

Roseau River Anishinabe First nation

Language plan

February 4, 2025

Our goal is to revive our Anishinabe language within our community. Our first language speakers are aging and are at an average of 62 years or older.

“In 2011, the life expectancy for the First Nations household population at age 1 was 72.5 years for males and 77.7 years for females. ”.

Health Reports

Life expectancy of First Nations, Métis and Inuit household populations in Canada

-Statistics Canada

With the above statement. Our priority is to record our elders and speakers before it is too late. With the recordings we can work on rebuilding what was taken from our people. We will need to build our capacity within our members. To become a second language learners. We must build within our homes by having our parents and children learning and practicing. We will include our elders and speakers to be part of all our language events to help guild our students and learners.

- Have our students become intermediate learners.
- We have had weekly sessions to go record words.
- Workshops around certain topics ex: ceremonies, various day-to-day language.
- Produce booklets and learning tools to better reach our youth and communities.

Additionally, we recognize the importance of incorporating technology into our language revitalization efforts. With the advancements in digital platforms, we can create interactive language apps and online resources that cater to the learning needs of our youth and communities. By utilizing these modern tools, we can engage a wider audience and make learning our Anishinabe language more accessible and enjoyable.

Furthermore, we understand that language revitalization goes beyond just learning words and phrases. It is about embracing our cultural identity and reclaiming our heritage. Therefore, we plan to organize cultural immersion programs where our community members can fully immerse themselves in Anishinabe traditions, ceremonies, and daily practices. Through these immersive experiences, our language learners will not only develop their linguistic skills but also gain a deeper understanding of our rich cultural heritage.

To ensure the sustainability of our language revitalization efforts, we will establish partnerships with educational institutions and language organizations. These collaborations will

enable us to access resources, expertise, and funding opportunities that can support the growth and development of our language program. By networking with like-minded individuals and organizations, we can create a supportive and collaborative environment that fosters the continuous growth and preservation of our Anishinabe language.

In conclusion, our goal to revive the Anishinabe language within our community is multifaceted. It requires the active participation of our elders, speakers, parents, and children. By recording the wisdom and knowledge of our elders, creating engaging learning tools, embracing technology, organizing cultural immersion programs, and establishing partnerships, we can rebuild what was taken from our people and ensure the longevity of our language for future generations. Together, we will reclaim our language, strengthen our cultural identity, and create a thriving language plan for the Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation Community.