

## News Release – December 12, 2004

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### *International Mother Language Day on Saturday, February 19, 2005*

The **International and Heritage Languages Association (IHLA)** is proud to sponsor the second annual celebration of the **International Mother Language Day**, on **Saturday, February 19, 2005 at City Hall, Edmonton, 1 Sir Winston Churchill Square, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

The International Mother Language Day was instituted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and first celebrated in Paris on February 21, 2000. The day's goals include:

- Promotion and awareness of value of all languages in the world
- Recognition of all cultures that languages represent and support to development of policies and initiatives that assist all languages in the world to maintain their identity and continue to prosper
- Promotion of mutual respect through a deeper understanding of ways of thinking and living that are represented by the different languages in the world



IHLA will celebrate this day with fantastic **international language school displays**, language **games**, **entertainment**, **special guests** and much more.

**The event is open to the general public free of charge.** Free snacks also available on site, as well as game prizes for the **Scavenger Hunt**.

For more information visit the IHLA website:

[www.nahla.net](http://www.nahla.net)

or contact the IHLA office:

Phone: (780) 428-5510

Fax: (780) 428-5549

e-mail: [ihla@telus.net](mailto:ihla@telus.net)

Background :

IHLA is :

- A non-profit association
- Dedicated to the awareness, development and promotion of international and heritage languages at the community level ; and
- The coordinating association for more than 25 community-based language schools.