



Doyon Foundation
Language Revitalization Program
Informational Audio-Conference for Doyon Region
December 17, 2013
11am-12pm

In attendance:

Doris Miller, [Doyon Foundation](#) Executive Director
Malinda Chase, [Doyon Foundation LRP](#) Director
Connie Irrigoo, [Alaska Native Language Preservation Advisory Council](#)
Collen Denny, Tanacross Village Council
Patti Salmon, Chalkyitsik Village Council
Marshianne Titus, Tanacross Village Council
Juanita Wilson, Tetlin Village Council
Lianna Charley John, [Ahtna Heritage Foundation](#)
Rayanne Albert, [Ahtna Heritage Center](#)
Patti Elias, Tanana Community Member
Gina Pope, Tanana Chiefs Conference-Infant Learning Program
Dewey Hoffman, [Alaska Native Heritage Center](#)
Charleen Fischer, Tsuk Taih (Chalkyitsik) School
Patricia Salmon, Chalkyitsik Traditional Council
Teresa Hanson, Telida Village Council
Debbie Esai Holm, Nikolai Village

- Malinda Chase went over the Language Revitalization Program's (LRP) goals, the purpose of the audio-conference (to encourage Doyon region tribal offices and school districts to complete the state's language survey), and agenda items.
- Doris Miller gave a historical overview of Doyon Foundation's Language Revitalization Program.
- Attendants introduced themselves.
- Connie Irrigoo, research staff at the Alaska Native Language Preservation Advisory Council (ANLPAC) discussed their history, a survey they are conducting and their report to the governor. The council's charge is to report to the governor.

ANLPAC completed its first year and has drafted a preliminary report of findings, which lists five main findings and five recommendations. They found that there is not much public information on the status of Alaska Native languages and people want information on programs and best practices. They are currently conducting a survey of language programs at the local level. Their five recommendations in the report highlight funding needs, education, healing, research and policy. The preliminary draft will be available on their website in January and the final in July 2014.

The ANLPAC will be adding collected data from the survey to the existing state community database available on their website, under the Division of Community and Regional Affairs. The names of communities, languages spoken, dialects and number of speakers are being collected in the survey. Plans are to expand the data collection in two years to include number of learners and after 4+ years include an interactive map, which shows language revitalization efforts in the state.

A strategic planning session is scheduled for February 2014 and it is open to the public. All their meetings dates are available on their website.

How attendants heard about audio-conference:

- Email
- Doyon Foundation's blog
- Fax (day of reminder helpful)
- Facebook

Announcements:

- Alaska Native Heritage Center (ANHC) is hosting an Indigenous World Film Festival January 17-18, 2014. See their [website](#) for more information. If there are suggestions for films highlighting indigenous language issues, please forward suggestions to ANHC.
- Patti Elias applied for a one-year AmeriCorp position, through their Birch Program, to work on language revitalization in Tanana. It is possible that this could work into a two year position.
- Doyon, Limited is offering grants for the second year to assist with language revitalization in Doyon Region communities. More information at can be found on their [website](#).
- Through funding by Doyon, Limited and Yukon Flats School District, Chalkyitsik is producing a language learning tool that includes songs and lyrics. The project is almost complete.
- Ahtna Heritage Foundation is reaching out to other language programs to see what others are doing. Distance is a challenge and they would like to see how other programs overcome this.
- Telida has been working on an ANA project and also received funding from Doyon, Limited. They have done a lot of recording and transferred old literature used in the school to videos and sound files. This will all be used to create curriculum and will be posted on the [Upper Kuskokwim](#) website.
- Tetlin had a four language revitalization workshop in June. The workshop, led by Paul Milanowski, was well attended. They continue to work on their songs and dances.

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

Doyon Region Language Revitalization Efforts:

- Upper Kuskokwim Website
<http://ukpreservation.com/>

Language Revitalization Links:

- Alaska Native Language Preservation Advisory Council
<http://commerce.alaska.gov/dnn/dcra/AKNativeLanguagePreservationAdvisoryCouncil.aspx>
- Alaska Native Language Center
<http://www.uaf.edu/anlc/>
- Where Are Your Keys? Language Learning Method
<http://www.whereareyourkeys.org/>

Other Regional Language Revitalization Websites:

- Ahtna Heritage Foundation
<http://ahtnaheritagefoundation.com/>
- Alutiiq Language Learning Website
<http://www.alutiiqlanguage.org/>
- Sealaska Heritage Institute - Language and Culture
<http://www.sealaskaheritage.org/programs/landcult.html>