CONTENTS

Message from the Board Chair .............................................. 2
About the First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation ....................... 3
Government of B.C. – Language Investment ....................... 5
FirstVoices ........................................................................ 6
Language Nest Program ...................................................... 10
Mentor-Apprentice Program ............................................... 12
Indigenous Languages Legislation Consultation .................. 13
Partnerships and Investment ............................................... 14
Program Funding ............................................................. 15
A Promising Future .......................................................... 16
On behalf of the First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation’s Board of Directors, it is my privilege to present the 2017/18 Annual Report.

The year 2017/18 was a significant turning point in our history, marked by the groundbreaking investment from the Government of B.C. of $50 million toward First Nations language revitalization. This is one of the most positive steps that we have seen so far regarding reconciliation with First Nations people. These funds will allow us to more fully address the needs of communities and the urgent need to protect First Nations languages before they are lost.

Over the past year, the First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation (the “Foundation”) has continued to contribute to language revitalization programs and projects across the province.

These programs included:

- Pre-school Language Nest Program
- Mentor-Apprentice Program
- FirstVoices
- Language revitalization advocacy and engagement
- Partnership building to support First Nations languages

We are proud to share that this year’s Language Nest program has provided funding for ten communities to participate in language immersion under the guidance and commitment of fluent Elders, language champions, teachers and assistants.

We also congratulate our FirstVoices team and our community partners on their successful contributions to the language data and archiving resources that continue to provide opportunities to deliver First Nations languages into the daily lives of our people.

Our languages are threatened with extinction. We cannot ensure their survival if we do not act now. The loss of languages means not only the loss of words, but the loss of thousands of years of accumulated knowledge, culture, connections and spirituality.

However, with increased awareness and a focus on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and the Calls to Action set forth by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC), we are optimistic that this generation will have the opportunity to revitalize the cultural systems and languages of this land.

We are grateful for the contributions from our supporters, as your generosity continues to make this vital work possible.

HÍSWḴE SIAM,

[Signature]
ABOUT THE FIRST PEOPLES’ CULTURAL FOUNDATION

The First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation is a non-profit society and registered charity. We were established to protect Indigenous languages, arts and cultural practices in British Columbia.

The Foundation was originally created to enable the First Peoples’ Cultural Council (FPCC) to access funding sources only open to non-profit societies. Recent amendments to our constitution have broadened the scope of the Foundation so that it can more effectively fundraise and partner with other organizations dedicated to Indigenous cultures and languages.

More than 50 percent of Indigenous languages in Canada are found in B.C., with 34 unique languages and 90+ dialects. The 2018 Report on the Status of B.C. First Nations Languages states the following:

- Fluent speakers of First Nations languages made up 3.0% of the total B.C. First Nations population. This number is declining as fluent speakers pass away.

- First Nations language learners made up 10.2% of the total provincial First Nations population. This number is growing as more children and adults work to learn their languages.

First Nations languages in B.C. have been impacted by colonization and are severely endangered. The time to protect these languages is now, before more fluent speakers pass away and more languages are lost. The Foundation funds innovative and effective programs which aim to increase the number of speakers of First Nations languages in B.C. and revitalize Indigenous cultural systems.

MISSION

The mission of the First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation is to inspire and empower First Nations to revitalize and enhance their languages, arts and cultures.

OUR GOALS

- Generate financial support and resources for language, art and cultural programs for British Columbia First Nations communities

- Create awareness of the rich and diverse languages of the First Nations of British Columbia; the wisdom, knowledge and culture they express, and their contribution to our collective heritage as British Columbians and Canadians
• Address social issues by recognizing that a strong cultural identity is fundamental to the health of individuals and communities

• Foster a sense of commitment among philanthropic organizations to invest locally in British Columbia First Nations arts, languages and cultures

• Facilitate opportunities for First Nations individuals, groups and communities to direct and invest in the revitalization of traditional art forms and preservation of First Nations languages and cultures

GOVERNANCE

The First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation is a transparent and accountable organization. Annual audited statements are available to the public on our website. The current Board of Directors was elected with the mandate to establish a skills-based board and create a sustainable fundraising strategy. Our board members bring years of experience working with and advocating for Indigenous communities.

KEY PARTNERS

• First Peoples’ Cultural Council

• Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

• Ministry of Children and Family Development

• National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund

• Tides Canada

• Vancouver Foundation

• Assembly of First Nations

Please visit our website to read more about the Board: www.fpcf.ca
On March 16, 2018, a press conference was held at the Royal BC Museum to announce the historic investment of $50 million by the B.C. government that will go toward the protection and revitalization of B.C. First Nations languages. With many First Nations languages presently facing extinction due to the policies and impacts of colonization, this investment signifies a commitment to reconciliation from past harm imposed on Indigenous peoples.

First Nations languages are an integral part of Canada’s shared history and culture. Revitalizing these languages is important for First Nations people and all Canadians. Strong links to First Nations language and culture are the foundations for personal identity and sense of belonging. Language has a vital role in the mental, physical and emotional health of First Nations communities and supports increased academic and economic success.

The new funding will expand community immersion programs that support the development of fluent speakers of First Nations languages. Funds will also support communities to undertake language planning and gatherings and will promote technologies to document languages through FirstVoices.

“When you have an opportunity to incorporate language into your life, the change is immense because you’re so connected to your culture, history and the knowledge of where you come from, the land,” said First Peoples’ Cultural Council CEO Tracey Herbert. To hear more of what the B.C. language champions have to say about the new investment in language revitalization work in B.C. go to: https://goo.gl/zGmch5
FUNDING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

FirstVoices

FirstVoices is an internationally recognized collection of online and mobile app-based language archiving and learning tools. First Nations communities receive training and technical support to develop and manage their own language and culture archives and resources using FirstVoices.

FirstVoices was initially launched in 2003 to aid in the protection of the 34 First Nations languages in B.C. It provides a space for First Nations community language teams to archive their languages by recording and uploading words, phrases, songs and stories to a secure, centralized database.

FirstVoices hosts 46 (35 public and 11 private) language archives in B.C. and supports 70 Indigenous communities in Canada, the U.S. and Australia. Administered by the FPCC, its content is entirely controlled and managed by community language administrators.

FIRSTVOICES 2.0

In 2014/15, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation provided $300,000 in funding to support the redevelopment of FirstVoices.com which was supplemented by an in-kind donation of $360,000 for development from Government Communications and Public Engagement – Government Digital Experience.

The First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation contributed $100,000 to complete the rebuild of the user interface. The new website launched on January 29, 2018. This new site has increased functionality and makes it easier for users to access and interact with their languages.
FIRSTVOICES KEYBOARDS

In May 2016, we launched FirstVoices Keyboards, our latest ground-breaking FirstVoices app for Apple and Android mobile devices. The FirstVoices Keyboards app contains keyboard software for over 100 languages and includes every Indigenous language in Canada and New Zealand, plus many Indigenous languages in Australia and the U.S. The app allows Indigenous speakers to use their mobile devices to write emails, send text messages and create other documents. It ensures that Indigenous people can use their languages in their everyday lives, which contributes to language revitalization.

FirstVoices Keyboards was created as an evolution of FirstVoices Chat, which was launched in 2012 and provided a way for people to have online conversations in their languages.

FIRSTVOICES DICTIONARY APPS

We are excited to report the addition of 13 new Indigenous language dictionaries to the suite of FirstVoices Dictionary Apps. Originally launched for Apple iOS in 2010, the apps are now also available for Android devices. Users can sort words and phrases by categories, bookmark items for later viewing and create flashcards.

The FirstVoices Dictionary Apps include the following languages:

- Halq'eméylem
- Ehattesaht
- Hlgaagilda Xaayda Kil
- Ktunaxa
- Kwak'wala
- Nazko-Dakelh
- Nisga’a
- Northern St’át’ímcets
- Secwepemc
- SENĆOTEN
- Tla’amin
- Ucwalmícwts
- Xeni Gwet’in

To download, visit: firstvoices.com/en/apps
FIRSTVOICES LANGUAGE TUTOR

The FirstVoices Language Tutor is an interactive, online teaching application that delivers graduated language exercises in vocabulary development, reading comprehension, listening and speaking. Language Tutor lessons are customizable and can be targeted to specific age groups or curriculum. Any word or phrase in an existing FirstVoices language archive can be used in a Language Tutor lesson, or new words and phrases can be added. The Language Tutor also offers a student tracking system that allows teachers to follow the progress of an entire classroom of students.

FIRSTVOICES KIDS

FirstVoices Kids is a set of interactive online games that provides pre-readers with access to the language resources at FirstVoices.com. FirstVoices Kids uses pictures to guide pre-readers through a series of simple steps to hear their language spoken and to associate words with pictures.

The games support fine motor development skills for novice computer users. As part of the relaunch of FirstVoices, the existing games were redesigned and updated to be more mobile friendly.
IMPROVEMENT TO FIRSTVOICES

In 2017/18 the Foundation received funding from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation to purchase cloud hosting services from Nuxeo, an open-source content management system. This purchase provided FirstVoices with the ability to add many useful features without having to develop them from scratch.

This service is of crucial importance to FirstVoices because it allows communities to have a safe, Canadian-based place to store their content, so that they can retain ownership and control over their language data. Nuxeo increases both the speed and functionality of the FirstVoices system. Users can now search across millions of documents, for words and phrases in their languages, in seconds.

In addition, the platform allows FirstVoices to retain a history of changes made to each word or phrase, giving communities important information about an entry’s legacy and protection against accidental data loss. It also increases the capacity of FirstVoices to integrate community feedback, for example allowing users to add new content to explain each word or phrase.

Overall, the Nuxeo purchase has allowed FirstVoices to stay up to date in the rapidly changing field of information technology and has increased security and protection for sensitive community-owned data.

The Foundation thanks the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation for funding this important infrastructure update to FirstVoices, making it even more accessible and user-friendly to meet community needs.
The Foundation continues to fund the Language Nest Program, which is administered through FPCC.

In Language Nests, children 0–5 years of age are immersed in their languages and culture in an environment that encourages healthy families and strong intergenerational ties. Fluent Elders participate as language and culture experts. Language Nest teachers are either fluent speakers of their languages or are in the process of becoming fluent speakers. Many Language Nests also create opportunities for young parents to learn the language and bring it back into their homes and daily lives.

The program’s success is built on the principle that young children learn languages more easily than any other age group and that immersion is the most effective way to create fluent speakers.

The goal of the project is to create a new generation of fluent First Nations language speakers.

This year, we were pleased to support ten Language Nests with funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The Foundation granted $250,000 to FPCC to administer the Language Nest Program. Of those funds, $212,180 were granted directly to communities, and the remainder ($37,820) was spent on training for participants, peer-review juries to make funding decisions, community resources and program administration.

Jeeneek (Tanya Louie) Language and Culture Assistant, Łuwechón (Iskut) Language Nest
2017/18 LANGUAGE NEST GRANT RECIPIENTS

The following communities received Language Nest funding from the Foundation in 2017/18:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LANGUAGE</th>
<th>RECIPIENT</th>
<th>GRANT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gitsenimx</td>
<td>Gitwangak Education Society</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwak’wala</td>
<td>Sacred Wolf Friendship Center</td>
<td>20,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nsylíxcan</td>
<td>Okanagan Indian Band</td>
<td>23,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nsylíxcan</td>
<td>Westbank First Nation</td>
<td>20,627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secwepemctsín</td>
<td>Tk’emlups te Secwépemc</td>
<td>21,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secwepemctsín</td>
<td>Adams Lake Indian Band</td>
<td>22,826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENĆOŦEN</td>
<td>WSÁNEĆ School Board</td>
<td>22,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tāltän</td>
<td>Tahltan Central Government</td>
<td>12,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsilhqot’in</td>
<td>Yunesit’in Government</td>
<td>24,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witsuwit’en</td>
<td>Kyah Wiget Education Society (WLCS)</td>
<td>23,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>212,179</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“All I want for our kids is for them to have that identity and be able to talk to other speakers and know that those connections are there.”
– Hiʔliqilaʔgelis Natasha Green, Manager/Principal of Kwanwatsi Language Nest
MENTOR-APPRENTICE PROGRAM

The Mentor-Apprentice Program pairs adult language learners one-on-one with fluent speakers to learn in an immersion environment at home and on the land. This highly structured program includes 300 hours of language immersion work over the course of a year, and pairs can receive funding for up to three years.

All Mentor-Apprentice teams receive specialized training and resources from FPCC, which helps them to be successful. These training sessions are very popular and are in high demand even from individuals not participating in the Mentor-Apprentice Program.

The Mentor-Apprentice Program is modeled on Indigenous approaches to learning, in which learning is inter-generational, relational and land-based. This approach is highly effective in increasing language fluency and passing on traditional knowledge.

In 2017/18, the Foundation received $10,000 for the Mentor-Apprentice Program from the Vancouver Foundation. These funds were granted to FPCC to support additional Mentor-Apprentice teams.

Indigenous languages are key connections to the land and culture of Indigenous people. Gisele Martin explains what learning her language through the Mentor-Apprentice Program has meant to her, saying, “It really helped me learn more than our language, because our language is the ecology of the place – it comes from the land. So, through that, I was able to learn so much more about our culture than I ever dreamed of. I learned not just my language, but I found pieces of my soul in different words that I learned.”

Sarah Tom and Christine Edgar at the 2018 Mentor-Apprentice Team Training
INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES LEGISLATION CONSULTATION

One of the Foundation’s goals is to generate long-term policy support and government investment in the protection and revitalization of Indigenous languages. To that end, the Foundation has worked with FPCC and the Assembly of First Nations to lead B.C. First Nations engagement with the Canadian government in order to establish national Indigenous Languages Legislation. If passed, this legislation could offer lasting protection to Indigenous languages across Canada.

In 2017/18, the Foundation funded five community engagement sessions across B.C. to gather input on the legislation. Over 150 people attended these sessions, which allowed community members to express their needs and expectations regarding the legislation. As a result of this engagement, a Framework for Indigenous Languages Legislation was developed to communicate community-based needs to the federal government.

Throughout this process, the Foundation has supported FPCC to make a case for British Columbia to receive an appropriate share of federal funding, as B.C. has over half of the Indigenous languages in Canada and all are in urgent need of protection. With support from the Foundation, FPCC has been able to advocate for the province to receive funding that is proportionate to the diversity of B.C. Indigenous languages.

The Indigenous Languages Legislation is still under development as of the end of fiscal year 2017/18.
PARTNERSHIPS AND INVESTMENT

The Foundation plays an important role in generating funding for Indigenous language revitalization. In 2017/18, the Foundation worked with FPCC to advocate for provincial investment in First Nations languages. By creating a compelling business case for investment with a clear strategy for implementation, and promoting it with policy makers, the door was opened to receive significant investment to support First Nations languages. In March 2018 these efforts were rewarded with the historic announcement of a $50 million provincial investment.

In addition, the Foundation works to cultivate new funding relationships. In 2017/18 the Foundation gained two new funders: The National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund and Vancouver Foundation. These funders contributed close to $60,000 to the Foundation. Relationship building with new funders continues to be a priority for the Foundation, as the work of language revitalization will require a broad range of investments from the public and private sectors.

The Foundation also raises funds through the investment of capital. Capital preservation is paramount when providing the delivery of grants. A large portion of the Foundation’s investment portfolio has a short-term allocation, comprised of secure cash investments to protect capital, generate income and maintain a solid financial base. The long-term portion is positioned with a balanced allocation to stocks and bonds, designed to reward as well as protect through market cycles.

After years of steady growth, 2018 proved a challenge for investors worldwide, particularly in the last three months of the year. The Foundation’s returns have been consistent with a balanced portfolio and produced a six percent return. The Foundation continues to follow a disciplined investment approach, participating in up markets while protecting capital through challenging market environments.

The Foundation’s investment strategy includes a goal to build membership and generate a broader base of philanthropy. Over the next five years we aim to increase our revenues and achieve long-term returns that will build ongoing sources of funding for Indigenous arts, language and cultural heritage revitalization.
PROGRAM FUNDING 2017/18

As a transparent and accountable organization, the Foundation publicly shares financial information. The following tables outline a snapshot of the sources of revenue and expenditures for the past fiscal year. The investment of $50,000,000 for language revitalization is categorized as deferred revenue and can be seen on the full audited statements along with other continuing programs.

SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS BY PROGRAM: REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. MCFD</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. MIRR</td>
<td>19,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Peoples’ Cultural Council</td>
<td>56,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Indian Brotherhood</td>
<td>49,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tides Canada Foundation</td>
<td>2,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Foundation</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividend Income</td>
<td>7,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>2,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>399,594</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS BY PROGRAM: EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Grant Administration</td>
<td>274,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractor Fees (Languages Legislation Consultation)</td>
<td>37,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
<td>7,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>License and Dues (Nuxeo)</td>
<td>19,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Management Fees</td>
<td>3,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising and Promotion</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel (Languages Legislation Consultation)</td>
<td>30,616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>399,594</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FINANCIALS AND AUDITORS’ REPORT

To download our audited financial reports, please visit: http://fpcf.ca/reporting-financials/

1. Ministry of Children and Family Development
2. Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
A PROMISING FUTURE

With the historic investment of $50 million in First Nations language revitalization in 2018, the Foundation will be better placed in the coming years to realize our mission. These funds will allow us to support more communities and fund more comprehensive, long-term initiatives.

While this investment is a promising start, a significantly greater investment is needed to support First Nations languages in the long-term. The Foundation is seeking to establish a sustainable source of funding by creating a legacy fund for language and cultural heritage through partnerships with funders who share our values and commitments. Our goal is for all 34 B.C. First Nations languages in B.C. to have a chance to receive the support they deserve, so that no more languages will be lost.

The Foundation offers an attractive investment to those who want to create real change in Indigenous communities. By keeping operational costs low and collaborating with established partners such as First Peoples’ Cultural Council, we are able to maximize community based-grants and reduce administration costs.

Investment in the Foundation is an excellent opportunity for organizations to participate in reconciliation and show support for Indigenous rights in a meaningful and impactful way. Our activities directly support the goals of language and cultural revitalization outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP). We are seeking funders and partners from the private sector who can contribute to our goals and support our efforts to provide a lasting source of support for Indigenous language and culture revitalization.

Over the next three years we will build our partnerships and provide funding to language immersion programs and community planning for language revitalization. We will also continue to drive policy change and advocate for funding that is commensurate with the urgent needs of First Nations languages in B.C.

We envision a future in which Indigenous languages, arts and culture in B.C. are thriving, receiving the support and recognition they deserve.