



BC Métis
FEDERATION

Mentor-Apprentice Program:

**Michif Mentor-Apprentice
Pairs Language Application**

Project funding provided by:



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Summary

The goal of the Mentor-Apprentice Program (MAP) is to facilitate the development of new fluent Michif-French language speakers where fluent speakers (Mentors) are partnered with committed learners (Apprentices) in an immersion environment in a home or on the land.

This will be a one-on-one, or a one-on-two immersion program. The mentor and apprentice will spend at least 10 or more hours per week together doing everyday activities, always speaking the Michif-French language. It is anticipated that the learners will become more fluent in the Michif-French language.

Both mentor and apprentice will receive a stipend (up to 300 hours per year) for their efforts and time.

Application Checklist:

- All sections of the application form must be completed
- Apprentice Agreement must be signed
- Training workshop worksheet completed

Eligibility:

- » Apprentices must reside within the province of British Columbia.
- » Apprentices must be a registered member of British Columbia Métis Federation.

How to apply as a Mentor?

Michif-French Fluent Speakers can apply to be a mentor by submitting the following:

1. All sections of the BCMF Mentor-Apprentice Program (MAP A-2) application form.
2. MAP Application must include 1–2-page letter of sharing your background of speaking Michif. The letter should clearly outline your commitment to Michif language revitalization and interest in the Michif MAP program. The following additional information is particularly valuable:
 - » Why you want to mentor the Michif language.
 - » Why do you think the Michif MAP program will work for you.
3. MAP applications must include one letter of support for the Michif Mentorship position. This letter is ideally written from a respected community member, local official, or educational leader. The letter should not be from an immediate family member.

How to apply as an Apprentice?

Métis learners can apply to be a language apprentice by submitting the following:

1. All sections of the BCMF Mentor-Apprentice Program (MAP A-2) application form.
2. MAP Application must include 1–2-page letter sharing about your interest in becoming a fluent Michif-French language carrier and if you currently have a background in speaking Michif-French (please note — you do **not** need a language background in order to apply as an apprentice). The letter should clearly outline your commitment to Michif-French language revitalization and your interest in the Michif MAP program. The following additional information is particularly valuable:
 - » Why do you want to apprentice as a Michif-French language learner?
 - » Why do you think the Michif MAP program will work for you?
 - » How you might envision carrying the language further (beyond yourself) once you are a fluent Michif-French speaker.
 - » The Mentor-Apprentice Program is very different from the western model of schooling. The time spent with your language mentor is initiated and planned by the apprentice. As you begin to dream and vision for yourself, what are some of the ways in which you imagine spending time with your Mentor learning the language? What might you do together?
3. MAP applications must include one letter of support for the Michif Mentorship position. This letter is ideally written from a respected community member, local official, or educational leader. The letter should not be from an immediate family member.

Please note only completed applications will be considered.



The MAP Program you are applying for consists of:

MAP Intensive Level

Maximum monetary investment: up to \$16,000. This includes:

- » Mentor stipend of \$30 per immersion hour mentored
- » Apprentice stipend of \$20 per immersion hour of learning

BCMF MAP is for language learners who want to actively pass on the language to others, through a career as a language educator. MAP apprentice applicants must complete 300 hours of language immersion with a fluent Michif-French speaker over approximately nine months. This is also a prerequisite to year two of the MAP Program.

BCMF MAP programs begin **July 22, 2024** and go to **March 15, 2025**. BCMF MAP Team confirmations will be provided **July 22, 2024** with a start orientation date on **July 24, 2024**.

BCMF Michif Language Apprenticeship is best served by

Understanding that as an apprentice, you are undertaking a big commitment and responsibility. It is a significant honour to be taken as a language student by a language carrier. As the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee taught, the decisions we make today will affect the seven generations that follow us. To acquire Michif-French language comprehension proficiency within the three years and go on to mentor others in varying ways through 1:1 or within community groups is a powerful act of cultural resilience and care.

MAP Program Timeline:

- A. Application submissions deadline **July 16, 2024**
- B. Application review and selection by MAP Selection Team by **July 18, 2024**
- C. MAP Orientation: **July 24-25, 2024** (mandatory)
 - » Attendance is mandatory for all MAP Teams approved for program
 - » Travel and accommodations will be covered for training/orientation
 - » Per diems will be paid upon completion of the orientation/training workshops
- D. MAP delivery period: **July 24, 2024** to **March 15, 2025**
 - » Mentor and apprentice begin their language immersion sessions immediately after the training/orientation workshop
 - » Stipends will be issued upon submission of required progress reports after the completion of 50 hours of immersion time
 - » Progress reports are the responsibility of the apprentice



BCMF Michif-French Mentor-Apprentice Team Agreement

Please read the following BCMF MAP Team Agreement and sign where appropriate.

- A. We understand that participation in BCMF MAP involves a commitment towards the apprentice gaining fluency in Michif language.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

- B. We understand that BCMF MAP involves being immersed in Michif language for significant portions of time during the learning period. We understand that the Mentor and Apprentice will be paid an agreed upon stipend for immersion hours together.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

- C. We understand that the two-day mandatory training/orientation workshop is a required part of BCMF MAP and we both intend to participate.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

- D. As the Apprentice, I understand that I will be responsible for maintaining regular contact (in person, via phone or email) with the BCMF MAP Coordinator during our learning period and I will be responsible for submitting weekly and/or monthly progress reports of language immersion time for both of us to receive our allotted stipend.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

- E. As the Apprentice, I understand that I will be evaluated after 150 immersion hours and at the end of the 300 hours on my language learning, comprehension, and speaking ability. The evaluation will be conducted by an oral proficiency assessment evaluator and the BCMF MAP Coordinator. The Mentor may/may not be a part of the evaluation.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

- F. The apprentice is responsible for taking care of the recording devices provided to the apprentice and will safely return the item back to BCMF MAP program coordinator at the end of the program.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

- G. The mentor and apprentice will each submit a current Vulnerable Sector Check. I understand that it is the individual responsibility of each apprentice and each mentor to obtain the Vulnerable Sector Check from my local RCMP detachment and that I will be reimbursed for the cost by BCMF.

Mentor Signature: _____

Apprentice Signature: _____

Mentor Self-Assessment

A. Strongest Dialect (your choice will be used for subsequent questions)

- Michif-French
- Heritage Michif
- Southern Michif

B. Understanding (comprehension)

- I can understand most things that are said to be but need occasional repetition.
- I can understand everyday conversations quite well.
- I can understand Michif-French

C. Speaking

- I can answer many questions and say a lot of things on my own
- I can participate in (speak in) everyday conversations quite well
- I can speak Michif-French

D. Pronunciation (how your speech sounds)

- I can pronounce nearly all sounds correctly, but still get misunderstood a lot.

E. Vocabulary and Grammar

- While I still make mistakes with words or grammar, I usually catch myself.
- Though not perfect, I think I get most things right in everyday conversations.

F. Improve my speaking with others speakers:

- I would be interested in participating in the Michif Returning Home-Silent Speakers Revitalization program to refresh some of my language fluency skills and build my confidence in speaking my mother tongue.

Training & Orientation Workshop Sheet

Mandatory training & orientation will be held for BCMF Mentor-Apprentice successful candidate individuals into the program and pairing of teams will be determined at the Vancouver training session. To cover travel and accommodations costs, please provide the following details:

Mentor Orientation & Training Details	
Full Name	
Date & Year of Birth	
Residential address	
City	
Phone	
Email Address	
How will you travel? (road/air)	
Do you have any special dietary or health needs?	

Apprentice Orientation & Training Details	
Full Name	
Date & Year of Birth	
Residential address	
City	
Phone	
Email Address	
How will you travel? (road/air)	
Do you have any special dietary or health needs?	



Mentor-Apprentice Work Plan

Program Outline

When entering into the Mentor Apprentice Program the apprentice will be completing a detailed work plan for the 300 hours of work with the Mentor. The planning will include the Mentor for feedback and direction in developing. Please see the outlined plan and hours and activities and goals the apprentice is required to complete.

To guide MAP planning, the apprentice is to think about the following questions:

- » What are your language learning goals for the 300 hours?
What are your goals for each 50 hours?
- » What do you want to learn? The learning must be natural to you and where you live.
- » What kinds of topics do you want to learn about? i.e., fishing, cooking, harvesting, family etc. You can spend at least 20 hours of immersion on each topic.
- » What kinds of activities can you do together to help accomplish your goals?
- » Are there other language/culture experts in the community you would like to involve?
- » Based on your work so far, what can you improve, expand and continue to work on?
- » Based on your work so far, what do you need to practice more? What do you need more help with?

Specific goals should be defined. For example, trips by car or on the bus, visit harvesting grounds, cook meals together, or work with a different language group or speaker.



Activities will include learning new words and practice using them in phrases.

1. Outline your planned schedule. Your team should complete approximately 12.5 hours per week of language immersion each week to reach the 50 hours per week. (See appendix H for schedule templates)

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Total Hrs
Week 1								
Week 2								
Week 3								
Week 4								
Week 5								
Week 6								
Week 7								
Week 8								
Week 9								
Week 10								
Total Hours								

2. List the language skills you plan to gain during this program: (e.g., listening, asking questions, simple conversation)

3. List the topics or areas of interest you will focus on during this program: (e.g., daily household activities, salutations and greetings, on the land activities, or others)



MAP Program Detailed Work Plan

This section is completed at the beginning of the year. Please work as a team to outline your planned activities for each 50 hours. Use additional pages if needed.

<p>Workplan What activities will you do together to accomplish your language learning goals?</p>	
<p>Language Focus What language will you learn from each activity? i.e., words, phrases, language skills etc.</p>	
<p>Number of Hours How many hours will you spend on each activity?</p>	
<p>Date When do you expect to complete each activity?</p>	
<p>Details & Comments Give details on each activity. Please provide comments about your activities and language learning.</p>	



MAP 50 Hour Report

Submitted by Apprentice						
Mentor Name						
Apprentice Name						
Date						
Report #	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

Log Hours (50 Hours)

This is a summary log. Please also keep a detailed journal of all your mentor-apprentice activities.

Date(s)	# of hours
Activities & Topics covered	
Comments	
Date(s)	# of hours
Activities & Topics covered	
Comments	
Date(s)	# of hours
Activities & Topics covered	
Comments	
Date(s)	# of hours
Activities & Topics covered	
Comments	
Total # of hours for this report (minimum of 50)	



Signatures

Mentor

I declare that the information in this application is accurate and complete.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Apprentice

I declare that the information in this application is accurate and complete.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____