

Gitxsanimx or Sim'algax (sim-ahlgah) Language of Gitxsan

Luu amhl good'y win gya'an (I am happy to see you!)

This booklet is a gift to health care providers at Wrinch Memorial Hospital (WMH) from the Northwest East Aboriginal Health Improvement Committee to honour and support their ongoing commitment to cultural safety for Gitxsan people. It is pocket sized making it more accessible and easy to use as you interact with your patients.

The Gitxsan language is spoken by the communities of the Gitxsan Nation whose territory is along the upper Skeena and Bulkley Rivers. These are Gitwangak, Gitanyow, Gitsegukla, Gitanmaax, Sik-E-Dakh (Glen Vowell), Kispiox and the two municipalities of Hazelton and New Hazelton. There is an estimated 13,000 Gitxsan members with about 70% living on the traditional territories. There are slightly different dialects with Gitsegukla, Gitwangak and Gitanyow speaking one dialect and Kispiox, Sik-E-Dakh and Gitanmaax speaking a slightly different one.

Don't get discouraged. Ts'aawina! (You are smart). You can learn it! We will help you!

Hami yaa nee loosim! Thank you

Greetings

Luu amhl good'y	(Lou umhl godee)	I am happy or my heart is happy
Luu amhl good'y win gya'an	(Lou umhl godee win gaen)	I am happy to see you
Hindahl wila win?	(hin dalth willa win)	How are you?
Am willa' winna?	(umhl willa winna)	Are you doing fine?
Amhl willa wil'y	(umhl willa will lee)	I am doing fine/ great
Luugwilam	(Lou quill am)	very good
Luu amhl good'y	(lou umhl godee)	I am happy
Ama hii hluxw	(uma he lou)	good morning
Amasilkswa	(uma silk sa)	good afternoon
Ama yuxwsa	(uma you sa)	good evening
Ham i yaa	(humi ya)	thank you
t'ooya <u>x</u> s'y 'niin	(dohyasee neen)	I thank you
Hami yaa nee loosim	(hume yanee losum)	I thank you all
T'ooya <u>x</u> s'y 'nisim	(dohyasee)	I thank you all
Wii o'oy' niism'	(weyo e nism)	I like /love you all
wii o yee niin	(we yo e neen)	I like/love you
Naahl wa'n?	(naahl one)	what is your name
Ts'aawina!	(twaawina)	you are smart!
Ama 'mas	(uma mas)	to be pretty/ handsome

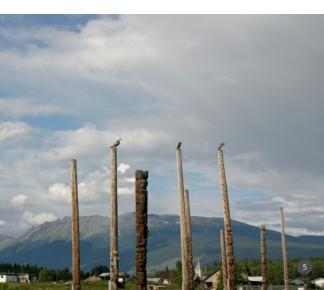
Health Phrases

Dim hli moo'y 'niin	(dim hli moyee neen)	I will help you
Hlabixsxw 'ni'y	(hla bish sh nee -e)	I am tired
Siipxw 'ni'y	(sec poo wx nee-e)	I am sick
Siipkxw 'nii na?	(see poo wx neena)	Are you sick?
Wilp siipxw	(Wilp seep who)	hospital (house of sickness)



Community Terms

Wilp		house
Wilp gal ts'ap		community hall
Galts'ap		community
Git		people
Gitxsan		People of River of Mist or People of the Skeena River
Sdikyoodenax	(Sdigawden)	Roche de Boule Mountain
Sgan'nist	(skanist)	mountain



Clans

Pdeek	(pdake)	clan
Gisk'haast	(Gis Kast)	Fireweed
Lax Gibuu	(La giboo)	wolf
Lax See'l or Ganeda	(La say ill)	Frog
Lax xsgiik	(La skeek)	Eagle

People

Hanak'	(ha nauck)	woman
Ts'iits/na'a	(Zeets/naah)	grandmother
Gyat	(gat)	man
Nigwoot	(niquot)	father



Nox	(noha)	mother

Start of a speech

Sim-oogit		chief
Sim gigyat	(sim ge get)	chiefs
Sigidim Haanak'	(sigee dim ha'anuck)	chief (women)
K'ubawilxsihlxw	(koo baa wil sit xw)	children of the chiefs

Sabax - the end

Additional Resources:

Gitsenimx Community Portal.(2017). First Voices. www.firstvoices.com/en/Gitsenimx

Smith, J.M. (2009). Gitxsanimx speller: Text for adult gitxanimx class. J.M. Smith.

Gitsenimx.(n.d.). First Peoples' Language Map of British Columbia. Retrieved February 7, 2017 from www.maps.fphlcc.ca/gitsenimx

Lomax, Betsy. (n.d). Learn Gitxsan: A website dedicated to teaching you the native language Gitxsan.

www.learngitxsan.com

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