

# The Canadian eParfleche Project: ePortfolio for First Nations Communities

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# Parfleche

- **A leather portfolio or carrying case**
- **Used largely by mobile prairie tribes**
- **Decorated to personalize**
- **Originally a French word**
- **Meaning “to deflect” – a shield**
- **Carrying prized possessions**

# eParfleche

- **ePortfolio attributes**
  - **Learning – KSA (content)**
  - **Reflective learning (process)**
  - **Digital storytelling**
  - **Community (and individuals)**
  - **Shared / web-based**
- **eParfleche attributes**
  - **Wisdom of the elders (not in writing)**
  - **Shared reflection and healing**
  - **Fables and oral traditions**
  - **Facilitated storytelling**
  - **Modern ICT**
  - **Archiving culture**

# eParfleche Project Processes (proposed)

- **Communities manage with ePortfolio experts**
- **Youth as apprentices in digital storytelling processes**
- **Elders to tell their stories in own languages**
- **Youth and elders to extrapolate learning**
- **Translation and production in 3 languages**
- **Interactive eLearning materials**
- **eParfleche web portal**

# Project Outcomes

## ■ Products

- Individual and community ePortfolios
- Prototype for use by others
- eParfleche portal
- Related eLearning materials

## ■ Services

- Languages and wisdom captured
- Youth “trained” to create ePortfolios
- Method for valuing traditional Aboriginal KSA
- Assistance through “lessons learned”

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# eParfleche Benefits

- Value traditional learning
- Transfer “value” from elders to youth
  - Preserving languages and learning
- Youth with skills to create and maintain own eParfleche
  - For cultural and career purposes
- Tight links between traditional culture and learning culture for KBE
  - Using one artifact to store another

# To become involved...

- Join LfIA [www.LfIA.ca](http://www.LfIA.ca)
- Update at upcoming Forum in Vancouver, April 18-20, 2005

