

Groups/Organizations Summary 2016-2017



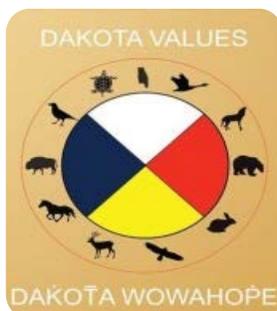
Mohawk Language and Culture Centre

Kanesatà:ke, Québec

Tewa:ronk ne Onkwawén:na Program

“Funding provided financial resources to develop curriculum materials and also gave us the encouragement to continue our passion to revitalize the oldest Kanien’kéha dialect of our Nation.”

The goals of this community based program were to update existing curriculum and create educational materials that embraces the ancient dialect, identity, language, culture and the untold history of the Mohawk nation. It inspired high school students to engage more in their language and culture by participating in traditional singing and dancing activities. Some students also created a mural that illustrates their heritage and pride.



Whitecap Dakota First Nation

Whitecap, Saskatchewan

Whitecap Dakota Language Revitalization Program

“It’s important to pass on language and cultural teachings to future generations through education. These books will be excellent tools for kids to look at and think about, and they and their families will enjoy learning in this way.” - Vivian Anderson, Dakota Elder and language and cultural expert

The funding provided from the NIB Trust Fund were used to integrate Dakota values into language teachings at Whitecap Dakota First Nation’s Charles Redhawk Elementary School. Whitecap’s Dakota language strategy included community workshops on the Dakota language. A *Dakota Values* workbook and a children’s language book has been developed by community Elders and educators as an educational tool for sharing Dakota cultural teachings and language with students. These booklets were printed to be used by teachers and students in the community. Students are able to take the language booklets home and share the knowledge with their families.



Seven Oaks School Division

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Growing our Own: Revitalizing Indigenous Languages

“We focused heavily on outreach and engagement because we wanted our community to be involved, to lead and to ultimately have a hand in rebuilding a strong healthy nation.”

The program funds allowed the school division and students the opportunity to host a Summer Language Camp where 107 community members participated; including 24 Elders and 9 Residential School Survivors. The camp provided on the land learning and activities such as medicine picking, pow-wows, ceremonies and Ojibway language teachings to youth. In addition, the program opened an Ojibway language school for children from Kindergarten to Grade 3 which has assisted students in strengthening their connection to culture, language and identity.

Northern Nishnawbe Education Council



Sioux Lookout, Ontario

Language and Culture Enhancement Initiative

“Funding allowed the expansion of cultural/traditional and language programming that allowed our students to immerse themselves in ways that wouldn’t have been achievable.”

The goals of this community-based program were to enhance Indigenous language in the classroom and provide cultural/traditional teachings to students from two high schools that each service 24 remote First Nations communities in Northwestern Ontario. The N.I.B. Trust Fund provided an opportunity for N.N.E.C. to purchase necessary materials and to host special guest speakers, which helped to significantly improve the development of language programming at each of the two schools. This program also helped to support and expand an Elder’s Program which allows for the sharing of many cultural and traditional teachings, as well as providing extra supports for students while they are far away from home. Lastly, funding from the N.I.B. Trust enabled students to participate in a number of opportunities to learn off the land. During these outings with Elders, students fished, hunted, trapped, and learned songs, legends and other traditional teachings which has helped to start them on their own journey towards healing.



Skookum Jim Friendship Centre

Whitehorse, Yukon

Traditional Teaching Circles and Camps

“The Centre has met the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual needs of hundreds of survivors, providing opportunity for engagement on a level that is defined by Aboriginal persons in a manner that is consistent with values that are inherent across the Yukon Territory.”

The funding provided by the NIB Trust Fund funding has allowed this community-based Friendship Centre to coordinate and implement Traditional Teachings Circles and three Culture Camps. Weekly Sharing Circles were held with adults, youth and Elders which provided the groups with an opportunity to share and learn together. Three Culture Camps took place on traditional land throughout the year for youth and community members. Participants have expressed their gratitude for learning land based activities with the Elders.



Holmalco First Nation

Campbell River, British Columbia

Aupe Qayimixw

“We now have planted the seed in the community with the cultural activities. Our people have a better sense and understanding of our cultural practices during the different seasons and they are wanting to learn more.”

This community-based program was implemented to increase traditional knowledge, practices and language for all community members. Elders and residential school survivors mentored youth in a series of workshops and a Culture Camp where youth were taught cultural and ceremonial traditions. A booklet was produced based on the teachings the youth learned and shared with the community.



Grand Prairie Regional College (GPRC)

*Grand Prairie, Alberta
Strengthening Indigenous Education Programming at GPRC*

“Connection, knowledge, respect. Teaching awareness and relating to the land. Learning about ceremonies, the spirit world and the connection and energy between all things. Learned more survival training and living off the land which is important.”

The NIB Trust Fund provided a vital opportunity to enliven Indigenous Studies at GPRC. The pilot of a technology enhanced land-based learning course was created and facilitated that strengthened participant’s diverse sense of rekindling reconnection to the land, survival skills, and to ceremonial life. In addition, several experiential workshops were delivered within the community that facilitated the experiencing of Indigenous renewal. These experiences provided the participants with a sense of community and ignited a spark to learn and engage more in the regeneration of Indigenous ways of life.



Katlochee First Nation

*Hay River, Northwest Territories
Katlochee First Nation Wellness Program*

“Participants had the opportunity to investigate their past experiences, past practices and current realities and this allowed them to see a brighter future.

The community-based Wellness Program was created to promote healing and personal development by providing community members with education, culture and historical knowledge. Participants shared in a 12-day Journeying into Self Program that allowed them an opportunity to learn from their past and present experiences while participating in traditional activities. Facilitators shared the traumas and effects of Residential Schools, which opened the door for communication and understanding.



Potlotek First Nation

St. Peter's, Nova Scotia

Askulapi aq Ikanapi (I Look Back and I Look Forward)

“Our students have had a chance to connect with Elders and learn from them, but also to learn alongside them.”

The program's main objective was the promotion of the Mik'Maw culture, language, history and identity by delivering an education program and engaging students to learn traditional knowledge. Land-based activities was coordinated and delivered by Elders and Residential School Survivor. Additional language classes were implemented at the local high school and students had the opportunity to attend an Audio Recording and Production course. An Art Entrepreneurship credit was awarded to the students who participated in these traditional and educational activities.



Big Cove Wellness, Inc.

Elsipogtog, New Brunswick

Hope and Healing - Strengthening Youth and Families affected by intergenerational trauma and grief

“We would like to acknowledge the work of NIB Trust Fund in supporting the families, youth and survivors in Elsipogtog in their journey to healing”

The NIB Trust Funds provided the opportunity to develop a Healing and Support Program for community members who have been affected by the intergenerational traumas of the Indian Residential Schools. Several workshops were held with families, Elders, Survivors and youth to share and discuss the history, culture and traditions. A Family Outreach Program was developed to service parents and youth with home visits, sharing circles and to connect families with Elders and Survivors. Community members had the opportunity to attend healing retreats where they were taught traditional/cultural knowledge. Residential School Survivors shared their experiences and had the opportunity to connect with the community members