More than "Creoles and Pidgins, Other":
Reaching beyond MARC to surface Indigenous-language content for our users
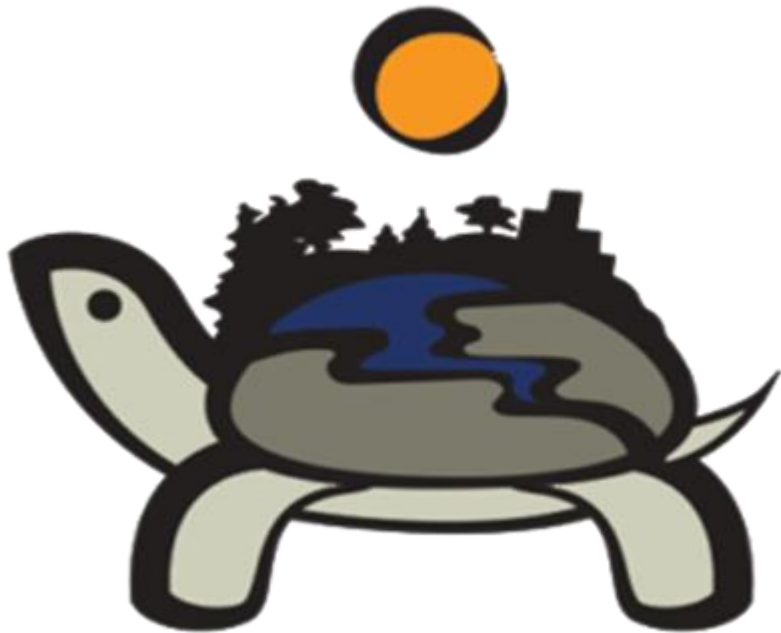
Susan Bond, Discovery Systems Librarian,
University of Toronto Libraries

Juliya Borie, Cataloguing Librarian,

University of Toronto Libraries

Land Acknowledgement

- We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron -Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississauga's of the Credit.

- Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

Image source: https://people.utoronto.ca/inclusion/land-acknowledgement/

Agenda

- Indigenous metadata working group
- Origins of this project
- Indigenous languages in MARC/LC
- Standards and Technical Challenges
- Languages in Alma/Primo VE
- Programmatic solutions for implementation
- Q&A Invitation to collaborate

Surfacing materials in Indigenous languages

- Languages hold within them philosophies, worldviews, culture and identity.
- United Nations acknowledged the importance of Indigenous languages by declaring this decade to be the *International Decade of Indigenous Languages.*
- The role of Indigenous language materials at university libraries continues to evolve

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report and Calls to Action
- The Canadian Federation of Library Associations - Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques Truth & Reconciliation Committee Report and Recommendations
- NIKLA-ANCLA National Indigenous Knowledge & Language Alliance / Alliance nationale des connaissances et des langues autochtones
- University of Toronto committed to a number of initiatives outlined in the Answering the Call: Wecheehetowin
- University of Toronto Libraries Collections Diversity Statement

Indigenous Metadata Working Group at UTL

Terms of Reference and Goals:

The Indigenous Metadata working group is primarily concerned with improving access to materials within the University of Toronto Libraries collections that relate to Indigenous Peoples and knowledges.

Our goals include:

1. Continue to develop our cultural competencies as they relate to Indigenous Peoples
   a. Note: we used a [sharing circle](#) format for part of our learning
2. Consult with our communities, and participate in whatever capacities are needed (such as collaborators, supporters, or mentors)
3. Actively participate on national and international initiatives when opportunities are available (such as PCC, NIKLA, CFLA-FCAB Indigenous Matters Committee, etc.)
4. Use normalization rules to change the display of problematic or offensive subject headings in order to support researchers using preferred terminology in their searches
5. Reclassify existing collections (with particular focus on E class) if preferred by our communities
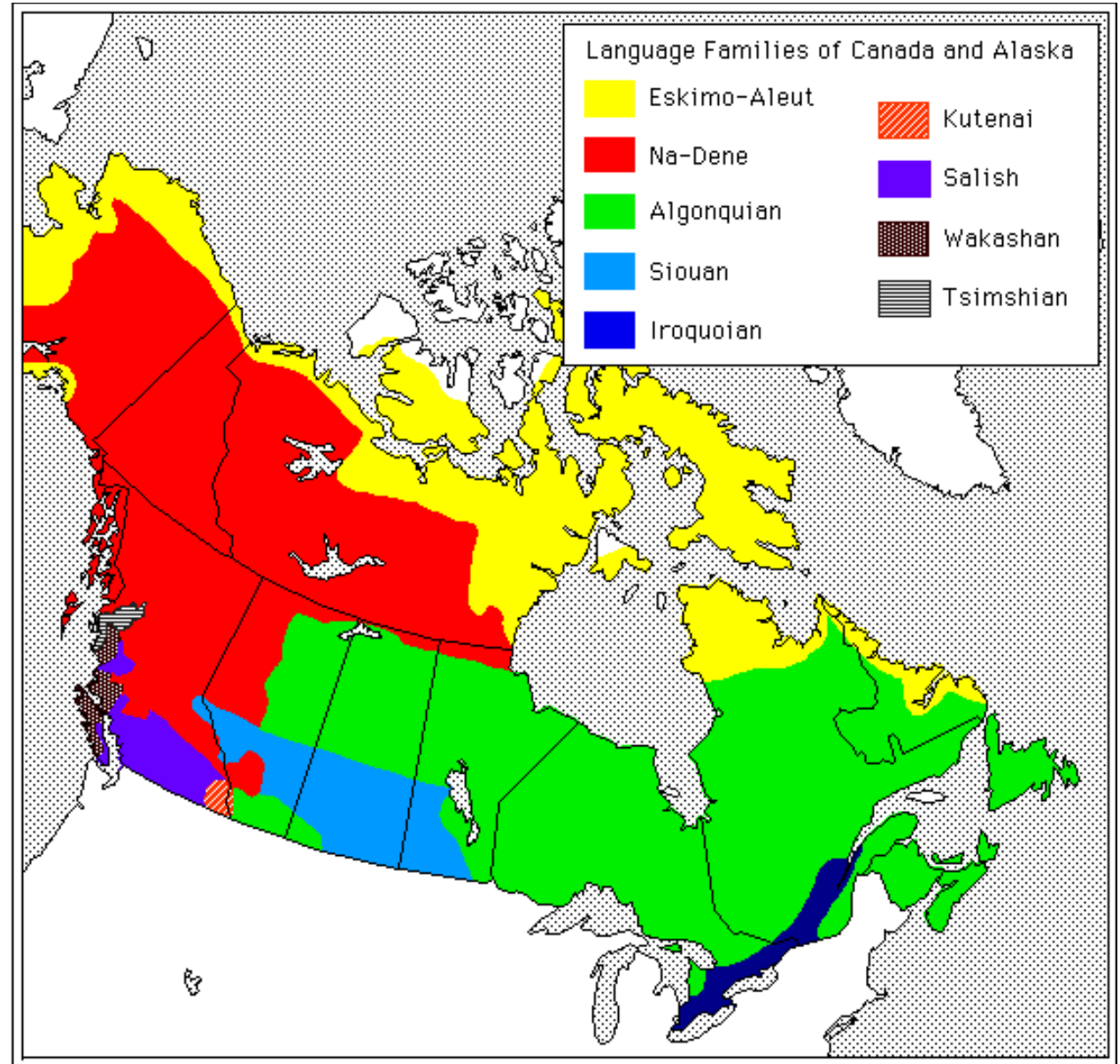
Committee Members

Adrianna Lewis
Blair Kuntz (Co-chair May 2023 - May 2024)
Carmen Königsreuther Socknat
Chris Holmes
Claire Wright
Cora Coady
Danielle van Wagner
Desmond Wong
Elizabeth Ridolfo
Gabrielle Fournier
Grant Hurley (Co-Chair fall 2024-summer 2025)
Hujma Chowdhury
Jerome Scully
John Mokrynskyj
Jordan Pedersen (Co-Chair 2021- March 2023)
Juliya Borie (Co-Chair 2021-)
Julia Hayes

Kate Johnson
Kelli Babcock
Kyla Jemison
Laura Viselli
Lisa Hodgson
Maria Aleluia
May Chan
Mikayla Redden
Natalia Mykhaylychenko
Natalya Rattan
Polina Vendrova
Remi Pulwer
Sahar Kasiri-Motlagh
Sufei Xu
Susan Bond
Tina Liu

Indigenous language collections at Canadian universities

Who is collecting what?
How do we know?

CRKN 2024 conference session:
https://vimeo.com/952407013

Language Families of Canada and Alaska

- Eskimo-Aleut
- Na-Dene
- Algonquian
- Siouan
- Iroquoian
- Kutenai
- Salish
- Wakashan
- Tsimshian

http://individual.utoronto.ca/hayes/indigenous/indigenous2_overview.html

MARC/WorldCat records are insufficient

- Statistics Canada includes 49 Indigenous languages in the census
- 23 MARC codes cover the same language areas
- Many languages grouped under collective codes:
  - CPF: Creoles and Pidgins, French-based (Other)
  - NAI: North American Indian (Other)
- Some language descriptions use outdated and incorrect terms

A solution appears!

Kleiber et al (2018) **Making Pacific Languages Discoverable: A Project to Catalog the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library Pacific Collection by Indigenous Languages**. https://doi.org/10.1353/cp.2018.0005

- Collection in/about Pacific languages – also not well represented in MARC
- Made us of ISO 639-3 standard to label specific languages instead of collective MARC codes (e.g. "Austronesian (Other))

ISO 639-3 Language codes

- International standard on language codes
- SIL International, the Language Coding Agency for 639-3
- Provide accurate and granular language information
- Can be particularly useful for Indigenous languages that lack specific MARC language codes
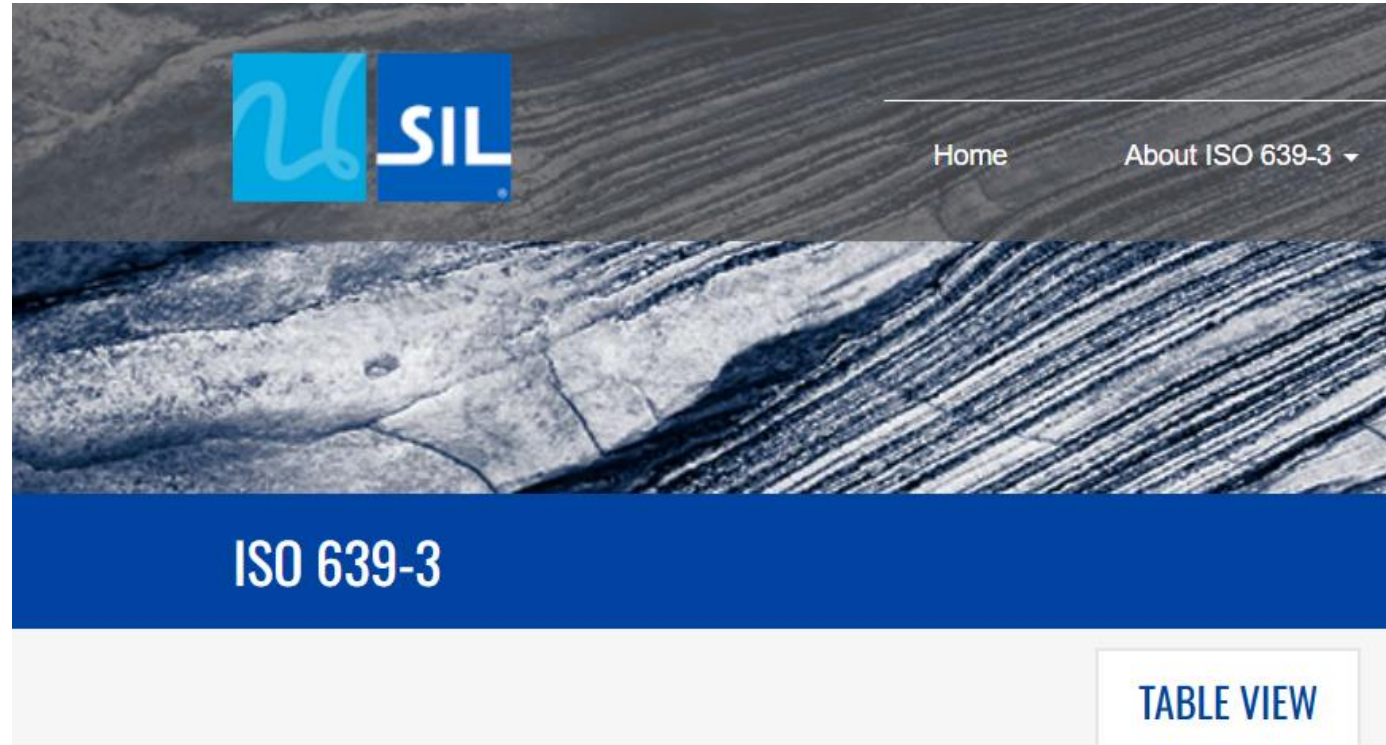
PCC Guidelines for the use of ISO 639-3 language codes in MARC records (2022)

- Recommends using ISO 639-3 codes alongside MARC codes in 041

- "Non-MARC language codes cannot be input in 008/35-37" & mapping issues

- **Main recommendations:**

  1. **Code both the MARC and ISO 639-3 language codes** whenever entering ISO 639-3 code

  2. **Encourage coding ISO 639-3 codes when they are more specific than the MARC codes** and discourage (but not forbid) manual coding of ISO 639-3 codes where we anticipate that they can later be automatically mapped

  3. If any ISO 639-3 code is recorded, include the **ISO 639-3 codes for all other languages** associated with the resource

  4. For things that ISO 639-3 treats as macrolanguages (groups of related languages where collocation is deemed useful for retrieval), **code the more specific language when known**

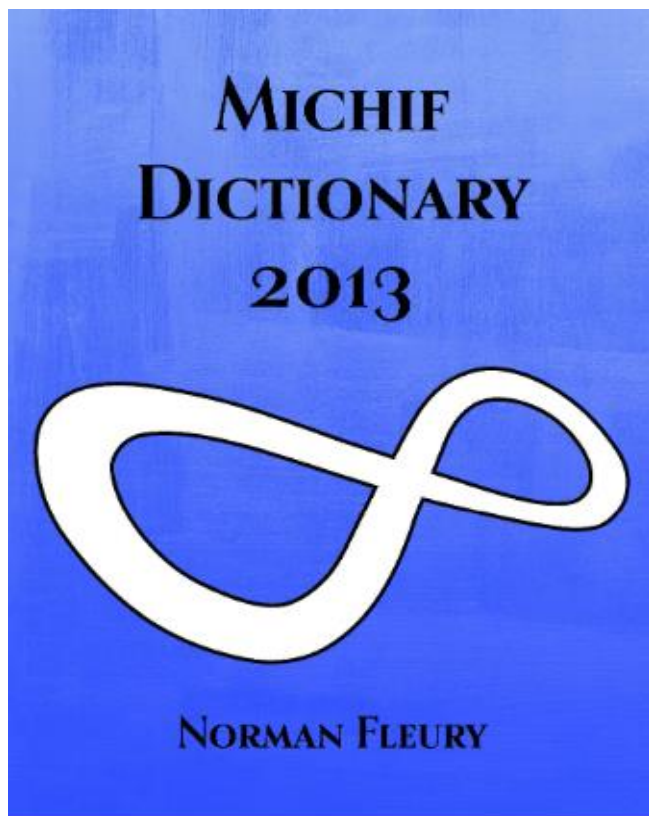# ISO 639-3 code added to 041 to supplement MARC collective code cpf

MICHIF DICTIONARY 2013
NORMAN FLEURY
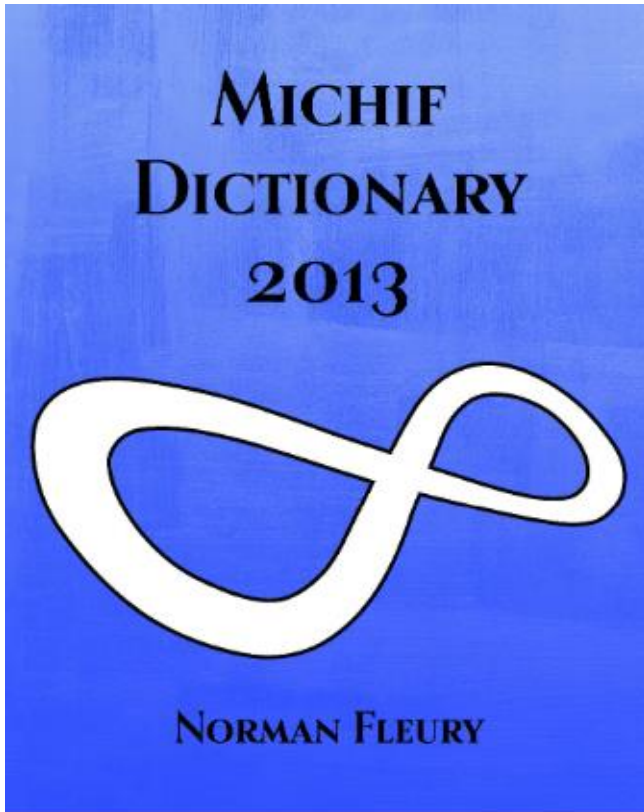
008 131017t20132013sncc\\\\\d\\\\000\0\eng\\
041 0\$aeng$acpf
041 17$aeng$acrg$2iso639-3
100 1\$aFleury, Norman,$eauthor.
245 10$aMichif dictionary 2013 /$cNorman Fleury.
264 \1$aSaskatoon, SK :$bGabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research,$eissuing body,$c[2013]
264 \4$c©2013
546 \\$aThe dictionary presents words in English followed by their Michif equivalent. Following the dictionary is a list presenting common phrases in English followed by their equivalent in Michif.

041 0 $$a eng $$a cpf
041 1 7 $$a eng $$a crg $$2 iso639-3

Link to the record

ISO 639-3 code added to 041 to supplement MARC collective code cpf

Michif dictionary 2013

Fleury, Norman, author. >

Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research, publisher. >

Norman Fleury.

Saskatoon, SK : Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research, 2013
Copyright notice date : ©2013

Creoles and pidgins, French-based
English
Michif

The dictionary presents words in English followed by their Michif equivalent. Following the dictionary is a list presenting common phrases in English followed by their equivalent in Michif.

English language -- Dictionaries -- Michif >

Michif language -- Dictionaries -- English >

Dictionaries

75 pages, 12 unnumbered pages : port. ; 29 cm.

" ... nearly 11,5000 words into Michif-Cree ... The dictionary was created to bank individual words and is useful for looking up specific Michif-Cree words. The phrases section has been created to demonstrate how the language is used and how its syntax is structured"--Publisher's introduction.

Link to the record

Michif available as a filter and in Advanced search

Languages in Primo VE

- **Language codes Labels/Customized Language Codes**: Control the languages that can appear in records/facets
- **Advanced Search Language Labels**: controls the languages that can appear in the advanced search dropdown list
- Can add/edit/remove/disable individual rows, or export the list and reimport a much longer (or shorter) list
- Dropdown menu options must be added at the View level in the Advanced Search tab

Languages in Alma

- Only MARC languages will display in Alma facets: other entries will display the code

- There is a plan to change this: Add ISO 639-3 microlanguage names to Alma title search facets

- Another Ideas Exchange that would support discovery of Indigenous material closed before we saw it: Incorporation of All Indigenous Syllabics from the Canadian Aboriginal Syllabics Unicode Block

Adding Languages to the Alma MDE dropdown

- Controlled vocabulary by default allows you to select only MARC codes (including some deprecated codes preceded with -)

- Can add (or remove) codes/names to the list for your MDE users: Configuration >> Resources >> Cataloging >> Controlled Vocabulary Registry. Edit 041A-OTB

- Can view/remove the controlled vocabulary: Configuration >> Resources >> Cataloging >> Metadata Configuration. Select MARC 21 Bibliographic, select the field

Be very cautious/thoughtful with these changes!

Analytics!

- Added local fields (041 and 546) to be able to find materials in Michif as 008 is coded as eng

Michif language

MMS Id	Title	Language Code	041 - Local Param 11	546 - Local Param 12
991105871280406196	The secret of your name : proud to be Métis = Kiimooch ka shinikashooyen : aen kishchitaymook aen li Michif iwik /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf $$h eng; $$a eng $$a crg $$h eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text in English and Michif.
991105888586506196	Michif dictionary 2013 /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a eng $$a crg $$2 iso639-3	$$a The dictionary presents words in English followed by their Michif equivalent phrases in English followed by their equivalent in Michif.
991105913007406196	Manny's memories /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf $$h cpf; $$a eng $$a crg $$h eng $$2 iso639-3	
991105993025306196	Pierriche Falcon, the Michif rhymester : our Métis national anthem : the Michif version /	eng	$$a eng $$a fre $$a cpf $$h eng $$h fre $$h cpf; $$a eng $$a fre $$a crg $$h eng $$h fre $$h crg $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text chiefly in English; lyrics of songs in French, Michif and English.
991105994983606196	The Michif dictionary : Turtle Mountain Chippewa Cree /	eng	$$a crg $$2 iso639-3	
991105995230906196	The giving tree : a retelling of a traditional Métis story about giving and receiving = Laarbr kawmaekit : aen kiitwam achimook aen histwayr chi maykik pi aen ootistikook /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a crg $$a eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text and CD narration in English and Michif.
991105995238406196	Relatives with roots : a story about Métis women's connection to the land = Lii Peraantii avik la Rasin : Eñ Nistwaar Taanishi lii Faam di Michif E'ishi Kisheyitakik li Tayraeñ /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$e ng $$a crg $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text in English and Michif-Cree.
991106056311506196	Remembering my Métis past : reminisces of Edwin St. Pierre /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a crg $$a eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Includes text in Michif.
991106057421606196	Roogaroo Mickey /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a crg $$a eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text and CD narration in English and Michif-Cree.
991106075465006196	Dancing in my bones = La daans daan mii zoo /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a crg $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text and CD narration in English and Michif-Cree.
991106085641806196	Medicines to help us : traditional Métis plant use : study prints & resource guide /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf $$a cre $$a oji; $$a crg $$a cre $$a oji $$a eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Includes text in Cree, Michif, and Ojibway.
991106159817106196	Nêhiyawêwin Masinahiḳan = Michif*/Cree dictionary /	eng	$$a eng $$a crp $$a cre; $$a crg $$a eng $$a cre $$2 iso639-3	
991106163315406196	Métis Christmas mittens = Lii mitenn Michif di Nowel /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf $$h eng; $$a crg $$a eng $$h eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text in English and Michif.
991106230271906196	Nêhiyawêwin Mitâtaht : Michif ahci Cree /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a crg $$a eng $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text in English and Northern Michif.
991106250647006196	Lii yiiboo nayaapiwak lii swer : l'alfabet di Michif = Owls see clearly at night : a Michif alphabet /	eng	$$a eng $$a cpf; $$a eng $$a crg $$2 iso639-3	$$a Text in Michif and English.

# Exploring programmatic solutions for implementation

- In Alma: Normalization rule to add ISO 639-3 code to 041

```
when
not exists "041.a.ojs"
then
addField "041.{1,7}.a.ojs"
addSubField "041.2.iso639-3" if (exists "041.a.ojs")
end
```

- Outside of Alma: can AI assist in these efforts to bring up to PCC best practices?
  - Enhancement to Normalization rules to incorporate PCC guidelines not actionable in Alma
  - AI cannot search external databases, such as ISO 639-3 Tables or MARC language code list
  - Can be helpful in analyzing metadata (for example, identifying records that use nai language code and/or Inuktitut materials that are coded with obsolete language code (esk))

The Main Takeaway

We are sharing specific project, but the most important thing to know is that this work requires learning and relationship building, which takes time. It's from there that work can be undertaken - sometimes the work will be technical, sometimes social, sometimes a combination.
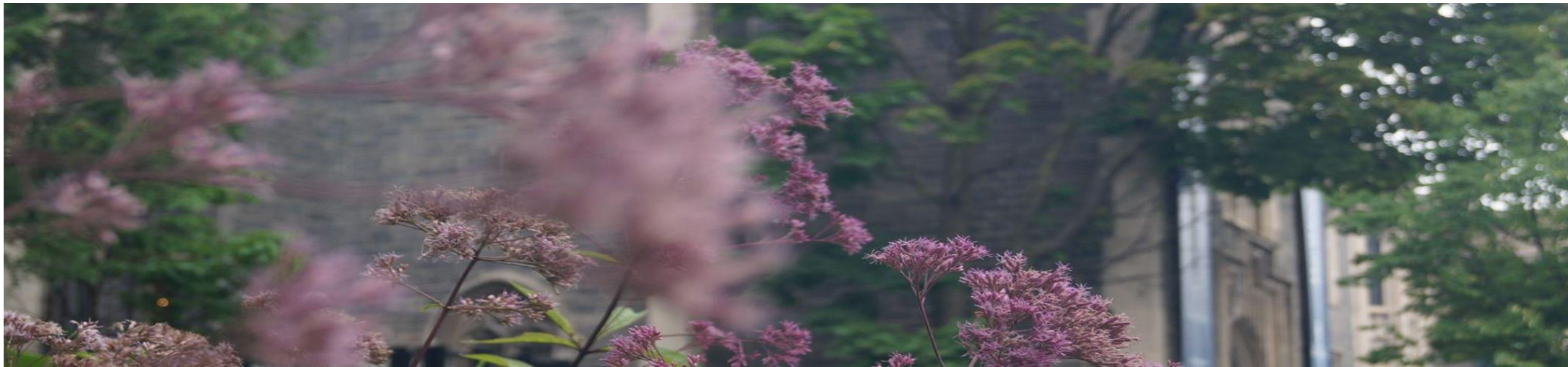
Discoverability of Resources and Relationship-Building

"Relational accountability is a cornerstone of work with Indigenous communities to ensure that trust and agency are built into the research project… moving forward in a better relationship, with more accountability, would see libraries move towards a more consultative focus and shift the scope of metadata work to include relationship-building with Indigenous Peoples."
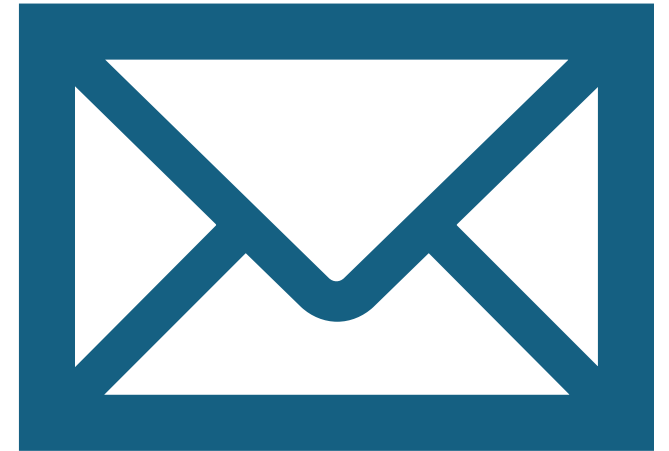
Desmond Wong, Indigenous Studies Librarian,

OCUL Collaborative Futures (CF) Decolonizing Descriptions Working Group Final Report

Thank you!

Q&A and Invitation to collaborate

- Susan Bond – susan.bond@utoronto.ca
- Juliya Borie – juliya.borie@utoronto.ca

Resources

- University of Toronto.(2017) Answering the Call Wecheehetowin Final Report of the Steering Committee for the University of Toronto Response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada https://www.utoronto.ca/news/truth-and-reconciliation-u-t
- Bennett, K. & Jurczyk, E. (2024, May 22) Connecting to Collect: Strengths in Indigenous Language Collections in Canadian Libraries and a Collaborative Path Forward. Presented at Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) Virtual Conference. May 2024. Online https://vimeo.com/952407013
- CFLA-FCAB Truth and Reconciliation Report https://cfla-fcab.ca/en/indigenous/trc_report/
- Kleiber, E., Berez-Kroeker, A. L., Chopey, M., Yarbrough, D., & Shelby, R. (2018). Making Pacific Languages Discoverable: A Project to Catalog the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library Pacific Collection by Indigenous Languages. *The Contemporary Pacific*, *30*(1), 110–122. https://doi.org/10.1353/cp.2018.0005
- NIKLA Respectful Terminology Platform Project (RTPP) https://www.nikla-ancla.com/respectful-terminology
- OCUL Collaborative Futures (CF) Decolonizing Descriptions Final Report https://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1053&context=librarians
- SCS (Standing Committee on Standards) Task Group on Developing Guidelines for Using ISO 639-3 Language Codes for Library Cataloging. (2022). PCC Guidelines for the Use of ISO 639-3 Language Codes in MARC Records

Resources for learning about ISO 639-3 language codes

- Kleiber et al. (2018) Making Pacific Languages Discoverable: A Project to Catalog the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library Pacific Collection by Indigenous Languages.

- McGrath, Kelley. PCC Guidelines for the Use of ISO 639-3 Language Codes in MARC Records. PCC Joint Operations Committee Meeting (May 4-5, 2023) (passcode is A!UqAC80)

- PCC Guidelines for the Use of ISO 639-3 Language Codes in MARC Records

Resources from the Ex Libris Knowledge Center

- [Editing Alma Metadata Profiles](#)
- [Configuring Alma Controlled Vocabulary Registry](#)
- [Configuring Display Labels for Primo VE](#)
- [Configuring Advanced Searches for Primo VE](#)
- [Ideas exchange entry to add iso 639.3 microlanguage names to Alma](#)
- [Ideas Exchange entry (closed) to add syllabics](#)