



Doyon Foundation
Language Revitalization Program
Informational Audio-Conference for Doyon Region
January 16, 2014
11am-12pm

In attendance:

Doris Miller, [Doyon Foundation](#) Executive Director
Malinda Chase, [Doyon Foundation LRP](#) Director
Guest Speaker: Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Polly Hyslop, Doyon Foundation LR Committee Member
Ed Alexander, Fort Yukon
Leann Bifelt, Huslia
Marilyn Salvage, Fort Yukon
Lance Bowey, Fort Yukon
Eliza Jimmy, Northway
Crystal Wilson, Tok/IAC
Annette Gilbert, Arctic Village Council
Georgiana Madros, Kaltag
Violet Bergman, Kaltag
Juanita Wilson, Tetlin Village Council
Paul Williams Jr., Beaver
Teresa Hanson, Telida Village Council
Catherine Zurey, Tanana
Rochelle Adams, Beaver
Dewey Hoffman, [Alaska Native Heritage Center](#)
Patti Elias, Tanana Community Member
Paul Mountain, Doyon Foundation Board Member
Sarah Obed, Doyon
Colleen Denny, Tanacross Village Council
Kenneth Frank, Arctic Village

- **Malinda Chase welcomes and introduces Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins**

Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins introduces Bill 216 to attendees. The bill is designed to make the native languages of Alaska official languages.

He's is also part of a working group with Native LRP and one idea they have been planning is to produce bilingual signage in his home community. The signage will have both English and Tlingit so it will become visible on a daily bases and the community members will know that there is another language.

- Malinda opens up panel for question for Rep. Tompkins.

Discussed what attendants can do to help support bill: e-mail support letter, call Legislators and submit resolutions in support of Bill 216.

Attendants asked for a resolution template.

A question was asked that would the bill make immersion mandatory immersion in classroom. Representative Kreiss-Tomkins responded that it wouldn't but they will be looking into these types of mandates in the future.

- Malinda reminds group of mini grant due January 31, 2014.
- Round robin on what communities are doing to enhance language in there community.

Kenneth Frank, Arctic Village: is working on publishing a book in Gwith'in and English which talks about Moose and Caribou. Anatomy, stores, beliefs, songs will be included the book. They have been working on this project for two years and it will take 1-2 more years to complete.

Polly Hyslop, Northway: Northway is working on a traditional song book which will be recorded and written in the Upper Tanana language. This is a community base project.

Kathleen Peters & Patty Elias, Tanana: Patty an Americorp worker and is focusing on language revitalization with the community. Mentioned the Where Are Your Keys workshop and how this has really assisting to motivate learners and teachers.

Caroline Frank, Arctic Village: Started a monthly gathering to focus on Gwichin philosphyes with stories and songs. Had a Native foods dinner.

Crystal Wilson, UAF IAC: The Tok IAC office is partnering with Doyon Foundation to provide a Where Are Your Keys workshop for credit. They also have Tetlin language classes provided online by Paul Milanowski. She mentioned that her office has digital recording equipment to assist with language revitalization efforts in the Upper Tanana area.

Colleen Denny, Tanacross: The community is creating fun games for language learning such as Pictionary. They also have a culture night on Wednesdays where they have focused on teaching language.

- * Action item - Contact Sarah Obed to make template of resolution?
- * Action item - Malinda email Rep. Kreiss-Tomkins on researched native language names
- * Action item - Research a bigger audio conference