



SASKATCHEWAN ORGANIZATION FOR HERITAGE LANGUAGES (SOHL)

BACKGROUND:

Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages (SOHL) works with teachers, volunteers, and cultural communities to develop and promote the teaching of heritage languages. It is an umbrella organization supporting over 65 language schools and multilingual organizations throughout the province. Its' members currently offer instruction in 30 different languages. (Established in 1985)

**IMPACT
STATEMENT:**

Language is an important part of culture and must be recognized as necessary to the continuation of culture. The Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Language helps young people discover and appreciate the multicultural aspects of Canada.

**CONTACT
INFORMATION:**

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Published June 2009

GENERAL RESOURCES & SERVICES:	TARGET GROUP:
Teaching Tips and Evaluation Tools Tips, tools and administrative resources designed to support language instruction are available on the SOHL web site.	Heritage language teachers

CURRICULUM RESOURCES:	TARGET GROUP:
<i>Heritage Languages Curriculum Guide and Teachers Handbook</i> A resource, approved by Saskatchewan Learning, for use in heritage language classrooms.	Heritage language teachers, Students
<i>Teacher's Visual Resource Manual</i> Teaching methods for teaching writing and oral skills. Can be used for teaching any language.	Heritage language teachers
Students Workbooks Workbooks for learning Levels 1-3 of heritage language programs.	Heritage language teachers, Students
Heritage Language Lesson Plans Flexible lesson plans for teaching different languages to different age groups. (ages 5-8 /ages 9-11).	Heritage language teachers
<i>Polylingo Activity Book for Beginners</i> Puzzles, games and learning exercises for beginning language learners, ages 5-8 years.	Heritage language teachers
Game Board Package Picture cards and games for teaching languages.	Heritage language teachers
Illustration Package Pictures and activities to support teaching heritage languages.	Heritage language teachers

PROGRAMS:	TARGET GROUP:
Mini-language Learning Lessons Program Language and cultural lessons offered to students in 50 Saskatchewan schools including: Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Regina, Saskatoon, and Swift Current.	Youth

PROGRAMS:	TARGET GROUP:
Heritage Languages Recognition Day Acknowledges the special efforts of students studying a heritage language by hosting multicultural choral festivals in Regina and Saskatoon.	General public
Professional Skills Development Workshops A variety of in-service training workshops for heritage language teachers.	Heritage language teachers
SOHL Provincial Conference Annual event featuring training workshops and sessions to help improve teaching techniques.	Members, Heritage language teachers
SOHL Volunteer Awards Presentations to members for outstanding volunteer contributions. Held in conjunction with the provincial conference.	Members

FUNDING PROGRAMS:	TARGET GROUP:
Heritage Language Teaching Program Funding Provides funds to eligible organizations for out-of-school heritage language programs in Saskatchewan. Deadline is May 15.	Members in good standing
Immersion Camp Funding Provides funds to eligible Saskatchewan language schools to hold short immersion camps for their students. Deadline is May 15.	Heritage language schools
Non-Specific Language Workshop Grant SOHL provides grants to members to host language teaching workshops within a particular geographical or cultural community. This grant is for training in second language teaching method, suitable for any language. This workshop requires a minimum of 15 people. The deadline is September 15 and the maximum grant is \$1,500.	Members

FUNDING PROGRAMS:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Language Specific Workshop Grant SOHL provides grants to members to host language teaching workshops within a particular geographical or cultural community. This grant supports training workshops for teaching a specific language. This workshop requires a minimum of 5 people. The deadline is September 15 and the maximum grant is \$750.</p>	Members

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Youth Heritage Language Instructor-Helper Bursary SOHL provides a bursary to a heritage language student youth that works as an instructor-helper at their respective heritage language school. The student is expected to provide 50-70 hours of classroom assistance in one school year. SOHL typically awards four bursaries at \$300 each.</p>	Youth

PROJECTS, INITIATIVES & COMMITTEES:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>SOHL Yearbook To celebrate 2008 Year of Languages, SOHL coordinated the development of a special Yearbook featuring the activities of the Heritage Language Schools, as well as the activities of SOHL, Multilingual Association of Regina and Saskatchewan Intercultural Association.</p>	Sask. people, Heritage language teachers

MEMBERSHIP: 2008/09	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Regular Membership: 68 Available to any community-based organizations that support the aims and objectives of SOHL. Entitled to all SOHL member services. Eligible to vote at the AGM. Fee: \$25/year</p>	Community - based organizations
<p>Associate Membership: 6 Open to individuals and institutions that support the aims and objectives of SOHL. Entitled to all SOHL member services. Not eligible to vote. Fee: \$10/year</p>	Individuals, Organizations

CHAPTERS & BRANCHES:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>68 heritage language schools in the following communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Canora ▪ Dalmeny ▪ Marcelin ▪ Martensville ▪ Moose Jaw ▪ North Battleford ▪ Regina ▪ Saskatoon ▪ Yorkton ▪ Vanguard ▪ Weyburn ▪ Wishart 	Language teachers, Students

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Board of Directors A Board of 11 directors guide the organization.</p>	Members
<p>Special Projects Committees Members who volunteer to help coordinate the conference and other special SOHL projects as needed.</p>	Members
<p>Promotion & Membership Committee Members who volunteer to help coordinate the choral festival and Heritage Language Recognition Day activities.</p>	Members

ADVOCACY :	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Provincial Advocate for Heritage Language Programs SOHL and its members continue to advocate for increased support to heritage language programs to the general public, government and other funders.</p>	General public, Government, Funders
<p>Heritage Languages Recognition Day: February 21st SOHL raises awareness of heritage language day through a promotional campaign.</p>	General public
<p>Spring Free From Racism Committee SOHL takes part in a multicultural family day held March 21st.</p>	General public

RESEARCH:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Heritage Language School Research Project Currently, SOHL is in the process of piloting a new project referred to as Language Portfolios. Headed by the Ministry of Education, the findings will be incorporated into a full-fledged language portfolio program. Additionally, as a result of prior research, SOHL has formed a School Visitation Committee in order to provide recommendations for effective operation of its schools and to monitor school activities and progress.</p>	Heritage language schools

COMMUNICATION & PROMOTION:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>SOHL Web site: www.heritagelanguages.sk.ca Provides information about the organization, its programs and services, as well as resources for heritage language teachers.</p>	General public
<p>SOHL Connection Heritage language radio program featured every Tuesday, from 6:00 – 6:30 p.m., on the community radio station CJTR- 91.3 FM in Regina. Also accessible by Internet.</p>	General public
<p>SOHL Newsletter Semi-annual newsletter providing teachers with information and activities to be used in the classroom. Available on web site.</p>	Members

COMMUNICATION & PROMOTION:	TARGET GROUP:
<p>Display on Heritage Languages SOHL develops and shares information through a display presentation, showcased at different events throughout the year.</p>	Educational trade show participants
<p>SOHL Membership brochure Outline of member benefits designed to promote SOHL to new members.</p>	New members
<p>Poster – Heritage Languages Colourful poster is available to promote heritage languages throughout the province.</p>	General public
<p>Annual Report Provide members with information on SOHL’s annual highlights and financial statements.</p>	Members
<p>Heritage Languages Brochure SOHL publishes a brochure that promotes learning a heritage language.</p>	Youth, General public