



FNLKC Conference Announcement

Workshop Title: Update on the Assembly of First Nations' First Nations Languages Initiative

Name of Presenters: Dakota Kochie

Biography: Dakota Kochie is Anishinaabe from Pinaymootang in Manitoba. He went to school at Saint Mary's University in Halifax and studied Criminology and Public Administration. Dakota is currently the Languages Policy Analyst at the Assembly of First Nations and he has previously done work for the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and the House of Commons. While Dakota is not at work, he's often found kayaking or canoeing on the roughest water he can find.

Abstract: Over the summer of 2017, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) held a number of Indigenous Languages Legislation Engagement Sessions. The objectives were to garner input into the Indigenous Languages Legislation from First Nations leaders, fluent speakers and language champions and to inform First Nations leaders, fluent speakers, language champions and policy makers about the opportunities to provide input into the Indigenous Languages Legislation. The sessions included a review of purpose and use of session with a description of objectives, scope, plans and status of this joint policy development process. As well, there was an update on the state of Indigenous Languages and how we got here. Provided, was a historical background of languages Initiatives in the past leading up to the December 2016 announcement of an Indigenous Languages Act. There was also information provided about the legislation and the process and principles including the steps involved in creating federal legislation and the approach. The AFN will provide an summary update as a result of those engagement sessions.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this workshop, delegates will:

- Understand the work that has been done to date on a First Nations Languages Initiative and what is next