



**Youth Empowered
Speakers (YES) Program
2024 – 2025 Funding Guide**

[Information Webinar](#)

Tuesday November 21, 2023

Application Deadline

Tuesday January 23, 2024



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COVID-19 Program Information

Updated March 23, 2023

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.

It is important 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.

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.

Tcwemstwallhká' lap ("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:

- Please ensure your project proposal meets the requirements listed in this document.
- 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](#)

Direct your inquiries to:

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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.
2. Language Immersion Teacher Stream for BEd students.
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 *Mentor/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 Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSFS), and by the Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH).

Funding Availability:

Funding for the Youth Empowered Speakers program in 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 year as early as possible to support all approved applicants, but please be prepared for delays in the funding confirmation and delivery process.

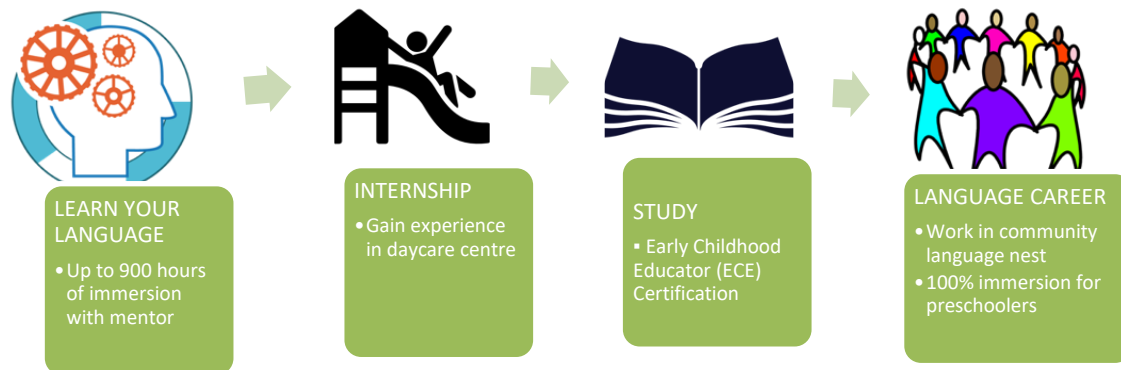
We recognize that language revitalization requires long-term, sustainable funding. FPCC continues to advocate for guaranteed, ongoing funding from all levels of government and we are looking forward to that becoming a reality in the near future. At this time, the Youth Empowered Speakers program can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



2. YES Program Streams Description and Funding

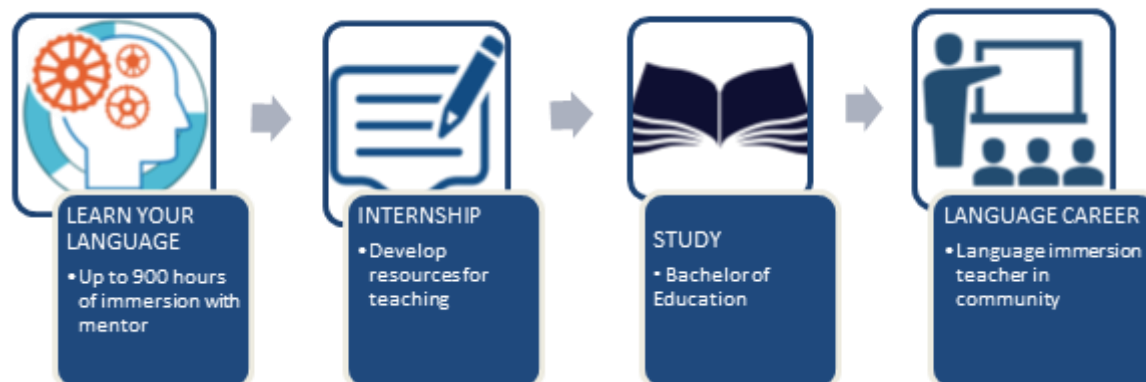
Stream 1: Early Childhood Immersion Educator for students in ECE programs

In this stream, youth develop their language proficiency while studying to be Early Childhood Immersion Educators (ECES). Youth will complete a minimum of 100 hours in Mentor-Apprentice (MAP) learning over the year. 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). Youth will complete a minimum of 100 hours in Mentor-Apprentice (MAP) learning over the year. 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.



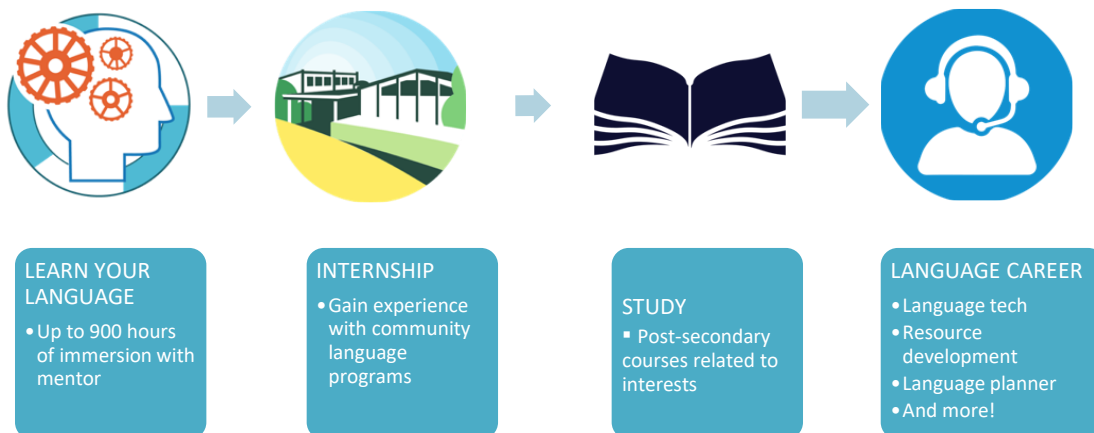


Stream 3: Community Language Revitalizationist Stream for students in a post-secondary program which can be linked back to a career in language.

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 employment working in their area of study in their community. The Community Internships give the youth the opportunity to have hands on experiences. Community organizations that are paired with youth, must be committed to exposing the youth to valuable work experiences in the youth's field of interest.

Examples of supported fields of study:

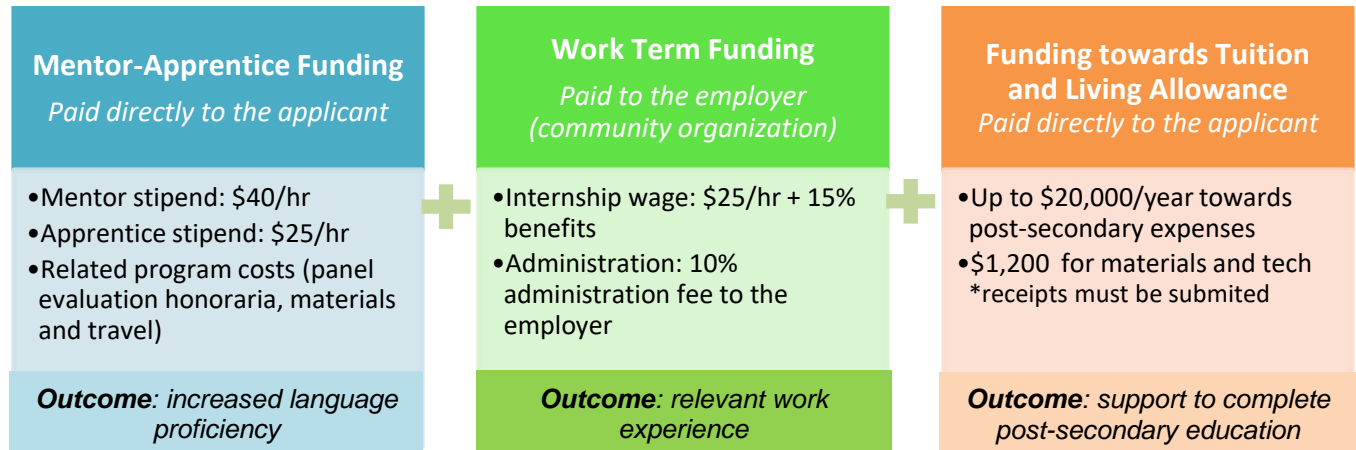
- Project Management
- Technology & Web development
- Visual Arts, Graphic Design, & Music
- Administration and/or Bookkeeping
- Indigenous Planning Programs
- Tourism
- Teachers Aid/Education Assistant
- Child and Youth Care
- Wellness/Health/Healing programs
- Adult Immersion Programs
- Fluency/Immersion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





Funding Overview

For each stream, funding consists of 3 components:



The total amount per team is up to \$38,320, plus an additional travel grant to cover travel and accommodation expenses for the Mentor-Apprentice team to attend the mandatory workshop.

Funding is distributed as reimbursement of work completed and at the beginning of each semester, upon submission of required reporting by YES participants. Payments will be based on approved budget expenses only.

Funding for the YES program for the scholarship and living allowance portions of this grant are intended to be the primary source of funding for these purposes and are not intended to overlap with other sources of funding. The YES Participant agrees to disclose any potential overlap of funding received from other sources for living allowances or tuition payments to FPHLCC. This includes post-secondary funding provided by a First Nation.

YES Participants may receive funding for tuition and living allowance from other sources, including post-secondary funding provided by a First Nation. If other sources of funding are less than the maximum provided by the YES grant, the YES Participant is eligible for a top-up amount so that all sources of funding total the maximum tuition and living allowance available under the YES grant. If the YES Participant is not receiving other funding for tuition and living allowance, the Participant is eligible for the maximum amount under the YES grant.



YES Budget and Grant Total

Description	Details of Cost	Maximum Amount Payable
Apprentice Stipend	\$25.00 per hour Up to 100 hours	Up to \$2,500.00
Mentor Honorarium	\$40.00 per hour Up to 100 hours	Up to \$4,000.00
Evaluation Sessions	\$150.00 per panel member, per evaluation, plus \$50.00 for food/refreshments	\$500.00
Additional Technology Stipend	May be provided as needed with prior approval for recording devices, microphone, laptop, etc. *Receipts must be for current school year and must be submitted for approval before being reimbursed.	Up to \$1,200.00
Scholarship for Approved Post-Secondary	Scholarship for eligible courses Up to \$8,000.00	Up to \$8,000.00
Living Allowance	\$1,500.00 per month (up to 8 months) while attending full-time post secondary program.	Up to \$12,000.00
Community Internship	\$25.00 per hour + 15% benefits* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 320 hours Administration 10% of youth Internship *Paid through community sponsor	Up to \$10,120.00
Total	Total Grant Amount	Up to \$38,320.00

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

Program participants may request additional funding up to \$1,200 for materials and technology needs. This grant can go towards expenses for recording devices, microphones, laptops, etc. that are 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:** All grant recipients, both 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.



*Teams with more than one mentor will split their hours with their mentors; the total grant amount will not exceed \$38,320.

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. Status cards are not required to be funded by FPCC. Proof of program acceptance must be provided by June 28, 2024 in order to be eligible for program funding.

4. Program Timeline

Step 1: Submit your application

Complete an application at www.fpcc.ca/login by January 23, 2024.

Step 2: Application Review

Applications will be reviewed in February 2024. 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 April 2024 (dates TBD) and is subject to cancellation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. **Attendance is mandatory, for both the youth and their language Mentor.** If held in person, a travel grant will be provided to cover travel and accommodation costs for the workshop.

There may be an additional training event held for the youth only (will not include the mentors) in the summer of 2024 (yet TBD).

Stage 4: Program implementation:

This program runs from May 1, 2024– April 30, 2025.

- Each grant is provided for one year at a time. The program year ends April 30, 2025. **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.

FPCC's staff are committed to working with each youth to tailor the program to their educational and professional development needs.

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 28, 2024.
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- 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 of Mentor-Apprentice language learning. *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.*
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- 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 by before December 1, 2023. 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:

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Webinar

YES Info Webinar will be held on Tuesday November 21st, 2023 from 12 – 1 pm. Register for the webinar here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsdOuvrDMqE9ZpAilozuw4ttClf2aN40GN>