



Youth Empowered Speakers (YES) Program 2023 – 2024 Funding Guide

**Application Deadline:
June 14, 2023**



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COVID-19 Program Information

Updated August 29, 2022

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 many have been vaccinated, COVID-19 still poses a risk to our communities, staff and those most vulnerable to the serious effects of this illness. We want to be very careful that our programs do not put anyone at risk and ensure that they follow any current Provincial health orders (PHO) guidelines.

Although funding for FPCC programs does not require proof of vaccination, 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.

Tcwemstwalhkaálap ("you folks take care of one another" in Ucwalmícwts)
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 PHO.
- Applicants must consider how the program will proceed under possible 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](#).

Please review the full FPCC [COVID-19 Guidelines for Programs](#)



1. Introduction

Learn your language while working towards a rewarding career in language revitalization!

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. Early Childhood Immersion Educator Stream for ECE students alongside their education
2. Language Immersion Teacher Stream for BEd. students alongside their education
3. Community Language Revitalizationist Stream for students to develop their language proficiency while gaining skills for a variety of community-based career options in language revitalization.

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:

<https://fpcc.ca/resource/b-c-s-master-apprentice-language-program-handbook/>

Program Funders:

Funding for the Youth Empowered Speakers Program is provided by the Government of British Columbia through the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST), and by the Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH),

Funding Availability:

Funding for Youth Empowered Speakers program in 2023-2024 is dependent on confirmation of funding from FPCC's funders. Submission and acceptance of a grant application does not guarantee funding in this program. FPCC will make every effort to confirm funding for the 2023-2024 year as early as possible to support all approved applicants, but please be prepared for delays in the funding confirmation and delivery process.

We recognize that language revitalization requires long-term, sustainable funding. FPCC continues to advocate for guaranteed, ongoing funding from all levels of government and we are looking forward to that becoming a reality in the near future. At this time, the Youth Empowered Speakers program can only offer funding for one program year, but we invite applicants to reapply for additional years of the program.



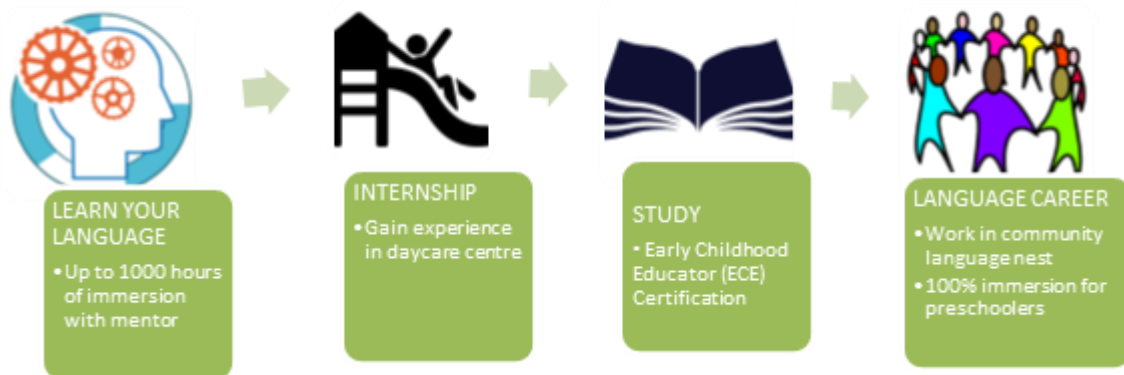
Direct your inquiries to:

Contact Name: Beckie Wesley, Language Program Associate
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2. YES Program Streams Description and Funding

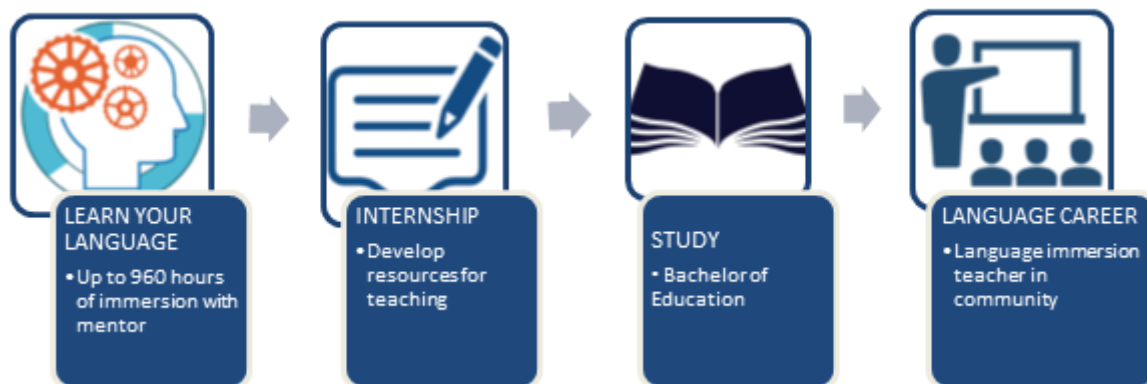
Stream 1: Early Childhood Immersion Educator for students in ECE programs

In this stream, youth develop their language proficiency while studying to be Early Childhood Immersion Educators (ECEs). When not in school, youth will spend 10 hours/week in Mentor-Apprentice (MAP) learning and 20 hours/week employed by their community working in preschool facilities and preparing for a preschool immersion language nest.



Stream 2: Language Immersion Teacher for students in BEd. Programs

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





Stream 3: Community Language Revitalizationist Stream for students in a degree/program which can be linked back to a career in language.

In this stream, youth develop their language proficiency while gaining skills for a variety of community-based career options in language revitalization. Youth will complete a minimum of 100 hours in Mentor-Apprentice (MAP) learning over the year. In addition to language learning, youth will receive support to gain post-secondary education in a field related to language revitalization. When not in full-time school, there is an optional internship of 20 hours/week employed by their community working in their area of study.

Examples of supported fields of study:

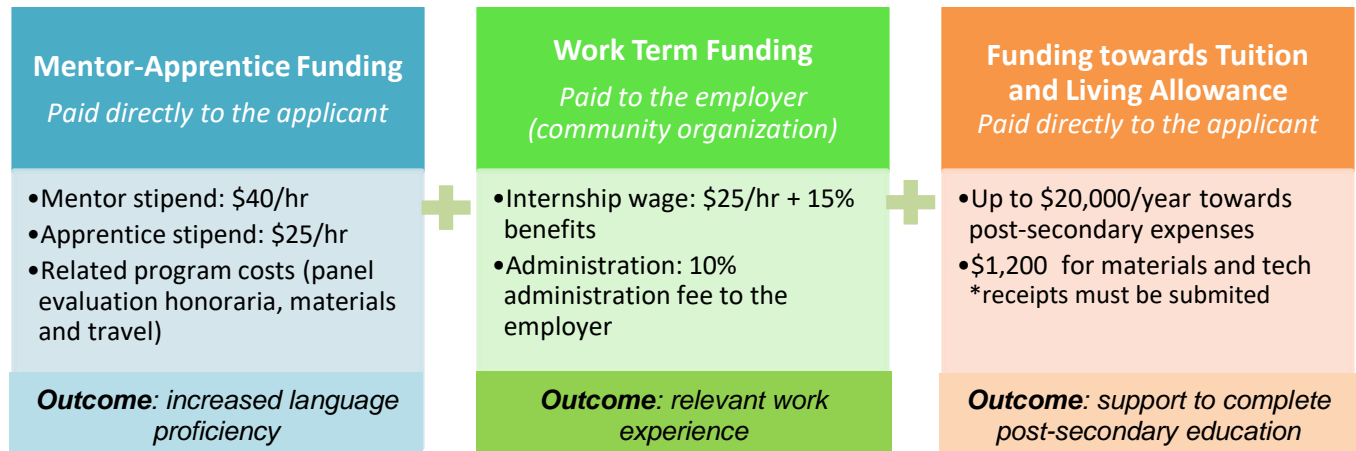
- Project Management
- Technology & Web development
- Visual Arts, Graphic Design, & Music
- Administration and/or Bookkeeping
- Indigenous Planning Programs
- Tourism
- Teachers Aid/Education Assistant
- Child and Youth Care
- Wellness/Health/Healing programs
- Adult Immersion Programs
- Fluency/Immersion in partnerships with Universities





Funding Overview

For each stream, funding consists of 3 components:



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

Program participants may apply for additional funding up to \$1,200 for materials and technology needs. This grant can go towards expenses for recording devices, microphone, laptop, etc. that is needed for schoolwork and/or language learning. Receipts must be for the current school year and must be submitted for approval before being reimbursed.

***Note:** Funding for the Mentor-Apprentice hours and the tuition and living allowances will be issued as **grants**. As grants are considered taxable income, all grant recipients, including the youth and their language mentor, will receive a T4A form at the end of the calendar year.

3. Eligibility

The Youth Empowered Speakers Program is open to B.C. First Nations youth aged 18-35. You do not need to be living in your community (on reserve) to be eligible; urban applicants are also eligible.

The YES Program is currently supporting three streams:

Early Childhood Immersion Educator Stream: Applicants must apply and be accepted for, or be currently enrolled in, an Early Childhood Education (ECE) program. Proof of program acceptance must be provided by June 30, 2023 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: Applicants must apply and be accepted for, or be currently enrolled in, a Bachelor of Education (BEd.) program. Proof of program acceptance must be provided by June 30, 2023 in order to be eligible for program funding. This program is done alongside the student's studies in a BEd. program.

Community Language Revitalizationist Stream: Applicants must apply and be accepted for, or be currently enrolled in, a related degree/diploma/certificate program supporting a career in language revitalization. Proof of program acceptance must be provided by June 30, 2023 in order to be eligible for program funding. This program is done alongside the student's studies in an accepted program.

4. Program Timeline

Step 1: Submit your application

Complete an application at www.fpcc.ca/login by June 14, 2023.

Step 2: Application Review

Applications will be reviewed in July 2023. Applications will be reviewed by FPCC staff and an external review committee with experience in language revitalization. The review process includes pre-screening for eligibility as well as an in-depth review for program fit and suitability.

Step 3: Program Orientation and Skills Workshop

The program orientation and skills workshop is planned for August 2023 (dates TBD) 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:

This program runs from August 1, 2023– April 30, 2024.

- Each grant is provided for one year at a time. The program year ends April 30, 2024. **Only one year of funding can be guaranteed at a time.** However, participants may be eligible to apply for additional years of funding.
- Funding is distributed as reimbursement of work completed upon submission of required reporting by the participant. Payments will be based on approved budget expenses only.

The following table outlines a sample timeline of a youth's enrollment in the YES program. FPCC's staff are committed to working with each youth to tailor the program to their educational and professional development needs.



Date	Activity	Funding Description
YES Program		
Aug - Sept	Orientation workshop MAP hours where possible	Travel stipend: <i>if applicable</i> Materials & Tech: up to \$1,200 (e.g., recording device, etc.) Any MAP hours reimbursed: Apprentice stipend \$25.00 per hour Mentor stipend \$40.00 per hour
Sep - Dec	Option 1: Attend school full time, fall term MAP hours where possible Option 2: (For applicants starting school in January term) 10 hrs/week MAP learning for 16 weeks (160 hours total) <i>more hours available should the youth wish to do more hours</i> 20 hrs/week language work term in community (320 hours; 16 weeks)	Up to \$20,000 towards tuition/living allowance Any MAP hours reimbursed: Apprentice stipend \$25.00 per hour Mentor stipend \$40.00 per hour Internship: Community \$10,120 (includes admin & student benefits)
Jan - Apr	Option 1: Attend school full time, spring term MAP hours where possible Option 2: (For applicants not in school for the spring session) 10 hrs/week MAP learning for 16 weeks (160 hours total) <i>more hours available should the youth wish to do more hours</i> 20 hrs/week language work term in community (320 hours; 16 weeks)	Up to \$20,000 towards tuition/living allowance Any MAP hours reimbursed: Apprentice stipend \$25.00 per hour Mentor stipend \$40.00 per hour Internship: Community \$10,120 (includes admin & student benefits)
<i>*FPCC's goal is to support YES participants for the length of time required to achieve the post-secondary degree and 900+ hours of language learning. However, only one year of the program can be guaranteed at a time. Should participants be invited back for subsequent years, the schedule will follow an adjusted timeline to account for the continuation.</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 internship work term
 - Proof of enrolment for an eligible post-secondary program for all streams must be provided by June 30, 2023.
- 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.*
 - 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 hours should be completed in a one-on-one language immersion setting that allows the youth 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.

Direct your inquiries to:

Contact Name: Beckie Wesley, Language Program Associate
Address: 1A Boat Ramp Road Brentwood Bay, B.C. V8M 1N9
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Website: www.fpcc.ca