



Anishinaabemowin
Bemikangik
Naaknigewin

**Anishinaabemowin
Revitalization Strategy**

Biidaajmowin Mzinigan (Update)

June 17, 2026

For the past 18 months, an extensive engagement process has been underway across the Robinson Huron Treaty (RHT) territory focussed on the revitalization of Anishinaabemowin. Engagement sessions included Elders, fluent speakers, language leaders, program facilitators, youth and community members living on reserve and off reserve.

Anishinaabemowin revitalization emerged as a top priority during the broader RHT community engagements held in 2023-2024, regarding potential uses of a portion of the RHT Settlement compensation funds for collective community purposes.

In response to this, RHT Elders began discussions in October 2024, focused on potential ways to revitalize and preserve Anishinaabemowin for future generations. From these discussions, came a recommendation to develop a collaborative language revitalization strategy involving all 21 Robinson Huron Treaty First Nations.

In follow up to this recommendation, other gatherings were held inclusive of individuals of all ages who are active in Anishinaabemowin promotion and teaching across our territory. Some of these individuals form the RHT Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Working Group (ARWG) — who have been overseeing the work of the language strategy development.

The Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund (RHTLF) has provided the funds for the development of the Anishinaabemowin revitalization strategy through the collective fund of the Robinson Huron Treaty Settlement. These funds were allocated for this initiative in direct response to the RHT communities voicing language revitalization and preservation as a priority across the territory.

The recent strategy development engagements sought input into priorities of revitalizing and preserving Anishinaabemowin. Seeking input was a journey taken with a collective development approach — listening to the voices of our RHT Anishinaabe leadership and people.

To date, most RHT communities have participated in engagements with three communities still to host sessions. In addition to the in-person gatherings, three virtual engagement sessions have been held with off-reserve RHT First Nations' band members.

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Input was also sought specifically from RHT youth with a special session held at Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory high school.

An initial high-level draft of the strategy — the Anishinaabemowin Bemikangik Naaknigewin (ABN) — was created for presentation at the RHTLF Litigation Management Committee (LMC) meeting on April 13, 2026. Then on April 24, 2026, a more detailed draft was presented to and approved by the RHT Chiefs and Trustees. Both presentation sessions were co-facilitated by ABN Coordinator Loretta Fox-Assinewai and strategy consultant Mariette Sutherland.

During the April 24th presentation, Chiefs and Trustees were also presented with an incremental costing approach for implementation of the strategy for the first three years. Chiefs and Trustees voted on and approved a Motion that spoke to the three-year implementation.

The Motion:

BE IT RESOLVED the Chiefs and Trustees approve the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Chiefs and Trustees approve the proposed incremental implementation costing approach for the implementation of the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy as follows:

1. Year 1 (2026/2027) – \$3.5M
2. Year 2 (2027/2028) – \$5.5M
3. Year 3 (2028/2029) – \$7.0M

For a total of \$16M for the next three years from the interest accrued on the Collective Purposes Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Chiefs and Trustees also seek funding in addition to the allocated funds to further the implementation of the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the Chiefs and Trustees kick-off the implementation of the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy with a technical round table of language speakers in the Robinson Huron Treaty territory.

With the three-year ABN implementation plan approved, work now continues on developing more detailed and defined processes for implementing the plan which will include how the RHT First Nation communities can access funding and/or opportunities through the ABN.

We will continue to keep our RHT First Nation communities informed on the developments.

For further information or questions, please contact the ABN Coordinator Loretta Fox-Assinewai by email: loretta.assinewai@rhtlf.org.

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