

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology Edition / Weledeh



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.



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Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

Guidelines

A document that explains how to do something.

Weghàà eghàlats'eda

Back Translation

We work according to it.

Notes:

Cultural Impact Assessment

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

Ahsì gonàowo wexìdì ha
wek'ahotah

Back Translation

Assessing whether it will affect our way of life.

Notes:

Culture

A way of life.

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

Gonàowo

Whàedq wenàowó

Back Translation

Our way of life.
Ancestors' way of life.

Notes:



Culture Holder

A person who has culture.

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

Dq̄ne nàowo yit̄ò

Back Translation

Person who holds our culture.

Notes:

Traditional Knowledge

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

Whàedq̄ nàowo

Back Translation

Ancestors' knowledge.

Notes:

Traditional Knowledge Holders

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

Whàedq̄ nàowo yit̄ò

Back Translation

Person who knows the ancestors' way of life.

Notes:



Concerns

Things that interest people.

Nàniets'edè

Back Translation

Worrying about it.

Notes:

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.

Yatı ełeghààgeṛà

Back Translation

Exchanging words.

Notes:

Heritage

A people's history and tradition.

Whàedq nàowo

Back Translation

Traditional ways.

Notes:



Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

Heritage Value

Worth something because of our history and tradition.

Gowhàedq wìllà wet'aṛà

Back Translation

Person who holds our culture.

Notes:

Physical Heritage Resources

Things that show our history and tradition.

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

Weghà gonàowo wegah't`ì

Back Translation

By it our culture shows or is evident.

Notes:

Place Names Research

Looking at traditional names for a place.

Ndè wìzì gòts`ìhṛà

Back Translation

Finding names for the land.

Notes:



Cultural Landscape

Land changed, influenced or given special meaning by people.

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

Whàedọ k'è

Kọ k'è

Back Translation

Our ancestral ways.

Historic sites.

Notes:

Traditional Use Studies

Looking at the way people used to use the land.

Edàanì gowhàedọ ndè k'e gllndà
wek'e ts'aadè

Back Translation

How our ancestors used the land and we are still practicing it.

Notes:

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.

Whàedọ goht'ọ hàgeeta

Back Translation

Looking for ancestral items.

Notes:



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.

Whàedq goht'q hoòlq

Back Translation

Items made by ancestors.

Notes:

Archaeological Resources

Things that humans left behind long ago.

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

Whàedq goht'q àila

Back Translation

Ancestral items left behind.

Notes:

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.

Whàedq goht'q whela k'è

Back Translation

Place where ancestral items are located/situated.

Notes:



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.

Weghàts'enda xè dats'echi

Back Translation

We can see it and touch it.

Notes:

Intangible

Things that you cannot touch.

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

Weghàts'enda xè dats'echi ha dīi

Back Translation

We cannot see it and touch it.

Notes:

Linguistic Studies

Study of languages.

Yatı wedàràts'eta

Back Translation

We study language(s).

Notes:



Kinship

Family relationships.

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

Xà gòet'ìì

Golahko

Back Translation

Family relationships.

Close relatives.

Notes:

Kinship Studies

Study of family relationships.

Xà gòet'ìì wedànàts'eta

Back Translation

We study family relationships.

Notes:

Cultural Networks

The way groups work together.

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

Gonàowo t'à ełexè eghàlats'eda

Back Translation

According to our culture we work together.

Notes:



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.

Edàanì dọne ndè kàʔa k'e nàgııdè

Back Translation

How people lived on different types of land.

Notes:

Cultural Practices

Things that people do to practice their culture.

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

Dọne nàowo k'è ets'eènda

Back Translation

Living by our way of life.

Notes:

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.

Wet'à gonàowo eʔadı adade
wek'èts'ezhọ

Back Translation

By it we know our culture is changing.

Notes:



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.

Wet'à gonàowo nàtso

Back Translation

By it our culture is strong.

Notes:

Mitigation

Make bad changes better.

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

Senàts'eh7ì

Back Translation

Making it better.

Notes:

Mitigation Strategies

Ways to make bad changes better.

Eyit'à senàts'eh7ì

Back Translation

By it we make it better.

Notes:



Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

Cultural Transmission

The way culture is passed down to future generations.

Edàani ełek'èts'eedè nàowo
hałets'eetq

Back Translation

How we teach each other culture through the cycle of life.

Notes:

Vulnerable Populations

People more likely to experience bad changes.

Ek'edi-le sii akwetq wexiidi ha

Back Translation

The weakest ones are affected first.

Notes:

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.

|ka whi-le wekwe

Nezi-le ade kwe

Dqne hqt'a gigha nezi-le

Back Translation

Before it's too late.

Before it gets bad.

People are no longer happy about it.

Notes:



Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

Sense of Place

Knowing that a certain place is special.

Gokò/gonêè lanì ts'ìwọ

Back Translation

We consider it like our home/land.

Notes:

Oral History

History told through oral tradition.

Gowhàedọ wegondi

Back Translation

Ancestors' stories.

Notes:

Cross-Cultural Awareness Training (Cultural Sensitivity Training)

Classes to learn about aboriginal people and culture.

Dọne nàowo ghọ hoghàgotọ

Back Translation

Culture is being taught to us.

Notes:



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.

Dᓄne gighoò kaᓐa eᓄexè eghàlagìde

Back Translation

People of different ages working together.

Notes:

Valued Component

Parts that are important and worth something.

Asìì kaᓐa gogha wet'aᓐà

Back Translation

Different things that are worth something/valuable to us.

Notes:

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.

Ehkw'ì axodì

Xàrè

Back Translation

It is said to be true or real.
For real/authentic.

Notes:

Cultural Impact Assessment Terminology

Intellectual Property

Knowledge that belongs to a person or a group.

Asìi xàrè dọne ts'ọ elì

Xàrè dọne ts'ọ

Back Translation

Something real/authentic belonging to someone.

Real/authentic/original.

Notes:

Greenfield Development

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

Ndè wegòò k'e eghàlahòda

Back Translation

Developing on new land.

Notes:

Brownfield Development

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

Ndè k'e eghàgìde k'e weèṛọ ts'ọ nàgehtsìà

Back Translation

Will add to the development.

Notes:



Customs

The way a community feels people should behave.

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

Gonàowo

Back Translation

Our way of life.

Notes:

Norm

The usual or normal thing.

Ats'q hanì hats'ehʔ

Hagqht'e

Back Translation

Always doing it in that way.

That's the way it is.

Notes:

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.

Asìì gogha wet'aʔà

Wet'ahots'eèhʔà

Back Translation

Something that is important/valuable to us.

We depend on it.

Notes:



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.

Wet'aḡà t'à gokè gidânèts'eḡà

Back Translation

Because it is important we leave it for our children.

Notes:

Existence Value

Something that we value because it exists.

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

Asii gòhḡ sii gogha wet'aḡà

Back Translation

Something that exists is important to us.

Notes:



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