



SPEAK UP
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First Nation Public Libraries



Panelists

Sheri Mishibinijima, Wikwemikong PL

Karen Lewis, Kanhiote Tyendinaga Territory PL

Karen Foster, Chippewas of Georgina Island PL

Kitty Gale, Big Grassy First Nation PL

Patty Lawlor, First Nations Consultant, SOLS

Janet Kaufman, University of Guelph Library

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Session Overview

- Introduction to First Nation public libraries
- Our Strategic Plan: Our Way Forward
- Our Way Forward: the implementation challenge
- “Speak Up for First Nation Public Libraries” campaign
- How you can help
- Questions and discussion

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Introduction to First Nation Public Libraries

- Legislation
 - operating grant
 - governance
- Facilities
- Staffing
- Collections
- Services

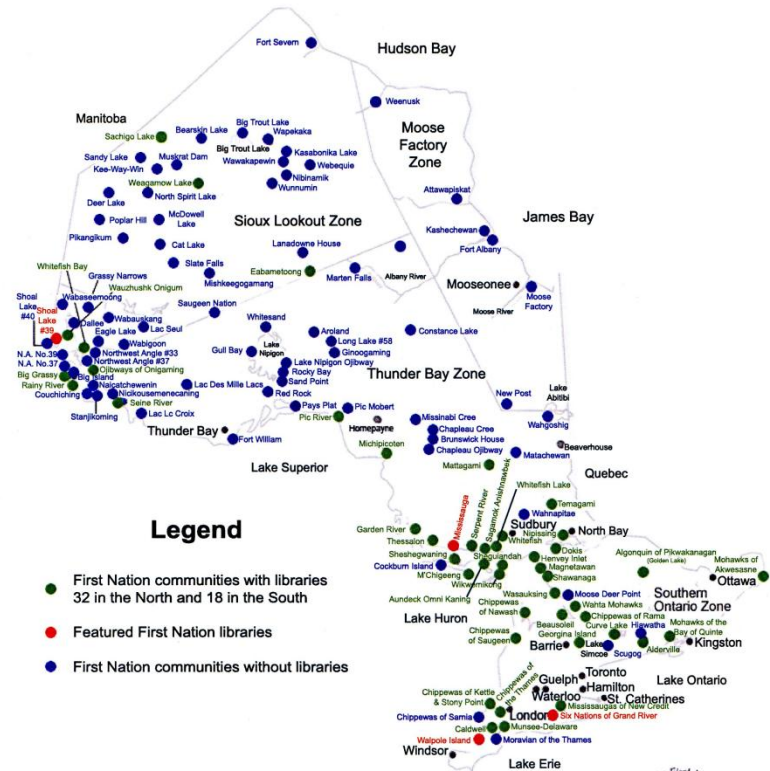


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First Nation Public Libraries in Ontario



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Our Strategic Plan: Our Way Forward

- Need recognized at focus groups convened by the Ministry of Culture in October of 2002
- 5 year plan
- Committee: librarians & staff from Ontario Library Service - North (OLS-N) & Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS)
- Content based on surveys, environmental scan, and workshops
- Final draft published in April, 2004

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Our Way Forward: the Implementation Challenge

- Members: 6 librarians plus consultants
- Working together for 3 years
- Advocacy projects: Advocacy Tool Kit & DVD, and “Speak Up” campaign
- Partner: Ontario Library Association (OLA)
- Funding: Ontario Ministry of Culture - Library Strategic Development Fund (LSDF)

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“Speak Up for First Nation Public Libraries” Campaign

- Goal: advocacy and promotion
- Funding: LSDF grant from the Ministry of Culture
- Intended audience:
 - Funders
 - First Nation leaders
 - Chiefs and Councils
 - First Nation Community members
 - Non-Native people in Ontario

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“Speak Up for First Nation Public Libraries” Campaign

- Key elements:
 - public service announcements (PSAs)
 - printed materials
 - web site
- Partners:
 - all First Nation public libraries
 - Ministry of Culture
 - OLA, OLS-N, SOLS

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Public Service Announcements

- Funding for 12 PSAs produced by Big Soul Productions Inc.
- Production for TV, radio and web site
- Messages address barriers and challenges and invite support
- Phased roll out during 2009 to maintain interest and reflect growing support

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Public Service Announcements

- Spokespeople are a cross-section of Aboriginal achievers
- First 3 PSA spokespersons are:
 - Jennifer Podemski - Actor, producer, entrepreneur
 - Joseph Lazare - Actor, director, writer
 - Lee Maracle - Elder, poet, author



How You Can Help

- Learn about First Nation public libraries
- Educate others
- Sign up today
- Visit our table in the lobby
- Be political
- Promote the PSAs
- Monitor the campaign via our website
- Think creatively

Speak Up!

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Questions & Discussion

<http://www.ourwayforward.ca/>

“Speak Up” website
coming soon

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