

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology Edition / Chipewyan



Intangible

Norm

Authenticity

Customs

Mitigation

Guideline

Culture

Kinship

Archaeology

Ethno-geography

Diverse languages and cultures in the North mean interpreters and translators have an important and challenging job. Whether it is explaining what has been said or what has been written, superior translation and interpretation helps people understand and it is important to good decision-making.

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board strongly believes by building the capacity of interpreters and translators, communities, industry, government and regulators can be more confident that what is being communicated has been accurately translated.

At the Review Board's interpreter/translator workshops, the participants discuss English words and ways to explain them in their aboriginal language. The result is a glossary of terms, which contains the English concepts and ideas and the aboriginal-language equivalents.

This glossary of terms is the result of the Review Board's fifth translator workshop, which focused on developing cultural impact assessment terminology. The translations included in this glossary may require further revisions depending on how the words are used during interpretation and translation. Because the Review Board has not been able to work with and record each dialect, translators are encouraged to speak to elders and community experts for translations. The glossary provides spaces for interpreters and translators to write in their own translations, correct errors, or add general notes.

This glossary can be downloaded from the Review Board's website, in the reference library, at [reviewboard.ca](http://reviewboard.ca).



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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

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## Guidelines

A document that explains how to do something.

ʔeritł'is bedàgharé ʔégháladá

### Back Translation

Work by paper.

Notes:

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## Cultural Impact Assessment

Looking to see if a proposed development will change a way of life.

La k'e nont'á bet'á nuwé ch'anié  
ʔedq ʔané dé xá bek'qnetá

### Back Translation

Looking to see if the proposed development will change our way of life.

Notes:

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## Culture

A way of life.

*This includes customs, ideas and traditions that are passed down through generations.*

Dené chanié

### Back Translation

Culture.

Notes:

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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

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## Culture Holder

A person who has culture.

*e.g.: People of the Sahtu who are from there and practice their way of life.*

Dené ch'anié ts'utun

## Back Translation

Culture holder.

Notes:

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## Traditional Knowledge

Knowledge, skills and beliefs rooted in a traditional way of life.

Nuwé ch'anié bek'orílyą

## Back Translation

We know our culture.

Notes:

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## Traditional Knowledge Holders

People who have knowledge, skills and beliefs rooted in a traditional way of life.

Dené ch'anié begharé daídá

## Back Translation

We live according to our culture.

Notes:

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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

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## Concerns

Things that interest people.

ʔasié honiláʔáli ʔá begħa nanadé

### Back Translation

Things we might worry about.

Notes:

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## Community Engagement

Ways used to get communities to pay attention to a project.

*e.g.: Hosting public meetings, information sessions, going door to door to inform people and get them interested.*

Hayorɫa Dené ʔała nidél  
ʔasaɲuwé ts'édí xá

### Back Translation

Community involvement.

Notes:

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## Heritage

A people's history and tradition.

Thaidené benadheré

### Back Translation

Our ancestors' history.

Notes:

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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

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## Heritage Value

Worth something because of our history and tradition.

Thaidené benadhderé bet'oréʔá  
duwé

### Back Translation

Our ancestor's history is very important.

Notes:

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## Physical Heritage Resources

Things that show our history and tradition.

*e.g.: Traditional trails, old buildings, spruce root and birch bark baskets, etc.*

Thaidené bezas k'é horét'ı

### Back Translation

Evidence that our ancestors left behind.

Notes:

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## Place Names Research

Looking at traditional names for a place.

Nı bezi hałé k'ónetá

### Back Translation

Research for place names.

Notes:

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## Cultural Landscape

Land changed, influenced or given special meaning by people.

*e.g.: The story of Yamoria, Bear Rock or the Idaa Trail.*

Degaiy nené

## Back Translation

Sacred sites.

Notes:

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## Traditional Use Studies

Looking at the way people use the land.

Thaidené t'at'u nik'é ndé bek'onetá

## Back Translation

Studying the way our ancestors lived on the land.

Notes:

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## Archaeology

Looking for what humans left behind from long ago.

*I: The old things can often tell us about the ancient way of life, like how people used to live, hunt, trap, believe, and much more.*

Thaidené békun k'é dqlá sí bek'onéká

## Back Translation

Study of our ancestors' campsites.

Notes:

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**Artifact**

Something made by humans long ago.

*e.g.: Old spruce root baskets, old moccasins, stone arrowheads.*

*I: Sometimes we find artifacts at archeological sites, or they are items kept by someone for a very long time.*

Thaidené béyué

**Back Translation**

What ancestors made.

Notes:

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**Archaeological Resources**

Things that humans left behind long ago.

*e.g.: Stone arrowheads, old caches and tent rings.*

Thaidené békunk'é

**Back Translation**

Researching ancestors belongings.

Notes:

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**Archaeological Sites**

Places we look for what humans left behind long ago.

*e.g.: Looking at places where people used to gather to see the old stuff left behind, like stone arrowheads, tent rings, and other stone tools. Edahcho, Saoyue, Edaiilla (Scented Grass Hills, Grizzly Bear Mountain and Caribou Point) are examples of archaeological sites.*

Thaidené bekunk'é

**Back Translation**

Ancestors' camp site.

Notes:

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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

## **Tangible**

Things that you can touch.

*e.g.: Artifacts, sewing, spiritual sites, tools for hunting and trapping, old trails are examples of tangible parts of culture that you can see or touch.*

ʔasié t'á bezídi haduwé hilé sɪ

## **Back Translation**

Something you can touch.

Notes:

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## **Intangible**

Things that you cannot touch.

*Instead, these are things that you do or practice. For example, praying and speaking your language are examples of intangible parts of culture.*

ʔasié t'á boret'ílé sɪ Dené yerédi

## **Back Translation**

Something you can't see but you can feel it.

Notes:

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## **Linguistic Studies**

Study of languages.

Harélyq̄ yatı ʔéłk'é ch'á bek'q̄nétá

## **Back Translation**

Study of language.

Notes:

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## **Kinship**

Family relationships.

*e.g.: Grandmother, mother, father, brother, sister, cousin, auntie and uncle are examples of people who are family relatives.*

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## **Back Translation**

Family relatives.

Notes:

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## **Kinship Studies**

Study of family relationships.

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## **Back Translation**

Relative studies.

Notes:

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## **Cultural Networks**

The way groups work together.

*In our communities, there are Elders, youth, leaders, etc. How is it that they work together?*

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## **Back Translation**

How community people work together.

Notes:

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## Ethno-Geography

Looking at where people are spread across the land and how they adapted to the environment.

*e.g.: The Dene and Inuit people have adapted to their land in different ways. Dene used to live in teepees and the Inuit used to live in igloos.*

t'at'u Dené ník'é hudël

## Back Translation

How people adapted to the land.

Notes:

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## Cultural Practices

Things that people do to practice their culture.

*e.g.: Speaking your languages and practicing religious ceremonies.*

Dené ch'anié begharé ts'éná

## Back Translation

We live by our culture.

Notes:

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## Cultural Indicators

Things that show the way a culture is changing.

*e.g.: How much or how often people speak their language is a good indication of how a culture is changing.*

?asit'á nuwé ch'anié ʔedq nudhír

## Back Translation

Something that shows our culture is changing.

Notes:

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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

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## Cultural Maintenance

Things we do to practice our culture so that our culture stays strong.

*To keep our culture strong, we often speak our language, drum dance and play hand games.*

Dené ch'aníé bek'é ʔéghaládá nuwé  
ghą hulé ʔané ch'á

## Back Translation

Practicing our culture to keep from losing it.

Notes:

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## Mitigation

Make bad changes better.

*e.g.: When there is not enough caribou, we only hunt the bulls and not the cows.*

ʔasié nezólé ʔané tthé ch'á bek'é  
ʔéghaládá

## Back Translation

Before something gets bad working towards making it better.

Notes:

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## Mitigation Strategies

Ways to make bad changes better.

ʔasié nezólé sı sénályé bebązé ts'ęn  
ʔéghaládá nezọ

## Back Translation

Working towards making bad changes made better.

Notes:

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**Cultural Transmission**

The way culture is passed down to future generations.

Yunedhé xá Dené ch'anié Sekui honéltën

**Back Translation**

Passing culture down to future generations.

Notes:

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**Vulnerable Populations**

People more likely to experience bad changes.

Dené bá horéłni

**Back Translation**

Because of changes hardships are experienced by some people.

Notes:

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**Limits of Acceptable Change**

The most that something can change before it is no longer pleasing.

*e.g.: Adding a boardwalk to a traditional trail for easier walking is acceptable, but turning the trail into a paved road would no longer acceptable.*

ʔasié ʔedq ʔané huli béʔazı xaxıǰlé

**Back Translation**

Changed to a certain point.

Notes:

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# Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

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## Sense of Place

Knowing that a certain place is special.

Ni beséts'udl

### Back Translation

Land that is respected.

Notes:

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## Oral History

History told through oral tradition.

Yunizl hání

### Back Translation

Old story.

Notes:

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## Cross-Cultural Awareness Training (Cultural Sensitivity Training)

Classes to learn about aboriginal people and culture.

?ełké'ch'a dene ch'anie Dené  
honeltën

### Back Translation

Different cultures teaching each other.

Notes:

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**Inter-Generational Relations**

Relationships between people of different ages.

*Like, how do youth and elders*

*get along? e.g.: How or why a 20 year old interacts with a 50 or an 80 year old.*

*Perhaps they have a friendship, or they are a parent or grandparent.*

Dënegodhé, ʔəłneth ʔéłnis nadé

**Back Translation**

Youth and elders living together.

Notes:

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**Valued Component**

Parts that are important and worth something.

Naí ʔasié bedı xaʔaıłé

**Back Translation**

Some things we can not go without.

Notes:

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**Authenticity**

An object, activity or event that is real or true to the culture it comes from.

*e.g.: Some people may believe that the story of Yamoria (Hácho) is a myth or a legend, but most Dene believe that it is a true story.*

ʔółt'é

**Back Translation**

The way it is.

Notes:

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## Intellectual Property

Knowledge that belongs to a person or a group.

ʔasié ʔaké yedánerení

### Back Translation

Something that is understood by people.

Notes:

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## Greenfield Development

Development happening in a place that has never been touched before.

Dirí nı bék'é ghaládá hułıłé huli bek'é  
zéghqladá xá

### Back Translation

Undeveloped land is being developed.

Notes:

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## Brownfield Development

Development happening in a place that already has other projects that have happened there before.

Nık'é ghaladá sı ʔałq daʔazı bek'é  
ghaládá ʔajá

### Back Translation

More work is being done on land that is already being developed.

Notes:

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**Customs**

The way a community feels people should behave.

*e.g.: Shaking hands when you first meet someone is a sign of respect.*

Dené t'análdé

**Back Translation**

Persons behaviour.

Notes:

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**Norm**

The usual or normal thing.

Kut'á hat'é ʔat'é

**Back Translation**

That's the way it is.

Notes:

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**Use Value**

Judging how much something is worth based on how much we use it.

*e.g.: We like trees because they can be used as firewood.*

Bet'oréʔá

**Back Translation**

It's important.

Notes:

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## Bequest Value

Something natural that is worth preserving to pass on to future generations.

*e.g.: We want to save the forest so that our children can also benefit from it.*

Yunedhé sekuí daniyé sɪ bebá bék'anɪ

## Back Translation

Keep it for the future generations.

Notes:

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## Existence Value

Something that we value because it exists.

*e.g.: We like the forest because it is there and nice to have around.*

ʔasié t'á bet'orɔdher ʔalisi

## Back Translation

Something that can be useful.

Notes:

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