



## Translation memo<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Introduction

This memo proposes best practices for responsible translation into Nuuchahnulth, based on the experiences of the Wordshare Project. It is for anyone asking for or providing such translation. Public translations serve as examples of our language, affecting our ability to use and promote it. By following these practices, we are moving towards ensuring that translations are accurate, appropriate, and useful to Nuuchahnulth people, and respect the integrity of our dialects.

### 2. Clients' responsibilities

- Clients pay language experts what they are worth, if they have the means to do so.
- Clients are willing to revise the source to match the translation. This is often necessary in order to make translations sound good in Nuuchahnulth, and for other reasons.
- Clients do their best to ensure that any Nuuchahnulth language in their official documents, websites, and signage is approved by experts, as explained in *quuquu?acsap* (see below).
- Clients allow translations to be shared publicly, so that others can learn from them.

### 3. Translators' responsibilities

- Translators are clear about what a project will cost, and how long it will take. They provide translation services on a sliding scale, based on clients' ability to pay.
- Some projects are not worth translating. If a project is too difficult, or low priority, or if resources are scarce, the translator may recommend that it be abandoned. Projects supporting the language are high priority. Those promoting businesses are lower priority.
- Translators provide the best translations possible, using available experts and other sources.
- Translators consult multiple experts as appropriate, especially for translations that require making new words, or that deal with non-traditional concepts.
- Translators consult regularly with each other, in order to share translation solutions, and to collaborate on new words. Only the easiest translations do not require consultation.

### 4. More

This memorandum summarizes the article *quuquu?acsap* • *Translating into Nuuchahnulth*. That and other documents about translation are available at [tashii-texela.org](http://tashii-texela.org). Please join us in doing what we can to support the Nuuchahnulth language through translation. čuu • Sincerely,

— the Wordshare Project

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