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: 2021-8-20

Name of Primary Requester: Megan Lukaniec (Huron-Wendet Nation; University of Victoria)

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Craig Kopris (CILLDI; Language Preservation Technologies; Linguist for Wyandotte Nation), ckopris at gmail dot com

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Associated Change request number : 2021-041 (completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : wyn (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:
      Wyandot

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

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Wendat, Wyandotte, Wyandott (Please note that the alternate name Wyendat in the current list for Wyandot is erroneous and needs to be deleted.)

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      This name is used widely in the three communities.

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      Three communities claim this language as their heritage language: the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma (approximate population: 6,800), the Wyandot Nation of Kansas (approximate population: 650), and the Wyandot Nation of Anderdon (approximate population: 3,800).

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: wyn

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
      ☐ Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
(Select one. See explanations of these types at [http://www.sil.org/iso639-2D3/types.asp](http://www.sil.org/iso639-2D3/types.asp))

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
   United States

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
   Wyandotte, Oklahoma; Kansas City, Kansas; Trenton, Michigan

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:
   Iroquoian

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:
   Wendat [wdt] (proposed as a new code resulting from split from wya)

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   There are audio and video resources available for learning Wyandot through multiple Facebook groups. There are also online course materials at a dedicated website, along with games and keyboards. A series of 40 Wyandot narratives have been published in four different versions, as well as shorter texts, such as children's stories. Audio recordings of language, including beginnings of texts, were recorded on wax cylinder by Marius Barbeau in 1911-1912, on wire spool by John W. Gillespie in 1950, and on cassette by Ives Goddard in 1966. Modern audio is also available, ranging from vocabulary to full texts.
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 Wyandot language is recognized as the ancestral language of the three Wyandot(te) communities: the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma, the Wyandot Nation of Anderdon, and the Wyandot Nation of Kansas. Wyandot is taught in on-going on-line classes for adults, as well as periodically at Wyandotte Nation. A high school-level course was developed for Oregon Trail Schools, and children's classes have been taught at Wyandotte Public Schools and in the Turtle-Tots program.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:

The Wyandot language is considered fundamental to Wyandot(te) identity.


**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:
Craig Kopris: I have been involved with the Wyandot(te) language for the last thirty years as, variously, a student and researcher, collaborative linguist with community members of the Oklahoma, Kansas, and Anderdon (Michigan) Nations, and the Tribal Linguist for the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma.

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
There is some linguistic research about Wyandot. Wyandot grammar has been described in Kopris (2001). Information about Wyandot is in Mithun (1979). Wyandot archival materials extend from the late 1700s through the late 1900s, much of it listed in Kopris (2001). A Wyandot lexicon is available at both wyandotte-nation.org and www.wyandotofanderdon.com. Other linguistic research about Wyandot is in Barbeau (1960), Pearson (2007), and Kopris (2015).


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: