

For Discussion: Cree Words in Jimmy Myo's Interview

Jimmy Myo is speaking an old, ceremonial dialect of Cree. Many of the words and phrases below have more than one meaning. Please refer to this list as you listen to Mr. Myo speak. Consider the explanations as a launching point for discussion of the different layers of meaning for these words and phrases.

"okimâhkân" (pretend chief)
"OKIMÂW" (Chief/Leader)
"iyiniw ayisiniw" - Indigenous person
"môniyâwi" - to be a white person
"miyo wîcehtowin" - to get along, good relations
"miyo-wîcehtowak" - to get along, good relations, harmony (this is plural form)
"kacihkunitaw" - weaken, not follow or believe
"nêhiyawî-mawimoscikêwin" - Cree/ Indigenous way of prayer
"pashtahowin" - act of sinning, breaking sacred law
"ochitowiskewak" - women of great status, very influential
"ochitowiskew" - a woman of great status, very influential
"Nêhiyawî-ayisiyiniwak" - Cree or Indigenous people
"ayisiyiniwak" - people or human beings
"pastahon" - act of sinning or breaking nature's law
"Paskwachas" - Cree name, no translation
"nakawîyininahk" - at a Saulteaux community
"kakêskikhêmw" - to give advice, lecture
"nêhiyawî-mawimoscikêwin" - Cree way of prayer or worship
"nêhiyâw ayisiyiniwak" - Cree or Indigenous people (plural)
"kanachipahat" - ability to seek or call
"môniyâwi-OKIMÂW" - whiteman officials/government
"nêhiyawî-OKIMÂW" - Cree or Indigenous Chiefs/Leaders
"nêhiyawak" - Cree or Indigenous people
"môniyâwi-okimawak" - whiteman government officials
"kituskînow" – land
"nêhiyawî-mawimoscikêwin" - Cree or Indigenous way of prayer/ceremonies
"nêhiyaw ayisiyîniw" - Cree or Indigenous way of life
"moniyâw" - whiteman or white people
"iyiniw ayisiyiniw" - Cree or Indigenous way of being a human being
"iyiniw ayisiyiniwak" - Cree or Indigenous people
"nêhiyawî-mawimoscikêwin" - Cree or Indigenous way of prayer or ceremonies
"nêhiyaw oyawiwîwin" - Cree or Indigenous equality, nobody's better
"tipahon" – equality
"mâmawî-ôhtâwîmâw" Our Creator
"nikan" - first thing
"kakisimow" - to pray
"moonias" - whiteman or white person
"iyiniw ayisiyîniw" - Cree or Indigenous person
"kakikê" - forever