Sharing the SoTL Plan Plan

Part 1

My research question is based on wonderings about what post-graduation supports for Indigenous Language Teachers in the public school system would improve retention rates. There are really two questions:

1. Which post-graduation strategies are most effective in retaining teachers in the early years of service?
2. What further supports can we provide as a Post-Secondary Indigenous Institution to facilitate professional longevity for our graduates?

This research is data-driven. The shortage of Indigenous teachers in the schools of our province and country is well documented. Initiatives are currently in place to address this shortage by providing culturally relevant teacher training programs to potential candidates. As important as this is, it is also important to ensure that Indigenous teachers have the ongoing support they need in their early years of service. Many of the few Indigenous teachers that enter the public school system remain beyond their first two or three years of service. Not only must we attract new teachers to the system, we must also ensure retention.

The plan of action is fairly straightforward: We will ask graduates working in the public school systems what supports they need, what information, knowledge or skills they wish they had prior to starting work, and what further supports would assist in the future. Beyond initial teacher training, many language teachers are isolated and working without the necessary support. This project is aimed at identifying, and working towards providing, the support required.

The dissemination strategy is also straightforward. We will begin by sharing results with the participants, then with our department, then our division, gradually expanding the circle of sharing until it has reached all relevant stakeholders. Presentations will be developed, perhaps similar to those SFU developed for their SoTL project on the Flipped Classroom.

Visualization

A close-up of water ripples

Description automatically generated

Photo by [Linus Nylund](https://unsplash.com/@dreamsoftheoceans?utm_source=unsplash&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=creditCopyText) on [Unsplash](https://unsplash.com/photos/Q5QspluNZmM?utm_source=unsplash&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=creditCopyText)

Expanding circles of sharing, knowledge and impact.

Part 2 Plan uploaded to SoTL Folder