

"Language in the Present" (LiP) Workshop

University of Victoria
September 26-27, 2015

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstracts are invited for oral presentations and posters related to the theme of documenting conversation, personal stories, and song in Indigenous languages.

In this workshop we seek to highlight the **diversity and vitality of Indigenous languages**. "Language in the Present" focuses on contemporary expressions of Indigenous languages in **conversation, personal stories, and song**. The aim is to bring together linguists and language activists to explore the methods, applications, and impacts of documenting these modes of linguistic expression. From the perspective of language activism, language in its live and lively forms can connect Indigenous people to their heritage and their communities. Documenting everyday forms of communication, besides supporting language teaching and learning, reinforces Indigenous languages' enduring relevance in today's world. From a linguist's viewpoint, conversations, personal stories, and songs dramatically enrich the record for linguistic analysis and theorizing beyond more usual sources in the formal language of traditional narratives and decontextualized words or sentences. For all, the workshop celebrates the centrality of Indigenous vernacular language for sharing life and ways of being in the present.

The workshop will be framed around three panel discussions on methods and values in documenting (1) conversation, (2) personal stories, and (3) song. The list of invited panelists can be found [here](#). The workshop will open with a plenary talk by Dr. Larry Kimura of the University of Hawaii Hilo, and features a presentation by the First Peoples' Cultural Council of British Columbia. There will be an evening program celebrating contemporary expression and language in the present, with performances by Indigenous storytellers and singers.

We welcome proposals for posters or 20-minute oral presentations. Please send your abstract in pdf format (maximum 500 words, excluding references) to: lip@uvic.ca

Submission emails should include the following information for identification: (1) name(s) of author(s); (2) university, tribal, or other affiliation(s); (3) contact email address; (4) preference for oral or poster presentation.

Deadline for submissions: July 1, 2015

Questions and inquiries should be sent to: lip@uvic.ca

Preliminary information can be found at:

<http://www.uvic.ca/humanities/linguistics/home/news/current/150505-LiP.php>

Proceedings from the workshop will be published as a Special Publication by *Language Documentation and Conservation*.