Introducing Pathways on a Language Landscape:

Promising Practices in Language Revitalization

The MICA Group
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The Language Landscape presents ideas for Nations and programs working to revitalize their languages.
Our languages permeate the landscape of our daily lives and communities.
Pathways on a Language Landscape

The concepts to be presented at this Gathering are ideas for your consideration and comment.

There will be facilitated discussion and the opportunity to explore each concept in depth.
There are as many pathways to language revitalization as there are Tribal Nations.

The planning practices to be discussed are not meant to prescribe a particular approach, but to provide common pathways along the journey to language revitalization as each Nation discovers the way most appropriate for it.
OLA! OLA NA IWI!

OUR ANCESTORS LIVE THROUGH US!

(ʻŌLELO HAWAIʻI)
Language Visionaries

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• Leslie Harper (Ojibwe) President, National Coalition of Native American Language Schools and Programs
• Dr. Suzan Harjo (Cheyenne and Hodulgee Muscogee) MICA Group Senior Advisor, President & CEO, The Morningstar Institute
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• Amy Kalili (Native Hawaiian) Executive Director, Makahuila
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• Jacob Manatowa-Bailey (Sac & Fox) Director, Center for Tribal Languages, Bacone College
• Marshall McKay (Yocha Dehe Wintun) Chairman Emeritus, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation; CRF Advisory Board Member
- Nāmaka Rawlins (Native Hawaiian) Director of Strategic Collaborations, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian Language Program
- Alyce Sadongei (Kiowa/Tohono O’odham) Program Manager, American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI)
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- Lucille Watahomigie (Hualapai) Director, Hualapai Education & Training Dept
- Philbert Watahomigie (Hualapai) Vice Chair, Hualapai Tribal Council
- Dr. Ofelia Zepeda (Tohono O’odham) Director, American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI)
I-WE:MTA
WORKING TOGETHER;
SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER
(O’ODHAM)
What is in the Language Landscape Document?

The Language Landscape document presents nine pathways that the Language Visionaries have found, in their experience, to be important planning practices for language revitalization programs.
Working Definition

For the purposes of the Language Landscape, language revitalization is defined as a set of planning practices that can be used to increase the use and transmission of Native languages.
Working Assumptions

• Planning language revitalization can be complex and requires a comprehensive approach.

• The pathways to language use and fluency (and beyond) will be different for every Tribal Nation.

• That there are common language planning practices that can be used to revive and maintain Native languages.
Pathways to Language Use & Fluency
Awareness
Values
Family
Intergenerational Involvement
Tribal Sovereignty and Policy
Teaching and Training
Materials and Documentation
Language Use in Media
Resources
Awareness

Our Nation is aware of a language shift, and we recognize the need for intervention.
Values

Through our language, our Nation maintains our knowledge systems, values, and cultural practices. Our language program reflects and transmits our values.
Family Involvement

Our families are involved in creating a new generation of first language speakers who are committed to continuing the effort for future generations.
Intergenerational Involvement

All generations are actively engaged in our Nation’s language revitalization efforts, each with different needs, skills, and knowledge.
Tribal Sovereignty and Policy

Our Nation recognizes that our language is a gift, and we assert our sovereignty to ensure our language survives and thrives.
Teaching and Training

Our Nation invests in long-term language efforts, including language planners, teachers, teacher training, and academic expertise.
Materials and Documentation

Our Nation maintains an easily accessible and expansive repository of language learning materials, documentation, data, and research.
Language Use In Media

Our Nation finds ways to use our language in all forms of media to increase its relevance in our daily lives.
Resources

Our Nation successfully garners the resources necessary to sustain our Nation’s internal capacity to keep our language alive and thriving.
Please welcome our facilitator
Aleena Kawe

Wopila! Kakoke! Mahalo!
Eskwali! Naoise! MVTO!
Aho!