

## **MONTANA INDIAN LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM 2019-2020 BIENNIUM REPORT**

### **Overview**

During the 2013 legislative session, Senate Bill 342 established the inaugural Montana Indian Language Preservation program (MILP). The pilot program was created to help preserve Native languages that are traditionally spoken in the state. During the current biennium, each of the eight tribal nations will produce preservation products that will help memorialize their languages while at the same time help to perpetuate language usage. Each of the tribes has their own schedule and prioritization of goals and activities for the year. The activities include digitizing language products, recordings of stories and book publishing, online classes, development of interactive language dictionaries and other language learning activities and summer language immersion classes among other priorities. The STED Commission created the guidelines for MILP and is the administrative/project management arm working with each local community on producing deliverables and reporting budgetary and activity updates. The MILP program works to ensure that all the program deliverables are submitted to the Montana Historical Society. The contracting entity preserves their deliverables on-site to share with their local communities and school districts.

### **Budget**

The Montana Indian Language Preservation program has a biennial budget of \$750,000 for all eight federally recognized tribes (appropriated at \$1 million in 2017 session, \$250,000 reduction in the summer of 2017 via SB 261). Of the \$750,000 in allocated funds, \$20,000 is reserved for personal services and \$17,500 is reserved for operational expenses. The remaining \$712,500 is then divided equally for awards of \$89,062.50 per tribal nation.

### **Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. To protect tribal communities, tribal governments declared a mandatory shut down of tribal programs and advised to quarantine indefinitely. As a result, MILP projects were stalled from March 2020 through this report date. However, some projects were able to continue through social distancing and technological means. Projects are encouraged to continue at their discretion as advised by tribal governments.

**Deliverables due to the Montana Historical Society no later than December 14, 2020 by tribe**

**LITTLE SHELL TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS**

Little Shell Language Program

Contract Number: MT-MILP-20-01

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Community Words/Phrases Survey	\$89,062.50
2. CD/DVDs of Community Words/Phrases Survey	
3. Kindergarten through Community College Chippewa Language Learning Curriculum	

**BLACKFEET TRIBE**

Blackfeet Early Childhood Center

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-02

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Seasons Study Audio Narrative	\$89,062.50
2. Seasons Study Short Story Booklet	
3. Season Study Calendar	
4. Blackfeet Early Childhood Systemic Timetables	

**CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE**

Stone Child College

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-03

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Comprehensive Language Assessment	\$89,062.50
2. Two Research Plans/Methodologies	

**CONFEDERATED SALISH & KOOTENAI TRIBES (KOOTENAI)**

Kootenai Culture Committee

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-04-1

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Develop Ksanka Wordbuilder Application	\$44,531.25

**CONFEDERATED SALISH & KOOTENAI TRIBES (SALISH)**

Selis Qlispe Culture Committee

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-04-2

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Fast Animals and Go Gather flashcard games with audio CD	\$44,531.25
2. Who am I? National Bison Range card game with audio CD	
3. Create 8 language posters	
4. Manufacture and install bi-lingual Ethno geographic sign	

**CROW TRIBE**

Little Big Horn College

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-05-1

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Comprehensive online mobile app Crow-English Dictionary	\$50,000.00

**CROW TRIBE**

Crow Education Department

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-05-2

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Crow Hymes Workbook and Lesson Plans for Jr. and Sr. High Schools	\$39,062.50

**FORT BELKNAP INDIAN COMMUNITY**

Fort Belknap Language Preservation Program

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-06

<b>Program Deliverables</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
1. Five (5) Aaniiih and Nakota language highway signs	\$89,062.50
2. Enhance language materials on website	
3. Enhance e-library with audio and visual materials	
4. Weekly community language classes	
5. Language/Culture storytelling camps	

**FORT PECK ASSINIBOINE & SIOUX TRIBES**

Fort Peck Language & Culture Department

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-07

Program Deliverables	Total Award
1. Traditional Knowledge Keepers (TKK) Oral Story Project 2. K-12 Language Posters 3. Expand Ethnobotany (medicinal plants) Guide 4. Develop Star Knowledge Curriculum 5. Host 2020 Summer Youth Language & Culture Program (Dakota & Nakota)	\$89,062.50

**Northern Cheyenne Tribe**

Chief Dull Knife College

Contract #: MT-MILP-20-08

Program Deliverables	Total Award
1. Record oral history stories and songs 2. Develop language acquisition training model 3. Develop language curriculum development model 4. Develop lesson plan development model	\$89,062.50