An Annotated Bibliography of Tahltan Language Materials

John Alderete, Simon Fraser University
alderete@sfu.ca

Tanya Bob, University of British Columbia
tbob@arts.ubc.ca

Thomas McIlwraith, University of New Mexico
tadm@shaw.ca

Purpose. To list and summarize materials on the Tahltan language, including linguistics papers, dictionaries, collections of stories, and teaching materials. We hope that the bibliography will give language teachers, linguists, anthropologists, and all others interested in Tahltan language and culture an awareness of what materials exist and how they might be useful in a range of scholarship.

Transcription Note. The consonant and vowel sounds transcribed here are presented in the Tahltan Practical Alphabet (TPA) developed by the Tahltan Tribal Council. See Carter (1991) for TPA chart and the Sound Correspondence Chart to see how the same sounds have been written by other linguists.

Acknowledgements. Thanks to Patricia Shaw and Keren Rice for valuable comments.

This bibliography was supported in part by the National Science Foundation (SES-9904360).

General Introduction. Most speakers of the Tahltan language live in Telegraph Creek, Dease Lake, and Iskut, British Columbia, Canada. These three communities are on or near the Stewart-Cassiar Highway which joins central British Columbia to the Alaska Highway in the southern Yukon. Some Tahltan speakers live in Lower Post, British Columbia and Watson Lake, Yukon Territory, and some of these texts reflect research in those communities. In addition to these northern communities, Tahltans live today in several other urban centres, including Smithers, Terrace, Prince George, and in Greater Vancouver.

Early twentieth century ethnographers (including G.T. Emmons and James Teit) concentrated their research documenting Tahltan traditional culture and stories at Telegraph Creek and Tahltan Village; recent research with Tahltans has taken place in Iskut and Dease Lake as well. Tahltan people participate today in traditional moose hunting and salmon fishing economies and in wage work connected to the extractive resource economy of the Canadian north or the administration of community governments and schools (see Higgins 1982; Adlam 1985; Sheppard 1982; and McIlwraith n.d. for recent ethnographic accounts of these communities).

The bibliography summarizes materials related to the linguistic documentation of the Tahltan language. It includes citations of texts which discuss the cultural context of Tahltan language use and Tahltan narratives. The bibliography is designed to assist linguists, teachers, anthropologists, and others interested in Athapaskans languages and cultures an awareness of

what exists and how it might be useful to particular kinds of study. The sources cited here range from descriptive linguistic papers (eg. Cook 1972; Hardwick 1984; Nater 1989; Bob 1999; Alderete 2001; Alderete and Bob 2001) to items which include the textual analysis of Tahltan stories (Teit 1917; 1919; 1921; Sheppard 1983; Adlam 1985; 1995). Also included are dictionaries and grammatical accounts of the Tahltan language (Palgrave 1902; Thorman n.d. [1902]; Carter 1991; Carter and Tahltan Tribal Council 1994). There is comparative material from neighbouring groups (Boas 1895; 1896; 1897; Palgrave 1902; Kaska Tribal Council 1997). These sources are included only where they present information pertinent to the study of the Tahltan language or significant context for Tahltan language materials.

This is not, however, a complete bibliography of Tahltan materials; items of specific ethnographic or archaeological focus that do not include language information are excluded. Notably, Emmons' monograph *The Tahltan Indians* (1911) and the field notes of James Teit (1912-1915) are not included here but are worth consulting if extensive Tahltan research is being considered. For those looking for archaeological reconstructions of Tahltan culture, see Albright (1982) and Friesen (1985).

The Tahltan language is typically grouped with Tagish and Kaska as former dialects of a single language (Krauss and Golla 1981:82). In general terms, the language is seriously endangered, rated, in Krauss' scheme of language condition, a Class B or C language, or, a language spoken by the oldest adults in the parental generation and most of the grandparental generation (Krauss 1998:11). With this in mind, the need for further linguistic description and documentation, as well as studies of language use, are critically needed in order to assist local language instructors develop curriculum materials for their classroom sessions.

References Cited (Not in Annotated Bibliography).

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Friesen, David E. 1985 *Aboriginal Settlement Patterns in the Upper Stikine River Drainage, Northwestern British Columbia*. University of Calgary, MA Thesis.

Krauss, Michael E. 1998. The Condition of Native North American Languages: The Need for Realistic Assessment and Action. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*.9-21.

Krauss, Michael E. and Victor Golla. 1981. Northern Athapaskan Languages. In *Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 17: Languages*. Ives Goddard, ed. Pp. 67-85. Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press.

Teit, James A. 1912-1915. Report on Tahltan Fieldwork Among the Tahltan, Kaska, and Bear Lake Indians (Typescript) (Box 121 Folder 3, 1210.4b, VI-O-8M). Ottawa: Manuscript Held at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Tolmie, W. F. and George M. Dawson. 1884. *Comparative Vocabularies of the Indian tribes of British Columbia, with a Map Illustrating Distribution*. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

Bibliography.

Adlam, Robert G. 1995. The Dog Husband and 'Dirty' Woman: The Cultural Context of a Traditional Tahltan Narrative. *Igitur*. 6-7(2/1):39-57.
> Abstract: Adlam's article is a careful structural analysis (in the Levi-Straussian sense) and interpretation of the cultural context in which a Tahltan traditional story occurs. Adlam's study of the story of Three Sisters Rock, recorded by James Teit between 1912 and 1915, provides geographical and historical insights related to the Stikine River near Telegraph Creek, and discusses roles of women in Tahltan society. Adlam's analysis is restricted to components of the text itself, as Teit did not provide any contextual information about the setting in which he recorded this story.
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> This article is useful to anthropologists, folklorists, and teachers interested in the cultural context of Tahltan narratives. It provides detailed background information about Three Sisters Rock, one of the best and most widely known Tahltan stories. The article also compares contemporary re-tellings with Teit's version, making the Three Sisters Rock story understood in both contemporary and historical contexts.

Adlam, Robert G. 1985 *The Structural Basis of Tahltan Indian Society*. University of Toronto, PhD Dissertation.
> Abstract: Based on fieldwork conducted at Telegraph Creek and Iskut in the mid-1970s, Adlam's dissertation uses structural analysis of kinship terminologies and a detailed analysis of the contemporary use of kinship terms to identify patterns of Tahltan descent and property ownership. This dissertation will be of interest to linguists, linguistic anthropologists, and teachers for the rich corpus of Tahltan language materials contained within it. In the text Adlam has included Tahltan language stories with interlinear Tahltan and English language presentations, a short glossary of Tahltan words, and useful charts showing the relationships between Tahltan kinship terms.

Alderete, John. 2001. On Tone and Length in Tahltan. In *Proceedings of the 2000 Athapaskan Languages Conference, Special Volume on Prosody*. Sharon Hargus and Keren Rice, eds. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
> Abstract: Alderete documents tone and length in Tahltan while clarifying the descriptive categories of these features relevant to linguistic documentation in dictionaries, curriculum materials, and academic research. Alderete's methodology includes the elicitation and comparison of minimal pairs, where marked and unmarked tone differentiate meaning. He repeats this effort using minimal pairs distinguished only by vowel length. Alderete reaches several conclusions about tone and length, including an explicit relationship between the two. He also postulates that vowel length patterns characterize dialectal differences between Telegraph Creek Tahltan and Iskut Tahltan. He also provides some historical context for changes in tone and length in Tahltan, drawing these inferences forward into conclusions about tone and length in present-day spoken Tahltan. This article is useful for Athapaskan linguists interested in comparative studies of tone and length. And, as Alderete notes, the research should aid in the production of curriculum materials by helping educators recognize the subtleties of lexical differentiation in Tahltan.

Alderete, John and Tanya Bob. 2001. A Corpus-based Approach to Tahltan Stress. In *Proceedings of the 2000 Athapaskan Languages Conference, Special Volume on Prosody*. Sharon Hargus and Keren Rice, eds. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
> Abstract: Alderete and Bob sort out apparent inconsistencies in research by Cook (1972) and Nater (1989) on stress rules in the Tahltan language. Cook determined that stress rules were determined predictably on morphological and phonological grounds. Nater, in turn, indicated that stress was neither predictable nor regular in occurrence. To investigate these differences, Alderete and Bob use 400 Tahltan words collected by Patricia Shaw at Telegraph Creek in 1983. In sum, the work of Alderete and Bob supports Cook's research, while finding some exceptions consistent with the work of Nater. In reaching this conclusion, Alderete and Bob present a new description of the Tahltan stress system, one which supports more recent linguistic theories, including the alignment of morphological and prosodic units and principles of metrical stress. This article is technical in nature, and while several Tahltan words and phrases are transcribed in the

text, it is probably of most use to linguists interested in Athapaskan stress rules or contemporary linguistic research and theory.

Boas, Franz. 1895. Fifth Report on the Indians of British Columbia. *Report of the 10th Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.*522-592.
Abstract: This is Boas' presentation of Ts'ets'aut ethnographic material he collected on a visit to the Portland Canal in 1894. In the report, a history of the group is given, along with a map showing Ts'ets'aut place names. Boas also provides information about hunting techniques and songs. This article attempts to sort out the demise of the Ts'ets'auts, debunking a report that the group was simply lost Tahltans. It should be of interest to Tahltan scholars and teachers for the historical material related to the apparent move of the Ts'ets'auts to join the Tahltans at Telegraph Creek. It provides cultural context for the Boas' collections of Ts'ets'aut stories (Boas 1896; 1897) and the dictionary edited by Goddard (Boas and Goddard 1924).

Boas, Franz. 1896 & 1897. Traditions of the Ts'ets'a'ut, I and II. *Journal of American Folklore*. 9(35):257-268; 10(36):35-48.
Abstract: These two publications create a single corpus of nineteen stories recorded by Boas in Portland Inlet, British Columbia in the winter of 1894-1895. The stories are prefaced by a short introduction, and while all stories are in English, a handful of Ts'ets'aut words are present throughout the texts. The stories would be considered 'traditional' or 'myth-time' tales for the most part, describing events in the distant past. Many stories emphasize, for example, the relationships between Ts'ets'auts and animals or are tales of moral behaviour. The stories are of particular use to anthropologists and folklorists interested in the cultural connections between Ts'ets'auts and their immediate neighbours, Tahltans, Nisga'as, and Tlingits.

Boas, Franz and Pliny E. Goddard. 1924. Ts'ets'aut, An Athapascan Language from Portland Canal, British Columbia. *International Journal of American Linguistics*. 3(1):1-35.
Abstract: The lexical data contained in this dictionary was collected by Boas during his trip to the British Columbia north coast in 1894. It was organized subsequently by Goddard who provides background to Boas' collecting efforts and an introduction to this now unspoken language. While primarily a English-Ts'ets'aut vocabulary, the word lists are extremely useful to historical linguists as Goddard provides comparative data for several Athapaskan languages including Tahltan, Chipewyan, Sarsi, Navajo, Apache (several groups), Carrier, Beaver, Hupa, and others. He subdivides the word list into groups of nouns, terms of relationship, place names, personal names, verbs, adjectives, numerals, pronouns, adverbs, and general phrases. Of particular interest to linguistic anthropologists and folklorists is the inclusion of a text in Ts'ets'aut. The text is the story of a boy who became a marmot (groundhog). An interlinear translation of the text is given, although it is noteworthy that the English translation was created after the original Ts'ets'aut was translated by Boas into Nisga'a and then into Chinook Jargon. Given all of the supplementary material, this work is far more than simply a dictionary, offering a significant amount of cultural context for a culture and language which was subsumed into neighbouring groups about the time of Boas's visit.

Bob, Tanya 1999 *Laryngeal Phenomena in Tahltan*. University of British Columbia, MA Thesis.
Abstract: Bob's Master's thesis is a data-rich study of the phonetic and phonological properties of laryngeal consonants in Tahltan. She focuses specifically on the properties of plain stop consonants concluding that there are four laryngeal articulations of stop consonants. The thesis provides useful consonant inventory charts for Tahltan and some word lists, and linguists may be interested in Bob's use of optimality theory. This dissertation is highly technical in nature and will be of particular interest to linguists studying similar features in related languages.

Carter, Colin. 1991. *Basic Tahltan Conversation Lessons (Text and Tape)*. Dease Lake: Tahltan Tribal Council; Prepared in collaboration with Patrick Carlick (Telegraph Creek), Angela Dennis and Regina Louie (Iskut), Susie Tashoots and Myra Blackburn (Dease Lake), Freddie Quock, and Edith Carlick.
Abstract: This conversation booklet is based on a series of written and taped lessons which are designed to be used in elementary schools as a way of increasing the Tahltan vocabulary of students and for giving a basic introduction to the Tahltan pronunciation and the structure of sentences and words. The lessons begin with an introduction to the sound-based alphabet, giving examples and English equivalent sounds where possible. Tahltan expressions which are useful in conversation and classrooms are then introduced and

followed by a series of conversation lessons organized thematically by the months of the year. The lessons are composed of a set of sentences that deal with activities or topics one might participate in or talk about during a given month. A lesson on how to speak about working with fish is provided for June and snowfall vocabulary is used in January. Carter's sentence lists also focus on certain grammatical constructions or structures, including post-positional phrases, adjectives, commands, verb forms; these lists give students exposure to several important expressions. In addition to their value as teaching aids, the lessons may be useful for dialectologists as many sentences have been recorded in both Telegraph Creek Tahltan and in Iskut-Dease Lake Tahltan. The lessons may also be of some use to linguists interested in learning basic structures and finding examples of specific sentence types.

Note: Carter's orthography is based on, in large part, Leer's discussion paper (Leer 1985). Carter's alphabet differs from that of Leer in terms of the interdentals; Carter uses, for example, /ts/ instead of /tth/ in Leer 1985. And, unlike Leer, Carter encodes vowel length by combining a vowel with a macron.

Carter, Colin and Tahltan Tribal Council. 1994. *Tahltan Children's Illustrated Dictionary*. Dease Lake: Tahltan Tribal Council; Prepared in collaboration with Patrick Carlick (Telegraph Creek), Angela Dennis and Regina Louie (Iskut), Susie Tashoots and Myra Blackburn (Dease Lake), Freddie Quock, and Edith Carlick.
Abstract: This two-way dictionary provides roughly 975 entries in a Tahltan to English section and 1675 entries in an English to Tahltan section. The Tahltan-English entries give users the sound-based spelling of a Tahltan word (or a part of a word), its English translation, part of speech, and sentence in which the form is used; sometimes a word is accompanied by an illustration too. The English-Tahltan entries include the words from the main entries and all the words from the example sentences (both are cross-referenced with the entries in the first part). The *Children's Illustrated Dictionary* is a natural companion to the *Basic Tahltan Conversation Lessons* (Carter 1991), as both are designed primarily for language teaching. As a sizable lexical resource, the dictionary may be useful for linguists looking for examples of a given language pattern, or to dialectologist studying variation (though dialect names are not given for variant forms).

Cook, Eung-do. 1972. Stress and Related Rules in Tahltan. *International Journal of American Linguistics*. 38(4):231-233.
Abstract: Cook's research describes the behavior of stressed syllables in Tahltan spoken at Lower Post. Here, Cook discusses several topics including a basic rule which assigns stress to the stem and on alternating syllables counting from the stem stress, complications involving uninflected words, compound-like words, the interaction between stress and vowel deletion, and certain consonant strengthening and weakening processes. Cook's results are comparable with those documented by Nater (1989:29 ff.), where Nater uses Iskut Tahltan data to argue that Tahltan stress is phonemic . This article will be useful to linguists, especially those working from a historical perspective, as Cook introduces the problem of predicting stress as one that can shed light on the relation between Tahltan and other Athabaskan languages. Cook's piece may also be useful for language teachers in that it shows how stress is often closely tied to other aspects of linguistic structure.

Dawson, George M. 1887. Notes on the Indian Tribes of the Yukon District and Adjacent Northern Portion of British Columbia. In *Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Canada, 1887*. Ottawa: Geological Survey of Canada.
Abstract: Dawson's *Notes* are the result of ethnological research Dawson and W. Fraser Tolmie carried out throughout British Columbia during the course of geological survey work in the 1870s and 1880s. This document contains lengthy ethnographic and historical commentary about the Tahltan, Kaska and Tagish peoples and is one of the earliest published accounts of these groups. Concerning the Tahltan, Dawson includes notes and observations by J.C. Callbreath, a long time resident of the Telegraph Creek area. Callbreath provides physical anthropological data and additional ethnographic information. Also included is a demographic chart comparing the population figures for Athapaskan groups across northern British Columbia and Alberta, the southern Yukon , and the Northwest Territories. This source is particularly important for a word list comparing approximately 170 Tahltan, Tagish, and Pelly River Kaska nouns. Despite the presentation of the list in Dawson's own orthography, the sounds and pronunciations are easy to understand with Dawson's pronunciation key. Historical and comparative linguists, anthropologists, and teachers will find the word list useful. This short report extends and complements Tolmie and Dawson's

Comparative Vocabularies of Indian Tribes of British Columbia (1884; see General Introduction) in which several other languages from British Columbia are considered.

Duff, Wilson. n.d. Wilson Duff Papers. Victoria: Manuscripts held at the BC Archives and Records Service.
Abstract: The research notes of British Columbia ethnographer and aboriginal scholar Wilson Duff are held at the British Columbia Archives and Records Service in Victoria, British Columbia. Two files of Duff's material relate directly to the Tahltan. Duff File 78 consists of notes on Tahltan ethnographic topics taken from Teit and Emmons' research work. File 59 is of particular interest as it consists of partial transcripts of interviews conducted with Tahltan people at Telegraph Creek in the mid 1970s. (The tapes are held by the Royal BC Museum in Victoria, BC.) The transcripts contain notes about place names, seasonal activities, kinship terms, and local history. This material is useful for anthropologists and historians working on topics related to Telegraph Creek history . For those interested in the Tahltan language specifically, the transcripts provide only a limited amount of information in Tahltan.

Hale, Kenneth and Geoff O'Grady. 1965. Field notes and Tapes of Language Consultant at Wonowon, BC (3 tapes). n.p.: Tapes and Notes Held by Researchers.
Abstract: This set of tapes (roughly 4 reels) and field notes was generated by Hale and O'Grady after interviews with Pete Henyu, a Tahltan elder, at Wonowon, a small resting spot 101 miles north of Dawson Creek on the Alaska Highway. The notes document several important aspects of the structure of Tahltan in a series of extended paradigms and texts. The paradigms and word lists also document several nouns, producing at least a Swadesh list, and probably a lot more. Also of interest is that both vowel length and various tonal categories (high, low, and falling) are represented in the transcriptions. The tapes document three Tahltan language texts, including a Grizzly Bear Story, a Ground Hog Story, and a Frog Story.

The tapes and field notes are particularly useful for linguistic study as the extended paradigms and long lists of thematically related sentences provide a rich array of structures. The notes also document several Tahltan lexical items, which makes them useful for building vocabularies. The texts and stories can provide some materials for those studying Tahltan oral history and the larger cultural setting in which Tahltan is spoken. Finally, the notes are useful for historical studies of how Tahltan has changed over time (also Hardwick 1984; Story 1975). At the time of the recordings, Henyu was 79, meaning that he is a representative of a generation born fifteen years before the turn of the twentieth century.

Hardwick, Margaret. 1984. Tahltan Consonant Harmony. In *Papers of the XIX International Conference on Salishan and Neighboring Languages*. International Conference on Salishan and Neighboring Languages, ed. Pp. 101-112. Victoria: University of Victoria Press.
Abstract: I do not have this paper.

Hardwick, Margaret 1984 *Tahltan Morphology and Phonology*. University of Toronto, MA Thesis.
Abstract: Hardwick's thesis is a detailed description of many important morphological and phonological processes in Tahltan. This work is important reading for any linguist studying Tahltan word structure, morpho-phonemics, and sound changes leading to pronunciations found in present day Tahltan. It is also of use to dialectologists, as some patterns of variation are studied (see especially section 6), and language teachers with an interest in linguistic structure and analysis. Hardwick worked in the field with Patricia Shaw and used Shaw's tapes and field notes as the principle data source of her data (see Shaw 1980-83). Keren Rice was the first reader for the thesis.

The first section outlines the Tahltan sound system, giving a word for each consonant and vowel sound. Section 2 outlines the historical relationship between Tahltan and its ancestor language, Proto-Athabaskan (PA). A number of previous historical accounts of Tahltan are reviewed and evidence is presented to argue for a less complex account of Tahltan linguistic development in which Tahltan has come to have a richer inventory of consonants than many other Athapaskan languages. On the basis of evidence from stem-initial consonants, it is argued that the nine series of obstruents in PA developed into eight series in Tahltan (previous approaches argue for roughly six obstruent series); a set of developmental trends are also identified that neutralize certain contrasts in stem-final position, though the resulting Tahltan inventory is again richer in this position than in previous accounts. The vowel system is also discussed and an analysis of the development patterns is given that is slightly more complex than a previous account, with special

attention to the reflexes of PA /e/ and schwa.

Section 3 discusses a range of noun types. The structures examined include stems formed with a bare root and a stem formative, independent stem nouns (unpossessed), prefix + stem sequences, dependent stem nouns (inalienably possessed), deverbal nouns, loans, and compound nouns of various types. Certain compound formatives are discussed that act as a joiner between the two members of the compound, and the various types are exemplified, including noun + noun, noun + verb, preposition + noun, and adverb + noun compounds. Section 4 studies the morphology and phonology of possession in these noun forms. A morphological frame for possessed nouns is given, and some morpho-phonemic alternations are noted. The possessive morphology is examined in more detail, listing the personal pronouns and the possessive suffixes, and an interesting pattern of metathesis is noted in the first and second singular person pronouns. A frame for compound possession is then given, and a distinction is made between 'regular' possessed compounds, which have a possessive suffix attached to the whole compound, and 'irregular' compounds, which have a suffix attached to both members.

Section 5 surveys the prefixes found in verbs and gives a general description of the form, position, and meanings of prefixed verbs. A template for the prefixes, or an ordering of slots for prefix positions is established, and then each prefix position is identified and exemplified. Descriptions and examples are given of the classifier prefixes (slot 12), subject pronouns (11), 'mode' (=imperfective and perfective prefixes) and conjugation (9-10), theme and aspect prefixes (8), unspecified/non-singular subject prefixes (7), direct object prefixes (6), incorporated stems (5), distributive prefixes (4), adverbs (3), post-positions/oblique object markers (1-2).

Section 6 is a case study of voicing in stem-initial fricatives. After reviewing some previous approaches to this problem, Tahltan evidence is presented which is consistent with an analysis in which these fricatives are underlying voiceless and voiced by rule in two specific contexts. Variation in the applicability of these rules is studied for two speakers (one innovative and one conservative), and the observed patterns of variation are argued to be consistent with the generalization or loss of the voicing rules. Historical texts are also examined and shown to be consistent with the voicing hypothesis, and suggest that the patterns of variation in voicing are quite recent (i.e. 1973-74).

The final section, 7, is a case study of consonant harmony which affects coronal segments, requiring them to agree for the phonological features [±strident] and [±anterior] (also Shaw 1991). The basic characteristics of the harmony process are established and exemplified in prefixed structures, including words with the first person singular subject marker /s-/, first person plural subject marker /sid-/, the conjugation marker /se-/, the unspecified subject marker /ts'e-/, and the first person singular possessive marker /es-/. The apparent uni-directional (right-to-left) pattern of the harmony is argued to be a product of the word structures involved, i.e., the prefixing morphology, and it is shown that the process is indeed bi-directional, as there is left-to-right harmony stem-internally and in compounds. The bi-directional pattern is taken as evidence against a metrical analysis of the process and in favor of an autosegmental analysis that relies crucially on the principle of structure preservation (i.e., harmony does not create sounds that are not a part of the inventory).

Iskut First Nation, et al. 2003. *"Kuji K'at Dahdahwhesdetch,* Now I Told All of You*:" Tahltan Language Stories Told by Iskut Elders at Iskut, British Columbia*. Iskut, BC: Unpublished Booklet by the Iskut First Nation and the Endangered Languages Fund.
Abstract: This collection includes Tahltan language stories from from Iskut elders. They present traditional 'myth-time' events and accounts of more recent trapping and hide preparation activities. Each story is recorded on an audio CD and written in Tahltan, English, and interlinear versions. This presentation style meant to allow readers to follow along with the CD, while also getting a sense of story in English and a chance to see how the words and sentences translate directly. Also included is a brief introduction describing how to use the book and CD, observations concerning the Tahltan language at Iskut, and lists of Tahltan animal names, fish names, kinship terms.

Kaska Tribal Council. 1997. *Guzāgi K'úgé' Our Language Book: Nouns. Kaska, Mountain Slavey and Sekani.* Whitehorse: Kaska Tribal Council.
Abstract: These two volumes present nouns for several dialects of Kaska as well as for Sekani, and Mountain Slavey. Included in the introductory notes are lengthy descriptions of the sound systems for each language. Entries in the dictionary are grouped under the following headings; 'people,' 'living things,' natural phenomena,' 'culture and technology,' and 'abstract concepts.' Notably, the Good Hope Lake dialect of Kaska is very close to Tahltan in its sounds and in the nouns used for specific items. As such, the dictionary provides a word list that complements the *Tahltan Children's Illustrated Dictionary* (Carter and Tahltan Tribal Council 1994). The books are useful for field researchers conducting elicitations and for others preparing Tahltan language materials. Comparative and historical linguists will also find *Guzāgi K'úgé'* useful for generating comparative word lists.

Leer, Jeff. 1985. A Recommendation for the Tahltan Practical Orthography. Unpublished Manuscript: Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska.
Abstract: Leer's discussion paper includes several issues related to the development of a practical orthography of Tahltan (see also Carter 1991; Carter and Tahltan Tribal Council 1994). Leer makes specific suggestions for the spelling of a number of sounds and sound features, including interdentals (the "/th/-series", e.g., the s and z sounds in the TPA), uvulars, rounded velars (often spelled /Cw/), voiceless /yh/ and /nh/, the consonant /h/, vowels including sequences and long vowels), nasalization, stress, tone and intonation. Leer's suggestions emphasize spellings that adequately distinguish all the sounds of Tahltan without cumbersome symbols and keep with the spellings of sounds in neighboring languages.

This paper is especially useful for language teachers and dialectologists as the suggested spellings take into consideration the range of variation found between the Telegraph Creek and Iskut dialects. The paper is also useful for linguists as the discussion probes into many important allophonic and morpho-phonemic patterns in the two dialects. It may be helpful to anyone considering the challenges related to establishing a practical orthography for a native language.

Nater, Hank F. 1989. Some Comments on the Phonology of Tahltan. *International Journal of American Linguistics.* 55(1):25-42.
Abstract: This article emphasizes the linguistic analysis of the Tahltan spoken at Iskut. Its chief purpose is to fill gaps in other research concerning phonological and morpho-phonological patterns in Tahltan. The paper also attempts to develop a specific hypothesis concerning the development of vowel length and nasal consonant sequences in Athabaskan languages. It is of primary interest to linguists interested in Tahltan phonology and historical linguists with an interest in sound changes in Athabaskan languages. It contains some useful information concerning dialect and inter-speaker variation, indicated in the overview below, which may be of interest to language teachers and dialectologists, though the descriptive terms and methods may be different than those used in pedagogical materials.

Section 2 of the paper is a description of the consonant sounds, classified in terms of place and manner of articulation, and it points out some important allophonic patterns and phonotactic restrictions concerning consonants. Section 3 provides a description of the consonant harmony, the vowel inventory, the behavior of stress and tone, and morpho-phonemic patterns involving consonant voicing. The vowels are classified in terms of open/closed and short-lax/long-tense oppositions, and some allophonic processes affecting vowels are noted. 'Stress,' which is correlated with increased loudness, pitch level, and duration, is described as a distinctive feature of the language (cf. Cook 1972 for a different dialect), and said to be independent from marked low-tone/unmarked tone oppositions found in monosyllables and certain verbal constructions. Section 4 examines correspondences between Tahltan and other Athabaskan languages for sequences with long vowels, a vowel plus a glottal stop, and vowels followed by a nasal consonant, and argues that vowel length in Tahltan corresponds to tone and/or nasality in other related languages. Section 5 studies some areas of dialect and interspeaker variation, focusing primarily on a merger between interdental and alveolar series, uvular and velar sounds (q/k), and identifies Tahltan uvular sounds as having come from Tlingit, a neighboring language (also Leer 1985).

Newcombe, C. F. n.d. Tahltan Words, Dene Vocabulary. Victoria: Held at the BC Archives in the C.F. Newcombe Family Papers.
Abstract: Part of the Newcombe Family Papers held at the British Columbia Archives and Records Service, this folder consists of a list of eight Tahltan words: snowshoes, needle for making snowshoes, birch, babiche, pack bag, beaver net, moose hoof bone, and bow. Also included are two handwritten pages of notes related to the pronunciation of 'a' in Tahltan words. Newcombe was an ethnologist and artifact collector in British Columbia at the turn of the twentieth century.

Palgrave, C. F. 1956. *A Grammar and Dictionary of the Language Spoken by the Tahltans on the Stikine River, British Columbia*. Chicago: University of Chicago Library Manuscript.
Abstract: While lists of Tahltan words exist earlier than Palgrave's dictionary (see Dawson (1887); Ridley (18XX); Stone (1896 & 1897), this manuscript is the first attempt to describe the grammar Tahltan language. The research was conducted while Palgrave lived among Tahltan speakers at Telegraph Creek for four years at the turn of the twentieth century and is, by Palgrave's own admission, incomplete. Palgrave's manuscript includes a short introduction which offers a very brief description of Tahltan culture and contact history. He also attempts to situate the Tahltan language within a broader Athapaskan language family suggesting that Tahltan is a dialect of the Tinneh language family and related to language extending as far east at Hudson's Bay.

Palgrave's grammar is divided into several sections in which he identifies and describes Tahltan word classes. His description of Tahltan verbs is lengthy and includes the conjugations for several common verbs. Importantly, numerous colloquial phrases are provided in association with the verbs, and these are particularly handy for students of the language and language teachers. The dictionary is lengthy and provides both Tahltan-English and English-Tahltan sections. The dictionary is followed by two Tahltan language texts, one about a hunt and the other a creation story. The final section of the manuscript is a Kaska language supplement. Here, Palgrave identifies sound differences between Tahltan and Kaska and gives a short list of words in Kaska that are not part of Tahltan. In the Kaska analysis, Palgrave highlights the Kaska dialect heard at Liard Post, suggesting that it is very similar to Tahltan. Palgrave uses Tahltan as starting point in order to distinguish the two languages. This section is useful to historical linguists interested in the connections between Kaska and Tahltan. Kaska specialists will also find the supplement interesting.

Bruce MacLachlan prepared a typescript of Palgrave's grammatical sketch and Tahltan language stories in 1956. John Alderete has begun work on an annotated version of the manuscript; all copies of the dictionary section remain handwritten.

Saxon, Leslie. 1997. Tahltan Biological Words: Unpublished Word List, Collected at Iskut, B.C. Victoria: Unpublished Manuscript in Possession of Author at the University of Victoria. With data input by Jillian Snider.
Abstract: Saxon's word list is based on botanical field study in and around Iskut Village. The manuscript includes Tahltan words for local flora and fauna and several place names; there are more than 500 words in total. The words in the list are transcribed with IPA-like symbols, although some sounds are written in the local practical orthography. Where possible, Saxon has included the corresponding word from other notes or the *Tahltan Children's Illustrated Dictionary* (Carter and Tahltan Tribal Council 1994). Notably, some of the glosses are close to the descriptive meaning of the words. Saxon also provides some detailed notes on how certain medicinal items are used. Saxon has marked both high and low tones, although the high tone markings may correspond to 'stress.'.

Shaw, Patricia. 1991. Consonant Harmony Systems: The Special Status of Coronal Harmony. In *The Special Status of Coronals: Internal and External Evidence*. Carole Paradis and Jean-Francois Prunet, eds. Pp. 125-157 (Tahltan Case Study Appears pp. 144-152). New York: Academic Press.
Abstract: This book chapter examines a phonological process of consonant harmony involving coronal sounds, drawing on evidence from inflected verbs (also Hardwick 1984). In the text, coronal harmony is described as a right to left spreading rule which affects obstruents in three out of the five coronal series (specifically the xxx/dD/, /dz/, and /dZ/xxx series; these sounds correspond to the /dz/, /dz/, and /j/ sounds in the TPA, respectively). It is also described as where the remaining two series (*d* and *dl* series) are

'transparent;' that is, not affected and not blockers for spreading. The assumptions for the characterization of the coronal sounds are also shown to make sense of a morpho-phonological phenomenon commonly found in Athabaskan languages called the D-effect, which is briefly examined in Tahltan.

This chapter will be mainly of interest to linguists, and specifically phonologists, as the discussion is couched within a larger discussion of the theoretical implications of consonant harmony processes for linguistic theory. Shaw's finding that three series of coronals are involved in the process, while two others are not, sets Tahltan apart from other languages with coronal harmony. Shaw elaborates on these findings, including them in a discussion about feature geometry, feature specification, and the representation of continuancy in theoretical phonology.

Shaw, Patricia. 1980-1983. Field notes and Tapes of Language Consultants at Telegraph Creek. Vancouver: Manuscript in Possession of the Author at the University of British Columbia.
Abstract: Shaw's field notes include a set of tapes (12 reel-to-reel tapes and 2 standard cassette tapes) and field notes collected from Tahltan elders in Telegraph Creek. There are over 3500 entries for paradigmatically related nouns and verbs, as well as some postpositional phrases and place names. These field notes are designed to answer certain questions about the nature of coronal harmony, questions which are addressed in both Hardwick (1984) and Shaw (1991). The wide breadth of the noun and verb lists, however, make the data set useful for a range of linguistic documentation activities, including vocabulary building, the study of verb structures, and other linguistic projects involving verb and noun structures.

Sheppard, Janice R. 1983. The Dog Husband: Structural Identity and Emotional Specificity in Northern Athapaskan Oral Narrative. *Arctic Anthropology*. 20(1):89-101.
Abstract: Sheppard's article discusses comparatively eleven versions of the Dog Husband story, a narrative that is widely spread throughout many northern Athapaskan cultures. Sheppard argues that analysis of both structural similarity between versions and the uniqueness of each version is required to understand any one version of this story. She discusses the Tahltan Dog Husband story at length, relying on versions collected by Teit and on her own Tahltan fieldwork. This article will be of interest to anthropologists and folklorists interested in comparative studies of northern Athapaskan narrative structure. As Sheppard reviews Tahltan, Tsetsaut, Dogrib, and Carrier Dog Husband stories, the article will also interest anyone working with these communities or the cultural material already available about them.

Stone, Andrew J. 1896 & 1897. Andrew Jackson Stone Diaries and Papers, 1896-1919. Berkeley, CA: Held at the Bancroft Library.
Abstract: Stone was a naturalist with the zoological department of the American Museum of Natural History and a representative of the New York Zoological Society. The journals describe Stone's trips into northern British Columbia on expeditions to document the wildlife of the area on behalf of these organizations. The journals are richly descriptive of coastal Alaska and the Stikine River watershed. He is also a careful observer of flora and fauna and, in particular, of details related to the sheep and moose he saw and shot. The journals contain accounts of two trips into Tahltan territory, one in the summer and fall of 1896 and the other a year later in the summer of 1897. His notes from 1896 include extensive ethnographic information about the origins of the Tahltan tribe, clans, family ties, religious beliefs, lifestyles, food, wealth, hunting, songs, and dances. The 1897 entries elaborate upon these points and include the description of a funeral of a Bear Lake chief, several biographical notes about native people he met at Telegraph Creek, population statistics, and traditional myth-time stories. Notably, the journals contain a lengthy list of Tahltan words. The words are given in categories such as animals, berries, colors, place names, geography, and foods. These journals will interest anyone interested in Tahltan culture. They will also be helpful to those interested in the connections between natural history and anthropology; the journals provide some of the earliest statements about hunting and wildlife for this part of Canada. Historical linguists may like to review the word lists, although they are similar in type and form to those recorded at about this time by Palgrave (1902).

Story, Gillian L. 1975. Tahltan: An Interpretation of Ken Hale's Data at Telegraph Creek.
Abstract: I do not have this.

Teit, James A. 1917. Kaska Tales. *Journal of American Folklore*. 30(118):427-473.
    Abstract: Teit's Kaska Tales includes twenty-five English language versions of Kaska stories collected at
    Dease Lake in northern British Columbia in 1915. While the presentation of the Kaska stories is similar to
    those Teit collected from Tahltan informants at the same time (see Teit 1919; 1921), this collection is
    important because it provides Teit's narrative introduction to both the Kaska and Tahltan materials. Teit's
    introduction offers general ethnographic information pertaining to Kaska and Tahltan food gathering
    activities. He also discusses the disemination of the stories he records, suggesting that they were
    exchanged along the trade routes which cover much of northern British Columbia. There are notes about
    the interaction between Tahltan and Tlingit story-tellers and Teit observes that Tlingits and Tahltans knew
    and learned the stories of the other group. Notably, Teit annotates the Kaska stories with details of
    recordings by other ethnographers or where the Kaska stories are also known by the Tahltans.

Teit, James A. 1919 & 1921. Tahltan Tales. *Journal of American Folklore*. 32(124):198-250; 34(133):223-253; and,
    34(134):335-356.
    Abstract: These three publications fit together as a single collection of seventy-nine Tahltan stories
    recorded by Teit in Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek in 1912 and 1915. Teit contextualizes the recording
    of these stories in the introduction to Kaska Tales (Teit 1917) noting there that the stories were collected
    from Dandy Jim, a raconteur selected by the Tahltan themselves. Teit annotates many of the stories,
    providing cross-references to similar stories in other communities or translating Tahltan words when they
    are used. Teit makes reference to the geographical locations where stories take place and provides cultural.

    The stories include a cycle of thirty-five Raven stories (all thirty-five stories are listed as one of Teit's
    seventy-nine tales) and numerous moralistic accounts describing how animals acquired the characteristics
    they have today. There are several stories related to the proper behavior of human beings. For
    anthropologists, the stories are extremely useful for understanding Tahltan concepts of respect for animals
    and the place of the hunter in the hunter-prey relationship. Curriculum authors may also find the stories
    helpful for units related to Tahltan story-telling and culture.

Tharp, George W. 1972. The Position of Tsetsaut Among Northern Athapaskans. *International Journal of
    American Linguistics*. 38(1):14-25.
    Abstract: Tharp's analysis of Tsetsaut draws on Boas' data collected in Portland Canal in the 1890s (Boas
    1895; 1896; Boas and Goddard 1924). Here, Tharp attempts to redress Hoijer's inability position Tsetsaut
    within the taxonomy of Athapaskan languages and to identify any direct historical links between the
    Tahltan and Tsetsaut languages and, by extension, Tahltan and Tsetsaut peoples. Tharp's analysis includes
    an assessment of the relationship between the Tsetsaut and Tahltan languages, a line of inquiry Tharp
    pursues, in part, by evaluating the ethnographic evidence for connections between Tsetsaut and Tahltan
    peoples. Tharp's linguistic analysis of the Tsetsaut language includes a summary of Boas' linguistic data
    and Hoijer's classification scheme for the northern Athapaskan languages. After a comparison of northern
    Athapaskan phonolgy, Tharp concludes that Tsetsaut is more closely related to Tahltan than to any other
    Athapaskan language. Importantly, he says that linguistic similarity is not tantamount to cultural identity,
    or more succinctly, that the linguistic evidence does not suggest that the Tsetsaut people are simply an
    offshoot group of Tahltans.

Thorman, T. P. W. n.d. Miscellaneous Materials Relating to the Tahltan Indians. Victoria: Held at the BC
    Archives. (Note: May be the same as Thorman 1902)

Thorman, T. P. W. n.d. [1902]. An Outline of the Language Spoken by the Tahltan Indians. Victoria: Held at the
    BC Archives.
    Abstract: This sketch touches on many aspects of Tahltan grammar, translates several prayers and sections
    of the Christian Bible, and gives a list of proper names of Indians living in the vicinity of Telegraph Creek.
    While some of the grammatical notes are interesting and useful, most are discussed in a more rigorous way
    in other works (see especially Hardwick 1984; Hale and O'Grady 1965; and, Shaw 1980-1983). These
    notes are therefore probably most useful to historical linguists interested in the differences between present
    day Tahltan and Tahltan spoken at Telegraph Creek around 1900. The list of proper names may also be
    useful for historical purposes.

This work has four basic sections: (A) a grammatical sketch; (B) a vocabulary (many of the words taken from Matheson's notes (Thorman n.d.); (C) a section of prayers and hymns and passages from the Christian Bible; and, (D) a list of proper names. The grammatical sketch is largely devoted to a discussion of word classes, verb forms, affixation and word formation in general. Word classes identified and exemplified include nouns, adjectives, pronouns, post-positions, adverbs, and interjections. Verbs are examined in a series of paradigms, showing distinctions in subject and object marking, and some tenses, including future, preterite', and 'subjunctive'. Also, some irregular verbs are conjugated. Other topics discussed include: reduplication (which seems to express a repeated action or activity), reflexive verbs, 'animal verbs,' 'approximate sounds,' and interrogative particles.

Note: Thorman's work is based on, and in many sections identical to, Palgrave's research and documentation (Palgrave 1902).

Thorman, T. P. W. n.d. Tahltan Words Copied from Mr. Matheson's Notebook. Victoria: Held at the BC Archives and Records Service.
Abstract: A list of 465 words recorded about 1900. The list has mainly common 'everyday' words with some words for local flora and fauna (by common name only), and several verbs. The words are alphabetized and spelled in a English-based orthography, with some special letter combinations and symbols for non-English sounds. A typical entry includes a Tahltan word with a one-word English translation; sometimes related words are given. Verbs are listed in first person singular. 'Accent' (stress or tone) is also usually marked; though length is only marked as a secondary feature of a vowel. This list is probably most useful for historical purposes, that is, to see how these words have changed over the past 100 years or so. Most of the words here also appear in the *Tahltan Children's Illustrated Dictionary* (Carter and Tahltan Tribal Council 1994).

Turner, Nancy. 1997. Tahltan Traditional Plants. n.p.: Unpublished Collection of Plant Names in English and Tahltan (with drawings).
Abstract: This booklet was prepared with the assistance of Leslie Saxon and is based on field research with Iskut and Telegraph Creek elders in the summer of 1996. The book contains individual entries about dozens of plants used by Tahltans for medicines and food. For each entry, the Tahltan name for the plant is given along with notes about its use and where it is located. Transcription of Tahltan words is done according to standard linguistic principles, although corresponding spellings in the Tahltan Practical Orthography are not provided. This booklet would be helpful to teachers looking to prepare a unit on local plants and traditional uses of plants by Tahltans. It is held by the Iskut and Telegraph Creek Bands.