DOYON Foundation

Indigenous Languages & Academic Achievement

2016 AASB Fall Boardsmanship Academy

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Language Revitalization & Academic Achievement

• Bilingualism correlates with increased cognitive development and abilities.

• Language learning correlates with higher academic achievement on standardized test measures.

• Language learning is beneficial to both monolingual English and English language learners in bilingual and two-way immersion programs.

• Language learning is beneficial in the development of students’ reading abilities.

• Language learners transfer skills from one language to another.

• Everyone is a language teacher

https://www.actfl.org/advocacy/what-the-research-shows
“To Recognize the role of Alaska Native languages and cultures in the educational success and long-term well being of Alaska Native Students”
–Section 6301

To integrate Alaska Native cultures and languages into education, develop Alaska Native students’ positive identity, and support local place-based and culture based curriculum and programming
– Title VI

Doyon Foundation Receives $900,000 Grant for Language Revitalization

Posted by rmgrayner under Doyon Foundation News, Language Revitalization, Uncategorized | Tags: 7000 languages, administration for native americans, alexa little, allen hayton, Doris Miller, Doyon Foundation, doyon languages online, doyon limited, Language Revitalization, Michael Quinlan, transparent language | Leave a Comment

Language revitalization in the Doyon region took a giant leap forward this week when the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) announced that Doyon Foundation has been selected to receive a Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance grant totaling $900,000 over a three-year period.

The 10 ancestral languages of the Doyon region, including nine Athabaskan languages plus Inupiaq, represent half of the 20 Native languages in the state of Alaska. All of the Doyon region languages are severely to critically endangered, and will be lost within the span of a few generations if no action is taken. Doyon Foundation, with support from Doyon, Limited, established its language revitalization program in 2000 to support the revitalization of Interior Alaska’s Native languages.
Language Revitalization

Doyon 7000 Partnership with Transparent Language Online (TLO)

Doyon Foundation 7000 Partnership

Doyon Foundation was established as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization in 1989 by Doyon, Limited, the regional Native corporation for Interior Alaska. As the private foundation for Doyon, Limited, the Foundation serves the educational and cultural needs of Doyon’s shareholders and their children by providing postsecondary scholarships, advancing traditional Native knowledge, and increasing Native student performance levels. In 2012, Doyon Foundation launched the Language Revitalization Program, a comprehensive, region-wide program to capture, preserve, share and perpetuate Athabaskan languages. The need for the program is clear: According to the Alaska Native Language Center, there are less than 500 speakers of the nine Athabaskan languages in the Doyon region, and most have fewer than 30 speakers.

There are nine Athabaskan languages in the Doyon region: Benhti Kenaga’ (Tanana), Deg Xinag, Denaa’k’le (Koyukon), Denak’i (Upper Kuskokwim), Dinji Zhuh K’ya’a (Gwich’in), Han, Holikachuk, Tanacross, and Nee’ aaneen’ (Upper Tanana). The Doyon Foundation 7000 Partnership will initially focus on one or two of those and later extend to the remaining languages. Potentially the partnership could evolve to include additional Alaska Native languages.

For more information about the Doyon Foundation 7000 Partnership, please contact Allan Hayton. haytona@doyon.com.

http://www.transparent.com/about/7000-languages-project.html
Language Revitalization

Where are Your Keys?
Language Revitalization

Diiginjik K’yaa Ch’at’oh

Baby Aurora learning Gwich’in through immersion
Language Revitalization

CoLang 2016 University of Alaska Fairbanks

• Hän Practicum

Goldstream Group Proposal Development

• Cohort to create lessons using Transparent Online
• Recording Equipment Program
• Online Doyon Region Language Map

Survey

• Establish need
• Number of speakers and learners
• Learning interest
• Find out HOW learners want to learn

Things on the horizon…

• Language Grants
• Yukon Native Language Center partnership for Hän language lessons
• UAF Interior Alaska Campus Partnership for Gwich’in online course
Connect with Us!

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