foreigners with a job offer from an NWT employer to apply to the Northwest Territories Nominee Program, enabling them to access a work permit to work in the NWT.



The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs received over **8,000** unique page views on the French version of its web pages.

The pages with the most traffic were the Municipal elections (1,728 views), Property taxation (1,231 views) and Disaster assistance (approximately 500).



The Legislative Assembly rooms have been renamed and paired with a northern animal and their significance to the NWT. Names and descriptions were translated into French and Indigenous languages are now displayed in each of the spaces.

Court Services actively provided services for the Francophone community, issuing correspondences and publications in French and answering weekly inquiries in French. In 2022-2023, some court cases also required the use of a French interpreter, and the Sheriff's Office responded to 20 inquiries in French.





In response to the Strategic Plan 2018-2023's measure to be implemented to develop a systematic process for recruiting bilingual personnel, the Department of Health and Social Services and Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority have been working on the Integrated Bilingual Health Human Resources Project Partnership. The project aims to facilitate appropriate service and workforce planning while developing a coordinated system of attracting bilingual health and social services professionals to work and live in the Northwest Territories.

In 2022-2023, the Department of Health and Social Services and Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority have successfully implemented a new data centralization tool, OZi. The platform helps track bilingual workforces and will lead to more efficient management of bilingual employees and services offered in French.



Looking Forward



In 2023-2024, the government will release its new Government of the Northwest Territories Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2023-2028.



The NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation is developing an online application portal for its funding programs. Also available in French, the Business Development and Investment Corporation is planning to launch the new portal in 2023-2024.

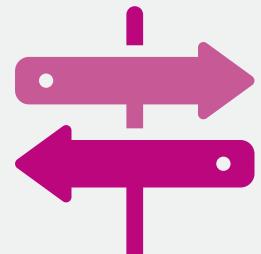


The Department of Education, Culture and Employment's Curriculum Development and Student Assessment division will be launching the Curriculum Renewal bilingual website to help community members and teachers transition to the British Columbia curriculum.

The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority will further the implementation of the web-based platform OZi to track demand and capacity for French Language Services within the NWT Health and Social Services system.



As part of the renewal, Housing NWT will be updating all their public signs – they will be available both in French and English in significant demand for communications and services in French.



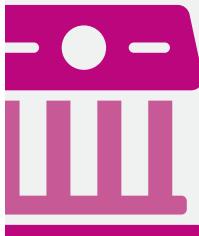
The NWT Bureau of Statistics will start to develop a French version of their website.



The Electrical and Elevator group within the Compliance and Licensing division of the Department of Infrastructure will be launching an e-portal service in 2023-2024. Forms, permits and other documents will be available in French.

In 2022-2023, a great deal of work has been done towards making the resources of 'Selling Your Artwork' available bilingually. In 2023-2024, this Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment program will be fully available in French.

The Department of Justice will work with the Fédération franco-ténoise's Access to Justice in French program coordinator to develop a brochure advertising access to NWT Courts in French and to deliver a presentation on the NWT Justice System to French-speaking newcomers.



The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs will be supporting the NWT 9-1-1 program to implement an active offer script for Emergency Medical Dispatchers.

Government of the Northwest Territories
Department of Education, Culture and Employment

www.gov.nt.ca