



MEETING GO 21-19-20

STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2020
COMMITTEE ROOM “A”, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
10:30 AM

AGENDA

1. Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
4. Public Matters
 - a) Presentation on Official Languages from the Hon. R.J. Simpson, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment
 - i. Opening Remarks
 - ii. Presentation
 - b) Correspondence from Hon. Diane Archie, Minister Responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation regarding Recent Appointments to the Board of Directors
5. In-Camera Matters:
 - a) Review of Draft Report on Review of Official Language Commissioner Reports
 - b) Follow-up Letter for Review of Business Plans
 - c) Ministerial Mandate Letters
6. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Friday November 6, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.
7. Adjournment



GNWT and the *NWT Official Languages Act*: ECE Presentation to the Standing Committee on Government Operations

Monday November 2, 2020

Government of
Northwest Territories

Mársı ja nuwe
gha núhdël Tunggasugit

Bienvenue

Şınà, jò naxıghaèhda

Shòh Quana qaigaffi
hàh **Welcome**
aanàii

Máhsı hejò raxets'é ráwədə

Tawaw Bienvenue

Quvianaqtusi qaigapsi

Şınà, jò naxıghaèhda

Quana qaigaffi

Shòh hàh aanàii

Welcome

Máhsı hejò
raxets'é ráwədə

Máhsı
ejòh
nahxe
tah
anet'i
Tunggasugit
Tawaw



Presentation Overview

- *NWT Official Languages Act* – Key Milestones
- Official Languages Governance
- GNWT Approach to French
- Funding for French Language Communications and Services
- French Language Statistics in the NWT
- Misleading Comparisons between French and Indigenous Languages
- GNWT approach to Indigenous Languages
- Indigenous Languages and Education Funding
- Indigenous Languages Statistics in the NWT
- Federal Indigenous Languages Act – Implications for NWT OLA
- Recommendations for Amendments to OLA



NWT Official Languages Act

Key Milestones

2003	SCROLA Review
2004	OLA Amended
2004	Regulations for language boards adopted
2006	Government Institution Regulations adopted
2009	SCOGO Review
2010	NWT Aboriginal Languages Plan launched
2012	Francophone Affairs Secretariat (FAS) established
2012	GNWT Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2013-2018 approved
2014	Aboriginal Languages Secretariat (ALS) formed
2014	SCOGO Review
2016	ALS becomes Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat (ILES)
2017/18	NWT Indigenous Languages Framework and Action Plan launched
2018	JK-12 Indigenous Languages and Education Policy and Handbook introduced
2018	GNWT Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2018-2023 approved
2020	SCOGO Review



Official Languages Governance

Structure

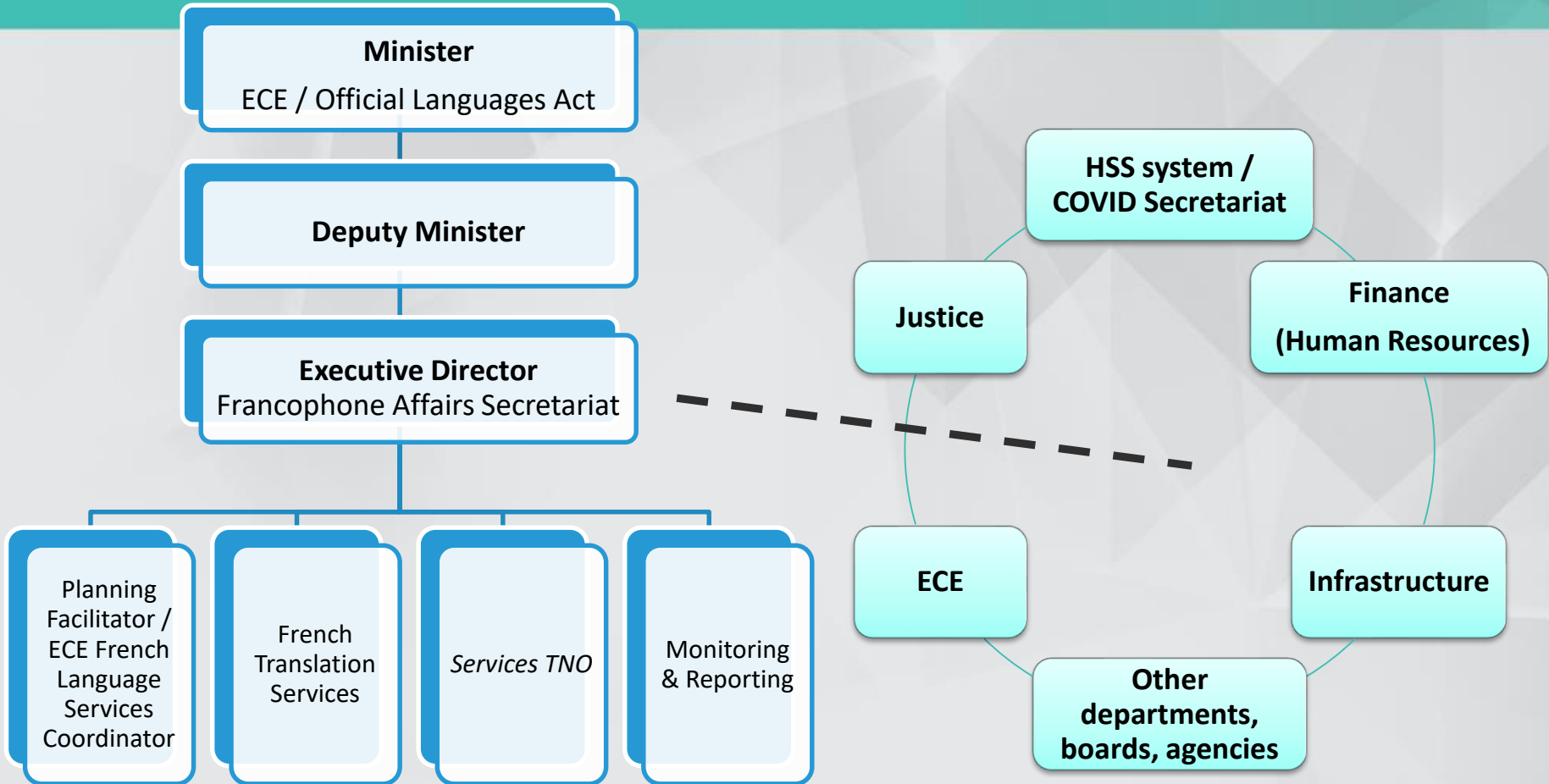
- Minister Responsible for the Official Languages Act
- Office of the Languages Commissioner
- NWT Languages Boards
 - Official Languages Board
 - Aboriginal Language Revitalization Board

Key Documents

- *NWT Official Languages Act* (2004)
- NWT Official Languages Board Regulations (2004)
- NWT Aboriginal Languages Revitalization Board Regulations (2004)
- GNWT Government Institution Regulations (2017)
- GNWT Official Languages Policy (1998)
- GNWT Official Languages Guidelines Manual (1997)
- GNWT Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services 2018-2023 and French Standards



GNWT Approach to French



French Language Services Coordinating Committee



GNWT Approach to French (con't)

2013	First edition of <i>French Communications and Services Standards</i> approved
2015	First Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan approved
2019	Second <i>GNWT Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services (2018-2023)</i> approved
2019	New edition of <i>French Communications and Services Standards</i> approved
2020	Revised Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan approved

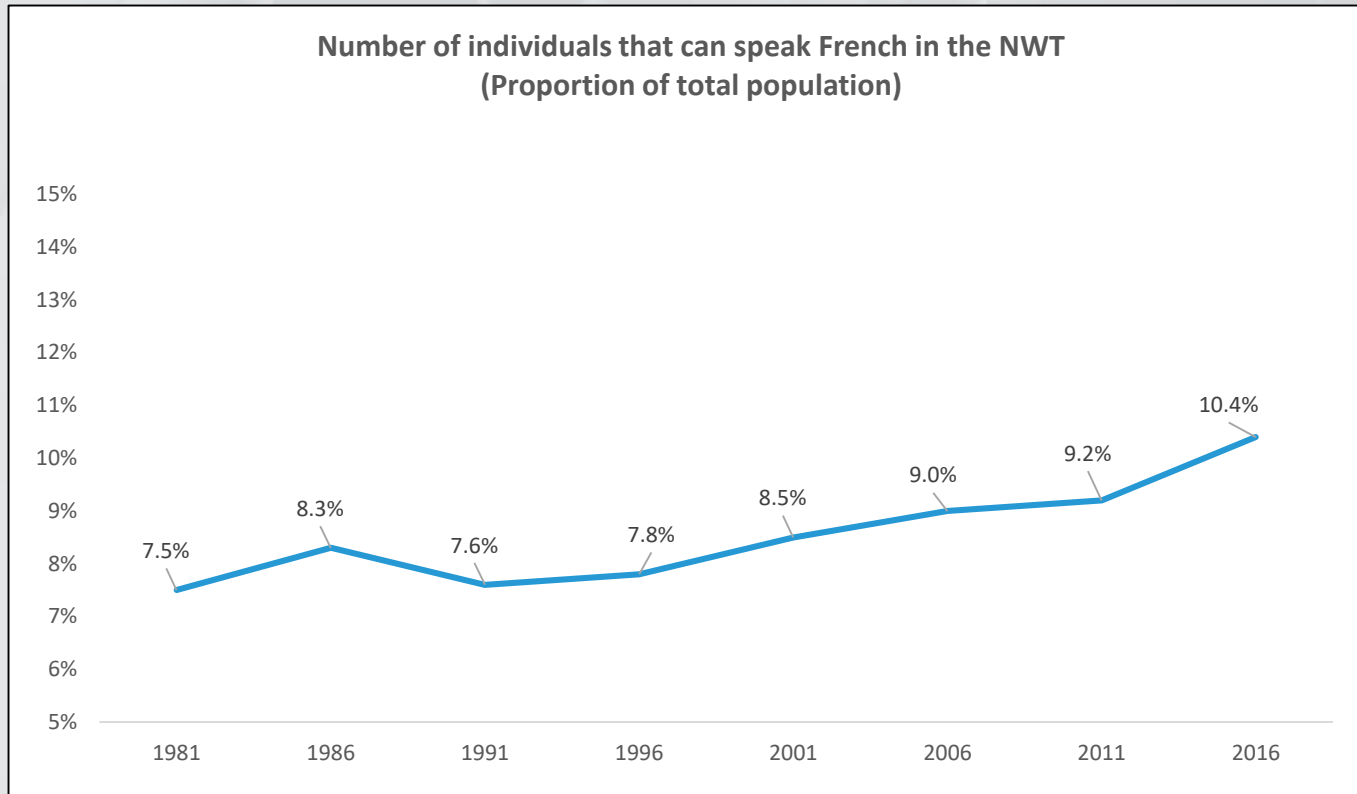


Funding for French Language Communications and Services

- \$5.5 million per year to support the planning and delivery of FLCS for all GNWT
- French translation services
- *Services TNO*
- Advertisements
- Resources to offer and deliver FLCS
- Monitoring and evaluation



French Language Statistics in the NWT



Misleading Comparisons between French and Indigenous Languages

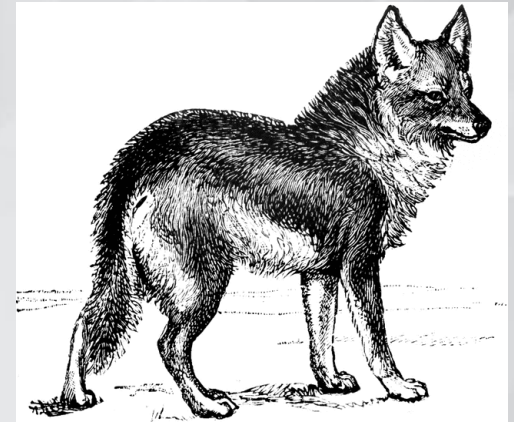


French and Indigenous Languages in the NWT have many similarities:

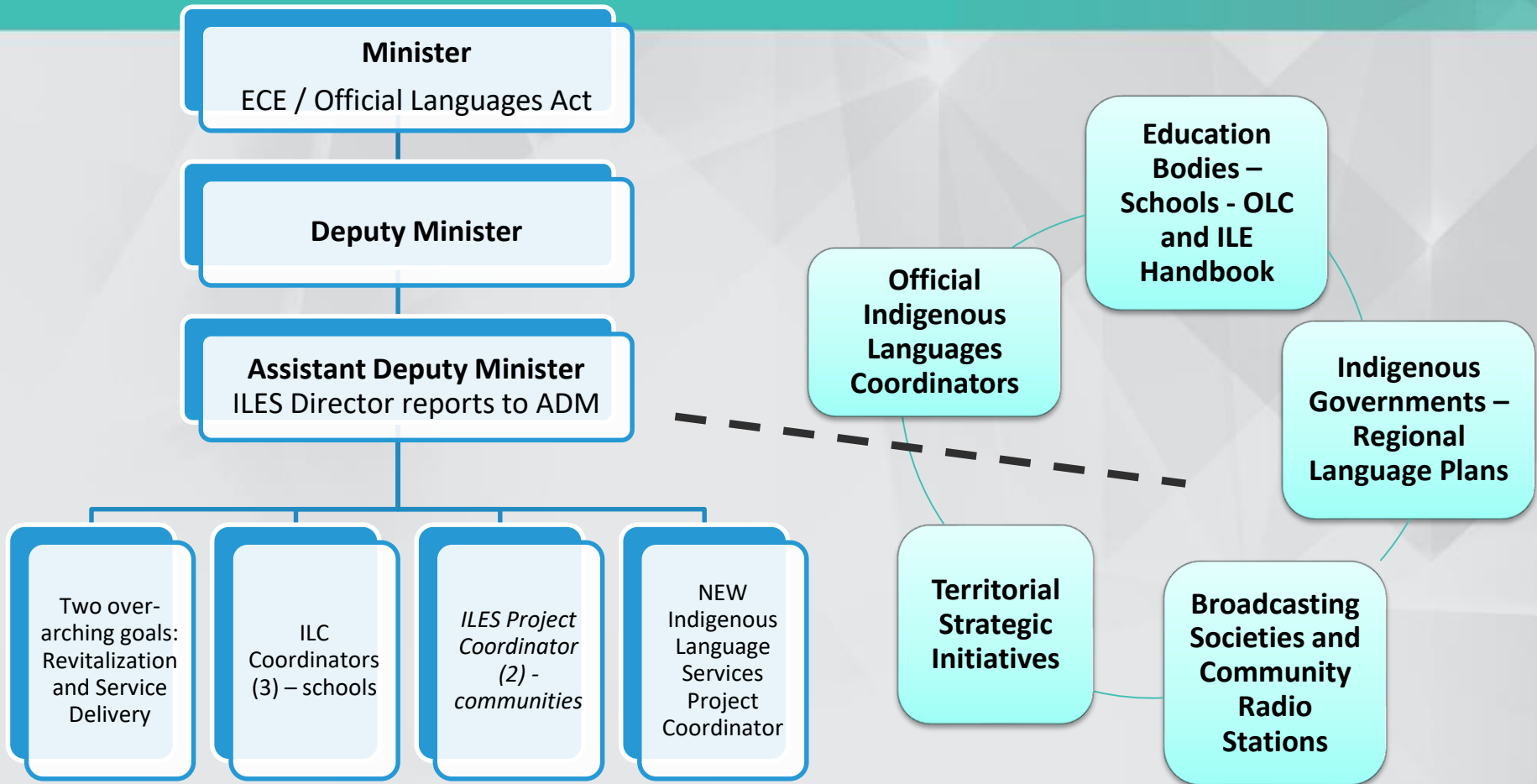
- Both have their histories
- Both have their challenges
- Both fight valiantly to keep their languages and culture alive and vibrant in the NWT

But French and Indigenous languages also have significant differences in that :

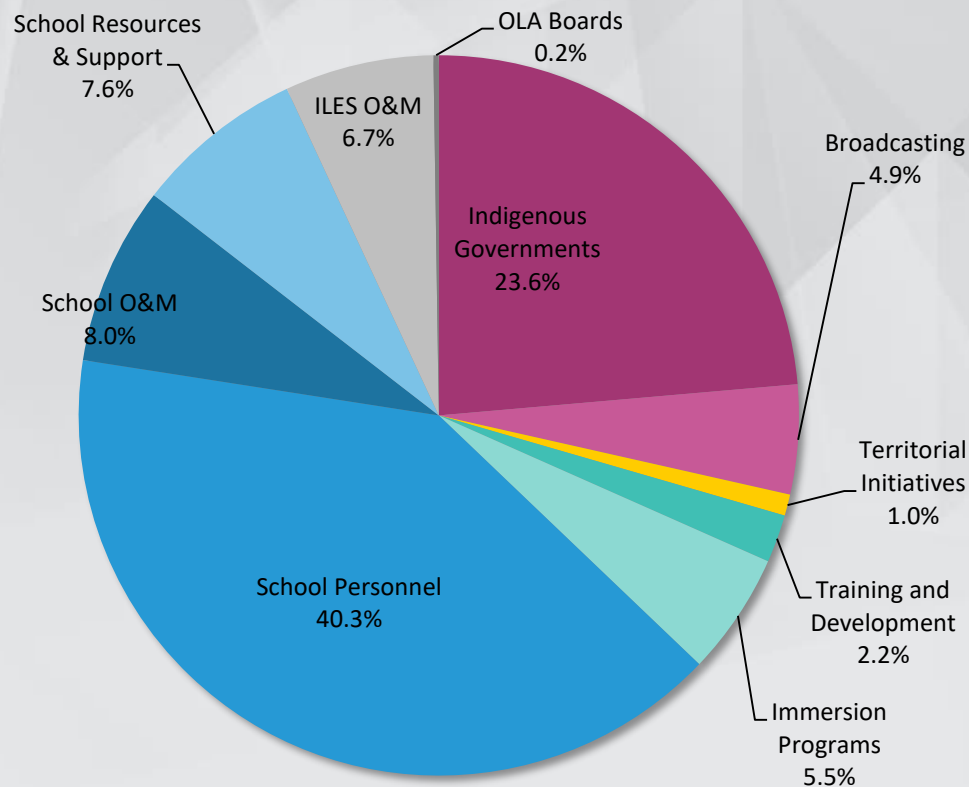
- French focus is on services
- History of language and cultural erosion: more apparent and profound for Indigenous languages
- Revitalization for the 9 NWT Indigenous languages is the main current priority



GNWT Approach to Indigenous Languages

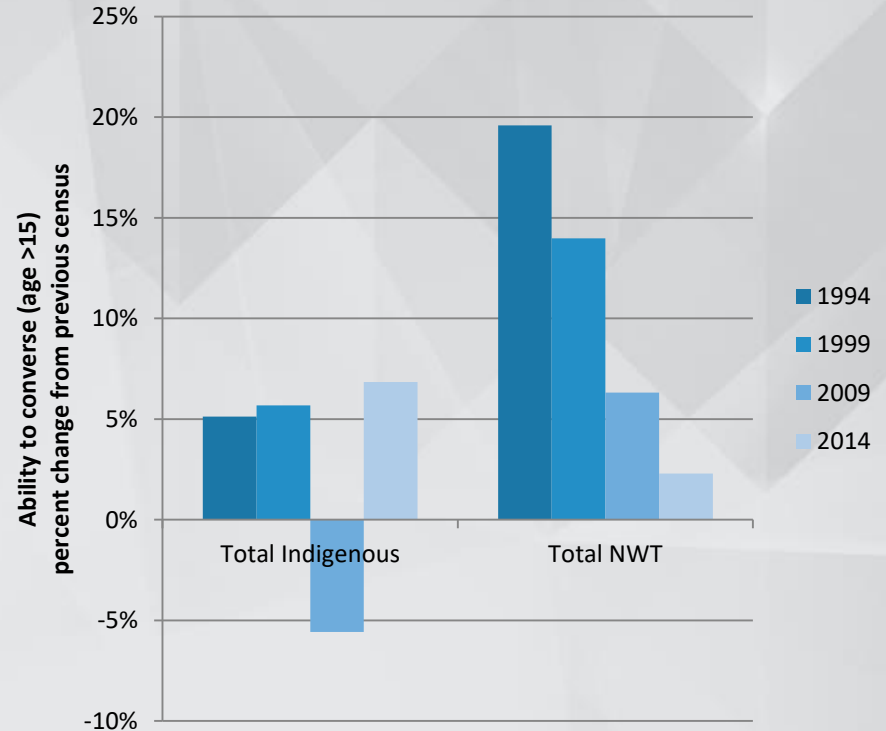
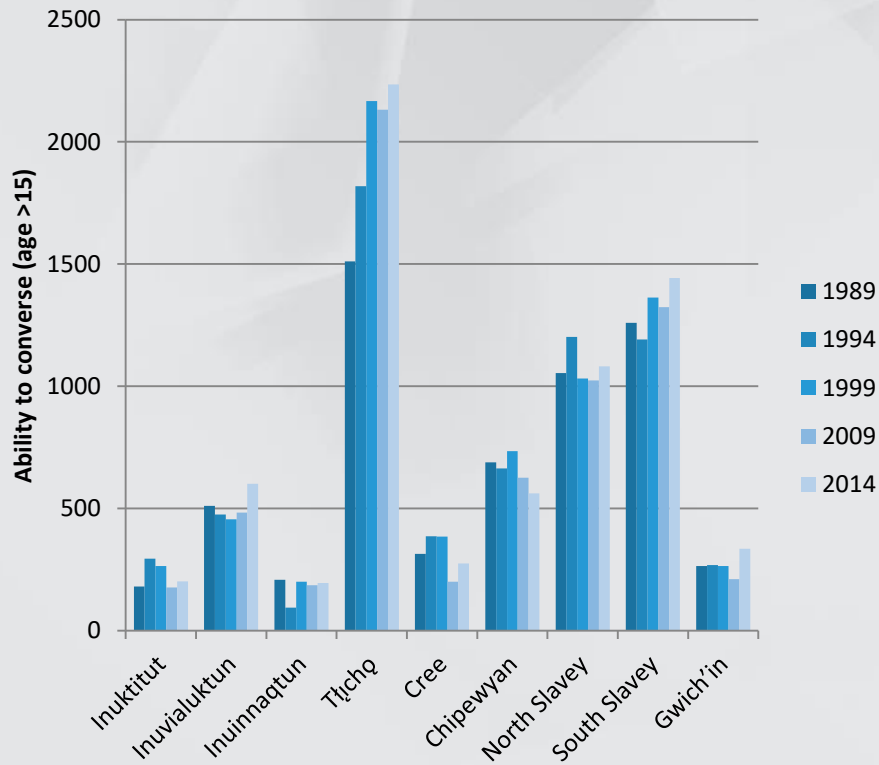


Indigenous Languages and Education Funding



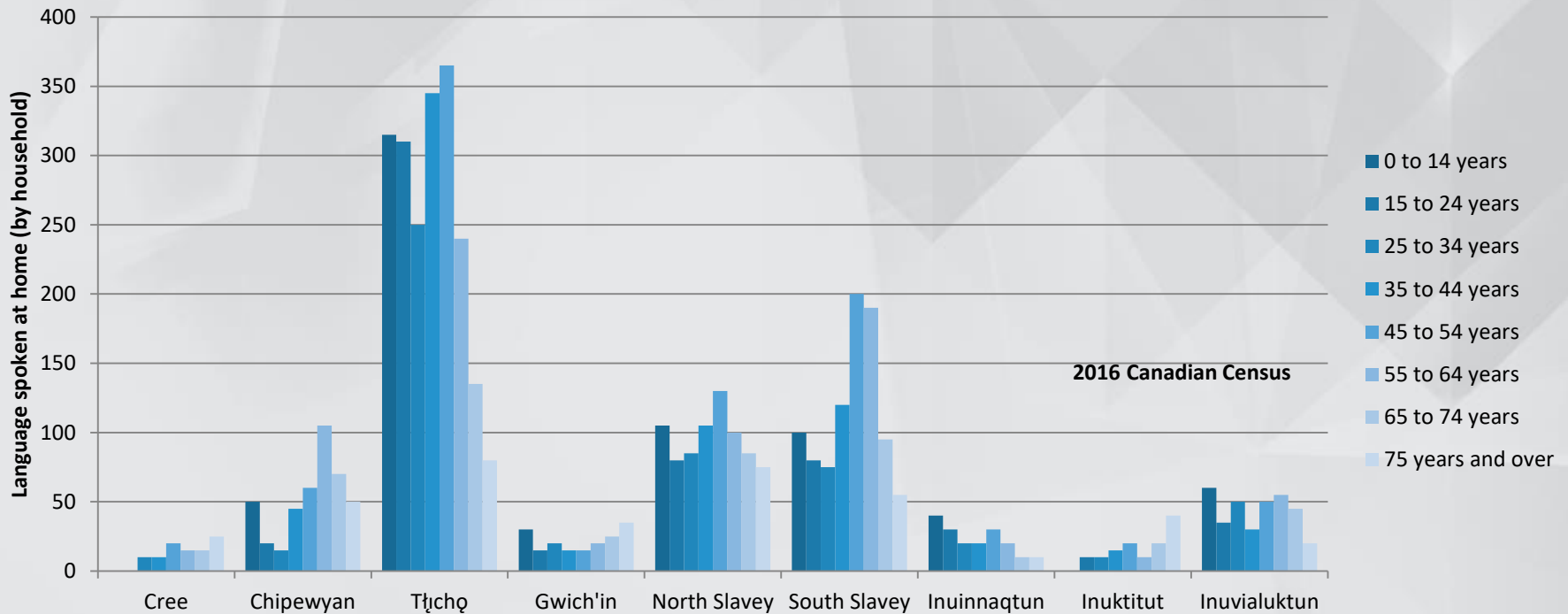
Indigenous Languages Statistics in the NWT

NWT Community Survey Results



Indigenous Languages Statistics (con't)

2016 Canadian Census



GNWT Approach to Indigenous Languages (con't)

	REVITALIZATION	ACCESS
POLICY	Establish a comprehensive plan to emphasize Indigenous language protection, revitalization and modernization.	Establish a comprehensive plan to address access to services in Indigenous languages.
ADVOCACY	Acknowledge and affirm the importance of Indigenous languages in the NWT.	Acknowledge and uphold the legal obligations to Indigenous languages across all levels of government.
PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES	Develop community capacity in Indigenous language revitalization.	Develop the resources and capacity to deliver services in Indigenous languages.

NWT Indigenous Languages Framework (2017) outlines the GNWT's vision into two over-arching goals:

- Indigenous Languages Revitalization
- Indigenous Languages Access (Service Delivery)

NWT Indigenous Languages Action Plan (2018-2022) acts as a 4-year blueprint for Indigenous languages and education initiatives in the NWT:

- 17 action items that outline the deliverables in six priority areas / measures of success



Federal Indigenous Languages Act – Implications for NWT OLA

- The first ever federal *Indigenous Languages Act* (ILA) was put into law in 2019.
- The federal government is in the consultation phase leading up to the appointment of the new Commissioner for Indigenous Languages.
- The impacts on our current arrangements with the federal government remain unknown.



Recommendations for Amendments to OLA

1. Improve functioning of the language boards
2. Update language of the legislation
3. Revise regulations and guidelines for Indigenous languages



