



First Peoples' Heritage, Language & Culture Council Call for Expressions of Interest

Pre-school Language Nest Program

Background

The First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council (FPHLCC), the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) and the New Relationship Trust (NRT) have come together in support of First Nations language and cultural revitalization strategies in British Columbia. *We are now pleased to announce the Pre-school Language Nests program call for Expressions of Interest funding call to B.C. Language communities.*

The FPHLCC supported eight B.C. pre-school Language Nests from 2007–2010 with success and would like to offer the same opportunity to three additional language families. The program now offers training and capacity building resources, including assistance with development and best practices information for new projects.

Pre-school Language Nests

Program Goal: Create new language speakers through language and cultural immersion environments for pre-school-aged children and their parents and families. Projects will be funded up to \$20,000 each year. Grants for year two and three are subject to the availability of funds each year.

FPHLCC Objectives

- To increase the number of Pre-school Language Nests in B.C. First Nations communities to support pre-school-aged children and their parents/families to learn their original languages.
- To distribute resource materials to communities interested in developing new Pre-school Language Nests.
- To have Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs convert to a Pre-school Language Nest model and use the First Nations language as the language of communication.

FPHLCC Activities

- To provide funding to Pre-school Language Nests with 100% immersion programming in a B.C. First Nations language.
- To support existing programs to convert from English ECD programming to 100% First Nations language immersion.
- To promote immersion and its benefits to parents and families.
- To distribute immersion resources to B.C. Pre-school Language Nests.

Expected Results

- Young children speaking and communicating in the language
- Increased number of Pre-school Language Nests in B.C. First Nations communities
- First Nations families aware of the benefits of language immersion
- More traditional knowledge in our languages transmitted to future generations

Definition: Language Nests

Pre-school Language Nests are immersion programs designed to restore and enhance the use of Aboriginal languages by young children, their parents and other family members.

Through these programs, children under the age of five are exposed to everyday communication, concepts and age-appropriate traditional practices in their Aboriginal language of origin on a daily basis. Pre-school Language Nests completely immerse learners in their First Nations language by utilizing community language resources, fluent speakers and language nest staff who speak or are learning the language.

Eligibility

- First Nations early years childrens' programs
- Host organizations/communities that are in good standing with FPHLCC
- B.C. First Nations languages communities

Priority will be given to:

- Headstart or day care programs committed to becoming a 100% Pre-school Language Nest program over a one (1) year period
- B.C. communities where there is no early child care, day care or Pre-school Language Nests program/service

Guidelines for Submission of Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Part A

- Length: The Expression of Interest should not exceed six (6) pages in length. At a later time FPHLCC will request more project detail from those applicants who are successful.
- Format: Submissions are to be made electronically as a Word or PDF and followed up in the mail with five signed originals.

Part B

The headings and topics listed below provide a general guideline for the preparation of the EOI and represent the main criteria that will be used to evaluate the submissions:

- **Title of the proposed project**
- **Name and Address of Main Applicant**
- **Contact information of primary project contact person and key team members**
Please list the main person who FPHLCC will communicate with and team members involved with the program.
- **Describe your language community and language status.**
Summarize information about your community, the condition of your language and any data that you can share about the status of your language.
- **Describe the goals of your Pre-school Language Nest Program and the objectives for year one, year two and year three.**
- **In summary, explain the Pre-school Language Nest concept *and the immersion methods that will be incorporated in the program.***
Summarize the characteristics (concept) and the immersion methods that will be used to teach children the language. Is the method modeled after another program or based on traditional family-based learning?
- **What are the proposed language proficiency outcomes desired for your Pre-school Language Nest participants?**
- **Describe your target group, their ages and project participants.**
- **Summarize how the development of a Pre-school Language Nest meets your language revitalization planning.**

Provide a summary of your community's short-term or long-term plan for language revitalization and how this program will fit into your plans.

- **Describe the current Pre-school Language Nest plan and implementation.**
- **Describe the barriers or challenges that may occur and how you may overcome them.**

Describe major challenges or barriers that may occur inside or outside of your community project. (i.e. trust, language myths, politics, education or facility, etc.)

- **Describe community capacity to undertake this project. A 25% financial commitment is required as a contribution to the project.**

Provide information about community capacity and/or list the resource people who will support the project development and implementation. A cash commitment of 25% of the FPHLCC funding grant must be allocated to the project from your community.

- **Submit letters and Band Council Resolutions of support.**
Provide a BCR, letter of support from elders, families and/or organizations.
- **Submit a cover letter with your EOI and four additional copies.**

Part C

The following steps and deadlines are envisioned:

- Expressions of Interest due on **July 9, 2010.**
- Review of Expressions of Interest and follow up discussions with prospective applicants: Completed by **July 23, 2010.**
- Request for community submission of full project proposal: Sent to short-listed applicants by **July 30, 2010.**
- Submission of full project proposals: Due by **August 30, 2010.**
- Due diligence evaluation process, decision and informing applicants of the funding decision: **September 17, 2010.**
- Start date of projects: **October 11, 2010 to March 31, 2011.**
- Successful applicants will be required to sign a memorandum of understanding agreement.

Note: The full Pre-school Language Nest project proposal will provide greater detail on the project, confirming your community capacity and capability to undertake the project and formally confirm financial commitment to the project. The criteria for evaluation of the full proposals will be provided with the proposal invitation.

Please submit the Expression of Interest to:

Xway'Waat (Deanna Daniels)
Language Programs Manager
First Peoples'
Heritage, Language & Culture Council
1A Boat Ramp Road
Brentwood Bay, B.C.
V8M 1N9

deanna@fphlcc.ca