



Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Project Research Summary **Linguistic Overview**

This research is a general overview of the characteristics of the Ojibwe language explaining how the Ojibwe spoken in the Pimachiowin Aki region fits among the other Algonquian languages and indigenous linguistic systems of the North America.

This research will focus on how the language reflects perceptions of the natural and dream world, how places are represented, animals and plants discussed and hunting and other practices expressed in ways which illustrate the unique cultural link between the people and the boreal forest.

The paper will cover the grammatical structure of the language emphasizing the relationship between the land and the language and will also look at naming conventions, both the conceptual systems behind the names of places and the way that references to the landscape are incorporated in the names of individuals.

It will draw from oral tradition to illustrate how myth and historical stories relate specifically to relations with the boreal forest homeland of the Anishinaabeg and show how language is used today to express profound and unique connections with the Pimachiowin Aki region.

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