



# DAKOTA AND OJIBWE LANGUAGES SYMPOSIUM

**THURSDAY, FEB. 9, 2023  
FRIDAY, FEB. 10, 2023**

Welcome to the Dakota and Ojibwe Languages Symposium!

The goal of the symposium is to bring people working in Dakota and Ojibwe language revitalization together. We want to use this time to celebrate successes of what some groups have done in the past, highlight what is currently going on in the field, and help shape future language revitalization efforts.

Together we elevate the visibility of Indigenous languages throughout Minnesota. This symposium serves as an opportunity for individuals to network with other Dakota and Ojibwe language professionals.

Hosted by  
the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council's Language Revitalization Working Group  
partnering with the Minnesota Humanities Center



# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

## AGENDA

8:30 a.m.	Foyer	Check-in and registration
9:00-9:30 a.m.	Autumn	<p>Opening, welcome, and breakfast</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Joe Nayquonabae Sr and Timbertrails Drum Group <b>Emcees:</b> Reuben Kitto Stately and Deanna Standing Cloud</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Join us for the opening of the Dakota and Ojibwe Languages Symposium</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 705 215 4841 <b>Passcode:</b> MHCRust</p>
9:30-10:45 a.m.	Spring/Summer Breakout Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Technology: Language Documentation and Learning <b>Presenter:</b> Bradley Harrington</p> <p><b>Description:</b> This session will raise awareness about the technology around us and includes a prototype software that creates a social media platform for Ojibwe Language. It can be modified to fit any language and/or community.</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 705 215 4841 <b>Passcode:</b> MHCRust</p>
	Animals Breakout Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Dakhód lápi Wičhóie Wówapi dictionary: A Dakota Talking Dictionary <b>Presenters:</b> Šišóka Dúta and Alex Firethunder</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Dakhóta lápi Waúŋspewičakhiya (DIO) and The Language Conservancy (TLC) started in 2016 to develop a talking Dakota language dictionary for desktop and mobile use. Both are slated to be published in early 2023 to be a comprehensive resource for the Dakota language, learners and speakers alike. The Dakhód lápi Wičhóie Wówapi dictionary contains 28,699 Dakota entries, a finder list of 10,481 English words and 40,013 speaker audios. There are recordings from both a male and female speaker for many of the entries and all were thoroughly checked with Native Dakota speakers. This talk presents on the development of the dictionary and its features for all interested users. It also highlights connections to the New Lakota Dictionary.</p>

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10:45-12:00 p.m.	Autumn Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Keynote Presentation <b>Presenter:</b> Bimwewe Serena Graves</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 705 215 4841 <b>Passcode:</b> MHCRust</p>
12:00-1:15 p.m.	Autumn Room	<p><b>LUNCH</b> with Brooke Niiyogaabawiikwe Gonzalez <b>Session Title:</b> Progress, Challenges, and Trajectories for Indigenous Language Content-Based Instruction in the United States and Canada</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Niiyo will provide an overview of the challenges identified by a diverse team of professionals with experience in the Indigenous language revitalization field. We will leave time to discuss the potential strategies for addressing these challenges within our local language communities.</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> Meeting ID: 705 215 4841 Passcode: MHCRust</p>
1:15-1:45 p.m.	Autumn Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Lt. Governor Flanagan Address and Partners' Remarks <b>Presenters:</b> Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, Kevin Lindsey (CEO, Minnesota Humanities Center), Chairman Robert L. Larsen (President at Lower Sioux Community Council Member &amp; Chairman of Minnesota Indian Affairs Council)</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Join us for an address from Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan as well as remarks from the two symposium planning partners, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and Minnesota Humanities Center.</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 705 215 4841 <b>Passcode:</b> MHCRust</p>
1:45-3:00 p.m.	Spring/Summer Breakout Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Indigenous Language Revitalization and Teacher Training Initiatives at Concordia College and the Concordia Language Villages <b>Presenters:</b></p>

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## AGENDA

- Gay Rawson, Professor and Chair, Department of World Languages and Cultures, Concordia College
- Mary Kosir, Executive Director, Concordia Language Villages
- Martin Graefe, Senior Group Director/ Director of the Language Training Center, Concordia Language Villages
- Sara Nimis, Associate Director, Language Training Center, Concordia Language Villages
- Dr. Anke al-Bataineh, Multilingual Curriculum Consultant, Applied Linguist, Education Project Manager, Teaching Methods Instructor for the Concordia Language Institute, Concordia College

**Description:** The Department of World Languages and Cultures at Concordia College and the Concordia Language Villages have as their shared mission to develop courageous global citizens who appreciate and seek to understand diverse cultural perspectives, communicate with cultural sensitivity in multiple languages, respect human dignity, cultivate compassion, engage critically and creatively with issues that transcend boundaries and advance a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world for all. As part of our explorations into how to accomplish this, we are working to address our past, which involves currently inhabiting land belonging to Indigenous peoples. We asked ourselves, and our community partners, what we could do to address our past and move into a shared future. We are working with partners across the region to help revitalize indigenous languages and cultures. We have nascent programs underway in Dakota and Ojibwe and provide support to others engaging in this work, educating them about the CLV Way and Village methodology. Our Dakota language program uses total immersion and content-based instruction to train learners and teachers. We also have Teacher Training courses that provide micro credentials and pathways to other career opportunities. But there remains to be done and many barriers to overcome. In our time together, we would like to humbly share what brought us to this point, what we are trying to do, opportunities that we currently have for teachers and learners in these languages, and our dreams for the future. We hope that you might be able to help us further develop our offerings, share your needs and dreams with us, and consider opportunities for collaboration.

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Animals  
Breakout Room

**Session Title:** An Urban Language Program – Revitalizing Indigenous Languages through online technology  
**Presenters:** Minneapolis American Indian Center – Culture Language Arts Network (CLAN)

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**Description:** In this presentation CLAN Staff of the Minneapolis American Indian Center will share how we've become a model using technology for other language programs throughout the US and Canada. We'll be sharing challenges and successes of creating, maintaining, and sustaining an urban language program for Ojibwe and Dakota languages.

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<https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7178161510>

Meeting ID: 717 816 1510

3:00-3:15 p.m. Foyer

**BREAK**

3:15-4:30 p.m. Spring/Summer Breakout Room

**Session Title:** Technology: Language Documentation and Learning  
**Presenters:** Bradley Harrington and Chato Gonzalez

**Description:** This session includes using media to document and share language. There will be historical and contemporary applications and expressing the idea of creating future grateful ancestors based off of the actions we execute today.

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**Passcode:** MHCRust

Animals Breakout Room

**Session Title:** eLearning Platform for Indigenous Languages: Owóksape  
**Presenters:** Wilhelm Meya, Pete Viera, Logan Swango

**Description:** Distance and digital learning is becoming ever more important to ensure accessibility for language learning. This presentation provides an overview of the features and benefits of the Lakota Language Consortium's Lakota eLearning platform Owóksape (Owóksape 2018).

Owóksape translates to "learning place" in Lakota and as the first of its kind provides Lakota-speaking and learning communities with an innovative and cutting-edge tool for reclaiming and learning the Lakota language. The platform offers individualized lesson plans based on learners' choices and progress; interactive learning units that incorporate reading and writing and standard achievement tracking, gamification and rewards. Owóksape helps users to improve their language skills while also bringing the language to life with daily lessons and collaboration with other learners. A teacher portal allows teachers to assign lessons to students for homework and distance-learning.

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**Meeting ID:** 717 816 1510

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Foyer

**NETWORKING**

# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

## AGENDA

8:30-9:00 a.m.	Foyer and Autumn	Breakfast and Networking
9:00-10:15 a.m.	Spring/Summer Breakout Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Dakhod'iahi Wahohpi: Siceca kiŋ Dakhod'ia unspewichakhiyapi <b>Presenters:</b> Šišóka Dúta, Brenda Toscano, Justis Brokenrope</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The Dakhod'iahi Wahohpi started in September 2022 to teach 3-5 year old children the Dakota language. We will share successes, insights, and lessons learned from the first six months. We will talk about how we got started, how we teach, and plans for the future.</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 705 215 4841 <b>Passcode:</b> MHCRust</p>
	Animals Breakout Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> SPPS Indian Education Language Program <b>Presenter:</b> Lisa Bellanger</p> <p><b>Description:</b> In this session, I will share Saint Paul Public Schools Indian Education's language projects, and introduce our Dakota and Ojibwe language apps as well as our Birth to College language program.</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7178161510">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7178161510</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 717 816 1510</p>
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Foyer	<b>BREAK</b>
10:30-11:45 a.m.	Autumn Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Keynote Presentation <b>Presenters:</b> Tipiziwin Tolman</p> <p><b>Zoom link to join virtually:</b> <a href="https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09">https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7052154841?pwd=K2xQMStzS0FXdGVrL2FmQlFmR2MzZz09</a> <b>Meeting ID:</b> 705 215 4841 <b>Passcode:</b> MHCRust</p>
11:45-1:00 p.m.	Autumn Room	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00-2:15 p.m.	Spring/Summer Breakout Room	<p><b>Session Title:</b> Managing Anxiety while Learning a Language <b>Presenters:</b> Alex FireThunder and Šišóka Dúta</p>

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## AGENDA

**Description:** This session will discuss how anxiety impacts language learning, and how this is possibly more applicable to Indigenous language learners. Furthermore, it will discuss what factors increase anxiety amongst learners. Lastly, it will discuss potential solutions to decreasing anxiety and creating comfortable and safe spaces for healthy and successful language learning.

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**Meeting ID:** 705 215 4841

**Passcode:** MHCRust

Animals  
Breakout Room

**Session Title:** Talking Books – Elevating Anishinaabemowin and Dakota

**Presenters:** Dan Gausman, Anna Werner

**Description:** Reading disabilities are incredibly common. Talking Books can be used as an accommodation. It is hoped that the recordings can be used to preserve dialects.

**Zoom link to join virtually:**

<https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7178161510>

**Meeting ID:** 717 816 1510

2:15-2:30 p.m. Foyer

**BREAK**

2:30-3:45 p.m. Spring/Summer  
Breakout Room

**Session Title:** Dakhóta Wi Akeyamni Iwohdakapi

**Presenters:** Šišóka Dúta and Clifford Canku

**Description:** The Dakota lunar cycle project started in November 2022. The project will focus on recording stories for each of the moons and share cultural stories and lessons. The stories will be told entirely in Dakota and transcribed and translated into English. It will come with an illustrated calendar. We will share the process for recording, transcribing, and translating.

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**Meeting ID:** 705 215 4841

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Animals  
Breakout Room

**Session Title:** Minnesota Bilingual Seals Program

**Presenters:** Ayumi Stockman and Anjanette Parisien, Indigenous Education Specialist, MDE

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**Description:** In this session, the overview of the Minnesota Bilingual Seals Program and important legislated information are provided. In the context of Dakota and Ojibwe languages, assessment information and some resources to help understand the criteria and levels of language proficiency will be discussed.

**Zoom link to join virtually:**

<https://mnhum-org.zoom.us/j/7178161510>

**Meeting ID:** 717 816 1510

3:45-4:30 p.m. Foyer

**NETWORKING**

# EMCEE AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Deanna StandingCloud** is a citizen of the Red Lake Nation of Anishinaabe. StandingCloud is currently the Community Relations Specialist Tribal Liaison with United Healthcare Community & State Plan of Minnesota.

StandingCloud has been collaboratively working in the community for many years. Recently, she was accepted into the All My Relations Native Authors Program with the Native American Community Development Institute, working on Anishinaabe-centric works for children and young adults. She is also always seeking opportunities to learn the Ojibwe language and an advocate to revitalize the traditional game of Lacrosse. Before the pandemic, she also completed her program as a Native Nation Rebuilder with the Native Governance Center, focusing upon “Sovereignty through Storytelling.”

She is a mother, playwright, organizer, artist, community leader, pow wow emcee, and advocate for Indigenous people. Deanna enjoys spending time with her children Breanna, Nigozis and Ziigwan, attending traditional ceremonies, going on nature walks, creating art, building community, and cooking yummy food.



**Reuben Kitto Stately** is a language learner from both Santee Sioux & Red Lake Nations. Reuben is 23 years old and got his BA in American Indian Studies at Augsburg University. Reuben has studied Dakhóta language for 5 years and plans to be a lifelong learner.



**Bimwewe Serena Graves** is from Red Lake and she is a graduate student at St. Cloud State. Bimwewe currently teaches at the Red Lake Elementary School and she has been working on Ojibwe language for a few years as a student and in educational settings.



**Tipiziwin Tolman** is Wičhíyena & Tizaptaŋna Isaŋti Dakota and Húnkpap̄ha Lak̄hóta born and raised on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota, USA. She is a representative of the Skunk, Pretends Eagle, and Yellow Lodge extended families of the Standing Rock people and the Young & Longie/Langer extended family from the Crow Hill area Spirit Lake Dakota people.

Tipiziwin is currently adjunct faculty at Washington State University’s Teaching and Learning Department, working primarily with preservice elementary teacher candidates and currently a graduate student in the Master’s of Indigenous Language Revitalization at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Her research is centered on the winter counts of her great-grand parents and it’s corresponding key that is written all in the Dakota language.

She is married to T Tolman, also a former Lakota language immersion instructor at Wičhákini Owáyawa on Standing Rock, and they have six children and they make their home in Pullman, Washington, and own “Haipazaza Phezuta”, Which means Medicine Soaps in the Lakota language, an online soap and body product store that promotes family, sustainability, and respectful indigenous reciprocal relationships with medicine plant relatives.