

What is FirstVoices?

FirstVoices.com is an online space for First Nations communities to share and promote their languages, oral cultures and linguistic history.

Language champions in communities collaborate with Elders to create a variety of language resources, such as audio recordings of words, phrases, songs and stories. These resources are uploaded to a secure community website, which represents a First Nation or band.

These unique community sites promote the diversity of First Nations languages and cultures in B.C. Their content can be shared with learners, teachers and community members, no matter where they live. Most importantly, communities retain ownership and copyright of content created by them for use on their community site.

In addition to the online platform, FirstVoices has Indigenous language keyboards, apps and a help desk to support language champions with technology needs.

Over
600,000
data points on FirstVoices

85+
language sites
available

How many languages are represented on FirstVoices?

B.C. is unique in Canada for its First Nations language diversity. There are 7 Indigenous language families and 35 languages in B.C., representing over 50% of the First Nations languages in Canada.

FirstVoices includes sites for 33 of the 35 B.C.-based languages. In addition, FirstVoices also includes languages from other places around North America and Australia. There are over 85 language sites available.

How much language data is on FirstVoices?

There are over 600,000 data points on FirstVoices. These include words, phrases, songs, stories and supporting media. All this content was created by community teams to support language revitalization!

An initiative of



FIRST PEOPLES'
CULTURAL COUNCIL



FIRST PEOPLES'
CULTURAL FOUNDATION



FirstVoices

www.firstvoices.com

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The development of FirstVoices has been supported by the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation, the Province of B.C. and the Department of Canadian Heritage.



Why are initiatives like FirstVoices important?

- ✦ Data shared on FirstVoices can be passed on to future generations, which supports languages to thrive into the future.
- ✦ FirstVoices provides a platform that B.C. First Nations communities can use free-of-charge. Communities bring ideas to improve the platform, which strengthens it over time.

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