

Tłıchọ Government Annual Report 2020



Tłıchọ Government Annual Report 2020

Ikè dọ gha gọta... In Tłıchọ Unity...

Message from the Grand Chief

I am pleased to provide you this brief report on the highlights of this past year.

It is important to begin this report by reminding everyone that this has been a very difficult and tragic year for many people in Canada and around the world. Millions of people have become very sick and over 500,000 people have lost their lives because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Elders are particularly vulnerable to this disease. We have been very fortunate at this time in the NWT that few people have become sick with COVID-19 and that there has been no person-to-person spread of the disease in our communities. However, we are being told by the public health experts that this is only the “first wave” of this sickness. There will likely be more waves in the months to come and we must remain informed and careful as COVID-19 is still very dangerous to our health. It is important for everyone to continue to follow the emergency rules from the NWT Chief Public Health Officer. By following these rules, we can prevent the spread of COVID-19 to our communities and protect our families.

I want to thank all the healthcare and other “essential services” staff who have been ready to risk their health to help us, including the daycare staff, who opened our facilities to provide services to the children of these “essential services staff”. I also want to thank all the parents who were staying home looking after their children and families. Masi cho!

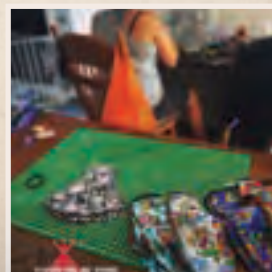
Over the past four months, in response to this pandemic, the Tłıchq Government implemented seven special projects to support our citizens:

- A Food and Critical Household Supplies Hamper Program consisting of food and cleaning supplies was provided to Tłıchq Citizens in Behchokò, Whatı, Gamètı, Wekweètı, and Yellowknife. A total of 2,866 hampers were distributed from late March to May 2020.
- A Families On-the-land Program assisted 162 families with gas and groceries to spend time out on the land practicing the Tłıchq traditions of harvesting, gathering, sharing and teaching.
- Our Tłıchq-speaking staff made dozens of weekly telephone calls to elders to keep in touch, offer assistance, help raise morale at a time of loneliness and isolation. Any health and wellness issues were relayed to the TCSA health and social services staff for follow-up. Approximately 300 calls have been made to our Elders to date.
- We contracted seamstresses in each community to make cloth masks to distribute freely to our Citizens. To date, over 2,500 masks have been made and the goal is to make at least one mask for each Tłıchq Citizen to wear when going out of their homes.
- To assist with food security and the craving for traditional food, our Ḏtaàts'eedı Program contracted approximately 15 harvesters from the region to distribute traditional foods such as fish, rabbit, ptarmigan, ducks and muskrat. To date approximately 500 lbs of traditional food has been harvested and shared with Elders.



Grand Chief George Mackenzie

Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh

Chief Clifford Daniels

- Through our Emergency Fund Assistance we were able to help Tłı̨chǫ Citizens when they experienced hardship from a significant loss of income and when they did not receive compensation from any other source. To date, 82 applications were approved for assistance under this program.
- Daycare staff in Behchokǫ also came back to the workplace to provide daycare services for the children of “essential services staff” which was extremely helpful to both the TCSA and the Tłı̨chǫ Government in providing the “essential services” necessary for people in our community during the pandemic.

Each project has helped to ease the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in our communities. Despite the pandemic, our priorities as a Government have remained ambitious. Our strategic plans and intentions have largely continued throughout this time and reach into all of our communities. A broad range of activities have been undertaken to extend the six broad intentions that address Tłı̨chǫ issues. A variety of needed programs and services for our people are ongoing, from building the all-season road to Whatı̨, other major construction projects in our communities, to summer programs for our youth. Despite the recent challenges of the pandemic, we remain committed to protecting our land and strengthening the language, culture and way of life of our people.

In normal times, a way to build strength is for the citizens of our communities to come together in unity during the Annual Gathering. However, the pandemic has had an impact upon what we can do safely as a Government. Along with other governments and organizations across the country, we have decided that we cannot responsibly bring large groups of people together for an event at this time. The risks of infection between people are simply too high. This summer our 16th Annual Gathering must be “Pandemic-Adjusted” and instead of connecting in person, we will be connecting virtually using technology.

Our goal continues to be to inform everyone about our work **while encouraging citizens to safely participate in providing the Chiefs and Assembly members feedback on the reports and activities of the Tłı̨chǫ Government and its institutions.** Complete information will be on our website www.tlı̨chǫ.ca and reports delivered to every household.

We have one year left in the mandate of the 4th Assembly and there are still many things that we want to achieve. On behalf of the Chiefs and Tłı̨chǫ Assembly members, I welcome you to speak to us about your concerns and issues.

Iłè dǫ gha gǫıta: In Tłı̨chǫ Unity



Grand Chief George Mackenzie

Laura Duncan

Highlights from the 4th Tłıchq Assembly

The Tłıchq Assembly has the responsibility and authority to implement the Tłıchq Agreement and to protect and ensure good government through enacting laws. The Assembly meets five times each year, rotating the meetings from Tłıchq community to Tłıchq community.

The members of the 4th Tłıchq Assembly are Grand Chief George Mackenzie, Chief Clifford Daniels, Cody Mantla and Nora Wedzin from Behchokq, Chief Alfonz Nitsiza, George Nitsiza and Leon Nitsiza from Whatı, Chief David Wedawin, Henry Gon and Frank Arrowmaker from Gamèti and Chief Charlie Football and Joseph Dryneck and Gordon Judas from Wekweèti. James Wah-Shee is the Speaker.

The members of the Chiefs Executive Council meet as and when needed and take direction from, and report regularly to the Tłıchq Assembly, arrange for the implementation of Tłıchq laws and oversee the management and administration of the affairs of the Assembly. The following activities have been some of the highlights of the Assembly and the Chiefs Executive Council this past year:



Members of the 4th Tłıchq Assembly

Tessa Macintosh

Participation on the Intergovernmental Council

The Tłıchq Government works with other Indigenous Governments from across the NWT and the Government of the Northwest Territories on issues relating to land and resource management at the Intergovernmental Council. The Council was formed as part of the agreement to devolve the management of lands and resources to the NWT from Ottawa. The last meeting of the Intergovernmental Council was in November 2019. A meeting scheduled for May 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19.

At the November 2019 meeting Tłıchq Government spoke to the new GNWT Cabinet about the need to strengthen the lands and resources relationship between the Tłıchq Government and the GNWT, complete the current lands and resources system for lands throughout the territory, ensure we work together at all levels of lands and resources management, ensure a traditional cultural foundation to lands and resources management and develop a sustainable and mixed resource-based economy.

The Tłıchq Government is also working closely with the GNWT and other Indigenous governments to develop an agreement on how the GNWT and Indigenous governments will develop land and resource legislation in the future in a way that truly reflects our co-governance of these resources.

Tessa Macintosh

Bilateral Meetings between the Chiefs and the GNWT Premier and Cabinet

The Tłıchq Government – GNWT Intergovernmental Agreement recognizes the importance of the government-to-government relationship between the Tłıchq Government and the Government of the Northwest Territories. This agreement commits both governments to meet at least twice per year. CEC met with cabinet in January and June of 2020.

At these meetings, GNWT and the Tłıchq Government raise issues that need resolution or direction from leadership. Issues commonly discussed include caribou management, infrastructure needs, the housing crisis in Tłıchq communities, social issues, creating economic self-sufficiency for Tłıchq citizens and many other issues.

Negotiation for the Implementation of Tłıchq Agreement 23.4.1

The Tłıchq Government has been successful in completing negotiations for a very overdue requirement from the Tłıchq Agreement – section 23.4.1 requires companies to enter into negotiations for IBAs with the Tłıchq Government for major mining projects, and says that the timing of these negotiations would be discussed with Government within one year of effective date. We are 14 years late but this is now complete.

A policy direction has been issued to all the Land and Water Boards that make decisions within Mqwhì Gogha Dè Nııłtèè (Mackenzie Valley, Wek'èezhì and Sahtú) stating that evidence relating to IBA negotiations must be considered prior to any of those Boards issuing an amendment, renewal or new type A or B licence that falls into the category of a major mining project.

This is another positive step in the implementation of the Tłıchq Agreement and means a mine cannot be developed in Mqwhì Gogha Dè Nııłtèè without first negotiating with the Tłıchq Government.



Chiefs Executive Council

Tessa Macintosh

Status of the MVRMA and Bill C-88

The Government of Canada has passed Bill C-88, An Act to amend the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. Bill C-88 was developed by Canada at the strong urging of Tłıchq Government and other Indigenous groups, particularly the Gwich'in and Sahtú.

Bill C-88 undoes the attempt by the prior Harper Government to dismantle the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board and the other regional Land and Water Boards and replace them with a "super board." Bill C-88 is an important piece of legislation and will ensure the Tłıchq Agreement and the co-management system set out in the Tłıchq Agreement is respected and preserved.

The Tłıchq Government worked closely with the GNWT and Canada to move this legislation forward as a priority.

The Development of a Regional Infrastructure Plan

The Tłıchq Government has been working to develop a comprehensive plan for infrastructure needs in the Tłıchq region. This work included consultation sessions with all communities, leadership, focus groups, such as TCSA and TIC and others. Once the plan is completed it will provide a guide for the Tłıchq Government and other governments in the needs for infrastructure in the region.



The 4th Tłıchq Assembly

Tessa Macintosh

Tessa Macintosh

Commissioning Research on Housing and Homelessness

This report was commissioned by the Tłıchq̓ Government through a collaboration with the University of Alberta to assess the extent of the current housing and homelessness problem in the Tłıchq̓ region and to identify the factors responsible for it. Interviews with close to 60 individuals across the region included the current and former grand chiefs, the chiefs, the senior administrative officers, council members, the elders in the communities, and housing managers in each of the four communities. Also interviewed were members of the Local Housing Organization in Behchok̓, the staff at the Behchok̓ detachment of RCMP, and select staff members of the Tłıchq̓ Government, the four community governments, the City of Yellowknife, and the NWT HC, as well as several homeless individuals in Behchok̓ and in Yellowknife who are Tłıchq̓ citizens.

The report concludes that the housing and homelessness issue is severe, with Behchok̓ as ground zero of the crisis. It elaborates on how multiple, inter-related factors such as ongoing impacts of Canada's colonial past, socio-cultural shifts, welfare system, and past and current housing policies contribute to housing insecurity and homelessness and offers some potential solutions.

Working with Business and Government to Construct the Tłıchq̓ All-Season Road

The official ground-breaking ceremony was held in Whatı, Northwest Territories for the Tłıchq̓ All-Season Road (Tłıchq̓ Highway) – a new 97-kilometre all-season road to Whatı from Highway 3 west of Behchok̓. Construction is expected to take two years and will result in significant employment and training opportunities for Tłıchq̓ residents. The road is expected to officially open to traffic in late 2021.

Once complete, the road is expected to reduce the cost of living for the region and will support intercommunity mobility, improved access to health care, tourism opportunities, and resource exploration and development.

Many Tłıchq̓ people are working on the construction site. North Star Infrastructure, the company that oversees construction, is 20% owned by the Tłıchq̓ Government and we are pleased they are surpassing the original employment targets established for the project.

Progress on the construction of the road to Whatı in 2019 and 2020 has been significant and is ahead of schedule. The camp was closed down for a period in April and May 2020 to ensure a comprehensive plan was put in place to protect workers and their families from COVID-19. The plan includes the rules and methods regarding employees' access requirements, social distancing, cleaning and disinfecting, personal hygiene, food services, meeting guidelines, visitor access and employee travel.

The Tłıchq̓ Government has worked hard to push the company constructing the road to maximize employment, and will continue to work to ensure all jobs that can be performed by Tłıchq̓ people are carried out by Tłıchq̓ people. We are also pleased to recognize that Tłıchq̓ Investment Corporation has a joint venture with Kiewit to carry out \$49 million worth of construction capital costs on the project. In the near future we will see even more training and employment opportunities for all communities in our region.

Status of Fortune Minerals Ltd. Adjacent to Whatı

Fortune Minerals continues to develop its plans to build a mine at the NICO minesite. In 2019, the Tłıchq̓ Government worked with Fortune to negotiate the access agreement that will allow Fortune to build an access Road to the NICO site from the Tłıchq̓ Highway once completed. This is only the first step, as Fortune will still need to receive its permits and licences to construct the road. Additionally, the access agreement requires the completion of the Impact and Benefit Agreement before the road can be built. Fortune continues to look for investors for the project.



Behchok̓ Assembly members

Tessa Macintosh

Our Strategic Plan

The Tłıchǫ Government Vision, Mission and Six Strategic Intentions

Hè dǫ gha gǫita: In Tłıchǫ Unity

Our vision, “In Tłıchǫ Unity”, has been affirmed by each successive Assembly and speaks to being one people, united by a shared history and experience, shared lands, language, culture and way of life. Our mission emerges from the Tłıchǫ Constitution section 2.1, created by our Tłıchǫ Elders and approved at a meeting in Behchokò, NT, in 2000.

The strategic framework contains our vision, mission, intentions and guiding principles. The six strategic intentions emerge from the Constitution, Tłıchǫ Agreement and the expectations of our communities as voiced by our Grand Chief, community Chiefs and Assembly Members.



The Role of Tłı̨chǫ Citizens

Annual updates at the Tłı̨chǫ Annual Gathering assist in reviewing our progress and making changes to our intentions and strategies as necessary. Reporting to the Assembly provides the opportunity to account for outcomes and indicators of performance, or what was “intended to be done”. It also allows for communication and feedback from our citizens, which in turn, will be used to shape existing intentions and plans, and create new ones.

The Role of the Tłı̨chǫ Assembly and Chiefs Executive Council

The Assembly and the CEC gives voice to Tłı̨chǫ Nation community expectations and answers the question: “What do we do as a Government?” ...What are our strategic intentions? The Assembly and the CEC review the intentions, grant the power to move forward and authorize the necessary expenditure of resources, approve the legislation, the policy and the overall strategies. The Chiefs Executive Council verify the performance of the Government.


The Roles of Management and Staff

The management and staff develop operational plans to implement the intentions and answers the question “How do we implement the intentions of the Government?” Managers and staff produce the operational plans and determine the most effective organizational design for the Government, develop the legislation, policy and strategies, and yearly operational work plans.



CEC meeting with YK Dene First Nation Leaders

Chief Clifford Daniels



During the 4th Assembly, members approved a renewed Strategic Framework and Intentions for the term of the Assembly from 2017-2021. The Strategic Framework includes the vision of our Government, “Iłè dǫ gha gǫta”: “In Tłıchǫ Unity” as well as a mission and principles for guiding our actions. Six major Intentions were approved:

Intention 1: Sustaining Our Lands, Water and Wildlife

Introduction

The Tłıchǫ Government has the responsibility to manage approximately 39,000 sq. km. of Tłıchǫ lands. This land is one of the largest single blocks of privately owned land in Canada. From the Tłıchǫ Constitution, we acknowledge our responsibility to sustain our lands and environment... for all time.

Activities and Accomplishments:

Dinàgà Wek’èhodì Establishment Agreement

Chapter 16 of the Tłıchǫ Agreement requires the parties concerned in developing a protected area within Mǫwhì Gogha Dè Nııłłèè to negotiate a bilateral agreement with the Tłıchǫ Government on the management and governance of any such area. The Tłıchǫ Government and the GNWT are involved in ongoing negotiations on a bilateral establishment agreement for Dinàgà Wek’èhodì. The Tłıchǫ Government and the GNWT are in the final stages of negotiations. The GNWT has commenced on early stages of consultation on the bilateral agreement with other indigenous governments of interest. Following consultation, the Tłıchǫ Government and the GNWT may ratify the agreement and designate Dinàgà Wek’èhodì into an Indigenous and Territorial Protected Area under the *Protected Areas Act*.

Dinàgà Wek’èhodì Protected Area

The Tłıchǫ Government received funding from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada in the amount of \$2.75 million over four years for the establishment and management of Dinàgà Wek’èhodì, starting in 2019/2020. This funding will contribute to, and improve on, the Tłıchǫ Government’s capacity, create new programs and strengthen existing programs. It will provide much needed program infrastructure, equipment, training, research opportunities, and other co-benefits such as; community wellness and cultural continuity.

Tłıchǫ Wenek’e: Tłıchǫ Land Use Plan

The Tłıchǫ Land Use Plan was developed and ratified in 2013 and recommends a review of the plan every five years of implementation. The Tłıchǫ Government received funding from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada in the amount of \$2 million over three years for the review of primarily two Land Protection Zones within the Tłıchǫ Land Use Plan – Gowhadǫ Yek’e t’ı K’e (Traditional Use Zone) and Tłıchǫ Nawoo Ké Dèt’ahot’ı (Cultural Heritage Zone). This funding will contribute to, and improve on, the Tłıchǫ Government’s capacity, create new programs and strengthen existing programs. It will enable the process for a comprehensive Land Use Plan review for improved land management and administration.



Tessa Macintosh

Tłıchq Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Plan (TAEMP)

Our community-driven project, the Tłıchq Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Program (TAEMP) is collecting baseline information on fish and fish habitat to compare future changes and develop a way to monitor fish that builds on both traditional Tłıchq knowledge and science. The TAEMP rotates sampling through each of the four Tłıchq communities once every four years, 2019 being the ninth year of the program which took place in Behchokò. With the conclusion of the 2014 camp near Whatı, the TAEMP completed its initial baseline sampling phase. In 2015, the first round of comparative sampling began with the return of the TAEMP to the community of Wekweèti. The comparative sampling phase (2015-2018) will continue to build on work carried out since 2010 and allow for comparative analysis of sampling results collected in each of the four communities. The comparative sampling will provide a way to continue to address community concerns related to changes in the environment. The Tłıchq Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Program started as a collaboration between the Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board, the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board and the Tłıchq Government. Each summer the project rotates to a different Tłıchq community, and information is exchanged between elders, fishers, youth and Tłıchq scientists. Participants share Tłıchq perspectives on assessing ecosystem health and take part in hands-on scientific monitoring activities, such as collecting fish tissues and water and sediment samples for analysis.

Marian Watershed Stewardship Program (MWSP)

The Marian Watershed Stewardship Program is contributing to a growing body of knowledge and capacity-building for a community-based aquatic effects monitoring program in the Marian Watershed prior to any proposed developments. MWSP was initiated back in 2013 with monitoring cumulative effects of development, land disturbance, and climate change drawing on both western and indigenous science to obtain a clear picture of baseline conditions and potential changes over time. The Tłıchq Government had developed partnerships with Wilfred Laurier University and Tides Canada in supporting the Marian Watershed Stewardship Program.



K'ıchıı (Whitebeach Point)

A major accomplishment was the delivery of Campfire at Whitebeach Point (K'ıchıı Xàgots'eèk'ò). Camp K'ıchıı was set up for the purpose of Tłıchq citizens to get back to the North Arm of Great Slave Lake (Dinàgà Wek'èhodı) to gather around the campfire sharing stories about our people who travelled this beautiful land as well as fishing, duck hunting, caribou and moose hunting, berry picking and photography. We are very proud of the work that staff, partners and participants continue to accomplish in sustaining our Tłıchq lands, language, culture and way of life. Unfortunately, our 2019, the third year of the program, was cut short due to weather difficulties.



Lands Regulation

The Kwetłı̄ᗪà Rayrock Mine Remediation Project remains the main focus of the Lands Regulation section of the Department of Culture and Lands Protection, participating in bi-weekly meetings with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) on the project. A land use permit extension was granted to CIRNAC to continue the remediation project on May 6, 2020. In February 2020, representatives from Lands Regulation, and the Contaminants and Remediation Division of CIRNAC, provided project updates in person to all four communities. Results of the 2019 work at the Rayrock site were presented to the Tłı̄chų Chief's Executive Council in November, and a tour of the site was completed for representatives of Lands Regulation and the Wek'èezhì Land and Water Board (WLWB) in August. Day visits of the Rayrock site by Kwetłı̄ᗪà Elders Committee and Lands Regulation representatives were conducted July 31 to August 3, for Traditional Knowledge exchange and to observe the investigations being completed by the consultant and clean-up by a contractor. Samples were taken of water, soil and vegetation under the direction of the Elders.

The Lands Regulation section has been building capacity over this first year of operations, including staff recruitment, developing training and orientation for the new team, project management, and strategic planning, including development of a Strategic Plan and internal response process for the Tłı̄chų Government as it engages in regulatory processes.

This year, the section has also participated in the Giant Mine Remediation Project to ensure that the remediation is going well and involves Tłı̄chų Elders, given that it falls under the boundary of Mqwhì Gogha Dè Nı̄łłèè and also to protect the best interests of the over 800 Tłı̄chų citizens living in Yellowknife.

Lands Regulation has been involved in the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) environmental assessment for Diavik Diamond Mine Inc.'s kimberlite deposit proposal, and remains engaged with review of their water licence renewal and interim Closure and Reclamation plans via the WLWB.

Lands Regulation staff participate on a number of regulatory and co-management boards, including the Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board for the Diavik mine, Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency for the Ekati mine, Ni Hadi Xa monitoring agency for the Gahcho Kúe mine, and the intergovernmental Waste Site Management Committee. Staff also participated in the Western Indigenous Consultation and Engagement, Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada Mineral Exploration and Mining Convention, Association for Mineral Exploration Mining Roundup and the Yellowknife Geoscience Forum 2019-2020.

Lands Regulation continues to support MVEIRB and the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board in developing an Online Resource System through which all applications for land use permits, water licences and environmental assessments will be registered with and go through.

Lands Regulation is developing a web presence together with the entire Department of Culture and Lands Protection, which will continue to ensure that requests for consultation and engagement come directly to the Tłı̄chų Government. In participating with public hearings and other regulatory processes, the section has consistently involved Elders in order to ensure that not only Western scientific information but also Tłı̄chų Traditional Knowledge is being considered in remediation, assessment and other undertakings, as required under the Tłı̄chų Agreement.

Intention 2: Revitalize Our Language, Culture and Way of Life

Introduction

The Public Health Agency of Canada states that culture is one of the 12 key determinants of health and we believe that strengthening our culture will promote physical and mental well-being for all ages. We are working with other agencies and governments to promote wellness within on-the-land activities. We work to celebrate our language, culture and way of life with activities such as handgames, drum dances, cultural camps, spiritual gatherings, puberty camps for youth, support for culture-based livelihoods and more.

Activities and Accomplishments

Research

The research division continues to provide direction, management, coordination and support for the promotion of research of value within the Tłı̨chų region. This year, the research division has had many projects on the go. The Tłı̨chų Traditional Knowledge Policy is nearing completion and will be used to guide Tłı̨chų traditional knowledge research on all topics within the Tłı̨chų region. This important policy will outline what the expectations are when working on our land and with our people to do research. December 2020 is the target date for completion of the policy.

The Caribou Monitoring Program previously known as Boots on the Ground has a new name:

Ekwò Naxoehdee K'è. The Ekwò Naxoehdee K'è research project continues to be the largest research project under the Department of Culture and Lands Protection. The 2019 season saw three teams out at Kòk'eti (Contwoyto Lake) from July-September 2019 employing a total of 18 Tłı̨chų workers. Boat safety and wilderness first aid training prepared various team leaders to be out in the field. The 2019 results report is available on the TRTI website.

The research department assists with various projects such as the song bird monitoring, cultural repatriation project and the eDNA sampling to name a few. There continues to be much interest in research on Tłı̨chų lands focusing on the people, the land, the environment and/or wildlife. More projects are in the planning stages for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

The Tłı̨chų Digital Cultural Commons Database continues to be worked on. This is an important task that requires more time and expertise.

The Tłı̨chų Research and Training Institute website has been undergoing some improvements. The website continues to grow, housing photos, videos, research documents and story maps all related to who we are as a people. The website is a great virtual tool for when you need to be immersed in Tłı̨chų language and culture from afar. This website helps us to keep important research documents all in one place for easy access, reference and enjoyment.

Language

The research department holds the file for the Tłı̨chų Regional Language Fund and the Research Manager presently acts as the Regional Language Coordinator. A variety of projects were underway this year which included:


Mentor Apprentice Program – GNWT ECE hosted the territory-wide training and delivery of a first ever Mentor Apprentice Program for the NWT. The Tłı̨chų region participated with teams from each of our communities totalling 11 teams. Of the teams, five completed their minimum 50 hours of Tłı̨chų Yatı̨ language learning.

CILLDI –16 Tłı̨chų students were sponsored to enroll in the CILLDI (Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute) program through the University of Alberta in Edmonton during the summer of 2019.

A large part of language learning is through exposure. A collection of posters to be used in the home have been distributed in each community. These posters are to be displayed in the home to generate discussion in the Tłı̨chų language. These are the same posters that are used in the schools. This resource can be used in many different ways between the fluent language speaker from the home and those that are still learning. We hope that families have fun with this material and that there is more Tłı̨chų Yatı̨ being spoken in the home on a daily basis.

Five Tłı̨chų from the communities of Behchokò, Whatı̨, and Gamètı̨ attended The Language Keepers Conference in Saskatoon in November 2019. The participants' time there was cut short due to the airplane's mechanical troubles, however, all participants enjoyed their time learning about what other

Chief Clifford Daniels



Indigenous language groups are doing to promote, preserve and protect their heritage languages. The sharing by the youth at this conference made a lasting impression on our Tłıchq̓ delegation. It is good to share and learn from others. This tells us what other Indigenous groups are doing and with the help and support from each other, we can incorporate these language activities in our communities as well.

Language instructor training – Two participants from Gamètì and Behchok̓ took part in the indigenous languages instructor training offered by GNWT ECE in Yellowknife. This training was to help community members gain new ideas and learn new ways to assist with community language initiatives to help increase and strengthen language usage in our region.

The first ever Tłıchq̓ Christmas Talent Show was held on December 19, 2019 in Behchok̓. The main rule of this event was that the talent show was to be conducted only in our language (no English). The five categories: traditional dress, love songs, singing, storytelling and drama/play brought in many participants from the Elders to the youth. Prize money was awarded for the best performances and door prizes were also handed out.

Certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalization – A language course with credit through the University of Victoria was planned for a week long on-the-land Tłıchq̓ Yatì course in March, 2020 out at Xàelı̄ (Marion Lake Village), but was unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Behchok̓ Radio Station makes its home in the K̓o Go Cho Sportsplex and has had improvements made to the system to begin airing as soon as possible. Training for announcers has been had. The radio station will be up and running as soon as possible.

Swag, including T-Shirts, stickers, water bottles, posters, calendars etc. continue to spread the Tłıchq̓ language in print. These items carry the Tłıchq̓ language into the homes and work places throughout the region reminding us of the importance to get our language out there as much as possible. Whether it be through the radio, home language activities or print materials, all of these efforts help our beautiful Tłıchq̓ language to stay alive and well.

Trails of Our Ancestors Canoe Trip

Building on recommendations following the 2018 canoe trip, in 2019, the Trails of our Ancestors program implemented a number of changes to maximize safety and cultural learning. These changes included: mandatory pre-trip planning workshops in all of the communities, requirements for youth to be accompanied by a responsible family member, extended time on the land (14 days) so that all of the groups could take their time, travel safely and schedule time for traditional skills learning. In 2019, 114 paddlers participated in the trip to Gamètì.

İmbè Program

In 2019, the Tłıchq̓ İmbè Program ran for its 9th year. The program creates employment opportunities for Tłıchq̓ youth over the summer month. Time spent on the land, learning traditional skills and knowledge from Elders and community mentors is the backbone of the program. Each year, İmbè program participants also earn outdoor safety certificates and carry out community service projects. In 2019, the program employed 37 young people and 30 Elders and outdoor experts throughout the region. The highlight of the 2019 program was our participation in the Regional Elders' Story Telling Gathering in Wekweètì where İmbè Program participants worked to help out around camp while learning from the amazing group of Elders who shared their stories.

Tłıchq̓ D̓taàts'eedi

Tłıchq̓ D̓taàts'eedi is a program that continues to run in all communities, with funding from the Climate Change Health Adaptation Program. The program pairs youth in the community with experienced harvesters. Together they work to harvest traditional foods (fish, moose, berries, ducks, rabbits, etc.) and sometimes gather firewood as well. The food they harvest is brought back to the communities and distributed. The goals of the program are to build cultural skills and resilience in youth, provide a traditional diet to Elders, help harvesters use and pass on their traditional skills, and create opportunities for youth and Elders to interact in a positive way. The program will continue to run until March of 2021.

Museum Assistance Program

The Museum Assistance Programs has been working with Elders to record and document how they make traditional tools and clothing that are rarely made today. Seven of the videos have been released to date and can be viewed on the Tłıchq̓ Government website. There are plans to finish the remaining three videos in the series in the coming year. Watching these amazing Elders at work, we are reminded of the incredible skills and deep cultural knowledge our Elders have. It is a reminder to all of us that our Elders are living libraries of knowledge who we can turn to for help and advice when learning about our Language, Culture and Way of life.

Tessa Macintosh

A Celebration of Women's Work, Women's Art



Tessa Macintosh



Mary Adele Football



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh

Each year, the annual report has celebrated the community hosting the annual gathering with a pictorial review. This year's annual report celebrates the work of Wekweètì women in keeping the culture strong. June Helm, and later Judy Thompson, spoke of the unity between Dene women's work and their art.



Adeline Football



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Tessa Macintosh



Intention 3: Build Strong Healthy Communities with Opportunities for Healing and Wellness

Introduction

The third Intention of the Tłıchq̓ Government is to improve the life of our communities by making contributions that fill gaps and supplement existing programs and services to promote wellness, spirituality and our traditional cultural activities. Our intention is to improve the life of our communities and build strengths in our families and people.

Activities and Accomplishments

A Regional Health and Wellness Expo was hosted in Behchok̓ in December 8-14, 2019 by the Department of Community Wellness Programs, with multiple sessions each day, keynote speakers and evening activities. The Expo provided Tłıchq̓ adults over 19 years old with the opportunity to gain information on a wide variety of health and wellness topics, including how to make better informed decisions at the individual, family and community levels, and ways to become empowered to make positive changes in Tłıchq̓ communities. Close to 100 attendees from all four Tłıchq̓ communities participated. Facilitators came from all across Canada to run diverse sessions including parenting, self-care, loss and grief, addictions and drug abuse, human trafficking, empowerment, Tłıchq̓ traditional laws, early childhood development trauma informed care, healing touch, volunteerism and mental health/suicide awareness. A session on "Trauma Informed Care" by the Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute was considered a highlight by many. Many have felt that Behchok̓ appeared calmer immediately after the Expo, with the RCMP reporting fewer incidents than usual throughout the holiday season. The initiative was a response to many years of youth-focused workshops, at which participants had said it would be nice for their parents and other adults to have similar opportunities to learn and gather information that would help them in their homes. The Expo was considered a big success and community members have been asking when the next one is going to be held.

Men's On-the-Land Healing Camps (April, June, and September) in three of the four communities (Behchok̓, Gamètì and Wekweètì). The camp objectives included supporting participants to heal and find connection within themselves and in their Tłıchq̓ culture, to be positive and healthy for themselves, their families and communities. Participants took part in a variety of Cultural activities out on the land. Mental health facilitators ran sessions with participants, alongside land and cultural activities including hunting, trapping, fishing, and collecting wood and water.

Community Workshops on loss and grief, nutrition, addictions, family violence and other wellness topics

Many events were held in partnerships with the Behchok̓, Whatì, Gamètì and Wekweètì Community Presence Offices including Family Violence Awareness Week, National Addictions Awareness Week, the Children's Winter Festival, and Recognition banquets for Youth and for Elders. The department assisted with Handgames events throughout the Christmas holidays. The Community Wellness Programs hosted the following programs throughout the fiscal year April 2019 to February 2020: Youth Summer Programs, Youth On-the-Land camps, and events for National Indigenous Peoples Day and Canada Day.

Services to Victims of Crimes and Community Justice

The Department of Community Wellness Programs held its annual Family Violence Awareness Week together with the Behchok̓ Community Presence Office in October 2019. Speakers talked about abuse and violence occurring between intimate partners and family members, including domestic abuse, violence against women, and Elder abuse, emphasizing that victims are not alone and everyone deserves to live free from violence. Daily events were held and the annual Take Back the Night Community Walk was held in Behchok̓ October 20-26, 2019 to stand against family violence.

Healthy Families and Babies Programs

The Department of Community Wellness Programs continues to run its Healthy Families and Healthy Babies, community programs. These programs provide services and support to families with young children, including educational classes on a wide range of parenting skills and issues, frequent visits at the centre, in-home or by phone, and ensuring families' access to needed resources.

Early Childhood Programs

The Tłıchq̓ Government early childhood programs focus on children and attempt to build on each child's knowledge and interest in the world. Programs are based on the belief that children learn through play and include many traditional and modern aspects of Tłıchq̓ culture.

There are strong speech and language development components in each program and early childhood educators are encouraged to speak and teach both Tłıchq̓ Yatı̄ and English. A speech pathologist has been visiting the programs this year, providing support to staff, parents and children in the area of speech development.

Early childhood programs provide families who work with quality daycare and help parents to attend high school, upgrading or training opportunities, and provide much needed respite for families and children with special needs. Daycare programs receive funding from the Department of Education, GNWT that helps to support regional daycare programs.

An Early Headstart family resource program is located in the Kó Gocho complex in Behchok̓. This program supports families and children to come together to learn and play, and supports parents in learning and practicing parenting skills. The Early Headstart program is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, Government of Canada.

The Indigenous Early Learning and Childcare Secretariat, Government of Canada provided new funding in 2019-2020 to help Tłıchq̓ early childhood programs design and implement a college level Early Childhood Certificate/diploma program based on Tłıchq̓ language, culture and way of life.

Intention 4: Strengthen Tłıchq̓ Governance and Institutions

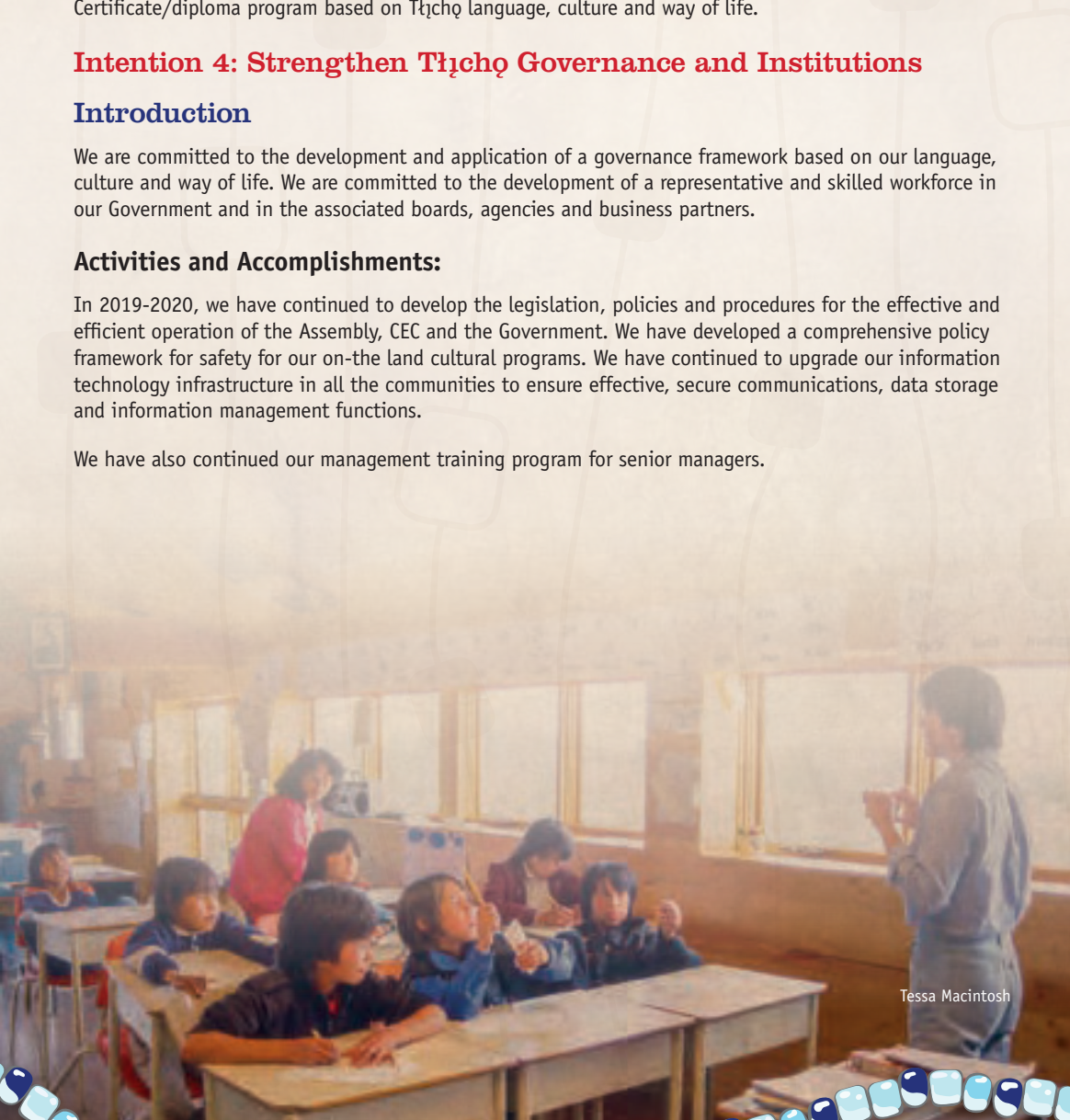
Introduction

We are committed to the development and application of a governance framework based on our language, culture and way of life. We are committed to the development of a representative and skilled workforce in our Government and in the associated boards, agencies and business partners.


Activities and Accomplishments:

In 2019-2020, we have continued to develop the legislation, policies and procedures for the effective and efficient operation of the Assembly, CEC and the Government. We have developed a comprehensive policy framework for safety for our on-the-land cultural programs. We have continued to upgrade our information technology infrastructure in all the communities to ensure effective, secure communications, data storage and information management functions.

We have also continued our management training program for senior managers.



Tessa Macintosh



Intention 5: Build Tłıchǫ Prosperity and Employment through Economic Development

Introduction

The Tłıchǫ Government seeks to increase the financial strength and economic development of our communities primarily through the activities of the Tłıchǫ Investment Corporation, which undertakes commercial activities on behalf of our Government. The intention of the Tłıchǫ Investment Corporation is to ensure our economic self-reliance, prosperity and future certainty by creating sustainable economic development.

When the Tłıchǫ Government was established on August 4, 2005, the Band Councils of Behchokǫ, Gamètì, Wekweètì and Whatì, and the Treaty 11 Council business interests were brought together under the umbrella of the Tłıchǫ Investment Corporation (TIC). The Tłıchǫ Investment Corporation is owned by the Tłıchǫ Government for the Tłıchǫ people. TIC has a large number of businesses and several joint venture partnerships with other groups and companies. It is active in many sectors of the economy, including mining, transportation, remediation, construction, hospitality, retail, business services and power generation. TIC goals include enhancing the economic self-reliance, prosperity and certainty for Tłıchǫ citizens by creating sustainable economic development.

Activities and Accomplishments

We encourage sustainable economic development in the region and support the development of a strong Tłıchǫ traditional economy.

Economic Development

Our focus for economic development is to develop collaborative partnerships in the Tłıchǫ region for the long-term, ongoing framework and strategic economic development plans that meet client, community and regional goals and objectives. The Tłıchǫ Regional Economic and Development Working Group have published the Tłıchǫ Tourism Strategy, and Tłıchǫ Artisan and Artists Strategy. The Economic Development Officers held a Tourism Conference in Behchokǫ for the Tłıchǫ people living in the region to focus on getting market ready and marketing your tourism business. Economic development teams, in partnership with Career Development, have developed workshops to be delivered in each Tłıchǫ community. Each Tłıchǫ community has an Economic Development Officer to help provide information and services to help local business grow and prosper.

Career Development


Community Training Plans

The annual ASETS Program operating plan included individualized training such as driver's licences class 1 and 3, and drug and alcohol testing, as well as the proposed Heavy Equipment Operators partnership training, in preparation to the Tłıchǫ All-season Road development in 2019.

Staff coordinated a Hospitality and Tourism business course in Whatì, based on the Introduction to Retail and Hospitality coursework and incorporating elements from small business courses.

Staff coordinated wilderness safety training in Behchokǫ as well as an introduction to warehousing and inventory control, a wellness workshop and industrial safety training. This training was developed to coincide with the industrial safety training as part of our Job Readiness Program. We offered two deliveries in Behchokǫ due to the high volume of applications.





Six out of 12 individuals participated in the wilderness safety training under the ASETS Program. This training consists of trip plans and TG policies, health and wellness, Canadian Firearms Safety course, maps and GPS, bear safety, bear guard, trip planning, trip emergency and crisis scenarios, snowmobile safety, chainsaw orientation and safety.

We assisted with living allowances for individualized training with a Geoscience Field Assistant, a Wildlife Monitor, Building Trades Helpers and the Introduction to the Mining Industry coursework in Fort Smith. These programs addressed a variety of topics related to roles and responsibilities of a Geoscience Field Assistant, and the duties and responsibilities of a Wildlife Monitor, careers in underground and surface mining and mineral processing.

Our staff coordinated small equipment training in Wekweètì and Whatì. The small equipment training consisted of transportation of dangerous goods, chainsaw operator training, brush cutter operator training and confined space entry hazard awareness.

Intention 6: Create Effective Government to Government Relationships with Other Peoples

Introduction

The Tłıchǫ Government engages with the Government of the NWT and the Government of Canada in a broad range of activities. The Tłıchǫ Government reviews and provides commentary on proposed legislation, policy, programs and services of both the federal and territorial governments, and intervenes as necessary. The Tłıchǫ Government also participates in activities for the protection and support of Indigenous rights in Canada.

Activities and Accomplishments

We are committed to participating actively in a review and intervention process, where necessary, in regards to Canadian and GNWT legislation and policy. We seek to improve territorial and federal programs and services to our citizens by working on a government-to-government basis. We meet regularly with the GNWT Premier and Cabinet under the “Working Together” Memorandum of Understanding as well as individual Ministers, when appropriate, to raise the profile of concerns regarding GNWT program and service delivery. We are also involved with Indigenous treaty groups to strengthen coalitions and further our key interests in regards to treaty rights nationally.

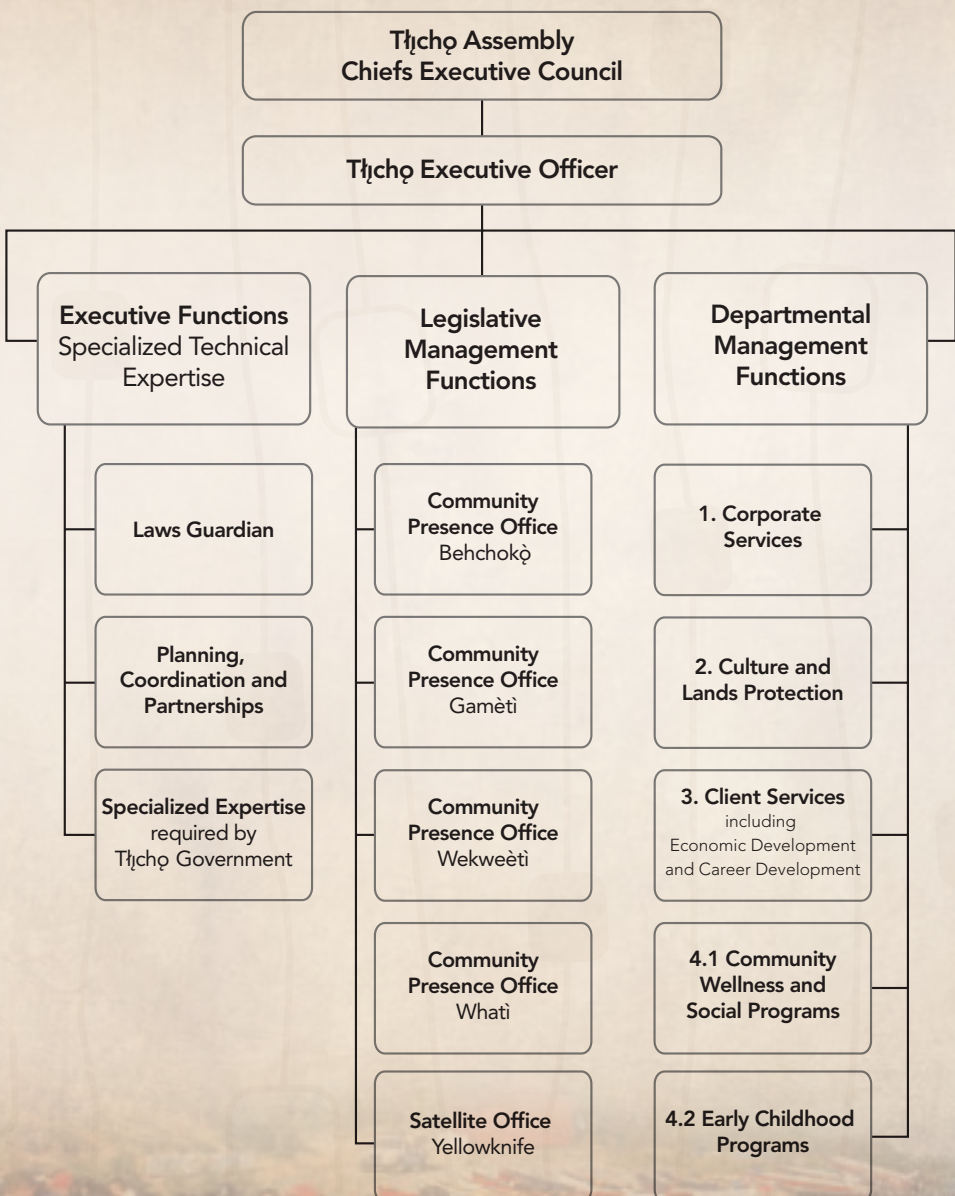


Laura Duncan

Organization of the Tłıchǫ Government

Organization of our Government

The headquarters of the Tłıchǫ Government is located in Behchokǫ, Northwest Territories. The Government maintains Community Presence offices in Behchokǫ, Gamèti, Wekweètì and Whatì and a satellite office in Yellowknife. The Government has approximately 100 employees and an annual operating budget of approximately \$27 million. Reporting to the Chiefs Executive Council, the Tłıchǫ Executive Officer directs the activities of the Tłıchǫ Government through an Executive staff. Senior Directors preside over the departments of Corporate Services, Culture and Lands Protection, Community Wellness and Social Programs, Client Services and the Department of Planning, Coordination and Partnerships. A senior Community Director presides over the organization of the Assembly and support services to the Chiefs through the Community Presence offices.



An Overview of the Tłıchq Government's Departments and what they do:

Department of Planning, Coordination and Partnerships

The Department of Planning, Coordination and Partnerships is responsible for providing leadership and direction for the Tłıchq Government related to establishing and documenting government priorities and fostering relationships with, and influencing other orders of government and external stakeholders.

The Department communicates the Government's position on key policy issues, articulating its priorities and ensuring understanding of the Government's vision. This is a new department that includes a reorganization of existing staff functions and responsibilities.

Department of Corporate Services

The Department of Corporate Services is responsible for providing administrative direction in all areas of finance, human resource management, and other corporate support services to the Tłıchq Government. This also includes office and facilities management, vehicle operations, records management, Information Technology ("IT") and other services.

This Department coordinates the development of annual budgets, all related processes and documents related to the accounts, manages and administers the Tłıchq Government's external audit, tax, insurance, banking and investment programs, and the provision of accurate and timely financial reports to Chief's Executive Council or the Assembly and senior managers. The Department of Corporate Services includes Human Resources. This function provides support to directors and staff on the development of the terms and conditions of employment, recruitment, job and personnel evaluation, payroll and benefits administration, leave and attendance as well as labour relations.




CEC meeting with NWT MP Michael McLeod

Department of Culture and Lands Protection

The Department of Culture and Lands Protection is the largest Department in the Government. This Department directs and implements the development, with elders, leaders and staff, of strategies that sustain our Tłıchǫ lands, language, culture and way of life through their protection and preservation, and the promotion of our cultural practices. The Department of Culture and Lands Protection has four primary sections and is the home of a statutory Culture Coordinator position funded by three governments:

- Lands Protection includes land administration, mapping and GIS Information, renewable resources management and intergovernmental and agency relationships related to lands protection. The Department of Culture and Lands Protection is the lead department in the implementation of the Tłıchǫ Land Use Plan Law which has established the Tłıchǫ Land Use Plan (TLUP).
- Regulation is the newest sub-working group and was created to specialize in the receipt and processing of applications for use of Tłıchǫ lands as well as liaise with applicants and the Tłıchǫ public on issues relating to the TLUP and its implementation, including the processing of requests and applications. Generally Regulation is responsible for the administration of Tłıchǫ lands, including the orderly consideration, negotiation and administration of any tenure instruments (leases, permits, licenses, access agreements, etc.).
- Research and Monitoring promotes research of value to the Tłıchǫ Government, especially inquiry which studies the traditional knowledge of our elders concerning our lands, language, culture and way of life. This function provides support and assistance to researchers by reviewing their research, fostering communications and facilitating the use of local field resources wherever possible such as cultural informants, guides, and Tłıchǫ summer students as well as community infrastructure. This section promotes the development and use of indigenous research design and appropriate community methodologies such as narrative and participatory action research. Research that supports the development and training of Tłıchǫ researchers on Tłıchǫ priorities, is a priority, as well as the education and training of Tłıchǫ youth by Tłıchǫ elders. This group is also responsible for the collection, preservation, organization and presentation of virtual information about our lands, language, culture and way of life primarily through the Tłıchǫ Cultural Commons Digital Archive and the website <https://research.tlichoc.ca/> which is undergoing a complete remake this summer.
 - One major research initiative hosted by the Tłıchǫ Government is Hotì ts'eeda, funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) under their Strategic Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Strategy. Its purpose is "to support health research and training that is rooted in Dene Naowo, Inuvialuit and Métis knowledge and responds to the needs of patients, communities and governments." HT is the only Unit in Canada that is focused on Indigenous health, hosted by an Indigenous Government, and whose governance structure includes a majority of Indigenous governments. Hotì ts'eeda will be supported by a new five-year agreement between Tłıchǫ Government and CIHR, for 2021-2026.
 - Another major research initiative hosted by the Tłıchǫ Government is the Land Claim Agreement Coalition (LCAC) partnership hub with Carleton University. This project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to complete research on five theme areas focused on land claims. Research results will provide evidence intended to improve land claim implementation.


- 
- Cultural Practices provides opportunities for Tłıchq̓ youth and other citizens to practice our language, culture and way of life through organized activities on the land and in our communities. The cultural practices function of the Department of Culture and Lands Protection supports and organizes harvesting activities such as hunting, trapping and fishing as well as travel across the land with elders and youth, such as Trails of our Ancestors and Embe, which provide opportunities for language and cultural learning. Cultural Practices also include traditional recreation and celebrations such as drumming, dancing and hand games as well as the creation and construction of traditional articles of clothing, artifacts and artwork.
 - The Cultural Coordinator is a position funded by Canada, the GNWT and the Tłıchq̓ Government to provide advice to the parties of the Tłıchq̓ Intergovernmental Services Agreement. The Cultural Coordinator is responsible for the assessment of Tłıchq̓ language vitality and measurement of trends of our cultural strengths by creating the appropriate research and analysis tools. The Coordinator participates with a team of TG staff in the development and application of a Tłıchq̓ cultural framework (Tłıchq̓ Plan from ISA article 6.2) that will be used for the development of legislation, policy, programs and services as well as for review of outside legislation, policy and practices under the ISA.

Department of Community Wellness and Social Programs and Early Childhood Education

The Department of Wellness and Social programs is primarily funded by third party funding agreements with the GNWT and Canada to implement community-based projects related to a variety of wellness and social programs ranging from youth suicide, to addictions and workshops of loss and grief, the effects of residential schooling and much more. This Department has also implemented, with the GNWT, the on-the-land healing camps which have largely taken the place of residential healing programs in the NWT in the last few years. This Department also includes third party funded (GNWT) Justice programs and victim services.

Early Childhood Education services in the region are a stand-alone program and services that have yet to be created with its own Department. Daycares function in each community and an Early Headstart family resource program is located in the Kó Gocho complex in Behchok̓q̓ funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, Government of Canada.

Early Childhood Programs in all Tłıchq̓ communities closed in early March 2020 due to COVID-19 Pandemic concerns. The Centre in Rae was reopened in April to accommodate the children of essential services staff in the community during the pandemic.



Tessa Macintosh

Department of Client Services

The Department of Client Services provides professional, client-focused services that assist Tłı̄chǫ Citizens in the pursuit of career, economic, education, and training. Through partnerships, connections, and communications, Client Services support clients, employers and vendors in the pursuit of increasing local capacity in the workforce and enhancing the Tłı̄chǫ way of life.

The Department has staff in each community and four team sections including Career Development which implements the ASETS and Tłı̄chǫ Training Plans.

The Department is also responsible for the social media communications function of the Tłı̄chǫ Government where the website and Facebook presence help the Tłı̄chǫ Government provide up-to-date news and information to Tłı̄chǫ citizens, and others interested in the activities and work of the Tłı̄chǫ Government. The website is also intended to be a celebration of all things Tłı̄chǫ, and has sections on our communities, our culture and Tłı̄chǫ history. Over the past year, we have had over 56,000 people visit the site.



www.tlı̄chǫ.ca



www.onlinestore.tlı̄chǫ.ca



www.research.tlı̄chǫ.ca

Community Presence Offices in Behchokò, Gamètì, Wekweètì and Whatì and a satellite office in Yellowknife.

The Community Presence Offices liaise with Tłı̄chǫ citizens providing a point of contact in each community to access services. In collaboration with the Departmental Directors, staff organize resources in the communities to assist in the delivery of TG programs and services. Staff also provide support services to the Chief in the community.

Chief Clifford Daniels

ONE Program: Our Nation Education

ONE Program: Our Nation Education Tłıchq Student Financial Support Program

The Tłıchq Government's ONE program: Our Nation Education Student Financial Support Program for post-secondary students has provided supplementary funding for post-secondary training or education programs for Tłıchq citizens since 1997. By financially assisting students who are attending post-secondary educational programs, the Tłıchq Government is helping to strengthen our people, their families and our communities. Through financial support from the ONE program, the GNWT's SFA program, and the contributions of the students themselves and their families, Tłıchq students have been successful in a remarkably diverse range of programs of study which have led to post-secondary certificates, diplomas and degrees:

- Post-secondary certificates in Automotive Systems, Automotive Technology, Bible Studies, Carpentry, Trades Access, Cooking, General Arts and Science, Heavy Equipment, Home and Community Support, Human Resource Management, Management Studies, Office Administration, Early Childhood Education, Fashion Design, Massage Therapy, Teacher Assistant, ESL, Camp Services, Haul Truck Operations, Welding, Instrument Technology, Computer Information Technology, Jewelry and Metal Work, Forestry Management and Community Addictions Counselling;
- Diplomas in Fine Arts, Fashion Merchandising, Management Studies, Public Sector Management, Office Administration, Recreation Leadership, Teacher Education, Information Technology, Aviation, Biological Science, Business Administration, Media Studies, Nursing, Natural Resources Technology and Professional Cooking;
- Undergraduate degrees in Arts, Education, Management, Law, Social Work and Nursing;
- Graduate degrees in Fine Arts and Education;
- Apprenticeships in Carpentry, Electrical and Plumbing, Heavy Equipment Technology, Instrument Technology and Power Engineering.

Originated by the Chiefs of the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council in 1997, the program was developed to promote the importance of education and training especially for Tłıchq youth. The development of a new diamond mining industry in the region and the negotiation of Impact and Benefit, and Participation Agreements with the mining companies gave the Tłıchq leadership an unprecedented opportunity to provide funding for this new program.

Early partners included northern mining corporations which provided additional funds for scholarships, and the Dogrib Community Services Board and later after 2005, the Tłıchq Community Services Agency which delivered the program initially on behalf of the Treaty 11 Council, and after 2005, the Tłıchq Government.

Tessa Macintosh

A comprehensive review and evaluation of the program in 2005 that included over 100 interviews with students as well as regional leaders, resulted in significant changes to the program. Recommendations to reduce the high administration costs, and research showing surprisingly little correlation between funds spent on high school student scholarships and post-secondary success, led to a dramatic restructuring of the program to make it simple to administer, and more equitable to all post-secondary students. By the end of 2006-2007, fully 97 percent of the funds provided by the Tłıchǫ Government were given directly to post-secondary students. In 2010, the Chiefs increased annual funding to the program by 30 percent to \$800,000 per year. Further changes occurred in April 2012 when the Tłıchǫ 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: Our Nation Education Student Financial Support Program.

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

2019-2020 Numbers

Top Programs and Top Locations of Students Accessing the Tłıchǫ Government ONE Program

107 Students accessed the ONE Program in 2019-2020: 86% were women and 23% were men; 41% of these students had dependents.	Students from the Tłıchǫ Region	72
	Students from other Provinces	35

Top 5 Areas of Interest

- 31% of Students entered Certificate programs in Business Administration, Early Learning and Child Care, Office Administration, Personal Support Worker, etc.
- 28% of Students entered Diploma programs in Business Administration, Early Learning and Child Care, Social Work, etc.
- 24% of Students entered Degree programs in Arts, Education, Fine Arts, Management, Science, etc.
- 17% of Students entered Record of Achievements in University and College Access, Occupations and College Access Programs
- 2% of Students entered Master programs in Arts and Management

Top 5 Educational Institutions in 2019-2020

- Aurora College
- Grande Prairie Regional College
- Mount Royal University
- University of Alberta
- NAIT

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!





Laura Duncan

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

Message from the Grand Chief

“Over the past four months, in response to this pandemic, the Tłıchò Government implemented seven special projects to support our citizens.

Each project has helped to ease the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in our communities. Despite the pandemic, our priorities as a Government have remained ambitious. Our strategic plans and intentions have largely continued throughout this time and reach into all of our communities.”

~ Grand Chief George Mackenzie

*Du sa naet'aa, du deh nı́ıı, du dè nàgoèhdò-le nı́dè,
asù wets'à goet'ò hoiıı 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