



# ADVOCATES FOR INDIGENOUS CALIFORNIA LANGUAGE SURVIVAL Newsletter

December, 2009

Volume 1, Number 1

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## New California Requirement to Work with local Tribes and Issue an American Indian Languages Credential



### AB 544 Signed

This bill requires the California Commission On Teacher Credentialing, upon recommendation by a tribal government of a federally recognized Indian tribe in California, to issue an American Indian languages credential to a candidate who has demonstrated fluency in that tribal language, and met other requirements.

The bill authorizes the holder of an American Indian languages credential to teach the American Indian language for which the credential was issued in California public schools in preschool, kindergarten, grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and in adult education courses, and would make the holder of that credential eligible for a professional clear teaching credential upon completion of a specified period of time and application and consultation as specified. The bill encourages each federally recognized American Indian tribe to develop a written and oral assessment that should be successfully completed before an applicant is recommended for an American Indian languages credential.

Great news this Indigenous Peoples' Day.... And, if it can be done in California, it can be done EVERYWHERE.

Analysis, Pam Munro

## Contact Us

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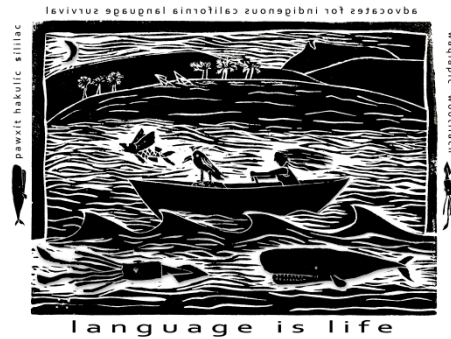
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to share on Indigenous  
language revitalization?  
Contact:  
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## Language is Life gathering 2009



The Advocates held our 9th biennial Language is Life gathering on Sept 4-6, 2009. Over 200 California Indians came together on the UC Davis campus to share their experiences and hopes of language revitalization, get ideas from each other, and attend a wide array of workshops and lectures on language teaching and learning methods, family language and cultural practices, funding, recording and computer technology, language research, and other relevant topics.

The gathering was hosted by Professor Leanne Hinton. The inspirational plenary address was given by Tony Johnson. (*Chinook*). One of the favorite presentations was Wesley Leonard's (*Miami*) "Grammar without Tears."

The Language is Life gathering wouldn't be possible without the generous sponsorship of the Lytton Band of Pomo Indians, the Yocha Dehe Community Fund and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, the Barona Band of Mission Indians, the Lannan Foundation, the Irvine Foundation, and the California Council for the Humanities. The gathering was also made possible by all of the wonderful volunteers.

## Become an Advocate



Donating to the Advocates gives a vested interest in the revitalization of California's languages and cultures.

Please send donations to the Advocates, 221 Idora Avenue, Vallejo CA 94591. You can also make donations through our web site at [www.aicls.org](http://www.aicls.org).

Thank you for joining the Advocates. Your contributions are tax deductible.