

Language, Music and Place: Building a Foundation for Governance in Déline, Northwest Territories, Canada

Initiative: Dokumentation bedrohter Sprachen (beendet)

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Language, Music and Place in Déline, Northwest Territories, Canada, develops an interdisciplinary approach to language documentation. As the community of Déline makes a transition to self-government, there has been increased interest in stories, song, and concepts of place in order to better understand what government means. Governance thus is one focal point of this research. Complementing this, the project involves development of an indigenous research methodology with respect to language research. The research explores variation, change and continuity in language, stories, song, and concepts of place as they relate to governance and land stewardship. The approach involves documentation with three groups of families from distinct traditional land use areas across generations, including archival and new materials, as well as dialogue with relatives from neighbouring communities with distinct dialects in order to understand the role of place of origin in variability.

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