

NATIVE VILLAGE OF GAMBELL

P.O. BOX 90 • Gambell, Alaska 99742
Telephone: (907) 985-5346 • FAX: (907) 985-5014

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12

A RESOLUTION ON AKUZIPIK LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION, LANGUAGE EDUCATION, AND LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY

WHEREAS, Akuzipik is the Native language of the St. Lawrence Island Yupik People; crucial and highly valued component of Yupik culture and ways of life;

WHEREAS, colonial forces, policies, and influences have at times prohibited and discouraged the use of Akuzipik through both explicit and implicit means;

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence Island Yupik people have the sovereign right to revitalize, use, promote, and transmit Akuzipik to future generations;

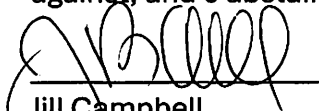
WHEREAS, the Native Village of Gambell is the sovereign governing and representative body of the St. Lawrence Island Yupik people.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Native Village of Gambell Tribal Council in a monthly meeting session

1. Recognize and applaud the work of members of the St. Lawrence Island Yupik community, past and present, to use and support Akuzipik in daily life and education.
2. Ask the University of Alaska Fairbanks, in consultation with the St. Lawrence Island Yupik communities and the Alaska Native Language Program, to develop and offer a thorough sequence of university-level Akuzipik classes using modern best practices in language instruction, to be taught at the Fairbanks campus, the Nome campus, and online.
3. Ask the Bering Strait School District, in consultation with the St. Lawrence Island Yupik communities and members of the Gambell and Savoonga schools' Bilingual/Bicultural programs, to develop and offer effective pre K-12 Akuzipik curriculum using modern best practices in language instruction to be taught at the St. Lawrence Island public schools, utilizing wherever appropriate existing Akuzipik educational materials developed in the 20th century.
4. Support Akuzipik pre-K-12 immersion in Head Start and St. Lawrence Island schools; ask the Bering Strait School District, in consultation with Kawerak and St. Lawrence Island Yupik communities, Gambell, and Savoonga schools' Bilingual/Bicultural program to initiate efforts towards this goal.
5. Support work to
 - a) Study, record, and document Akuzipik

- b) Digitize existing Akuzipik materials, including
 - i. Books
 - ii. Audio cassette tapes
 - iii. Videotapes
 - c) Build and distribute tools and materials to support Akuzipik revitalization and education, including
 - i. Electric Akuzipik dictionaries and concordances
 - ii. Digitized Akuzipik books
 - iii. Word-builders and analyzer tools for studying the structure of Akuzipik words and sentences
 - iv. Language learning technology
6. Support the establishment of a representative Akuzipik language policy and governance council.

CERTIFICATION: The undersigned hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority vote of members of the Native Village of Gambell Tribal Council at a duly convened meeting of the Council in which a quorum was present, by a vote of 5 for, 0 against, and 0 abstaining, this 12th day of September, 2024


Jill Campbell
President


Erika Apatiki
Vice President