

Introduction of
International Mother Language Day
Into the
School Yearly Calendar

A Presentation to the

Ottawa Carleton District School Board

by

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What is IMLD

What is the role of MLLWS

- 1.** 6000 mother languages & their speakers around World
- 2.** Around 200 mother languages in Canada including Indigenous/First Nations, all Immigrants, even linguistic minorities e.g., Braille & Sign languages & their speakers
- 3.** We celebrate internationally the IMLD on 21st of February every year
- 4.** Our organization MLLWS first proposed to UNESCO to declare IMLD on 21st February
- 5.** In 1999, IMLD proclaimed by UNESCO, now being celebrated globally since 2000

Canadian Perspective & Participation on IMLD

1. Canada is the home of many Indigenous languages, listed 89 indigenous languages, out of it 4 are extinct, 14 are endangered
2. With this backdrop, Canada is also the home of Multiculturalism. It is just like a salad bowl, everyone keeps their individuality with their own distinct quality and identity
3. For multiculturalism, multinational languages play a great role to uphold their identity, culture and heredity
4. A lot of Municipalities and Provinces have proclaimed IMLD
5. A number of School Districts have also incorporated IMLD into their School Yearly Calendar

Implementation of IMLD

BC Model - A Revolutionary model to implement IMLD among the young and new generations

Phase (I):

- a. Integration: to create awareness/recognition (1) Proclamation, (2) Monument, (3) Mother Language Festival, etc.
- b. Implementation: (1) Target - Students, Children are carrier of mother languages (2) To facilitate - Schools are used as platform to facilitate and practice for generations after generation

Phase (II):

- a. Execution of BC Model: Incorporation of IMLD into the School Yearly Calendar - and provide logistic support for active implementation

Expected Results of the Model

In 2015, Surrey School District of British Columbia first incorporated this BC Model:

- 1.** This School District has 101 Elementary and 20 Secondary High Schools
- 2.** Student Enrolment: App. 72,000 Students/year
- 3.** 172 different type mother languages and their speakers are studying there

Therefore, every year at least 72,000 students 172 type different type of languages and speakers will be able to their own or others languages

Execution of IMLD into the School System

First of all we need to include the day on 21st of February as International Mother Language Day (IMLD) into the School Yearly Calendar. Then the projected plans are:

1. Basic Resources come from UNESCO: UNESCO Annual Theme on IMLD, information packages, video presentations, posters.etc.
2. Mother Language Committee: School Board will form the Committee, for Yearly IMLD celebration, and Create awareness (presentation, seminar, counselling, Class room talk, etc.
3. Mother Language Ambassador: School Board elect/select
4. Regional celebration: with the City of Ottawa, may be awarded for outstanding achievement

**Dear Respected Trustees!
We Need Your
Firm Recommendation on IMLD**

- 1. Please include the IMLD on the 21st of February in your School District Yearly Calendar**
- 2. In course of time, we will require to create a “Mother Language Institute in Ontario” please write your support to our long-term vision.**

Thank You

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