

Tł̥chq̥ Government Annual Report 2017



Tł̥chq̥ Ndek'əowo



Tł̥chq̥ Government

Hè dq̥ gha gonta... In Tł̥chq̥ Unity...

Message from the Grand Chief

I am pleased to provide this summary of the work of our Government in 2016-2017. The Annual Report is an opportunity to inform our citizens about the activities of the Tłı̨chǫ Government as the 3rd Tłı̨chǫ Assembly draws to a close, and elections create a new 4th Assembly,

The Tłı̨chǫ Government owns, manages and controls over 39,000 square kilometres of lands in the Northwest Territories. Under the Tłı̨chǫ Constitution we have a responsibility to serve as custodians of these lands, as Monfwi said, “for as long as this land shall last”. We must ensure that we make the best decisions, not only in our traditional roles as custodians of the land, but also for our people, who want the security that meaningful employment brings to their lives and their families. We also believe that the Tłı̨chǫ Government must protect and preserve our unity by sustaining our language, culture and way of life. We can do this best by developing and implementing programs that contribute to an active social and cultural life in our communities, while celebrating and revitalizing our language, culture and way of life.

There has been tremendous change and growth in the Tłı̨chǫ Government since 2005. The restructuring of our Government into the five Departments of Culture and Lands Protection, Community programs, Community Services, Corporate Services, and the Executive, has encouraged the growth and development of a broad range of culturally-relevant programs and services for our citizens. Programs this past year have included Interpreter/Translator training, Wilderness Safety training for potential guides and crew bosses leading cultural activities on the land, Youth Trapping programs, Youth Drumming programs and Youth Leadership programs such as Į̇mbè and the Northern Youth Abroad. In collaboration with our partners, such as the Mine training Society, we have trained over 150 people with job readiness skills and as heavy equipment operators. We have completed our regional training and Economic Development Strategy, which focuses on developing and strengthening the traditional economy. Specific initiatives within this Strategy include the Tłı̨chǫ Tourism Strategy and the Tłı̨chǫ Arts and Crafts Strategy. We have also consulted extensively with parents and other community members this year to review the early childhood programs and services in our region. We expect to be able to roll out improvements to these programs and services in 2017-2018.

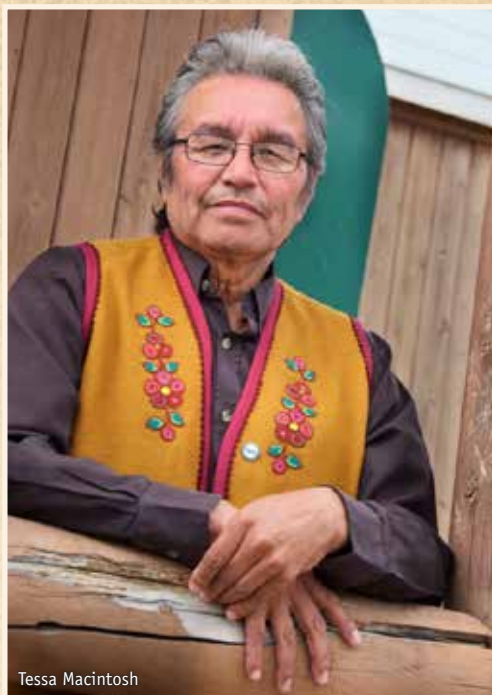
Our Government has conducted research using the Traditional Knowledge of our elders to study caribou, wolves and important ecosystems on our lands such as Dınàgà Wek'èhodì and Kwetı̨jaà/Rayrock. This year, for the first time, the Tłı̨chǫ Government is reaching out to support research services across the NWT by agreeing to host the NWT Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR). This five-year program will see the Canadian Institute of Health Research provide \$8 million to enhance and improve health research in the NWT. On behalf of the SPOR Strategy, the Tłı̨chǫ Government will fund research positions in other Indigenous governments in the NWT such as the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the Gwitchin Tribal Council as well as in our own Dedats'eetsaa Tłı̨chǫ Research and Training Institute.

Last year, we were hopeful that the elections that changed governments at both the federal and territorial levels would assist the progress of our work. Our optimism was warranted as we have already seen important progress on the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, and most recently, the resolution of a long outstanding Financing Agreement related to our land claim agreement.

We continue to be optimistic about the solid foundation that has been built and the years ahead, and in this spirit, I am pleased to offer you this brief overview of the work of the Tłı̨chǫ Government in 2016-2017.

“İ̀kè dǫ gha gǫıta... In Tłı̨chǫ Unity”

Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus



Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus

Highlights from the 3rd Tłı̄chǫ Assembly and Chiefs Executive Council 2016-2017



Tłı̄chǫ Assembly in Whatı̄

The Chiefs and Assembly members of the final year of the 3rd Tłı̄chǫ Assembly are: Chief Clifford Daniels, Rosa Mantla and Noel Bishop from Behchokǫ; Chief Alfonz Nitsiza, George Nitsiza and Sonny Zoe from Whatı̄; Chief David Wedawin, Henry Gon and Garry Bekale from Gamèti; and Chief Johnny Arrowmaker, Joseph Judas and Robin Laboline from Wekweètı̄. Eddie Erasmus has presided as our Grand Chief.

The 3rd Assembly has been busy in 2016-2017. Much of the work from last year carried on into this year. Projects such as the establishment of a regional Tłı̄chǫ Economic Development Working Group resulted in the publication of an approved Strategy this year. There has been ongoing work on the development of a mineral policy, the all-season road to Whatı̄ and establishing an early childhood framework. Other issues have become more important in this past year, including concerns regarding proposed development in Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄, where a Calgary-based company has renewed an exploration effort. The Tłı̄chǫ Government has consistently been against all exploration and development in Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄, where Whitebeach Point on the North Arm is located. The Tłı̄chǫ Government has stated that its priority values lie in the cultural and ecological realm.

Legislation and Policy Development during the 3rd Assembly has included the following activities:

Process to Develop Tłı̄chǫ Resource Management Laws

The Tłı̄chǫ Government has embarked on a process to develop important Resource Management Laws for Tłı̄chǫ lands. These laws will set the rules on who and how Tłı̄chǫ lands can be accessed for different types of activities, including wildlife harvesting, mineral exploration and other uses of the land. The Laws will be developed through consultation with communities to ensure they respect the guidance of elders and other community members. These Laws will follow the direction of the Tłı̄chǫ Land Use Plan and will all have the protection of Tłı̄chǫ language, culture and way of life as the central goal of any new laws. Until these Laws are in place the protection of the Lands moratorium remains in place.

The Development of a Mineral Strategy

To prepare for potential mineral exploration on Tłı̄chǫ lands, the Tłı̄chǫ Government is developing a Mineral Strategy. The Strategy will provide guidance on who, how and where mineral exploration and extraction might be carried out on Tłı̄chǫ lands. The Mineral Strategy will work in combination with the Tłı̄chǫ Land Use Plan to ensure Tłı̄chǫ lands are protected, but also provide opportunities for Tłı̄chǫ citizens and companies to realize benefits from the minerals potential on Tłı̄chǫ lands. The Tłı̄chǫ Government will be consulting with communities on the Mineral Strategy to ensure it conforms with Tłı̄chǫ values and community wishes.

Changes to the MVRMA

The Tłıchǫ Government has been fighting to protect the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board for a number of years now. Previously, the Tłıchǫ Government won an injunction that prevented Canada from implementing the amendments to the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, proposed under the Harper Government, which eliminated the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board and created one "super board" for the entire Mackenzie Valley. The current federal government still wishes to amend the MVRMA, but has expressed a desire to do so in a way that is collaborative and preserves the regional boards, including the WLWB. The Tłıchǫ Government's position has been that any amendment process for the MVRMA must protect the WLWB, and Tłıchǫ's litigation would only then be resolved and the injunction lifted. In January, 2017, the Tłıchǫ Government received a letter from the Government of Canada confirming Canada will be "leaving intact the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board as it is currently constituted" and writing legislation that will protect the WLWB. Following receipt of this letter, the Tłıchǫ Government and Government of Canada officials met and have successfully concluded settlement negotiations. The Tłıchǫ Government is now reviewing the proposed legislation from Canada. The Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board will be protected.



The Development of Early Childhood Legislation and Policy Framework

On January 13, 2016, the CEC approved in principle an Early Childhood Strategic Plan and Framework that would guide and give direction regarding programs and services offered to families. The Strategy and Framework followed a planning process with extensive community research with Tłıchǫ parents, grandparents, families and agencies who work with young children. The research assessed current and future needs, and changes required for existing programs in place for young children and families. The Strategic Plan and Framework is now largely complete.



Kindergarten grad

In order for the development of the Strategic Plan and Framework to be successful it is important to work closely with the TCSA to ensure that programs and services offered by TG and TCSA work are integrated. Work is underway on the development of Tłıchǫ Legislation for the early childhood programs and services, including a Tłıchǫ *Daycare Act* and Regulations.

Through the development of the Strategic Plan and Framework, the Tłıchǫ Government has set a priority for our youngest children. The Early Childhood Strategic Plan and Framework (2017-2027), known as the Early Years, will be a guiding tool for the future, which sets out aspirations and desired outcomes for our children, the structures and policies needed to realize these outcomes, the systems that need realignment, and the descriptions of innovative programming to inspire future development.

The 2016-2017 Tłıchǫ Ndek'àowo Mqòhla (Government Awards)

A second call for nominations for the 2017 Tłıchǫ Government Awards has been announced. Created in 2016, these awards are intended to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of remarkable individuals, companies and organizations in protecting, preserving and enhancing the Tłıchǫ way of life. These awards are the highest form of recognition from the Tłıchǫ Government.



“Ìè dọ gha gọita... In Tłıchọ Unity

A Strategic Framework and Intentions of the 3rd Assembly

One of the important accomplishments during the past four years of this Assembly was the approval of a Strategic Framework, with six core intentions for 2013-2017. These intentions included: sustaining our lands and environment; sustaining our language, culture and way of life; strengthening our communities and our people; increasing financial strength and economic development; strengthening Tłıchọ Government institutions and organizations; and developing effective intergovernmental relationships.



Wek'èezhì Workshop

Intention 1: Sustaining Our Lands and Environment

Introduction

The first priority of our government is to, “sustain our lands and environment”, as Monfwi said, “for as long as this land shall last”. Under the Tłıchọ Constitution we acknowledge our responsibility to serve for all time as custodians of our lands, including our waters and resources.

Accomplishments

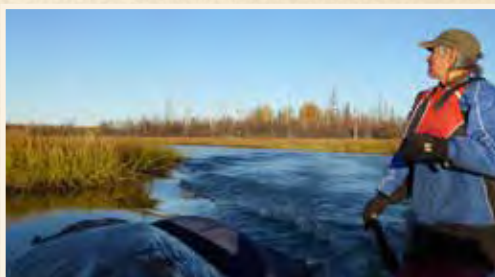
We have been working to build a Tłıchọ capacity to monitor and manage Tłıchọ lands. The following activities are recent accomplishments:

Wek'èezhì Region Environmental Research and Monitoring Results Workshop

The Tłıchọ Government and Government of the Northwest Territories NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring program partnered to host a regional Environmental Research and Monitoring Results workshop in January 2017. Held over two days at the Behchokò Kò Gocho Centre, it was attended by over 80 Tłıchọ elders, youth, government employees, regulators, researchers, traditional knowledge holders and environmental scientists. All participants brought their knowledge and experience from environmental research and monitoring projects in the Wek'èezhì region.

Tłıchọ Marian Watershed Stewardship Program

The overall goal of this project is to maintain a community-based Aquatic Effects Monitoring program (AEMP) in the Marian Watershed, with specific consideration of the future impacts of future developments. The program monitors fish, water and sediment prior to operation of the proposed NICO mine and will continue data collection in the future in order to monitor cumulative effects of development, land disturbance and climate change in the Marian Watershed. Both western and Aboriginal science will be drawn on to obtain a clear picture of baseline conditions in the Marian Watershed and potential changes over time. Results contribute to characterization of background conditions and the range of natural variability in water chemistry in the Marian River, which is crucial to implementation of the legal requirement for water on Tłıchọ lands to remain substantially unaltered.



Narcisse Chocolate

Kwet̓i̓ṣ̓aà/ Rayrock Mine Remediation

In 2016, the TG conducted many visits to the Kwet̓i̓ṣ̓aà mine site to help Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) with their environmental sampling and to get a better idea of the work still needed on site. In June and September, TG sent two wildlife monitors to site.

In October, Tłı̄chų participants of the Contaminated Sites Management training visited Kwet̓i̓ṣ̓aà with instructors, wildlife monitors, elders, interpreters, and TG and INAC staff to get a close-up look at the site. Lisa Marie Zoe from Whatı̄ worked alongside INAC and their consultants as a job shadow at the mine site. In March 2017, TG hosted INAC and their consultants in Behchokò, where we were updated on remediation efforts and began to discuss final remediation options. TG also held a mapping exercise, where elders indicated the current zone of avoidance around Kwet̓i̓ṣ̓aà. It is our hope that Tłı̄chų people will feel and be safe using the area for traditional uses after further remediation work is completed.



Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄ North Arm Protected Area

The Tłı̄chų Government has been working on the establishment of the North Arm Protected Area (Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄) since 2008. In April 2016, Grand Chief formally requested establishment for Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄ as a Territorial Protected Area.

The TG and GNWT are collaboratively engaging community members and key stakeholders from Behchokò and Yellowknife to better understand public values and concerns. Behchokò engagement events have included an Open House and Awards Luncheon, where the Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄ Elders Working Group were honoured for efficiently fostering the conservation of ecological areas through education, stewardship programs and partnerships, and for their leadership in promoting land conservation in Dı̄nàgà Wek'èhodı̄.



Barren-ground Caribou

The Tłı̄chų Government and the GNWT Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) have worked substantially over the last years to submit a Joint-Management proposal to the Wek'èezhı̄ Renewable Resources Board. The plan proposes three-year management actions to stop the decline in caribou. In these tough times it is good to see TG and ENR working together to sustain caribou for our future generations.



Community-based Wolf Harvesting Project

DCLP Lands organized a Wolf Workshop with elders from all Tłı̄chų communities. Elders agreed there is a problem with the population of wolves and that the wolves are not helping the recovery of the Barren-ground Caribou. The elders concluded that we need young Tłı̄chų people to harvest wolves. They stressed that it is okay to hunt wolves as long the trappers respect the traditional laws that deal with wolf carcasses.

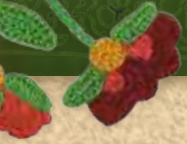
In 2016, DCLP Lands worked with GNWT ENR to organize workshops to train Tłı̄chų people how to snare a wolf, properly prepare a wolf hide and cultural protocols for respecting Tłı̄chų traditional laws.

Online Mapping

Tłı̄chų Wenek'e maps are now online! The Tłı̄chų Wenek'e (Land Use Plan) was completed in 2013 and provides a guide for the protection and future development of our lands, outlining how Tłı̄chų land will be protected and how activities and development should occur.



Online Mapping



CEC hand games with CJBS students

Intention 2: Sustaining Language, Culture and Way of Life

Introduction

The second most important goal or intention of the Tłıchǵ Government is to preserve and protect our language, culture and way of life.

Accomplishments

The Tłıchǵ Ɔmbè Program

An award winning annual summer cultural employment program for youth, Ɔmbè is intended to teach post-secondary students to “be strong like two people”. The Ɔmbè program empowers participants through culturally-based employment to stimulate the interest of participants to learn more about our language, culture and way of life.



The Tłıchǵ Ɔmbè program ran for the 6th summer in 2016. This year, a focus was placed on leadership skills. Local and northern instructors ran workshops on Indigenous leadership, conflict resolution, healing and the residential school legacy, and Tłıchǵ history. Youth earned certification in canoe safety and first aid, spent time on the land learning stories and traditional skills from elders, and worked together to plan and complete community service projects.

The Tłıchǵ Trapping Education Program

Delivered in February 2016, the purpose of the Trapping program is to generate interest and learn the skills required to be a successful trapper and hunter on the land. Nine young people participated in the program, which consisted of one week of training and preparation in the community of Behchokǵ, NT, and a two-week practical exercise, which took place at a camp outside of Whatı, NT. This Trapping program was delivered as part one of a three-part series of programs in which participants learn skills necessary to pursue a career as a trapper. Trapping Education programs ran in all of the Tłıchǵ communities this year. Elders and experienced harvesters spent time on the land teaching young people about travelling, living and working safely on the land.



BALANCE YOUR LIFE - HEALING WORKSHOP

February 21-23, 2017
Behchokò Culture Centre

- 1:00-4:30 pm: Afternoon Session
- 4:45-6:00 pm: Dinner is provided
- 6:00-9:00 pm: Evening Session

Sessions will focus on a four step program that includes: the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual connection with our Culture to heal our soul and balance our life. Topics include: Change your thinking, change your life; Letting go, stress Relief, and Laughter & Humour. There will be support available.

- Supper will be provided each night, and refreshments will be available.
- Entertainment after the evening session.
- Door prizes will be drawn each evening.

If you have any questions please contact Anita 867-392-6381, ext. 1325

Community Programs
Tłı̄chǫ Nèk'èene / Tłı̄chǫ Government
PO Box 422, Behchokò, NT X0E 0Y0
Phone: 867-392-6381 ext.1325 Fax: 867-392-6389

HEALTH RELATIONSHIPS / EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

March 14-16, 2017
Behchokò Culture Centre

- 1:00-4:30 pm: Afternoon Session
- 4:45-6:00 pm: Dinner is provided
- 6:00-9:00 pm: Evening Session

Sessions will focus on a Building Healthy Relationships, Setting Boundaries, Anger management and Letting Go. There will be support available.

- Supper will be provided each night, and refreshments will be available.
- Entertainment after the evening session.
- Door prizes will be drawn each evening.

If you have any questions please contact Anita 867-392-6381, ext. 1325

Community Programs
Tłı̄chǫ Nèk'èene / Tłı̄chǫ Government
PO Box 422, Behchokò, NT X0E 0Y0
Phone: 867-392-6381 ext.1325 Fax: 867-392-6389

LOSS & GRIEF WORKSHOP

January 31 to February 2, 2017
Johnny Nitszia Cultural Centre, Whati, NT

- 12 - 1pm - Lunch for participants
- 1 - 4:30 pm - Afternoon sessions
- 5 - 6pm - Dinner for participants
- 6 - 9pm - Evening sessions

Sessions will focus on "Loss & Grief"

Lunch & Supper will be provided on all 3 days of workshop.
The evening sessions will end with entertainment
3 Door prizes will be drawn each evening.

If you have any questions please contact Anita 867-392-6381, ext. 1325

Community Programs
Tłı̄chǫ Nèk'èene / Tłı̄chǫ Government
PO Box 422, Behchokò, NT X0E 0Y0
Phone: 867-392-6381 ext.1325 Fax: 867-392-6389

Intention 3: Strengthening Our Communities and Our People

Introduction

The Tłı̄chǫ Government strives to improve the lives of our people and the life of our communities by making contributions that fill gaps and supplement existing programs and services. These contributions are intended to promote wellness, spirituality, and our traditional cultural activities.

Accomplishments

Post-secondary Students

Funding to support students has been provided. We have promoted recreational activities with school age students and crisis funding to families who have members who are severely sick, while bringing together elders and families for funerals.

The Department of Social Programs

Multitude programs ran for all ages in all communities, including workshops on Balancing Your Life, Healthy Relationships and Loss and Grief. Daily activities for National Addictions Awareness Week were run during the week of November 13 through November 19, 2016, and included traditional activities such as a Feeding of the Fire ceremony, drum dances and listening to the remarkable, inspiring and uplifting experiences with addictions and sobriety of honoured guests from both outside and inside our communities.

There were also a large number of activities organized for youth and children, including drumming workshops that not only taught drumming, but also respect, unity and sportsmanship. Drumming and handgames provides our youth with a sense of belonging and identity within the Tłı̄chǫ culture as well as a self-esteem booster. Programs also taught skills on the land and promoted healthy relationships among the participants by providing opportunities to learn how to set fish nets, make dry fish and fish fillets, how to prepare ducks (plucking and burning), how to make traditional hunting bags, bannock making, survival skills on the land, and caribou hide preparation.



Belinda Blackduck



2016 Premier's Award for Collaboration
(NWT ASETS Managers and Aurora College)



Paradigm Esteem



Chiefs at Sportsplex Tour

Intention 4: Increasing Financial Strength and Economic Development

Introduction

The Tłıchǰ Government seeks to increase the financial strength and economic development of the Tłıchǰ communities through the development of business interests under the direction and management of the Tłıchǰ Investment Corporation.

Accomplishments

The Tłıchǰ Investment Corporation (TIC) has a large number of businesses performing in many sectors of the northern economy, including mining, mine site remediation, transportation, construction, hospitality, retail business services in Gamèti and Wekweèti, and power generation.

Community Services, Career Training and Regional Economic Development

The development of the five-year Tłıchǰ Region training and Economic Development Strategy focuses on local community economic development and microbusinesses to maintain and strengthen the traditional economy and to strengthen the region to be economically self-sufficient. Initiatives within this Strategy include the Tłıchǰ Tourism Strategy and the Tłıchǰ Arts and Crafts Strategy.

Tłıchǰ Government staff have worked with community members to build individual Career Action Plans, which will provide direction for them in securing appropriate community-based, skill development training that directly links to the Tłıchǰ Region training and Economic Development Strategy and the Tłıchǰ All-season Road project.



Last year, there were over 150 individuals within the Tłıchǰ region who attended Job Readiness training in collaboration with the Mine training Society, Small Business Development courses, Northern Adult-based Education (Aurora College) courses, BEAHR training, HEO training, and two deliveries of the Wilderness Safety training program. Ten youth from the region attended the Northern Youth Aboard Youth Leadership program. The Department of Community Services also sponsored Tłıchǰ Agreement courses and four community literacy programs. All of this activity resulted in recognition and awards for the Tłıchǰ Government, including:

- 2016 Premier's Award for Collaboration (NWT ASETS Managers and Aurora College)
- 2016 CANDO for Economic Developer of the Year – Community (2nd place)

Intention 5:

Strengthening Tłıchǫ Government Institutions and Organizations

Introduction

The Tłıchǫ Government is committed to the development of a representative, skilled and effective workforce so as to build a stronger government, which can achieve the goals we have set for ourselves.

Accomplishments

Restructuring of the TG Departments

Restructuring has continued for the 4th year of this Assembly. Management structures have been put in place and co-location of similar functions has been achieved. The Occupational Health and Safety training has continued this year, both within Government and for people in the communities who participate and lead on the land activities.



CEC with GNWT Cabinet - April 2016

Intention 6:

Developing Effective Intergovernmental Relationships

Introduction

The Tłıchǫ Government, the GNWT, Canada and other First Nation governments in Canada work together to promote effective relationships through a number of different agreements, strategies and mechanisms.

Accomplishments

Working Together with the GNWT

The Tłıchǫ Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding called "Working Together" with the GNWT in June 2012. The Chiefs have continued to meet with the Premier and Cabinet members on a regular basis, most recently in December 2016 and May 2017. These meetings have created a positive working relationship and a number of outstanding issues between the two governments have been resolved. At these most recent meetings a number of issues were raised of concern to Tłıchǫ citizens and the Tłıchǫ Government. CEC and Cabinet discussed the housing crisis in Tłıchǫ communities and established a joint housing group to look for solutions to the crisis faced by Tłıchǫ citizens. The Tłıchǫ Government also raised the importance of land use planning throughout Wek'èezhì to guide where and when development could proceed and the importance of the creation of Dìnàgà Wek'èhodì, the protected area for North Arm.

The Intergovernmental Council

On the signing of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Lands and Resource Management in 2014, the Tłıchǫ Government became a member of the Intergovernmental Council. The Council includes the leaders of a number of Indigenous Governments and the Premier of the Northwest Territories. The council meets every year to discuss issues relating to the management of land and resources in the Northwest Territories. The Council is currently working to ensure the GNWT develops its land and resource management systems in a way that is respectful of existing land claim and Self-government Agreements and the rights of Indigenous Governments. Working with the GNWT, we are drafting a number of pieces of legislation that manage land and resources in the NWT. Through our participation in this forum, the Tłıchǫ Government is ensuring that new GNWT legislation is developed in a collaborative manner that includes Tłıchǫ and Indigenous values in the drafting process. This is a new way of doing things for the GNWT and the Tłıchǫ Government is working hard to ensure this becomes the normal manner in which new legislation that affects Tłıchǫ citizens and Tłıchǫ lands is developed.

Highlights from 2016-2017

Tłıchq All-season Road

The Tłıchq Government is an active partner in planning for the construction of the All-season Road to Whatı. In January 2017, the federal government announced that they would be funding a significant portion of the costs of the road; the Government of the Northwest Territories will pay the rest. The project is currently being reviewed by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board. They will write a report on the potential environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts from the project. After the environmental review, the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board is responsible for issuing the land use permit and water licence required to construct the road. The Tłıchq Government has been working with many partners, including the GNWT, Community Governments of Behchokò and Whatı, the Tłıchq Investment Corporation and the Tłıchq Community Services Agency to design programs to minimize impacts and maximize benefits from the construction and operation of the All-season Road. We are working with the GNWT to ensure the constructor of the road maximizes contract, employment and training opportunities for Tłıchq companies and Tłıchq citizens.

Wilderness Safety Training Program

The Wilderness Safety training program, established to address the Tłıchq Government's Occupational Health and Safety policies and procedures, especially when dealing with on the land programming, has now become recognized within the NWT and other parts of Canada as a culturally sensitive and relevant safety training program. The Wilderness Safety training program gives the participants the skills, tools and certifications necessary to provide opportunities for employment and self-employment within the Tłıchq region and within the NWT. This past year, the Department of Culture and



Jasmine Blackduck

Lands Protection organized the Wilderness First Aid training at Stagg River. Narwal trained staff to manage medical emergency scenarios in the wilderness and to administer first aid, basic survival skills, extended care and evacuations. The three-day course included emergency prevention, assessment and treatment of environmental, trauma and medical issues that occurs in a wilderness setting. The training was a great learning opportunity for our Department. The weather was great and everyone had a lot of fun practicing indoor/outdoor survival skills.

"I really enjoyed all the hands-on training, it was an amazing experience. This course really made me aware of my environment and my abilities. The location site really enables you to be in the wild, yet close to the community. In the photo above was my first attempt in starting a fire without a lighter or matches, I used a knife and a flint, a fantastic course that teaches life-long skills"

– Joline Huskey, Lands Administrative Officer

Dedats'eetsaa: Tłıchǵ Training and Research Institute

The Dedats'eetsaa Tłıchǵ Research and Training Institute was created within the Department of Culture and Lands Protection in 2013 by the Chiefs Executive Council. The purpose of the Institute is to advance the study of our lands, language, culture and way of life. Activities in the past year have included travelling the Mowhi trail by canoe for three weeks in August 2016. From Behchokǵ, elders and researchers travelled over 500 kilometres/310 miles and over 60 portages to the barrenlands and back to Wekweèti. Another research project is the caribou monitoring program, which relies on the traditional knowledge of elders and harvesters to assess conditions of Bathurst caribou and its habitat. This research program ran for six weeks during July and August 2016 at Conwtoyto Lake and continues again in the summer of 2017.

One of the major projects of Dedats'eetsaa this past year has been a successful partnership with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the GNWT Department of Health and Social Services to establish a major healthcare research support unit in the NWT hosted by the Tłıchǵ Government. Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research the research support unit is being set up and will bring over \$8 million in research support funding to the NWT over the next five years, along with in-kind funding from other northern Indigenous Governments and universities such as the University of Alberta.

Activities of the Cultural Coordinator

The Cultural Coordinator is a member of the Dedats'eetsaa Tłıchǵ Research and Training Institute. Appointed jointly by the GNWT, Canada and the Tłıchǵ Government under the Intergovernmental Services Agreement, the Coordinator has focused on the delivery of a Tłıchǵ Interpreter/Translation training that was held in Behchokǵ January 16 to February 17, 2017. The course was developed in response to ongoing needs for Tłıchǵ interpreter/translators in a wide variety of locales in the communities, from health centres and hospitals, courts and probation services, the schools, elders facilities and the church. The course focused on: the Role of the Interpreter/Translator; Professional Behaviour and Ethics; Simultaneous and Consecutive Interpreting; Translation Skills; and Tłıchǵ Literacy and Terminology Development. Twenty-six people took the course out of 70 applications.

The second triennial report from the Cultural Coordinator, "Gonàowot'a nàts'etso; Eelets'àts'edi t'a nàts'etso – Strong in Way of Life, Strong in Working Together" is currently being developed to be released in the fall of 2017. It will draw attention to the obligations of all governments to use their respective powers in ways that respect and promote Tłıchǵ language, culture and way of life.



Community Presence Offices

Our Presence Offices in Behchokò, Gamètì, Wekweètì and Whatì are active in their communities and sponsor a number of community events each year. This year, this report focuses on our smallest community, Wekweètì, which is committed to sustaining its community traditions and culture, while ensuring a strong future for all of the community residents. Activities included:

- A Fish Camp collaboration between WRRB, the Tłıchǫ Government Culture and Lands Protection department, in partnership with Presence Office of Wekweètì. Alexis Arrowmaker School students participated in the program, held September 19 to 23, 2016.
- The Take a Kid Trapping program sponsored by the Presence Office of Wekweètì, in partnership with the GNWT ENR. Alexis Arrowmaker School students participated in the program, December 5 to 9, 2016.
- An “On the Land Healing program” delivered by the Presence Office of Wekweètì, working with elders, held March 30 to April 5, 2017.



Communications and Programming on the Web

The website on the worldwide web at www.tlicho.ca and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Tlicho helps the Tłıchǫ Government provide up-to-date news and information to Tłıchǫ citizens, and others interested in the activities and work of the Tłıchǫ Government. The website is also intended to be a celebration of all things Tłıchǫ, and has sections on our communities, our culture and Tłıchǫ history.

The tlicho.ca website has been updated to be mobile friendly to accommodate the 30% users visiting our site using their cell telephones. New features to the website include interactive maps, a video section and categories selection. From

April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017, the website had 93,000 visits, where 80,000 sessions were from Canada, 13,000 sessions were from the United States as well as the United Kingdom, India, Germany, Brazil, Russia, France, Australia.



Remember to visit our affiliate websites:

- Dedats'eetsaa: Tłıchǫ Research and Training Institute website at <http://www.research.tlicho.ca/>
- Tłıchǫ History website at <http://tlichohistory.ca/>
- Tłıchǫ Online Store website at <https://onlinestore.tlicho.ca/>

ONE Program

The Tłı̨chǫ Government's ONE program: One Nation Education Student Financial Support program for post-secondary students has provided supplementary funding for post-secondary training or education programs for Tłı̨chǫ citizens since 1997. The ONE program is for all Tłı̨chǫ citizens. Eligibility to receive ONE funding requires you to be a Tłı̨chǫ citizen, attending full-time in an approved program at a designated post-secondary institution, which will lead to a certificate, diploma, undergrad, masters or doctoral degree.

By financially assisting our Tłı̨chǫ citizens attending post-secondary educational programs, the Tłı̨chǫ Government is helping to strengthen our people, their families and our communities. Originated by the Chiefs of the Dogrib Treaty 11

Council in 1997, early partners included northern mining corporations, which provided additional funds for scholarships. A comprehensive review and evaluation of the program in 2005, which included over 100 interviews with students as well as regional leaders, resulted in significant changes to the program.

By the end of 2006-2007, fully 97% of the funds provided by the Tłı̨chǫ Government were given directly to post-secondary students. In 2010, the Chiefs increased annual funding to the program by 30% to \$800,000 per year. Further changes occurred in April 2012 when the Tłı̨chǫ Government assumed full control for the administration of the program. In 2013, a student contest to name the program resulted in a rebranding to ONE: One Nation Education student financial support program.



ONE has been the most long-lived and successful programs of the Tłı̨chǫ Government, and has had a significant impact on increasing the education and training of our people.

This year we are also happy to announce our partnership with Katimavik: Creating the Tłı̨chǫ Youth in Transition. This program provides the opportunity for 10 Tłı̨chǫ youth (ages 18 to 30) to:

- Participate in the Katimavik development experience: living in an autonomous, but structured group setting in Regina, Saskatchewan, and working four days a week as a volunteer in a community not-for-profit partnering organization;
- Complete a post-secondary course in a broad range of educational backgrounds at First Nations University of Canada;
- Increase their culture and language knowledge to strengthen self-esteem and provide them with strong working skills; and
- Open avenues that lead directly to more success in education or training, or direct access to employment.

For more information, please visit
<https://katimavik.org/en/we-offer/tlicho-youth/>



2016-2017 Numbers and Location of Students Accessing the Tłı̨chǫ Government ONE program		
103 students accessed the ONE program in 2016-2017: 81% were women and 18% were men; 41% of these students had dependents.	Students from the Tłı̨chǫ Communities	60%
	Students from the Provinces and Nunavut	40%

Top Areas of Interest in 2016-2017	Top 10 Educational Institutions in 2016-2017
On average: 30% of ONE students entered Diploma programs in Business Administration, Social Work, Culinary Arts, Early Childhood, Personal Support Worker, etc.; 25% entered Certificate programs in Office Administration, Educational Assistant, Personal Support Worker, Health Care, Culinary, etc.; 25% entered Degrees in Arts, Education, Science, Business, Fine Arts, Music, and Law; 19% entered Record of Achievements in Occupation or University College Access programs; and 1% entered apprenticeship programs.	Aurora College (all campuses), Grande Prairie Regional College, NAIT, MacEwan University, University Lethbridge, University of Alberta, University of Victoria, Red Deer College, Thompson River University, and Athabasca University.

For more information, please see our presence on the website at www.tlicho.ca, or if you have questions, email us at one@tlicho.com

Thank You to Our Partners!

Since 1997, our corporate partners have been contributing to the success of our students! Their financial assistance is greatly appreciated and we look forward to their continuing participation in this wonderful program. Ması Cho!



Du sa naet'aa, du deh nylı, du dè nàgoèhdò-le nıdè,
asù wets'á goet'ò hqılı ha-le.

– Monfwi, 1921

*As long as the sun will rise, as long as the rivers will
flow, if the land is not moved, we cannot be limited
from our way of life.*

– Monfwi, 1921



Box 412
Behchokò, NT X0E 0Y0
Canada
Phone: (867) 392-6381
Fax: (867) 392-6389

www.tlicho.ca

Tıchò Ndek'áowo



Tıchò Government