

## Foundation Hosts Language Revitalization Audio Conferences

As part of its [language revitalization program](#), [Doyon Foundation](#) hosted two informational audio conferences for the Doyon region. The first took place December 10 and 17, and the second was held January 16.

Approximately 40 people took part in the audio conferences, representing communities including Fort Yukon, Huslia, Northway, Tok, Kaltag, Beaver, Tanana, Arctic Village and Nikolai Village, and organizations including Interior Aleutians Campus, Arctic Village Council, Tetlin Village Council, Telida Village Council, Alaska Native Heritage Center, Doyon, Limited, Tanacross Village Council, Chalkyitsik Village Council, Ahtna Heritage Foundation, Ahtna Heritage Center, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Tsuk Taih (Chalkyitsik) School, and Chalkyitsik Traditional Council.

At each of the conferences, Foundation staff gave an overview of the [language revitalization program](#) history, goals and current and planned efforts. Participants also had the opportunity to introduce themselves and share about any local language events happening within their communities or organizations.

At the December audio conference, Connie Irrigoo of the [Alaska Native Language Preservation Advisory Council \(ANLPAC\)](#) discussed a survey they are conducting and their report to the governor. Following its first year of operation, ANLPAC found there is not much public information on the status of Alaska Native languages, and that people want information on programs and best practices. Their report to the governor will highlight funding needs, education, healing, research and policy. The preliminary draft will be available on the [ANLPAC website](#) in January and the final will be posted in July 2014.

The January audio conference featured guest speaker Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, who discussed and answered questions regarding [HB 216](#), a bill designed to make Native languages the official languages of Alaska.

Full minutes from the December 17 and January 16 audio conferences are available on the [Doyon Foundation website](#). The website is also where details will be posted about upcoming audio conferences or other language revitalization opportunities.

For more information, please contact Malinda Chase, program director, at 907.459.2162 or [chasem@doyon.com](mailto:chasem@doyon.com).