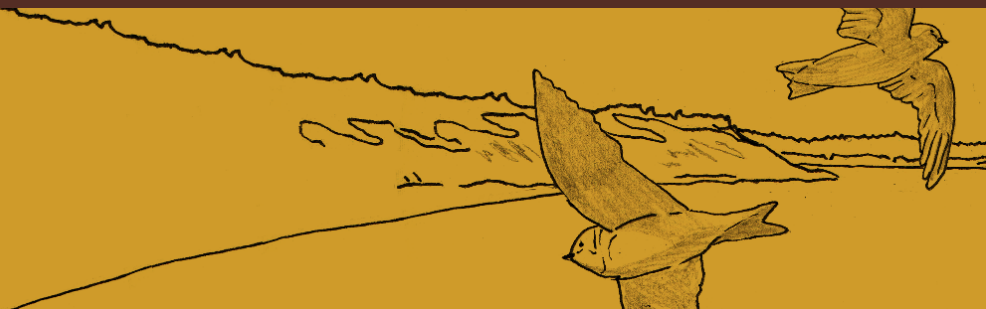


Glossary

Gr.3 Northern Soils

There are nine different aboriginal languages spoken in the NWT. Languages develop over thousands of years and they tell us a lot about the people who speak them and the environment that they live in. We asked speakers of some of these languages to translate some keywords related to the different components of soils, where these come from and how they are produced.

You'll see that some words translate easily and some need very long explanations. There are many words that have no translation. The same is true when trying to translate from aboriginal languages into English and French. We asked the translators to provide some back translations too. These show how different the literal meaning of the translation can be from the original English.



Bank Swallow

A small song bird with a white belly and brown wings and back.

Inuktitut	Qupanuaq / The little bird that comes up north to Nunavut each spring for the summer.
South Slavey	Mét'ohdaa / Bank swallow
North Slavey	Chįą bebé k'e dek'alé hé bet'ále hé bet'ane k'e dek'ale heji
Inuvialuktun	Tingmiaryualuk / Small bird
Inuinnaqtun	Kupanuanaq / Small bird
Chipewyan	Tthá ts'aze / Swallow

Soil

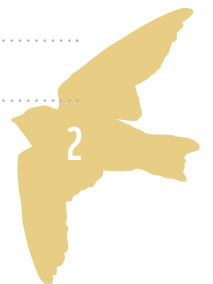
Living layer on the surface of the earth.

Dogrib	Eht'è / Dirt / mud
Inuktitut	Ibjuq (pronounced ibyuq) / Soil where plants can grow that is softer than sand or gravel.
South Slavey	Ndéh dąh goht'éh / Soil above ground
North Slavey	Nę
Inuvialuktun	Iqaqtilik
Inuinnaqtun	Nuna
Chipewyan	Ní / Dirt

Parent Rock

Original rock on which soil sits.

Dogrib	Kwè edèdlı / Original rock
South Slavey	Ndéh zhieh tthe / Bed rock
North Slavey	Kwe k'e nę neshe
Inuvialuktun	Uyarak / Rock
Inuinnaqtun	Uyaraq / Rock



Decompose

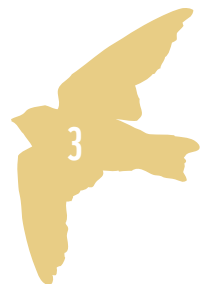
To break material into small pieces and release nutrients.

Dogrib	ıhdzı at'ı / It becomes rotten
Inuktitut	Sıqalisimajut (pronounced as sıqalisimayut) mikijuutınut pırrurutıksait / Broken up materials for addition on land to make plants/others grow
South Slavey	T'ahsı met'áh nezheh gha t'ahsı ıhgı ats'ehı / Decomposing (plants) to assist in growing other (plants)
North Slavey	Nę hejıré t'á ası neshe
Inuvialuktun	Aumiqtuaq / Decayed
Inuinnaqtun	Hunavaluk ahıruuyaqhuni mikhipluni anıtıriyuq nıriyumınaqtunik / Anything that breaks up into a small matter and is eatable
Chipewyan	H'ıjër / Rotten (meat, smell)

Decomposer

Small creature that breaks down material into small pieces to free nutrients.

South Slavey	Gu t'ahsı ıhgı nánele / Worms that break down rotting material.
North Slavey	Bet' á nę hejıré t'á ası neshe
Inuvialuktun	Aumiqtuaq
Inuinnaqtun	Mikiyunuaq umayuq hunavalungnik ahıruıyuq nıriyumınaqtun aulaqublugıt
Chipewyan	Hínáy / hínái / Maggots



Permafrost

Soil mixed with ice that remains frozen all year.

Dogrib	Ndè ats'ò ehtò / Earth that is always frozen
Inuktitut	Nunaup iluani quanguinarniq / The permanently frozen parts inside the lands.
South Slavey	Ndéh zhìeh łáá góhtè / Below ground that is permanently frozen.
North Slavey	Nè yíi góhtè
Inuvialuktun	Auqinigaa / Melted it
Inuinnaqtun	Nunap puvitquumanga / The land, swollen
Chipewyan	Ní lue / Frozen ground

Mineral

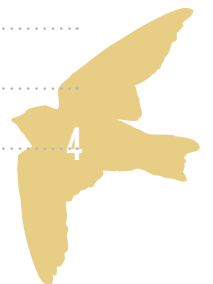
A naturally made solid that has never been alive

Inuktitut	Ujaranniagaksauqataq (pronounced Uyaranniagaksauqataq) / A substance that can be mined out of the land (among others)
South Slavey	Tthe / Rock
North Slavey	Kwe
Inuvialuktun	Uyarak / Rock
Inuinnaqtun	Naptuyuq nauniq uumangittuq / Hard surface that grows, that is not alive.
Chipewyan	Tthe / Rock

Humus

The part of the soil that is completely decomposed.

Dogrib	Ndè ɰhdzı / Earth that is rotten
South Slavey	Goht'éh met'áh t'ahsín nezqu nezheh / Soil that is good for growing vegetation
North Slavey	Nè hejiré
Inuvialuktun	Iqaqtilik aumiqtuaq / Soil that is decaying
Inuinnaqtun	Nuna auhimayuq / Rotten land



Lichen

A type of plant made of algae and fungi growing together in what scientists call a symbiotic relationship. This means that each organism depends on the other to survive.

Dogrib	Adzıı / Lichen
Inuktitut	1. Tuktuit niqingi / Caribou fodder / 2. Tingujait (most common term) / More accurately explains the appearance in that it is similar to pubic hair that grows on land or rocks
South Slavey	Níęmba / Lichen
North Slavey	Ájú
Inuvialuktun	Tuktuum niqiat / Food for caribou
Inuinnaqtun	1. Qavviqut / Lichen on a rock 2. Tuktup niqautaa / Lichen on the ground
Chipewyan	Tthetsı / Lichen

Erosion

When soil or rock gets carried away by water or wind.

Dogrib	Ndè nàdezà / Earth that breaks it's self down
South Slavey	Goht'éh nádettéh / Bank soil falling away
North Slavey	Nę kwe tu t'á nihts'i t'á taret'e
Inuvialuktun	Nuna mikliyuaq / Land that is declining
Inuinnaqtun	Akharangniq / Part that has rolled down or off
Chipewyan	Ní nátł'ır / Falling land

Compost

A mixture of rotted plants that people use to grow gardens.

Dogrib	Ekwozdzi
Inuktitut	Igunaqsarijausuut pirurutiksait / Items purposely rotted to use for growing growable things.
South Slavey	İt'omet'áh t'ahsı ts'enezhheh gha ts'ehgi / Rotting plants to grow other vegetation.
North Slavey	Nę hejiré t'á ası neshe
Inuvialuktun	Nunaam aumiqtuaq / Soil that is re-used
Inuinnaqtun	Nauttiat auhimayut akuttimayuq nautianut Atuqpaktait nauniqaqublugit



Surface

The top layer of soil

Inuktitut	Nunaup qaanga / The top of the land
South Slavey	Ndéh dąh goht'éh / Top soil
North Slavey	Nę ka
Inuvialuktun	Iqaqtilik Nunaam / Soil on the top part of the land
Inuinnaqtun	Qanga
Chipewyan	Ní da / Above land

