GWICH'IN LITERACY SESSION

Workshop held at the Yukon Native Language Centre
Whitehorse, Yukon

November 18-20, 1997

Instructed by:

Mr. John Ritter
Yukon Native Language Centre

Yukon Native Language Centre

1997
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Yukon Native Language Centre  
Gwich'in Literacy Session  
November 18 - 20, 1997

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<td>Ms. Alestine Andre</td>
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<td>Tsiigehtchic, N.T  X0E 0B0</td>
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<td>Ms. Lisa Andre</td>
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<td>Ms. Mary Effie Snowshoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Lucy Wilson</td>
<td>Fort McPherson, N.T.</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>CH'ILÌK 15 - CONTINUED</td>
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<td>PLACE NAMES AA</td>
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PRAYERS

Opening Prayer
Tuesday, November 18, 1997
Mrs. Ruth Carroll

Prayer opens with “Nakhwati’ zhee zhît” in Gwich’in, followed by:

K’èegwaadhat zhee kak nakhwati’,
chan jûk drin jii gwandâih hàh khànachàazhii geenjit hàj’ nuujiidînùh.
Neesrigijâhch’uú nakhwwoojiinùu,
jûk drin nakhwagwitr’it gwiheezaa geenjit nakhwâh îîlih.
Zhàt jii kaiik’it gwizhit nakhwaginjîk zhît gwitr’it nagwahaatsyàa
eenjit ìdîhàajîl, gwîinzîh ts’ât zhàt ìehtaniidîjîl datthàk geenjit hàj’ nyàadinùh,
Jidîi datthàk nakhweenjit gwîinzîi gwaatsîi gwinjîk nachiidiâdal dài’
geenjit nahn tr’ooch’ît hàj’ nyàadinùh.
Jûk jii nakhwagwitr’ît eenjit zhàt ìanadhàajîl K’èegwaadhat
nakhwedatthàk nakhwàh hijîlyaa gadiinjiidîzhît.
Nîts’ôo ginjîh hàatsa, jidiî geetàk ginjîh vigòntrîi, jidiî
gàh’îdàndâih kwaa dài’ K’èegwaadhat geenjit gwîzhîi
nakhwats’an hàhtsa geenjit nîts’ât oojîidàkât.
Jîi juudîn ganikhwoonahtan kat datthàk K’èegwaadhat nakhweenjit
gwîinzîi gwitr’ît gogwahahtsaa ji’ geenjit gwîts’ât
gik’haandal ts’ât zhat gehleejiidâdâh.
Jidîi geenjit gâgîtîidîkhyaa datthàk K’èegwaadhat nakhwàh geenjit
îîlih.
Opening Prayer - Mrs. Ruth Carroll

Nich’ink’yùu sroodidinùu nakhwak’òo nagwijiinja, K’èegwaadhat.
Tsinehdanh gwiinzii gwandàih hàh zhàt gwizhìt nihkhàh
hadâach’yaa jìi geenjit nits’át oojiidàkàt.
NikhweeK’àgwaadhat Jesus Christ voozrì’ zhìt,
Amen.
PRAYERS

Opening Prayer
Wednesday, November 19, 1997
Mrs. Mary Effie Snowshoe

Prayer opens with “Nakhwati’ zhee zhît” in Gwich’in followed by:

K’ágwaadhat Vit’igwįįjáhhch’uu jūk too vah nizrii nakhwats’an
dhąhtsaii akòo sriigwąndåi Sh hąh kheechinikhwįįnlih geenjit
datthąk ts’àt hąjį yindådhån.

K’ágwaadhat Vit’igwįįjáhhch’uu jūk drin zhik gwįzhı́t nįhkhàh
gwitr’ıt t’ıgwąa’in tsinehdånh nakhwąh nįgwįdińiį’äßåh.

Akòo gwiiizi gwik’tıdzıtìtàa’aa gwiiizi nakhwąginįk
k’yùu gihiı’dàkhyaa datthąk nakhwąntl’ágwiįįnlih.

K’ágwaadhat Vit’igwįįjáhhch’uu nehdånh giidådhån kwåa gòo jidi
’t’iidi’ın nakhwągwitr’ıt gwįzhı́t datthąk nit’äßąjįjåach’uu
gàhnįdandåì।

K’ágwaadhat neesrijåhhch’uu nakhwoojiinuu Ch’ank’yùu
Sruudidinuu nakhwakåt datthąk ts’àt najiînjàh, akòo ninli’
sruudidinuu gook’dòo nidînànjįh.

Nikhwee K’ágwaadhat Jesus Christ voozrı’ zhıt nits’itàt oojįshikåt,
Amen.
PRAYERS

Opening Prayer
Thursday, November 20, 1997
Mrs. Mary Effie Snowshoe

Prayer opens with “Nakhwati’ zhee zhit “ in Gwich’in followed by:

K’agwaadhat Vit’igwijahch’uu hai’ chan juk sriigwandaih hah zhat
nihkhah nihd’eenidajil, juk drin haajik’oo drin zhit nihkhah
gwitr’it t’igwahaa’aa.

K’agwaadhat Vit’igwijahch’uu jidii geenjit zhat niihdii’idjil, aii
gwitr’it hah k’injik nahiid’al nakhwanl’agwijii’aih.

K’agwaadhat Vit’igwijahch’uu juk nihk’yuu nan kat gwats’at zhat
lidhajil k’injik nahiid’adaa datthak nakhwadivee tijiinzhit
akoo tsinehdan nakhwah nigiw’dinii’aih akoo nakhwak’iitl’uu
chan sriigwandaih hah goonlili, uu’an gindikhiik datthak
gwijidatth’ak geenjit mahsi’ yiinidadhan, dehthat nachhdadai
gwa’an datthak nakhwah jiliih.

K’agwaadhat Vit’igwijahch’uu jii ganikhwoonahtan kat gwitr’it
gwiinziin nakhweejit gugwaltsoi geenjit datthak mahi’
yinithtan.

Akoo chuk gwiyee’oo gwizhii, t’aih sriigwandaih goonitl’ajiji’aih,
nihkwee K’agwaadhat Jesus Christ voozri’ zhit nits’at
oojishikat,

Amen.
PRAYERS

Closing Prayer
Thursday, November 20, 1997
Mrs. Ruth Carroll

Prayer opens with “Nakhwàti zhee zhît” in Gwich’in followed by:

Zhee kak nikhwàti’i, chan jûk drin gwîinzrii gwandàiîh hàh
gananikhwidhiinlii geenjit jii nakhwagwîtr’ît gwîzhît nîhkhàh
łanadhàajîl.
Jûk drin sriit’igwînàanch’uû nîhkhàh nadàach’eî’ gwîndôo tthak
nakhwàh âîlîh, gwîinzii zhat nîhkhàh ìnàadal.
Jîdiî ganikhootr’oonahtan ganahàandaii t’s’ât nahiîdàdàa jii geenjit
nakhwats’ât tr’iniînjiîh.
Geenjit jii gwîtr’ît t’igwàà’ii gwîzhît anîhlîk gwà’àn gwîtr’ît
t’igwàah’îi tthak, jii gwats’ât jîdiî gîk’înyàanjîi aii eenjit gwîzhîi
nakhwats’an nyahtsih t’s’ât shîk gwîyeendoo gîk’îhàandal jii
geenjit nakhwàh âîlîh.
Tr’îinîn kat gagootr’oonahtan, anjîîo kat googàa jûk gweendôo leii
anjîîo vitr’àhnûu kat googàa nakhwaginjîk zhit gigiêkhîi kwàh,
jii geenjit jûk jûu digòonch’uû łinatr’aadal.
K’êgwaadhat nîts’ôo gwîyeendoo gwîinzii gwîtr’ît t’îtr’igwahàh’yaa
gwinjîk, nakhwanh nikhweenjit nijîn gîgwâdhan aii gwinjîk
gwîtr’ît t’igwahàa’aa geenjit nakhwats’ât tr’iniînjiî.
Aii t’s’ât jii juudîn zhat gâ’oonahtan eenjit gwîtr’ît nagwaatsîk t’s’ât
gwits’ât tr’îinjiî nîliîh kat datthàk K’êgwaadhat chûk t’âih t’s’ât
gwîzhîi goots’an hàhtsaa jii geenjit nîts’ât oojîshikàt.
Closing Prayer - Ruth Carroll

Jùk nìhkàa ts’àt gehndoo danh gwìndòo nìjn gwà’àn anihìlk kaiik’ìt
gwats’át zhàt ìdhàajil srehteehìidàdàaa ezhìk gwà’àn dàtthàk
nìts’òo nan kak, taii gwinjik, zhee khyuu ne’hèdinaadhák jìi
tthák K’èegwaadhat gwìzhìt nìtr’ihdadal ezhìk gwà’àn tthák
nikhwàh jìlí, nikhwàh nacchiindík.
Ts’àt drin gwìtat gwìnyàach’uu nình nyuu zi’ò’ochìt oohìidàzraa
gwik’ìghe’ drin gwìtat gwìnaanch’uu gwìinzrii gwìtr’ìt
gwahàatsyàà, jìi geenjit nakhwàh jìlíh
NìkhweeK’àgwaadhat Jesus Christ voozri’ zhìt,
Amen.
# Gwich'in Alphabet

## Consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stops and Affricates</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>th</th>
<th>ts</th>
<th>tr</th>
<th>ch</th>
<th>[tsh]</th>
<th>k</th>
<th>kw</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>ddh</td>
<td>dz</td>
<td>dr</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>[dzh]</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>gw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tl(^\prime)</td>
<td>t'</td>
<td>tth'</td>
<td>ts'</td>
<td>tr'</td>
<td>ch'</td>
<td>[tsh']</td>
<td>k'</td>
<td>k'w</td>
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## Fricatives

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<th>l</th>
<th>th</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>sr</th>
<th>sh</th>
<th>[ssh]</th>
<th>kh</th>
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<td>v</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>dh</td>
<td>z</td>
<td>zr</td>
<td>zh</td>
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<td>gh</td>
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## Glides

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## Nasal

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<th>n</th>
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## Nasal + Stop

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<th>nd</th>
<th>nj</th>
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## Vowels

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<th>Vowels</th>
<th>Long Vowels</th>
<th>Short Vowels</th>
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<tr>
<td>ii</td>
<td>uu</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ee</td>
<td>oo</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aa</td>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
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Nasalized vowels are written with a hook: (y) i, u, e, o, a, etc.

Vowel combinations: aii, eii, oii, etc.

## Tones

- High tone is not written.
- Low tone is written with a (') over the vowel: 'i, 'u, 'e, 'o, 'a, etc.

Examples:

- shih (food) - shih (grizzly)
- zhoh (wolf) - zhoh (snow)
- khah (club) - khah (packsack)
Gwich'in Language - Van Tat Gwich'in
Mrs. Helen Charlie

Listening Exercise: [ kh ] and [ gh ]

Examples of [ kh ]:

1. khâh
2. kheh
3. khaii

Examples of [ gh ]:

1. shaghaii
2. Ɂaii ghàa
3. ch'aghòo
Listen to each example. Write [ kh ] and [ gh ] as you hear them.

1. Khèhkaih khał giỳkhii tl’aiintìn.
1. The chief gave the preacher a sled.

2. Tth’an ghài’ hàh khaii leii ałtsii.
2. I’m making lots of grease from the bone.

3. His/her back just about smashed.

4. Chyaa khyàh eenjit gał kànitìì.
4. The boy is looking around for a stick for the trap.

5. Shanaghan khaii tthak khaii ghài’ ahtsìì.
5. The old lady was making grease all winter.

6. Dinjii nan ghoo khaak’at chìit’ìk dadhízhìì.
6. The man went on top of the pingo.

7. He/she killed lots of Yukon fish this fall.

8. Tr’ìnjòó zheh gwidhòh eenjit’ khàgwákàiì.
8. The woman is shoveling snow for the tent.

9. Ye’ëenoo dàì’ dinjii kat ejjìghàa hàa dinjii gaghàn.
9. A long time ago people used to kill people with war club.

10. Vaghàiì chan ts’át viyòqghwàn khài k’ëegidadâl.
10. His/her sister-in-law and parents came in the winter time.
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Mrs. Helen Charlie
Write /kh/ and /gh/ as you hear them in the following:
Gwich'in Language - Teetl'it Gwich'in
Ms. Lisa Andre and Mrs. Mary Effie Snowshoe

Listening Exercise: [ ch ] and [ ch’ ]

Examples of [ ch ]:

1. choo 1. big
2. chii 2. rock
3. chuu 3. water

Examples of [ ch’ ]:

1. ch’ik 1. plate
2. ch’ii 2. mosquito
3. dach’at 3. it’s tough
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Lisa Andre and Mrs. Mary Effie Snowshoe

Listen to each example. Write [ ch ] and [ ch’ ] as you hear them.

1. Ch’ik zhît zhoh neekàh. 1. He/she is carrying snow in the pan.

2. Chehlûk iisrit ts’át nichii khâhchêh. 2. He/she pulled out a great big ling cod.

3. Ts’ít ch’òo lei vakak gòonlih. 3. The porcupine has lots of quills on it.

4. Łaïi chîh dhidii gwiinzheii nilih. 4. The lead dog is very wise.

5. Chyaa tsal niinzhûk aagàl. 5. The little boy ran for a long time.

6. Chîk lûu lei khanh najîinjâh. 6. Empty all the ashes quickly.

7. Echîidruu vee choo niî’in. 7. I see a big grey hawk owl.

8. Dineech’ûh lu’ lát na’âh. 8. Eat some hard moss berries.

9. Chuu choo deetoh nûuhâh. 9. He camped across the ocean.

10. Tr’înjîo ch’îh zraii choo oovîjkât. 10. The lady bought some big black thread.
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Lisa Andre and Mrs. Mary Effie Snowshoe
Write /ch/ and /ch'/ as you hear them in the following:

[Diagram with illustrations of various objects and characters]
Listening Exercise: [eh] and [e’]

Examples of [eh]:
1. kheh
2. geh
3. zheh

Examples of [e’]:
1. giihè’
2. ye’èendee
3. nè’e’àk
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Ruth Welsh

Listen to each example. Write \([\text{eh}]\) and \([\text{e’}]\) as you hear them.

1. Dinjii ye’èenoo needikàh. 1. The man is paddling down.

2. Tr’iinin geh dhilài’. 2. The child snared a rabbit.

3. Tr’injòo nè’è’ak tl’ee kheh jìitth’ak. 3. At sunset the woman heard the geese.

4. Drin chìitaii ne’daa’il. 4. It is dripping outside in the daytime.

5. Geh khè’ ts’at ahàh. 5. The rabbit is walking slowly.

6. Nich’it gehts’eh nìjàa’áih. 6. The girl is wearing a rabbit hat.

7. K’eedai’ gehnoo zheh gwats’àt chùuzhìh. 7. He/she went to town the day before yesterday.

8. Nich’it tsal ge’troonahtan zheh gwats’àt ahàh. 8. The little girl is going to the school house.

9. Aii vizhìt chuu e’ìichìi hòq’àh. 9. Give me the dipper.

10. Dinjii edineh t’eh kat kheh dinùutl’òh. 10. The man drew geese on the paper.
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Ruth Welsh
Write /eh/ and /e'/ as you hear them in the following:
Gwich'in Language - Teetl’it Gwich’in
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi

Listening Exercise: [ uh ] and [ u’ ]

Examples of [ uh ]:

1. ḥuh

2. chuh

3. trūh

Examples of [ u’ ]:

1. tth’an chu’

2. icheezhù’

3. anangyù’
Gwich’in Listening Exercise -- Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi

Listen to each example. Write [ uh ] and [ u’ ] as you hear them.

1. Shanaghan shìh chú’ daatsìh. 1. The old woman is making broth.

2. Dinjii icheezhù’ ch’ùh àh. 2. The man is eating fried lacy fat.

3. Njuh Nidìi’ee danh eneelu’ gòolìh. 3. There are lots of little fish at Lobstick.

4. Chyaa òhch’ùh lu’ îj’âl. 4. The boy ate the hard bannock.

5. Aii nèhtrùh tth’àn chú’ eedini’. 5. The wolverine drank broth.

6. Aii tsùh shù’ k’e’ahjìh. 6. He can’t wipe off the rust.

7. Nich’it akòodidiinù’ tl’ee shù’ gìikhìh. 7. After the girl said that she couldn’t talk.

8. Nich’it dizhuu nits’ù’ hàh t’ah’ìh. 8. The girl couldn’t stop kissing her child.

9. Tr’iinin shu’ òh tanh hàh hindàk. 9. The child can’t pull the frozen mud.

10. Nich’it dìità’ ju’ àhnùh. 10. The girl told her father to look.
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi
Write /uh/ and /u'/ as you hear them in the following:
Gwich'in Language - Teetl’it Gwich’in
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi

Listening Exercise: [ ih ] and [ i’ ]

Examples of [ ih ]:

1. shih 1. grizzly bear
2. dzìh 2. gum
3. tr’ih 3. boat

Examples of [ i’ ]:

1. vichi’ 1. his/her head
2. vitì’ 2. his/her father
3. ninlì’ 3. your hand
Gwich’in Listening Exercise
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi

Listen to each example. Write [ ih ] and [ i’ ] as you hear them.

1. Shih vichi’ ii’al. 1. I ate the grizzly’s head.

2. Vinlì’ choo ni[t’h. 2. I see his/her big hand.

3. Shiti’ nichih ah. 3. My father is eating rosehips.

4. Shichih łuk chi’ kwaa gwàłtsàih. 4. He/she finished all the fish head before me.

5. Shoondee tr’ih chi’ dhidih. 5. My older brother is sitting in the head of the boat.

6. Yeedì’ chuuzhìh. 6. He/she went down.

7. Tr’iiinin chehtsì’ nah’h. 7. The child sees a beetle.

8. Shitlih vìhdi’ als’tìk. 8. My friend’s chin is sore.

9. Vichi’ uu’an chùuzhìh. 9. His daughter went over.

10. Shidinjì’ yichi’ ùunjìk. 10. My son married his daughter.
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi
Write /ih/ and /i'/ as you hear them in the following:
Gwich'in Language - Teetl’it Gwich’in
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi

Listening Exercise: [ uu ] and [ u ]

Examples of [ uu ]:
1. chuu  1. water
2. njuu  2. island
3. łuu  3. ice

Examples of [ u ]:
1. łuk  1. fish
2. tsuk  2. marten
3. ḷuh  3. flour, mud
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi

Listen to each example. Write [uu] and [u] as you hear them.

1. Njuu kat nìgoojíl. 1. They went to the island.

2. Dinjii tsuk leii dhàlkkhàih. 2. The man killed lots of marten.

3. Tr'iiinin chuun diníh. 3. The child is drinking water.

4. Łuk zheii leii iit'ùh. 4. I cut lots of fresh whitefish.

5. Trùh dizhúu nah'ìh. 5. The otter is looking at the cow moose.

6. Khaiints'àn' hee trèeluk gòonlíh. 6. There is lots of herring in the fall time.

7. Dinjii kat Gwazhàl Njik gwats'at tsivii zhuu kàggoojíl. 7. The men went to Ogilvie River for mountain trout.

8. Shanaghan chehlùk ch'ùh ìi'ì'al. 8. The old lady ate fried ling cod.

9. Aii chuun tyah hòq'àh. 9. Give me the cup.

10. Tr'ìnjòo łuk tl'ùu uu'àn tahjàh. 10. The woman is throwing the fish scales away.
Gwich'in Listening Exercise
Ms. Mary Jane Kunnizzi
Write /uu/ and /u/ as you hear them in the following:
1. Tr’iinin ihlíh dái’ ganaldáih, shichaa hâh Vindee Gwâhjat danh nikhwitsii, nikhwitsuu kat guuvâh t’iidich’uh.

2. Jii t’at sreendít dzan kàtr’idi’in gwîndôo. Sreendít t’at khái gweedhaa gwizhít gwiiyeendoo nan kak ndôo t’àgòonch’uh.


5. Vindee Gwâhjat nanàiêdâdal tr’oochít nikhwizheh gwîdhôh nîhiêdàtthal geenjît gwîtr’ît t’agwàa’în. Zheh gwîdhôh nîtr’îchii gwîtr’ît gwinînt’âîh, gwât tt’h’aih hee sriguujàach’uh.

6. Zheh gwîdhôh nîiichiî aii t’ll’ee chan troo leii oonîîdînjîh ts’ât tt’hak chan iîdit’îh.

7. Tthak gisriînàandak aii t’ll’ee lidîi ìidînîh ts’ât shìh nîzîi iîdà’ah.
8. Nikhwigwitr’ít tthak gwitoh chíidândak guuzzhik t’at gwiintł’óh ndòò gwatadhak, hàachuu geenjit tr’iilee adininyàanjih.


15. Shìtsuu nilìì gaaì ìahsiìh ts’àt aghwàà gàiì’ chàn ìahsiìh, jìíìi nilìì tr’òonadhak hàh akòò dììdìí’ình.


23. Zheh gwadhòh zhìt shìk nilii gaii lei dadhidlih. Chìitaìi chan valât dhihlih, zheh gwats’ât natr’iheelyaay geenjì tr’ilìè.


Chilig - 15

8.7 15

1 Nyiwhot Ttyi zyeh zit nih kwilnjik
   Kwintluth tsut nersittelchyo
   Nit chekoorsî ha sih nyayin
   Nersitchachyo sochînyoo.

2 Nih kinjik thletchidhelhnuî gguv
   Kwintluth khuttrigwishihti
   Tutthug set ooun kwichiîli
   Jesus suh Ahsi kirkhe.

3 Kwinititaê kug gulttsuk
   Sit trigwandyoth kwinikdheî
   Jesus Kreist sih tahsi kenjit
   Tsyettinidhut ninidhut.

4 Elyet khu tut sun ihsili
   Vut tta ha nesovîkkut
   Thlanchi ha vih kukwudhelhthut
   Akû sso vut tsun velhtsya.
Ch'ilik - 15

Retranscribed into Modern Gwich'in by Participants at
Gwich'in Literacy Session
Yukon Native Language Centre
November 18, 19, 20, 1997

Teetl'it Gwich'in and Van Tat Gwich'in

Nikhwati' zhee zht nigwiłnjik
Gwiintl'ôh ts'at neesridîłch'uh
Nich'egôqzrii hâh shînyah'în
Neesrijâch'uu shoojiinûu.

Niginjik łajidhalnaii ghat
Gwiintl'ôh khatr'igwishidii
Datthâk sha'oo'ân gwichîjîli
Jesus sha'Ahshii k'îighe'.

Gwiniht'îhda'ee kak galtsâk
Shitr'igwaandûu gwinîjîghàii
Jesus Christ shatahshii geenjit
Tsh'eedinîjîdhât ninjîdhât.

Eîyet khadats'an iishili
Vidâa hâh neshoovîjkât
Łâhch'îihâh vik'âgwidhalthât
Akòo shôh vats'an vełtsyâ'.

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Ch’ilik - 15

Gwichyàh Gwich’in

Nikhwatỳè’ zhee zhît nigwàñjìk
Gwiintl’âth ts’ât neesridâljìch’uh
Nich’egòozrii hàh shinàh’ìh
Neesrijâhch’uu shuujiinìh.

Niginjìk lajidhañjì ghat
Gwiintl’âh khatr’igwishidìi
Datthàk sha’oo’àn gwichìljìh
Zheesis sha’Ahshèe k’ìghè’.

Gwiniht’yehde’ee kak galtsàk
Shîtr’igwaandyìdh gwinjìghàìi
Zheesis Christ shatahshìi geenjit
Ts’eòhînjìdhàt ninjìdhàt.

Eîyet khadats’an iishìlii
Vidàa hàh neshovìjkàt
Làhch’ìihàh vik’àgwìdhaòthàt
Akòo shòh vats’an veòtsyà’.

- 34 -
School Day

Chyaa tsal Winston vàazhii dilìk Garsqõq eevanh Gitr’oonahtan zheh gwits’õ’ needyåh.

Deetrìn’ chan Garsqõq vi’uhchùu ts’åt diinjidizhìt. (RC)
Winston too gwiinzií dhichìh.

Vilik chan yehghee (or, vehzhee) dhichìì. (RC)

Winston tadh gwiinzií dhichìh.

Vilik chan yehghee dhichìì. (AA)
Vành dai' Winston khàcheeda'ài h vilìk goožhik vahvìr’oojìłchì’.
Winston naditl'uu goozhik vilìk dinanh gwitr'ât.
Winston gwiizį̍̌̆ dînîn’ ch’e̱h làh k’e’ahtràh.
(AA)
Winston dahanh ts'ö' nìniizhìh, vahanh ch'aghòo ahvìr.

Vilìk chan vinjaa’yaa ch’iì’e gwanah’ìn.
WEATHER

ENGLISH

1. Light grey clouds.

2. Ring around the sun when light grey.

3. Tipped half moon.

4. Ring around the moon.

   sun: sree (Old Crow, Tsiigehtechic)
   srii (Ft. McPherson)

5. When Black Mountain is big and close.


GWICH'IN

K'oh vee göo'aii dài'.
   (gòò'àih.)

Srii na'alt'aii gwaavee dài'.
   (gwaaveh.)

Gwiintsàił gat'ânàachìh.

Too oorìi (or, oozrii) na'alt'aii.

Chigwaazraii gwizrii dha'àiìi.
   (dha'àiìh.)

Vànñh dái' dzhii zhidahnûh.
1993 PLACE NAMES UP THE ARCTIC RED RIVER AND SOUTH OF THE MACKENZIE

1. Hehnjuu deetł’yah tshik / Ehjuu deetł’yah tshik
2. Tateih sheii / Tateihsheii
3. Siveezhòo / Tsiveezhòo
4. Chugwich’yaa tshik
5. Chugwich’yaa or Chugwich’yaa van
6. Chehlûk gôonlii
7. Vaghak dach’eii or Vaghak adach’an
8. Nanaa’ih k’adh
9. Daarąįį van k’adh
10. Daarąįį van k’adh ts’ät gwatatr’ąątaįį
11. Khèelee
12. Jah vehłei’
13. Martin zheh
14. Vivee tagwitłee
Place Names cont’d

15. Tsèe van

16. Tsèe tshik gwitchoo

17. Tsèe tshik gwitsal

18. Eltin choo chihvyàh k’it

19. Deetrin’ ehchij k’it

20. Ts’òh tshik

21. Ts’òh van

22. Łuk guvàn

23. Łaji van

24. Nahshii tàii

25. Daaghal tyè’ tshik

26. Chii choo jùu’ejjì

27. Łèth njidakàiì

28. Łèth njidakàiì van

29. Chii ghòh
Place Names cont’d

30. Theetoh aaghadh

31. Daaraįį van k’adh tshik or Srioriia tshik

32. Tr’iinjào ezhah njù’

33. Vinihk’yùù

34. Teetshik gwitchoo

35. Jùuk’àn’
Holy Communion Service in Tukudh

The public is invited to Attend an All-Tukudh Service By Gwich'in People

Where:
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
First Avenue, Fairbanks

When:
Thursday, July 26, 1990
7:00 P.M.

Officiated By:
Rev. Dr. Ellen Bruce, Old Crow, Yukon
Rev. Effie Linklater, Whitehorse, Yukon
Rev. Titus Peter, Fairbanks, Alaska

Lay Reader Mrs. Hannah Archer, Ft. McPherson, N.W.T.
Lay Reader Mrs. Edith Josie, Old Crow, Yukon

Organized by:
Students and Participants in UAF Course ANL 195: Traditional Tukudh Literacy
Centenarian has rarely left Old Crow

SECOND TIME AROUND - Sarah Abel flew to Whitehorse earlier this week to see a specialist about her cataracts. It was only the second time in her 101 years that she's been to the big city.
Sarah Abel sat on a bed at the Yukon Inn this week with an orange crush in her hand, a bible at her side and a well-lined smile on her face.

The 101-year-old Vuntut Gwitch’ in widow says she’s only come the 1,000 kilometres south from Old Crow twice in her life. There was never much need to leave her Arctic home.

The northern Yukon always offered good fat caribou, ripe blueberries and furs for the long-time trapper to feed and clothe her children after her husband died of tuberculosis more than 50 years ago.

This month, she came to seek a cure for the cataracts clouding her eyes. She left Whitehorse General Hospital on Wednesday after her hopes were dashed. A lump growing behind an eye ruined her chances for the surgery that’s allowed other elders to sew and bead again.

Despite disappointment, the woman born in Rampart House (now a ghost town at the Alaska border) grinned, perched on a hotel bed in her caribou and moosehide-lined boots Wednesday. She lauded the big beautiful airplane that brought her here.

She talked about the hospital, a far cry from the animal skin tents where she remembers her brother was born, but she likes any place with “good people.”

“The doctors and nurses, they do good for me. Give me good grub,” she said after a stay at the hospital, where wild game is served up to native patients.

She took the bad news about her vision well.

After a century of life, she’s seen worse setbacks after burying more than a dozen children and loved ones.

“She’s had 17 kids and she’s still walking,” said her granddaughter, Lena Josie, 36, a receptionist at the Vuntut Gwitch’in First Nation office in Old Crow.

Josie lived alongside her grandmother until she moved in with one of her four surviving daughters last summer.

She misses her loving neighbor, who was always quick with stories in their native tongue of Loucheaux, food for the ravens and hugs for her great-granddaughter Erica.

“She always has prayers with us at night. She always fed the crows. She tells me one day I should take it over ... I feed them now.”

Last year, a near-fatal bout of pneumonia and heart problems forced Abel to give up her own house beside her granddaughter and move into a spare room in a house with her youngest child, Annie Lord. This daughter escorted Abel to the big city this week.

She left her aging charge at the hotel room alone on Wednesday.

Seated on the bed, the exhausted elder seemed tiny and eclipsed by the world of cars and fast food rushing by just outside the window.

Despite her frail figure, the woman has proved her strength over the years. And her mind, somehow, still holds the memory of the ebb and flow of people, ice and the Porcupine caribou through Old Crow.

Sometimes, she’ll talk about her old trappers. The moose. The muskrats. Her long-dead son, Charlie, served as chief and brought her community a school before he was taken by cancer. Her thoughts run with the dog sled she often drove alone into the woods to collect firewood or hunt.

“She work just like a man,” said Alfred Charlie, 74. He first met Abel when he moved to Old Crow after growing up in the bush, far from the community.

“She do everything. She dry meat. She tan skin. She raise 17 kids. Her husband pass away on her, and she had to make her living.”

The matriarch’s husband died after 32 years of marriage when her youngest was only 11. Since then, she has seen the deaths of sons, daughters and even adopted grandson in an alcohol-related accident.

Former Yukon Party MLA Johnny Abel drowned with his grandson in October 1995, after tipping in a canoe on the freezing Old Crow River.

Sarah Abel never touched alcohol. She turned her tough hand to the rifle, dog harness and traps. She tanned her own skins and made canvas boots.

“She was a very strong woman ... very strict; she always chased us home as kids. She kept people straight,” said Old Crow MLA Robert Bruce.

Others said she loved her husband before he died.

“She not marry again, you know, she look after herself real good,” said Charlie, who wed one of the woman’s nieces.

“She train me to tan skin ... She’s my grandma. She’s a lot of kids’ grandma.”

She also helped Order of Canada winner Edith Josie remember the lineage and history of her home village.

Abel is a regular character mentioned in Here are the News, a 30-year column that runs in the Star, and which eventually evolved into a book.

In February 1989, Josie wrote: “Too bad our parents and grandparents pass away so nobody tell us how relations go. But grandmother Sarah Abel tell Miss Josie ... all the time. I was thankful for her to god and wish her good life and health.”

Josie’s wish came true. Last year, the writer noted the celebration of Abel’s 100th birthday.

“Sarah Abel is old, but she still help herself and stay alone in her house. She was a small girl when her mother pass so old Peter Moses he took her and raise her, him and his wife Myra Moses ... only four daughters (left) living. They were Annie Lord, Dolly Josie, Marion D. Nukon and Eliza Martin (of Whitehorse.)” - April 1996.

Abel’s sharp memories were also recorded in a book called Rampart House. In it, she recalls the Hudson’s Bay post and the surveyors burning natives’ log houses. She somehow survived the smallpox epidemic of 1911 that forced most to settle Old Crow at the juncture of the Porcupine and Crow Rivers.

She remembers when the power came, the airport and the school.

“That’s how people lost their language,” she said in 1993, often telling stories on CBC radio in her native tongue — ever urging parents to teach their children the old ways and language.

“She always talks about things we should do ... what’s right and what’s wrong and how to treat people,” said her granddaughter Lena. She has learned some of her grandmother’s words in Loucheaux, and teaches her daughter Erica, 15.

“She’s a very loving grandma. I miss living beside her. It’s lonely now. I was with her all mv life.”

Abel still prefers caribou, dry meat or bannock, but said she did try a hamburger on her visit to Whitehorse this time. She did not seem impressed.

“You have to have traditional food for her,” said Lord, 63. “(Whitehorse) is too much for her now, but she used to trap, haul wood, tan skin and sew.

“She raised me up. She was both my mother and father. She worked just like a man.”

When she got too weak to work, she turned to the church, helping out with the women’s auxiliary of the St. Luke’s Anglican Church of Old Crow.