ISO 639-3 Registration Authority
Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code” form

Date: 2010-2-19

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Associated Change request number : 2010-033 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : nuk (completed by Registration Authority)

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed).

1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION
   a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:
      Nuu-chah-nulth

   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      Nuučaan̓uł

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Nootka, Nutka, Westcoast, Aht, t'aat'aaqsapa, quuquu'aca

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      'Nuu-chah-nulth' has been the preferred and official name since 1974. The older 'Nootka' is considered at best inaccurate, at worst insulting.

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: noo

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifiers is not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION
   a) Is this a
      - [ ] Living language
      - [X] Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
      - [ ] Recently extinct language

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Historical language

Ancient language

Artificially constructed language

Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at http://www.sil.org/iso639-2D3/types.asp)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
Canada

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
Southwest British Columbia, Pacific Ocean coast of Vancouver Island

d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user’s death

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

a) This language is: □ Signed       □ Spoken       □ Attested only in writings

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
Wakashan

c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
Ditidaht, Makah.

We propose updating the Ethnologue entry as follows. CHANGE primary name to ‘Nuu-chah-nulth’ (Nuucâanul). The older ‘Nootka’ should stay as an alternate name, but be removed as the primary name. REMOVE Nitinat, Nitinat Lake from the Region note. ALTERNATE NAMES: Nootka, Nutka, Westcoast, Aht, t'aat'aaqsa, quuquu'aca. DIALECTS: ADD the following dialect names. Northern dialects: Cheklesaht, Kyuquot. Central dialects: Ehattesaht, Nuchatlaht, Mowachaht, Muchalaht, Hesquiaht, Ahousaht, Tla-o-qui-aht. Southern or Barkley Sound dialects: Ucluelet, Toquaht, Uchucklesaht, Tseshaaht, Hupacasath, Huu-ay-aht. These names are by now well established, although work remains to be done regarding rigorous criteria for distinguishing Northern, Central, and Barkley dialects. REMOVE Nitinat (alternate names: Ditidaht, Ditinat, Didinaht, Nitinaht) (see separate New Code Element Request Form for Ditidaht/Nitinat).
4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
academic papers and texts, various dictionaries and wordlists, some pedagogical materials, various audio recordings, FirstVoices archive (www.firstvoices.ca), no native literature

b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:
The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribe is recognized by the Canadian government, and the Nuu-chah-nulth language is recognized as an individual language by the First Peoples’ Heritage, Language and Culture Council, which is a Crown Corporation, and appointed by the government of British Columbia to oversee provincial funding for native language revitalization. Some dialects of the language are taught in local community schools.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Nuu-chah-nulth people generally identify themselves both as Nuu-chah-nulth in a general sense, and in terms of their membership in any of fifteen or so different Nuu-chah-nulth Bands. The language is almost completely replaced by English in both formal and informal domains of use, though some regular ceremonial use, and significant passive knowledge of the language survive.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):


Shank, Scott; & Wilson, Ian. (2000). Acoustic evidence for ʕ as a glottalized pharyngeal glide in Nuu-chah-nulth. In S. Gessner & S. Oh (Eds.), Proceedings of the 35th International Conference on Salish and Neighboring Languages (pp. 185–197). UBC
Please return this form to:

ISO 639-3 Registrar
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
Email: iso639-3@sil.org
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Further information:

If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers: