
Youth Empowered Speakers Program (YES!)

Investing in our next generation of language leaders

2021 – 2022 Funding Guide

Application Deadline: Monday December 7, 2020

COVID-19 Guidelines for Programs

Created January 18, 2021

Updated June 17, 2021

COVID-19 Program Information

The health and safety of everyone involved in FPCC programs, communities, and especially Elders, is of the utmost importance to us. We are taking action to maintain safe operations while supporting our communities and participants. While actions to provide vaccines are currently underway there is no cure or treatment for COVID-19. We want to be very careful that our programs do not put anyone at risk and ensure that they follow the current orders of the [Provincial Health Officer](#). FPCC supports each First Nation's self-determined right to protect their community and we respect any additional guidelines set by Chief and Council or local governments to help keep their communities safe. Following these guidelines will help us take care of one another and keep each other safe.

Please note:

- All programs must be aware of and follow current guidelines from the [Provincial Health Officer](#)
- Applicants must consider how the program will proceed under strict COVID-19 restrictions
- Please ensure that your project proposal meets the requirements listed in this document.
- It is critical that we take care of and protect our Elders and Knowledge Keepers, and those at a higher risk of illness. We need to work together to find safe ways to involve Elders.
- FPCC staff are here to assist program participants with unexpected and unplanned changes as a result of COVID-19 impacts on programs.
- We will do our best to share information and respond to changes together. If you have any questions, please [contact program staff](#).

COMMITTED TO THE REVITALIZATION OF B.C.'S INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES, ARTS AND

1A Boat Ramp Road | Brentwood Bay, B.C. | V8M 1N9

P: 250-652-5952 | F: 250-652-5953 | E: info@fpcc.ca

www.firstvoices.com | www.fpcc.ca | www.maps.fpcc.ca



Table of Contents

1. Overview	3
2. Eligibility	5
3. Program Timeline	5
4. Program Stream Descriptions and Funding.....	6
5. Application Tips	8



Funding for the Youth Empowered Speakers Program is provided by the Government of British Columbia, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) through the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation, and RSF Social Finance.

Getting Started:

The goal of the Youth Empowered Speakers program is for youth to learn their language while preparing for a career in language revitalization in one of three streams:

1. Community Revitalizationist Stream for any youth
2. Early Childhood Immersion Educator Stream for ECE students alongside their education
3. Language Immersion Teacher Stream for BEd. students alongside their education

The program provides paid work internship opportunities along with Mentor-Apprentice language learning (Hinton, 2002). The aim of Mentor-Apprentice learning is to facilitate the development of fluent speakers where a "mentor" (a fluent speaker of a language) is paired with an "apprentice" (learner). It is a one-on-one immersion method where mentor and apprentice spend time together doing everyday activities using the language at all times.

Before you start filling out your application, please review the *Master-Apprentice Program Handbook* and other resources on the FPCC website at:

<http://www.fpcc.ca/language/Programs/Master-Apprentice.aspx>

Direct your inquiries to:

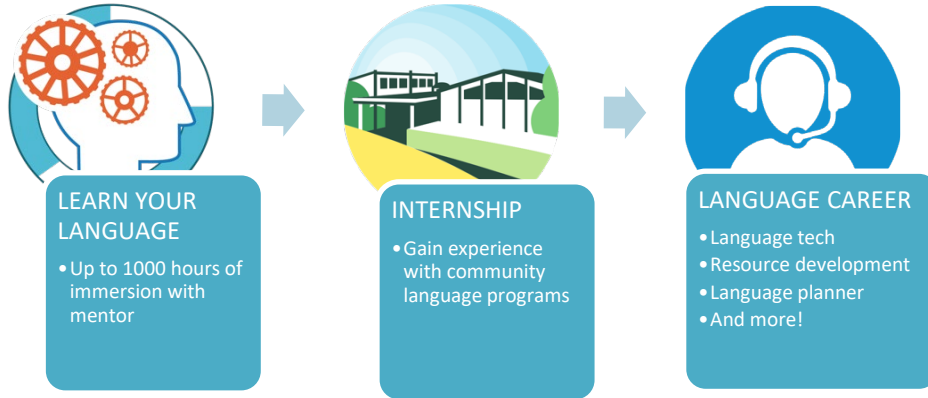
Contact Name: Aurora Skala, Language Programs Coordinator
Address: 1A Boat Ramp Road Brentwood Bay, B.C. V8M 1N9
Telephone: (250) 652-5952 or toll free through Enquiry BC 1-800-663-7867
Email: aurora@fpcc.ca
Website: www.fpcc.ca



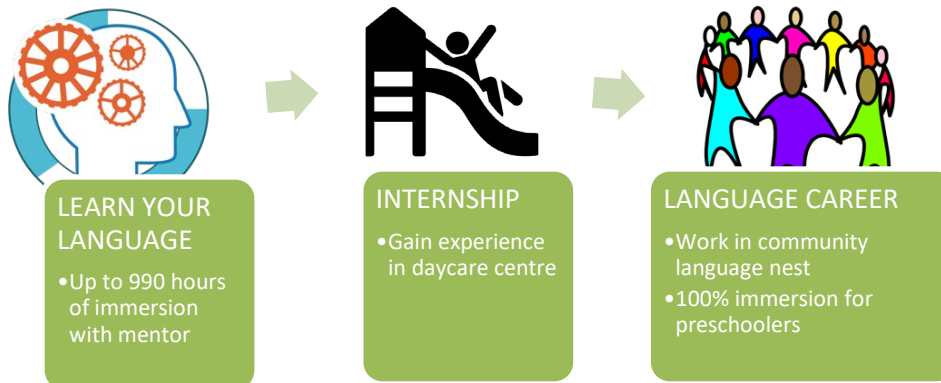
1. Overview

Learn your language while working towards a rewarding career!

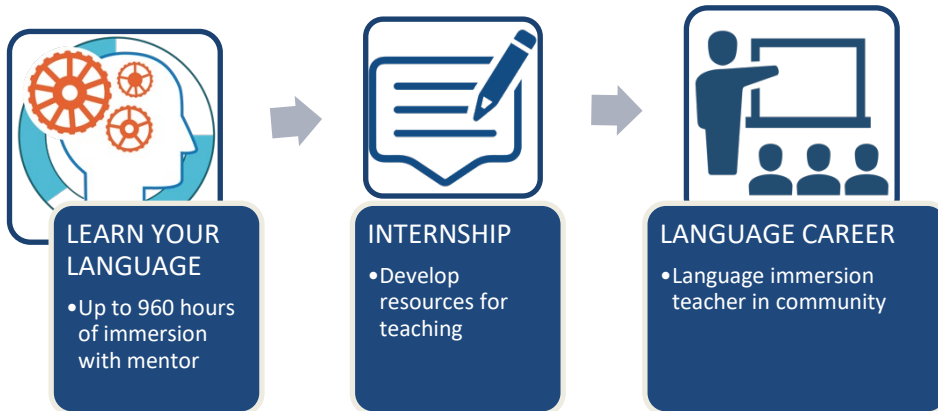
Stream 1: Community Language Revitalizationist



Stream 2: Early Childhood Immersion Educator for students in ECE programs



Stream 3: Language Immersion Teacher for students in BEd programs





2. Eligibility

The Youth Empowered Speakers Program is open to youth aged 18-30 who are members of a First Nations community in British Columbia. You do not need to be living in your community (on reserve) to be eligible; urban applicants are also eligible. Other eligibility requirements:

Community Revitalizationist Stream: Applicant must complete high school by June 30, 2021.

Early Childhood Immersion Educator Stream: Applicant must apply for, be accepted for, or be currently enrolled in an Early Childhood Education (ECE) program. Proof of program acceptance must be provided by March 31, 2021 in order to be eligible for program funding. This program is done alongside the student's studies in an ECE program.

Language Immersion Teacher Stream: Applicant must apply for, be accepted for, or be currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Education (BEd) program. Proof of program acceptance must be provided by March 31, 2021 in order to be eligible for program funding. This program is done alongside the student's studies in a BEd program.

3. Program Timeline

Step 1: Complete application at www.fpcc.ca/login by **December 7th, 2020**

Step 2: Application Review by FPCC January 2021. All applications are reviewed by an impartial Peer Review Committee made up of First Nations community members with experience in language revitalization. The Peer Review Committee rates the applications based on demonstrated strengths and recommends the strongest applications to FPCC to receive funding.

Step 3: The program orientation workshop is tentatively planned for April 2021 and is subject to cancellation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendance is mandatory. If held in person, a travel grant will be provided to cover travel and accommodation costs for the workshop.

Stage 4: Program implementation: April 2021 – March 2022

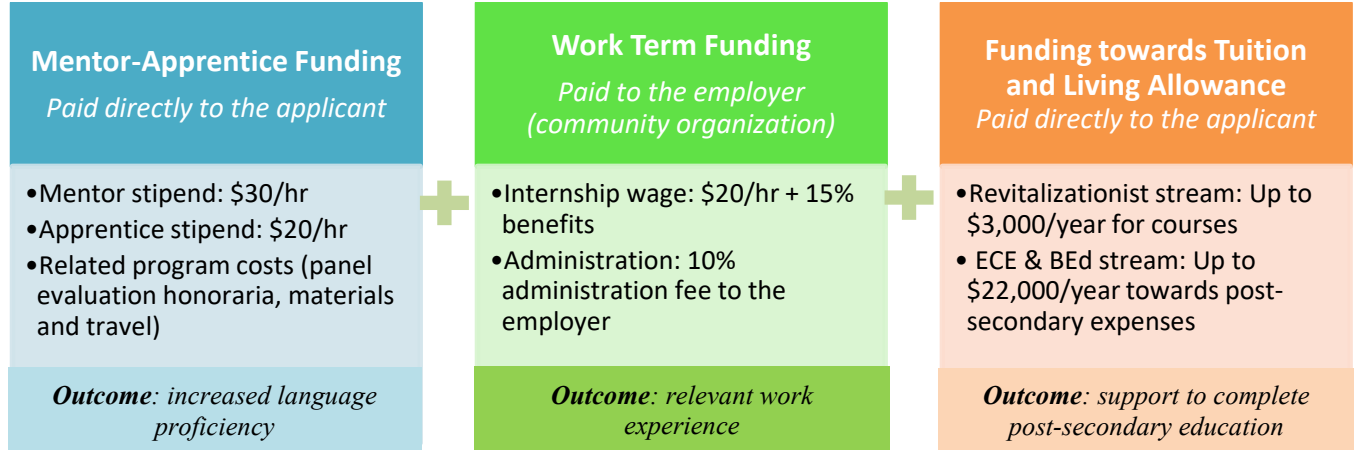
- Each grant is provided for one year at a time. The program year ends March 31, 2022. **Only one year of funding can be guaranteed at a time.** However, participants may be eligible to apply for additional years of funding as follows:
 - *Community Revitalizationist Stream:* Up to 2 years of funding
 - *Early Childhood Immersion Educator Stream:* Up to 3 years, 4 months of funding
 - *Language Immersion Teacher Stream:* Up to 6 years of funding
- Funding is distributed as reimbursement of work completed upon submission of required reporting by participant. Payments will be based on approved budget expenses only.



4. Program Stream Descriptions and Funding

Funding Overview

For all streams, funding consists of 3 components:



Supplies & Support: Program participants will be provided with a computer, an orientation workshop and ongoing support as they work through the program.

Community Language Revitalizationist Stream

In this two-year program¹, youth develop their language proficiency while gaining skills for a variety of community-based career options in language revitalization. Possible options:

- Language tech (FirstVoices, digitization, etc.)
- Resource development (curriculum support, illustrator, media developer)
- Language planner or coordinator, and more!

Youth will spend 10 hrs/wk in Mentor-Apprentice (MA) learning and 20 hrs/week employed by their community. Youth will also access online workshops and have opportunities to shadow language coaches or visit other communities to observe language initiatives.

Date	Activity	Funding Description
Revitalizationist Stream Year 1		
May to March	Orientation workshop Optional post-secondary courses of choice	Travel costs <i>if applicable</i> ; Materials \$200 Up to \$3,000 for courses
March	10 hrs/week MA learning (500 hours/year) 20 hrs/week language work term in community (1000 hrs/year; 50 weeks/year)	Student stipend up to \$30,000 Mentor stipend up to \$15,000 Community \$5,300 (admin & student benefits)
Revitalizationist Stream Year 2 **MUST REAPPLY		
May to March	Orientation workshop	Travel costs <i>if applicable</i> ; Materials \$200 Up to \$3,000 for courses
March	10 hrs/week MA learning (500 hours/year) 20 hrs/week language work term in community (1000 hrs/year; 50 weeks/year)	Student stipend up to \$30,000 Mentor stipend up to \$15,000 Community \$5,300 (admin & student benefits)

¹ Only one year of funding is guaranteed. Youth must reapply for Year 2 of the program.



Early Childhood Immersion Educator Stream

In this program (3 years, 4 months)², youth develop their language proficiency while studying to be Early Childhood Immersion Educators (ECEs). When not in school, youth will spend 10 hrs/wk in Mentor-Apprentice (MA) learning and 20 hrs/week employed by their community working in preschool facilities and preparing for a preschool immersion language nest.

NOTE: Thanks to a new grant from RSF Social Finance, funding towards the cost of the ECE program will also be provided. (Exact amount to be determined, dependent on number of participants per stream.) FPCC staff can also help direct students to bursary and loan programs.

Date	Activity	Funding Description
ECE Stream Year 1		
May-Aug	Orientation workshop	Travel <i>if applicable</i> ; Materials \$200
	10 hrs/week MA learning (160 hours total) 20 hrs/week language work term in community (320 hours; 16 weeks)	Student stipend up to \$9,600 Mentor stipend up to \$4,800 Community \$1,696 (admin & student benefits)
Sept-Apr	Attend school full time MA hours where possible	Up to \$18,667 towards tuition/living allowance Any MA hours reimbursed
ECE Stream Year 2 **MUST REAPPLY		
May-Aug	Attend workshop	Travel <i>if applicable</i> ; Materials \$200
	Continue education	Up to \$9,333 towards tuition/living allowance
Sept-Apr	10 hrs/week MA learning (340 hours total) 20 hrs/week employed in childcare centre (680 hours; 34 weeks)	Student stipend up to \$20,400 Mentor stipend up to \$10,200 Community \$3,604 (admin & student benefits)
ECE Stream Year 3 **MUST REAPPLY		
May-Aug	Attend workshop	Travel <i>if applicable</i> ; Materials \$200
	10 hrs/week MA learning (160 hours total) 20 hrs/week preparation for language nest (320 hours; 16 weeks)	Student stipend up to \$9,600 Mentor stipend up to \$4,800 Community \$1,696 (admin & student benefits)
Sept-Apr	5 hrs/week MA learning (170 hours total)	Student stipend up to \$3,400 Mentor stipend up to \$5,100
	Work in language nest	Language nest grant to community
ECE Stream Year 4 **MUST REAPPLY		
May-Aug	Attend Workshop	Travel <i>if applicable</i> ; Materials \$200
	10 hrs/week MA learning (160 hours total) 20 hrs/week preparation for language nest (320 hours; 16 weeks) <i>ECE stream ends August of Year 4</i>	Student stipend up to \$9,600 Mentor stipend up to \$4,800 Community \$1,696 (admin & student benefits)

² Only one year of funding is guaranteed. Youth must reapply for each year of the program.



Immersion Teacher Stream

In this 6-year program³, youth develop their language proficiency while studying to be language immersion teachers (Bachelor of Education). During the summers, youth will spend 10 hrs/wk in MA learning and 20 hrs/week employed by their community preparing resources which will assist with current and future teaching needs.

NOTE: Thanks to a new grant from RSF Social Finance, funding towards the cost of the Bachelor of Education program will also be provided. (Exact amount to be determined, dependent on number of participants per stream.) FPCC staff can also help direct students to bursary and loan programs.

Date	Activity	Funding Description
<i>Immersion Teacher Stream Year 1-6 **STUDENT MUST REAPPLY EACH YEAR</i>		
May-Aug	Orientation workshop	Travel <i>if applicable</i> Materials \$200
	10 hrs/week MA learning (160 hrs/year x 6 years) 20 hrs/week language work term in community (320 hours; 16 weeks/year x 6 years)	Student stipend up to \$9,600/yr Mentor stipend up to \$4,800/yr Community \$1,696/yr (admin & student benefits)
Sept-Apr	Attend school full time MA hrs where possible	Up to \$22,000 towards tuition/living allowance Any MA hrs reimbursed
	<i>Immersion Teacher stream ends April of Year 6</i>	

5. Application Tips

To complete the application you will need:

- A letter of intent from the applicant (youth)
- The applicant’s resumé/biography
- A letter of intent from the mentor
- The mentor's resumé/biography
- A signed and dated letter of support from the community
- Contact information for a potential supervisor from a community organization, daycare or school who agrees to support the applicant’s work term
- For ECE or Teacher applicants, proof of enrolment must be provided by March 31, 2021

- Applications must include a **letter of intent** from both the applicant and the mentor. These letters should clearly outline the applicants’ commitment to their language and interest in the program. The following additional information is particularly valuable:
 - Current work situations for the mentor and the applicant, and plan for completing the required hours. *The program requires a significant commitment of time. In many cases, it is best if the applicants plan to take some time off from their work in order to complete the hours.*

³ Only one year of funding is guaranteed. Youth must reapply for each year of the program.



- Past experience with the language, language revitalization efforts and reasons for wanting to learn the language. *Strong applicants demonstrate a commitment to their language that extends beyond this program.*
- Past and current community involvement. *Strong applicants demonstrate community involvement through language projects, cultural events or other initiatives.*
- Specific intentions to pass on the language to family members, children or community members upon completion of the program. *The ultimate goal of this program is to renew the intergenerational transmission of the language, from one generation to the next. Strong applicants demonstrate a clear commitment to pass the language on to family members, children, and/or other community members.*
- Applications must include a **resume or biography** from both the mentor and the applicant. Applicants can include information on cultural knowledge or previous engagement with their language and outline any community-based, academic or professional experiences.
- Applications must include one **letter of support** from the community for the team. This letter is ideally written by a respected community member. It is better to ask someone who is not closely related to the mentor and applicant (i.e. not a spouse or immediate family member) to write this letter.
- Application forms and all supporting documentation (letters of intent, resumes/biographies and community letter and form) should be submitted at the **same time on the FPCC Grant Portal**: at www.fpcc.ca/login. Please do not email or mail any part of the application.
- The Mentor-Apprentice part of the program is typically most successful as a **one-on-one** project with a team of one mentor and one Apprentice. Applicants who wish to apply with more than one mentor must contact FPCC staff to request special permission for this case.
- The Mentor-Apprentice hours should be completed in a one-on-one language immersion setting that allows apprentices to work at their own pace and gives the mentor the opportunity to provide context-specific instruction and feedback. It is not recommended for this work to be completed in a classroom setting, during school hours or within the daily activities of a language nest. While these settings provide valuable language-learning opportunities, they may inhibit the team from achieving the depth and breadth of language learning that is otherwise possible in a one-on-one setting.
- Please contact us with any questions you may have about your application. If you wish to receive feedback on your application before submitting a final copy, please complete a draft application and contact FPCC staff at least two weeks prior to the closing deadline. FPCC Language Program staff will provide you with feedback on your application so that you may revise and submit the application before the final deadline.