

Guide to Pronunciations for B.C. First Nations

Please note: there may be regional variations to pronunciations.

The B.C. Government First Nations Heritage, Language and Culture Council contains the names of various linguists that can be contacted via e-mail at http://www.fphlcc.ca/tk_general.aspx.

First Nation	Pronunciation
Acho Dene Koe	A-ko -den-eh-ko
Adams Lake	A -dams Lake
Ahousaht	A-house -aat
Aitchelitz	A-che-leets
Alexandria	Al-ex- an -dre-aa
Alexis Creek	A-lex -is Creek
Alkali Lake	Al-ka-li Lake
Anderson Lake	An -der-son Lake
Ashcroft	Ash croft
Beecher Bay	Bee -cher-bay
Blueberry River	Blue -ber-ry River
Bonaparte	Bon -a-part
Boothroyd	Booth -roy-d
Boston Bar	Bos -ton Bar
Bridge River	Bridge River
Broman Lake	Bro -man Lake
Burns Lake	Burns Lake
Burrard	Burr ard
Campbell River	Cam -bell River
Canim Lake	Ca -nim Lake
Canoe Creek	Can- oo Creek
Cape Mudge	Cape Mudge
Carcross-Tagish	Car-cross-Ta- geesh
Cariboo Tribal Council	Care -i-boo Tribal Council
Carrier Chilcotin	Carry- er Chill- coh -tin
Carrier Sekani	Carry- er Se- can -ee
Cayoose Creek	Ky- oose Creek
Champagne-Aishihik	Sham-pane- A -sh-i-ack
Chawathil (formerly Hope)	Shi -wat-hill
Cheam	Chee -am
Chehalis	Sh- hay -lis
Chemainus	She- may -nis
Cheslatta Carrier Nation	Chess- latt -a
Chilcotin	Chil- coh -tin
Coast Salish	Coast Say-lish
Coldwater	Cold -water
Columbia Lake	Co- lum -bia Lake
Comox	Ko -mox
Cook's Ferry	Cooks Ferry

Coquitlam	Ko- qwit -lam
Cowichan	Cow -i-chan
Cowichan Lake	Cow -i-chan Lake
Dakelh	Da-kelh
Da'naxda'xw	Da -nak-dah
Dax Ka Nation	Dax -ka Nation
Dease River	Dees River
Dene-thah	De-ney-ta
Ditidaht (formerly Nitinaht)	Dit -ee-dat
Doig River	Dayg River
Douglas	Doug-lass
Dunne-za	De-ney-za
Ehattlesaht (formerly Douglas)	Eh- hat -eh-sat
Esketemc (formerly Alkali Lake)	Es- ket -em
Esquimalt	Es- kwy -malt
Fort Nelson	Fort Nelson
Fort Ware	Fort Ware
Fountain	Faun tain
Gingolx	Gin-golth
Gitanmaax	Git- an -maa
Gitanyow (was Kitwancool)	Git- an -yow
Gitlakdamix	Git lah t aa mix
Gitga'at	Git-gat
Gitsegukla	Git-zee- gee-u -kla
Gitxsan	Git- san
Gitwangak	Git-wan- gah
Gitwinksihlkw (formerly Canyon City)	Git-win- k -see-thl-k
Gitxaala	Kit-sa-la
Glen Vowell	Glen Vow-ell
Gwa'Sala-Nakwaxda'xw	Gwa-sala- nak -wah-dah
Gwawaenuk	Gwa- wae -nuk
Haida	High -da
Haida Gwaii	Hy-dah G-why
Hagwilget	Hag-wil- get
Haisla	High- sla
Halalt	Ha- lalt
Halfway River	Half-way River
Hamatla	Ha- mat -la
Hartley Bay	Hart -lee Bay
Heiltsuk (formerly Bella Bella)	Hel-sic
Hesquiaht	Hesh -kwit
High Bar	Hi -bar
Homalco	Ho- mall -ko
Hupacasath	Who-pe- chess -it

Hul'qumi'num	Hull-kah- me -num
Huu-ay-aht (formerly Ohiaht)	Ooh- ay -at
In-SHUCK-ch	In- Shuck -shuh
Iskut	Is -cut
Kamloops	Kam -loops
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/che:K'tles7et'h' (formerly Kyoquot)	Ky- yuk -et/Check-le-set
Kanaka Bar	Can- aka -bar
Kaska	Kass -kah
Katzie	Kat -zee
Kincolith Village Government	Kin- ca -lith
Kispiox	Kiss -pee-ox
Kitamaat (formerly Haisla)	Kit- a -mat
Kitasoo	Kit- a -zoo
Kitkatla	Kit- cat -la
Kitselas	Kit -se-las
Kitsumkal	Ki- tsem -kay-lem
Klahoose	Kla- hoos
Kluskus	Klus -kus
K'omoks	Ko -mox
Kootenai	Koot -nee
Ktunaxa-Kinbasket	Tun -ah-hah-kin-basket
Kwadacha	Kwa -dach-a
Kwakuitl (formerly Fort Rupert)	Kwa -gyu-th
Kwantlen	Kwant -len
Kwa-wa-aineuk	Kwa-wa- ay -neuk
Kwaw-kwaw-a-pilt	Kwa-kwa- a -pilt
Kwiakah	Kwee-a-ka
Kwakiutl	Kwa-gyu-th
Kwicksutaineuk-ah-kwah-ah-mish	Kweek-soo- tain-nuk -ah-kwa-a-meesh
Kyuquot	Kyu -kwat
Lakahahmen	Lak- aha -men
Lakalzap	Lak- al -zap
Lake Babine	Lake Ba -been
Langley	Lang -ley
Lax-kw'alaamas	Lax-kwa- laams
Laxqalts'ap	Lah-gal-stup
Lheidli T'enneh	Klate -lee-Ten-eh
Lheit Lit'en	Lay -letten
Lillooet	Lil -low-wet
Lil'wat	Lil -watt
Little Shuswap	Little Shoe -swap
Lower Kootenay	Lower Koot -ney
Lower Nicola	Lower Ni- cole -la
Lower Similkameen	Lower Sim- milk -a-meen
Lyackson	Ly- ack -sun
Lytton	Lit- ton

Maa-Nulth	Maa-nul-th
Malahat	Mal- a -hat
Mamalelegala-qwe-qwa-sot-enox	Mamma-leel-eh-qwala-queek-qwa-soot-ee- nuk
Matsqui	Mat- skwee
McLeod Lake	Ma- cloud Lake
Metlakatla	Met-la- ka -tla
Moricetown	Mo -ris-town
Mount Currie	Mount Currie
Mowachaht/Muchalaht	Mow- i -chit/Much- a -laht
Musgamagw	Moose- gah -makw
Musqueam	Mus -kwee-um
Nadleh Whuten (formerly Fraser Lake)	Nad -lay-woten
Nak'azdli (formerly Necoslie)	Nak- ah -dzlee
Namgis	Nam-gees
Nanaimo	Na-ny-mo
Nanoose	Na- noose
Naut'sa Mawt Tribal Council	NOT-sa MOTT
Nazko	Naz- ko
Nee-Tahi-Buhn (formerly Omenica)	Nee- tahee -boon
Nemaiah Valley	Na- ma -eh Valley
Neskonlith	Nes- kon -lith
Nicomen	Nick- oh -men
Nisga'a	Niss -gah
Nlaka'pamux	Nick-Kluck-mix
Nooaitch	Noo- eye -chi
North Thompson	North Tom -son
Nuu-Chah-Nulth	Noo- chah -noolth
Nuchatlaht	Nu- chat -lat
Nuxalk (formerly Bella Coola)	Noo- huk
Ohiaht	Oh-high-at
Okanagan	Oh-can-a-gan
Old Masset	Old Mass-et
Omahil	Oo- ma -hil
Opetchesaht	Oh- pet -chee-sat
Oregon Jack Creek	Ore- e -gon Jack Creek
Osoyoos	O- soo -yoos
Oweekeno	O- wee -ken-o
Pacheedaht	Pak- eed -aat
Pauquachin	Pak -qwa-chee-sat
Pavilion	Pa- vil -yon
Penelakut	Pen- e -la-kut
Penticton	Pen- tic -ton
Peters	Pete -rs
Popkum	Pop -kum

Prophet River	Pro- phet River
Qualicum	Qwal- i -come
Quatsino	Qwat -sino
Red Bluff	Red Bluff
Saik'uz	Sake -ooz
Samahquam	Sam -ah-quam
Saulteaux	Soe -toe
Scowlitz	Scow -litz
Seabird Island	Sea -bird Island
Sechelt	See -shelt
Secwepemc	She-whep-m
Sekani	Sik-an-ee
Semiahmoo	Sem- ee -a-moo
Seton Lake	See -ton Lake
Shacken	Shack -en
Sheshaht	Tse -shat
Shuswap	Shu- swap
Siska	Sis- ka
Skawahlook	Skwa -ha-look
Skeetchestn	Skeet -cha-sun
Skidegate	Skid -a-gate
Skookumchuck	Skook -um-chuck
Skowkale	Skow- kale
Skuppah	Skupp- ah
Skwah	Skwaa
Skyway	Sky -way
Sliammon	Sly- ah -mon
Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose First Nations)	Sna-No- Az
Snuneymuxw (formerly Nanaimo)	Shnah- nay -mo
Soda Creek	So -da Creek
Songhees	Song -hees
Sooke	Sook
Soowahlie	Soo -wall-ee
Spallumcheen	Spall -ium-cheen
Spuzzum	Spuzz -um
Squamish	Squa -mish
Squiala	Skwye -ala
St. Mary's	St. Mary's
Stl'atl'imx	Stat-la-mick or Stat-leum
Stellaquo	Stell- ack -oe
Stellat'en	Stell- at -in
Sto:lo	Stow -low
Stone	Stone
Stoney Creek	Ston- ee Creek
Sumas	Soo -mass
Sununeymuxw	Shnah- nay -moh

Tagish	Ta-gish
Tahltan	Tall -tan
Takla Lake	Tak -la Lake
Taku River Tlingit	Ta -koo River Tlin-gits
Tanakteuk	Tun- aah -duck
Te'mexw	Te- muck
Tla-o-qui-aht (formerly Clayoquot)	T- lay -qwat
Tlatlasikwala	Tla-tla- see -kwa-la
Tl'azt'en (formerly Stuart-Trembleur Lake)	Tl- az -din
Tlingit	Kling-kit
Tlowitsis-mumtagila	Tla -oe-wad-zees-mum-ta-gee-la
Tobacco Plains	To- back -co Plains
Toosey	Too -see
Toquaht	Toe -kwat
Tsartlip	Tsar -lip
Tsawataineuk	Tsa -wa-tay-nook
Tsawout	Tsa -woot
Tsawwassen	Tsa -wah-sen
Tsay Keh Dene	Tsa -Kay-Den-ee
Tsehaht	Tse- shat
Tseycum	Tsay -come
Ts'ilhqot'in	Tsil- coh -tin
Tsimshian	Sim- she -an
Ts'kw'aylaxw	Ski -lak
Tsleil-Waututh	Tslay -wa-tooth
T'sou-ke (formerly Sooke)	Sook
Tutchone	Too- chohn -ee
Tzeachten	Chak -tum
Uchucklesaht	U- chuck -le-sat
Ucluelet	U- clue -let
Ulkatcho	Ul- gat -cho
Union Bar	Uun -yon Bar
Upper Nicola	Upper Ni -cola
Upper Similkameen	Upper Sim- milk -ka-meen
Wei Wai Kai	Wee -way-kay
Wei Wai Kum	Wee -way-come
Westbank	West -bank
Wet'suwet'en	Wet- sew -et-en
West Moberly	West Mo -ber-lee
Whe-La-La-U	We-la-la-U
Whispering Pines (formerly Clinton)	Wiss -purr-ing Pines
Williams Lake	Will -yams Lake
Wuikinuxv	Ohh-weeken-oh
Xai-xais	shy shy
Xaxli'p	Hock -lip

Xeni Gwet'in	Honey-wuh-teen
Yakweakwioose	Yak- week -we-oose
Yale	Yale
Yekooche	Ye- koo -chee
Other Aboriginal Names	Pronunciation
Clayoquot	Clay -o-quot
Coast Salish	Coast Say- lish
Haida Gwaii	High -da G- why
Winalagalis	Win-lag-a- lees