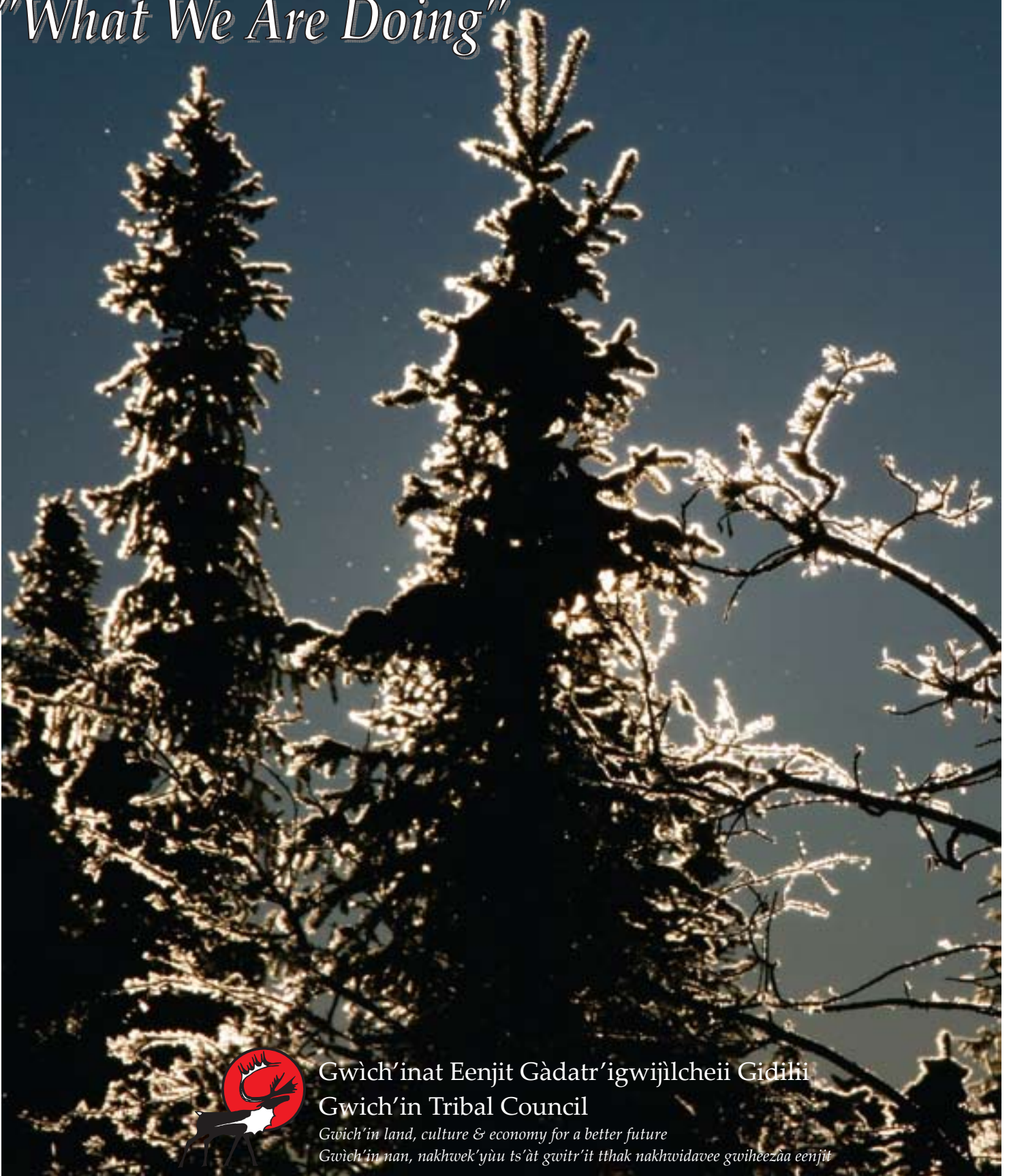


Dagwidi'ii

October - December 2007

"What We Are Doing"



Gwich'inat Eenjit Gàdatr'igwìjlcheii Gidili
Gwich'in Tribal Council

Gwich'in land, culture & economy for a better future

Gwich'in nan, nakhwek'yùu ts'at gwitr'it tthak nakhwidavee gwiheezaa eenjit



'Dagwidi'ii - What We Are Doing'
 is a quarterly newsmagazine of the
GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL
 1-3 Council Crescent
 PO Box 1509 Inuvik NT X0E 0T0
 Ph: 867-777-7900 Fx: 867-777-7919
 Enrolment: Toll Free 1-866-414-4670
 Website: www.gwichin.nt.ca

The Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) is an Aboriginal organization that represents Gwich'in in the Mackenzie-Delta of the Northwest Territories and across Canada. The objectives of the GTC are to:

- protect and preserve the rights, interest and benefits of the Gwich'in in reference to their use, ownership and management of lands, waters, and resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area;
- retain, preserve and enhance the traditional and cultural values, customs and language of the Gwich'in in a changing society;
- develop and promote economic, social, educational and cultural programs that will enable the Gwich'in to become self-sufficient and full participating members in a global society;
- uphold the rights, interest and benefits of the Gwich'in in reference to the *Constitution Act*, Treaty 11 and the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*; and
- receive, preserve and enhance the capital and the lands and other benefits transferred to the Gwich'in pursuant to the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement* signed on April 22, 1992.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Fred Carmichael	777-7900
Vice-President	Mary Ann Ross	777-7905
Director, Gwichya Gwich'in Council	Frederick Blake, Jr.	953-3201
Director, Gwichya Gwich'in Council	Phillip Blake	953-3201
Director, Tetlit Gwich'in Council	Wilbert Firth	952-2330
Director, Tetlit Gwich'in Council	Eleanor Firth	952-2330
Director, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council	Charles Furlong	978-2340
Director, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council	James Edwards	978-2340
Director, Nihtat Gwich'in Council	Richard Nerysoo	777-6650
Director, Nihtat Gwich'in Council	Tom Wright	777-6650

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Fred Carmichael	777-7900
Vice-President	Mary Ann Ross	777-7905
Chief Operating Officer	Tom Williams	777-7903
Chief Financial Officer	Greg Cayen	777-7904

CORPORATE SERVICES

Controller	Charlene Ross	777-7908
Office Manager (Fort McPherson)	Vicki Alexie	952-2593
Senior Finance Officer	Norma Blake	952-2526
Finance Officer	Evelyn Bullock	777-7917
Finance Clerk	Trish Campbell	777-7951
Finance Clerk Trainee	Melma Greenland	777-7949
Office Manager / Boards & Trust	Cheryl Wright	777-7916
Corporate Secretary	Millie Jansen	777-7900

BENEFICIARY SERVICES

Director	Tammy Rogers	777-7902
Reg'l Manager, Education & Training	Debbie English	777-7926
ASEP Coordinator	Margaret Thompson	952-2500
AHRDA Coordinator	Diane Koe	952-2501
Career Development Officer	Ruth Elanik	777-7909
Administrative Assistant	Gina Firth	777-7925
Communications Advisor	Lawrence Norbert	777-7923

LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION

Director	Norm Snowshoe	777-7912
Lands Manager	Mardy Semmler	777-7913
Josef Carnogursky	Technical Advisor	777-7914

GWICH'IN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Manager	Wanda McDonald	777-7932
---------	----------------	----------

REGIONAL WELLNESS

Regional Manager	Victor Stewart	777-7929
Manager, Special Projects	Denise Kurszewski	777-7927

SELF-GOVERNMENT

Director	Karen Snowshoe	777-7924
Regional Coordinator	Margaret Gordon	777-7941
Regional Coordinator	Mavis Clark	777-7942



EXECUTIVE - Fred, Mary Ann, Tom, Greg

Drin Gwiinzii! On behalf of the Executive and Staff of the GTC we would like to wish each of you a Happy New Year and all the best in 2008!

2008 is going to be a very busy and exciting year for the Gwich'in Nation as the GTC Elections for President and Vice President are slated for the third week in June. In April, we will be advertising for an Electoral Officer to commence the Election Process. In August, the Tetlit Gwich'in Council will be hosting the 25th Annual Gwich'in Assembly which will provide a mandate to the elected Leadership. In the fall, we hope to hear the results of the Joint Review Panel's Report to the National Energy Board in regards to the Mackenzie Gas Project.

GTC - GNWT Leadership Meeting



(L-R) GNWT-ITI Minister Robert McLeod; GTC Vice-President Mary Ann Ross; GTC President Fred Carmichael; NWT Premier Floyd Roland

On November 26, 2007, the Gwich'in Leadership met with newly-elected members of GNWT Cabinet members including Premier Floyd Roland and the Honourable Robert McLeod, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Investment; Public Utilities Board; and

for Human Resources. This meeting allowed for the Gwich'in Leadership to present and inform the new Territorial government of the GTC's priorities and various strategies including the GTC Strategic Plan, the Human Resource Strategy and the Education Strategy. The GTC Leadership looks forward to working with the new Cabinet Ministers and MLAs to assist us in achieving our goals and objectives of improving the lives of all Gwich'in. The next joint leadership meeting is scheduled for the spring of 2008 and we hope to have the Wellness Centre open on the East Branch so that we can host the meeting there.

AustroCan Petroleum Corporation 

In early January, Fred Carmichael and Tom Williams held a conference call with AustroCan Petroleum, which recently was successful in obtaining Oil and Gas rights in the Peel Plateau. AustroCan Petroleum Corp. is an oil and gas company that explores for and develops hydrocarbon deposits in various parts of Canada, and other parts of the world, using technology that is cost-effective, less environmentally intrusive, and time-saving over conventional exploration techniques. Current activities are concentrated in large unexplored regions of the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut's Arctic regions.

The GTC was pleased to learn about AustroCan's development plan which takes in account immense and environmentally sensitive areas - such as the Peel Pla-

teau - which often present major challenges to traditional methods of exploration and require new approaches to exploration. AustroCan's innovative exploration approach is the use of non-seismic complementary technologies to increase the probability of making a commercial discovery from 10-35% for seismic, to over 80% with AustroCan's methodology. The complementary technologies are:

- (1) a systematic analysis of the Earth's surface by using high resolution satellite imagery supplied by Geosat, and geo-information already available;
- (2) micro-biological analysis known as Microbial Oil Survey Technique developed by Phillips Petroleum Company;
- (3) High Resolution Ground Magnetism (HRGM) to test for distinctive magnetic signatures of hydrocarbon reservoirs;
- (4) Telluric and Radiometric measurements for measuring low frequency currents in the Earth's crust to determine the type of sub-surface structure encountered, such as minerals, petroleum reservoirs, geothermal fields, groundwater, and more.

AustroCan's primary tool in identifying hydrocarbon-bearing structures over large geographical areas is the Geosat-enabling technology of Remote Earth Sensing. Through applying the Geosat technology, AustroCan is able to quickly and efficiently explore large regions such as the Peel Plateau and other remote areas in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The company is also exploring some parts of Alberta and British Columbia.

EXECUTIVE

In addition to this bold, new exploration approach, AustroCan has adopted a sound social policy in its business model. Large areas in Canada are First Nations traditional territories. AustroCan's business model includes the involvement of First Nations citizens by:

- (a) forming joint venture partnership with First Nations group in areas of exploration and development;
- (b) training First Nations in exploration technologies to create jobs and foster trust in our exploration methodology; and
- (c) providing communication and e-learning infrastructure for grades 1 to 12, and post secondary online learning through regional post-secondary institutions.

AustroCan plans to use new non-seismic technology using satellite technology combined on ground sampling using ATV's. They are looking at possibly training and hiring up to 12 employees to assist them in their research this summer. AustroCan also advised they will also require helicopter support and a camp. The GTC looks forward to future meetings with AustroCan to continue to build this new relationship.

Meeting with Federal Government Officials



On January 17, 2008 GTC Leadership and staff met with Dave Hudson, Executive Director,

Photo: Industry Canada

Mackenzie Gas Project Office and other Federal Government Officials. Mr Hudson was recently appointed to serve as the primary point person for the Federal Government reporting directly to DIAND Minister Jim Prentice on all issues surrounding the MGP. A number of issues were raised with Mr. Hudson including:

1. ensuring that the Joint Review Panel has the necessary support to complete their report in a timely fashion;
2. to ensure that monies from the Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund flows early to the regions and to consider possible pilot project in the Beaufort/Delta;
3. to ensure any momentum on the Joint Review Panel process and on the Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund is not lost if a spring Federal election is called;
4. to consider the establishment of an Economic Fund similar to the Western Diversification Fund in Alberta to help assist small business to engage in the MGP;
5. to ensure that full consideration for the Aboriginal Skills to Employment Program (ASEP) program renewal is given by the Federal Government so that we can continue with our capacity building initiatives.

Overall we were pleased with Mr. Hudson's commitment to bring our issues forward and his openness and willingness to work with on stakeholders on this important project

MOU with Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta



On January 18, 2008, the GTC Leadership signed an historic agreement that will forge a new process for joint pursuits of political and economic interests. Leaders from Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta and the Gwich'in Tribal Council gathered in Calgary, Alberta to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.



GTC President Fred Carmichael and Grand Chief Arthur Noskey, Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

Photo: courtesy of T8FNA

"This agreement signifies the recognition and respect for our traditional territories and rights of our Indigenous peoples. This partnership will create further economic development opportunities within our territories and will help in preserving our language and cultures. This collaboration with First Nations, governments and the private sector is a good example of how partnerships can benefit the socio-economic aspirations of our people," said Grand Chief of Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta, Arthur Noskey.

EXECUTIVE



(L-R) Edward Wright, TGC; Liza Greenland, EGC; Frederick Blake, Jr., GGC; Charles Furlong, EGC; GTC President Fred Carmichael; Grand Chief Noskey; Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta; Chief Rose Laboucan, Driftpile First Nation (also Vice-Chief, T8FNA); Chief Francis Gladue, Bigstone First Nation

Photo: courtesy of T8FNA

“The signing of this historic agreement is a perfect example of Aboriginal land ownership and how development of their lands will benefit their people. This agreement will foster economic growth and provide opportunities for Alberta First Nations and the Gwich’in Tribal Council to develop an economic base and provide training for the many jobs that will occur. I’m proud to be a part of building a sustainable road to self sufficiency for all our communities. The Agreement is a strong example of how First Nations across Canada can come together to demonstrate a collective vision to benefit their people,” said Fred Carmichael, President of the Gwich’in Tribal Council.

GTC-GNWT Contracting MOU

On January 23, 2007, the Gwich’in Leadership along with members of the Gwich’in business



community and staff met with the GNWT represented by the Honourable Robert McLeod, Minister for ITI; the Honourable Norman Yakelaya, Minister for Transportation, and the Honourable Michael McLeod, Minister for MACA. The purpose of the meeting was to view the results on contracting in the GSA during 2006-07; reviewing the 2008-09 Project Review and Gwich’in Participation; and to establish a process for renewal of the MOU which expires on March 31, 2008. This meeting provided leadership and attending Gwich’in businesses with an opportunity to discuss issues each has with the MOU and to recommend areas which could be considered in the renewal process.

Kodiak Petroleum

After an independent analysis of the recorded seismic data, Kodiak Petroleum decided to proceed with a second round of seismic activity in the project area. Kodiak Petroleum is proposing to conduct a 55-km winter seismic program for EL – 314 during the winter 2007-08. The proposed budget for this program is approximately \$4.7- to \$5-million. Kodiak has decided to use the Fort Good Hope access route to enter the project area and hopes to have its permits in place by January 25, 2008. Shortly after this date they will be issuing the various contracts to Gwich’in businesses and commence the hiring process. Kodiak hopes that the work will commence February 1, 2008. We look forward to seeing some Gwich’in businesses and Beneficiaries working on this project this winter.

Staff Changes

The Executive wishes to welcome back Jozef Carnogursky, as Lands and Resources Advisor, LRI, and Wanda McDonald, Manager, Gwich’in Business Development.



Finance Update

Commencing on April 1, 2008 the Gwich’in Tribal Council will begin implementing the new Fiscal Framework that was approved on August 16, 2006 at the Gwich’in Annual Assembly in Aklavik.

Funding for fiscal 2008 is as follows:

Designated Gwich’in Organizations	\$1,400,000
Renewable Resource Councils	300,000
Gwich’in Wellness	300,000
Gwich’in Social & Cultural Institute	300,000
Gwich’in Education Foundation	300,000
Gwich’in Enrolment Board	50,000
GTC Operations	2,200,000
Total	\$4,850,000

EXECUTIVE

In addition the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation (GSC) will be making a capital distribution of \$318.00 in December 2008.

Annual business plans and budgets will be required in order to receive this GSC fiscal funding. Quarterly activity reports and financial statements will be required to access the next quarterly funding.

Presentations will be made to the four Community Designated Gwich'in Organizations (DGOs) and the Regional Renewable Resource Council meeting in February.

We are sure that this increased funding to all our Gwich'in Organizations will assist all organizations in better serving

the needs of the communities and Gwich'in participants.

Mahsi Cho,

Fred, Mary Ann, Tom and Greg

BENEFICIARY SERVICES - Tammy

Gwich'in Education Foundation

Below is a table containing information regarding the number of students who have been assisted by our programs through the Education Foundation for this fiscal year to-date. The numbers will increase for the next report as we have two more months to report on before year end. As you can see we have many students accessing our programs and we are proud of the fact that we have so many Gwich'in accessing education opportunities.

Please consult our website at www.gwichin.nt.ca or call our Beneficiary Service Office at 1-866-414-4670 if you would like more information about any of these programs.

On December 6-7th, 10 participants from the communities attended the Northern Forum on Employment held in Yellowknife. Their attendance at this training was sponsored by the Education Foundation. One of our major challenges in the region is finding employment for Beneficiaries. It was felt that this training would benefit all the communities in assisting them in providing employment services to their membership. Staff that did said that it was very beneficial and that they learned a lot of useful information.

Kodiak Work

Kodiak was to do more winter work this year starting February 1st and each community employment officer

was notified of this by our Career Development Officer, Ruth Elanik.

Flint Energy Services – Community Information Sessions

In January, Ruth Elanik and Debra English with staff from Flint Energy held community information session in Aklavik, Fort McPherson and Inuvik. Interested individuals from Tsiigehtchic traveled to Fort McPherson to participate in these events.

Flint is looking at recruiting interested beneficiaries to work in Fort McMurray on a 6-weeks on/2-weeks off schedule. Individuals hired will be trained in a trade and guaranteed longterm employment, with the point of hire being their home community. Employees will not have to relocate but will be able to work for 6 weeks and then be home for 2 weeks. Flint will pay their transportation to and from the job site. Anyone interested in these opportunities are encouraged to call Ruth Elanik at 777-7909. Flint has requested that Ruth be the main contact with them so that resumes are not lost in the process.

April 2007 – January 2008		
Program	Students	Amount
Bursaries	159	\$178,100.00
Tutoring	4	2,715.00
Professional Development	18	31,687.83
Training Allowances	19	35,659.18
Mobility	1	2000.00
Scholarships	5	5,000.00
Grad Gifts - Post Secondary	40	10,000.00
Grad Gifts - High School	13	1,750.00
Totals	259	\$266,912.01

LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION - Norm

Implementation

In December, LRI staff attended the *GCLCA* Implementation Committee meeting; DIAND Summative Session on Land Claim Implementation Consultation; and the Land Claim Agreement Coalition (LCAC) meeting held in Ottawa.

The focus of the meetings was to discuss the challenges of Land Claim Implementation in Canada. Land Claim Groups are frustrated with the Government of Canada's inability to implement the Land Claims as agreed between the parties. The meeting were attended by Government of Canada and representatives of the Land Claim Groups from across Canada.

Canada and the Land Claim Groups agreed to explore the possibility of developing a Land Claim Implementation Policy that would ensure cooperative implementation of the various Land Claims across the country.

Wildlife Management

The GTC continues to focus on the management of caribou and the potential impacts on Gwich'in harvesting. The Bluenose West Herd had been put on special management which involves the allocation of tags. This was done due to the very low current herd population.

The GTC continues to participate in the development of the Dall Sheep Management Plan, the NWT *Species at Risk Act*, the Yukon *Wildlife Act*, and the Porcupine Caribou Harvest Management Strategy.

Land Administration

The GTC Land Administration is continuing to administer and monitor long-term land use authorizations issued for the GSA. Long term authorizations include permafrost monitoring activities being conducted the Geological Survey of Canada, Land Leases issued to Northwestel for NWTel Tower Site and GNWT's Deep

Water Lake Water Pump House. Diamondex also has a land use authorization to conduct mineral sampling and exploration activities within the Caribou Lakes area.

Mackenzie Valley Construction has applied for a quarry authorization for Midway Lake to continue to do work on the Dempster Highway road widening project and the Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council has expressed interest in conducting a quarry operation near Red Mountain and the Willow River Site 467 site near Aklavik.

The GTC Land Administration continue to represent the GTC on steering committees and working groups, including the Northern Contaminants Program – Regional Contaminants Committee; the Protected Area Strategy Working Group; the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP) Working Group; the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Committee; the Yukon Environmental and Socio Economic Assessment Board 5-Year Review Working Group; the North Yukon Regional Planning Commission; and the Peel River Watershed Planning Committee.

For information with regard to any of the projects currently being managed and administered the GTC Land Administration, please contact Mardy Semmler, Lands Manager at the GTC Office in Inuvik.

Finally the LRI would like to welcome Jozef Carnogursky as the Lands and Resources Technical Advisor. Jozef will be available to assist the GTC and the communities in matters relating to Land and Resource Management.



REGIONAL WELLNESS - Victor

Over the past few months I have been involved with many planning sessions to provide workshops, conferences and information sessions for the Gwich'in. The most recent and important one being in collaboration with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) to hire a Beaufort Delta Health Support Worker to be our first point of contact for any former Residential School student to access counseling. We have successfully acquired funding from Health Canada and have hired Jeffery Amos to be available as of February 1st and he will be located in Inuvik.

I have also been working with Health and Social services and the IRC to host the second Addictions Awareness and Parenting Conference in Inuvik for the front line workers of the Beaufort Delta. This Conference will run from

January 21-25 at the Midnight Recreation Complex. Topics will include training and capacity building in areas of addiction prevention, intervention and after-care. Parenting practices to develop skills to support, counsel and provide guidance to caregivers while understanding the role and values of traditional parenting styles.

The second Annual GATHERING OUR VOICES Youth Conference will take place in March and will also be held in Inuvik from March 20-24, 2008. Youth from the 8 Beaufort/Delta communities as well as Yellowknife, Hay River and Whitehorse will gather to talk about issues that affects our communities and our youth. Recommendations from the youth will be presented to our Leaders and MLAs to carry out.

Many personal issues have been coming into the office over the past 6 months and some have been dealt with immediately and successfully. Others are still ongoing and may take some legal persuasion to accomplish or may be turned over to legal counsel. Although I am not a trained counselor and I am unable to help everyone all of the time, I can direct you to the proper departments or agencies that can help.

Residential School issues have kept me busy and I have made many phone calls, written letters and filled out forms for as many as 150 survivors from all communities and former students as far away as Toronto.

I've been enjoying my work and believe the people have found reason to call and stop in just to talk as I am a good listener and I encourage everyone to do that.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - Wanda

Hello all! I was recently hired in late October 2007 as the Manager for Gwich'in Business Development. My primary responsibilities to Gwich'in Beneficiaries will be to:

- maintain the Gwich'in Tribal Council Business Registry;
- monitor the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the GTC and the GNWT;
- implement Industry Access & Benefits Agreements; and
- build Business Capacity.

I should clarify the GTC Business Development department is separate from the Gwich'in Development Corporation (refer to the GTC website to distinguish the two entities).

For the past couple of months, I have been upgrading the Gwich'in Business Development website which should be finalized by May 31. The end result will be a user-friendly, interactive capability to disseminate large volumes of information in a timely fashion.

I have also been organizing two upcoming Business Symposi-

ums scheduled for February 25-26 and March 25-27, in Inuvik. The target audience is Registered Gwich'in Business and interested Gwich'in entrepreneurs within the GSA. We are arranging for a diverse group of guest speakers from the GNWT & DIAND; Oil & Gas energy companies; the WCB; the SHARE Committee; Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation; Mackenzie Valley Construction and commercial banking, which will focus on various aspects of business.

Another on-going initiative is to upgrade the Business Development component of the GTC website. The upgrade will be user friendly to both external users (Industry and Various Government Departments) and internal users (Gwich'in Business Community). Our website will include additional resource information such as: links to other business related websites; a schedule for upcoming events in the area of business development and the ability to post reports related to Business Development activities.

The current GNWT Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will expire in March 2008. We held high-level meetings with the GTC Leadership, Business Community, and GNWT Ministers and staff. The objective of the MOU is to *"establish a process toward improving the participation of Gwich'in businesses in GNWT contracting, within the Gwich'in Settlement Area."* The GTC has a couple of options under consideration regarding the MOU prior to the expiry date. If you are interested in viewing the GNWT Contract Opportunities Public Website please go to: <http://www.contractregistry.nt.ca/public>.

In the future I will be traveling to the surrounding communities to work directly with Gwich'in businesses. I am very excited about the initiatives currently underway and encourage the readers to become familiar with our activities and provide feedback on how my office can improve our working relationship and services to the business community.



Congratulations to the graduates of the Camp Cook Training Course sponsored by Aurora College and completed on December 14th. Gwich'in graduates included Gordon Norman (back row, 2nd far left); Bella Greenland (back row, 4th from left); Ellen Firth (front row, 4th from left); and Dorothy Koe (front). Thank you for all the tasty trays of food you prepared and keep up the good work. Oh, Lawrence still wants his Eno!!

V-P Mary Ann Ross (right) conducting a most secretive quality check of the goodies...



SELF-GOVERNMENT - Mavis, Margaret

In our last report, we advised of community door-to-door visits regarding the Gwich'in Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Aklavik was the exception as the Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council was looking for a self-government coordinator to continue the community work. Beneficiaries who are committed to informing your people about a better future should join our team by dropping off a resumé at the DGO office in Aklavik.

The Nihtat Gwich'in Council coordinator, Deanna Larocque, held a couple of workshops to discuss the Charter. She assembled a Committee with eight members. Mabel Brown is the newest member after attending most of the self-government meetings and workshops. The last workshop was just before Christmas and some changes were made to the draft Charter. People at the meeting thought a good job was done in putting this document together as

it seemed to include all the traditions and culture of the Gwich'in. We are always reminded to use plain language and to explain it well. The workshops and meetings will continue until the end of the fiscal year.

The Fort McPherson coordinator completed about 50 home visits. Shawna has been kept busy assembling information binders for the new committee which now include; Johnny W. Kay, James Andre, Bella Snowshoe, William G. Firth, Eleanor Firth and Chief Wilbert Firth. The Committee meeting was held October 29th, 2007.

In Tsiigehtchic, Patricia has been familiarizing herself with the draft Charter and presentation and has completed five home visits to-date. She attends college in the mornings and works in the afternoon. The Self-Government Committee has new members, including Chief Sonny Blake, Chair John

Norbert, Members; Linda Blake, Lucy Ann Kendo, Bobbi Andre, Jennifer Andre, Peter Ross and Noel Andre.

The December main table negotiation session was cancelled but the Self-Government Team held an information session with Rick Hardy, a retired Metis lawyer originally from the Sahtu, on our Treaty 11 rights, the land claim Designated Gwich'in Organizations (DGO's), the *Indian Act* band dissolution issue, the transitional protocol, the draft Gwich'in Preamble and the proposed Band Trusts.

After much discussion regarding all three papers, the Chiefs requested the lawyer to draft a Band Council Resolution for presentation to the band councils in January. The bands issue will also be discussed with leadership at a meeting in February 2008.



GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE - Sharon Snowshoe, Executive Director

Aklavik Heritage Conservation Zones Project

The GSCI was contracted by the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board to conduct preliminary interviews to identify important heritage areas for the Ehdiitat Gwich'in of Aklavik. This work was conducted as part of the 5 year review of *Nàhn' Geenjit Gwitr'it Tigwaa'in: Working for the Land – Gwich'in Land Use Plan* (2003). Interviews with Aklavik Elders and Elders originally from Aklavik were conducted and 11 special places were identified as potential Heritage Conservation Zones under the revised land use plan. Recommendations for further interviews and research were also gathered from the Elders. A final report was submitted to the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board in April. The following areas were identified by the Elders as warranting special protection:

- Pokiak
- Knut Lang's Place
- Jim Firth's Place
- Fish Hole
- Fish Hole on Big Fish Creek
- Fish Point
- Big Eddy
- Black Mountain
- Red Mountain
- Historic dog-team trails
- The Delta

Arctic Red River Headwaters Ethno-Archaeology Project

Kristi Benson (GSCI), Dr. Brian Kooyman (University of Calgary) and Sonny Blake (traditional harvester and resident of Tsiigehtchic), carried out an ethno-archaeological survey in the headwaters of the Arctic Red River during the summer of 2007

using traditional knowledge recorded from elders in Tsiigehtchic and Fort Good Hope as a guide to their research. Several sites were recorded and if further funding is secured, this research will continue in 2009/10.

Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) conference

GSCI was invited to take part in the annual CCI conference which this year was called, *Preserving Aboriginal Heritage: Technical and Traditional Approaches. Symposium 2007*. A poster co-produced by Ingrid Kritsch and Alestine Andre (GSCI) and Judy Thompson (Canadian Museum of Civilization) on the GSCI Gwich'in Traditional Caribou Skin Clothing Project was presented by Alestine Andre.

Children's Stories

GSCI staff assisted with and reviewed drafts of two children's stories about the Gwich'in written by Mindy Willett with photographs by Tessa Macintosh. "*The Delta Is My Home*" is based on the life and experiences of eleven-year-old Tom McLeod who lives in Aklavik and spends much time on the land with his family. "*We Feel Good Out Here*" is based on the life and experiences of Julie-Ann Andre and her family and the ways in which Julie-Ann is passing on her culture and stories that she has been taught from the Elders to her twin daughters. Both stories speak to the importance of respecting the land, Gwich'in culture and stories.

Digital Photos for Publications

and Public Use

There has been an increasing demand for GSCI photos by the public for a variety of purposes. Most recently, digital images from the photo collection in the GSCI Research Office in Yellowknife were provided to the following: the Alaska Native Language Centre for a Gwich'in grammar workbook; the Pacific Educational Press (UBC) for an Experiential Science 10 textbook; the Gwich'in Development Corporation for a roll screen at the Inuvik airport on GSCI; and to Gwich'in beneficiaries.

Grave Site Signage along Dempster Highway

Responding to a request from the community of Fort McPherson, GSCI is working with the Yukon Government to erect signs at Teetl'it Gwich'in burial sites along the Dempster Highway in the Yukon. The goal of the signage is to promote respect and inform visitors that these sites are protected by legislation - the *Yukon Historic Resources Act* - and it is illegal to disturb the graves or remove items from them.

Gwich'in Traditional Caribou Skin Clothing Project (Community displays)

Working with staff at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and William George Firth at the Gwich'in Language Centre, GSCI finalized the Gwich'in and English plaque text that will be installed in each of the four Gwich'in community clothing display cases in spring 2008. Once the plaques are installed, the community exhibits will be complete.

GSCI (867) 952-2524***Gwichya Gwich'in Googwandak* book (revised 2nd edition)**

A revised 2nd edition of the book, *Gwichya Gwich'in Googwandak: The History and Stories of the Gwichya Gwich'in* is now available from the GSCI. The GNWT Education, Culture and Employment department provided GSCI with funding to revise and publish the land-based history book which was originally published in 2001. The book is based on the stories from Tsiigehtchic Elders, plus information from archaeological and archival research conducted by GSCI between 1992 and 2006. The original book published in 2001 has been so popular that only a few copies remain of the 1,000 copies printed.

Gwich'in Self-Government

GSCI staff provided input into the Culture, Language and Heritage Resources chapters of the draft Gwich'in Self-Government Agreement through a contract with the GTC Self-Government department. This document is being used by Gwich'in negotiators to ensure that Gwich'in roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined in these areas.

Heritage and Cultural Places in the Gwich'in Settlement Area

The GSCI was contracted by the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board to prepare an annotated list of heritage and cultural places in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. This work was conducted as part of the 5 year review of the *Nahn' Geenjit Gwitr'it Tigwaa'in: Working for the Land – Gwich'in Land Use Plan (2003)*. The GSCI created this list as a Geodatabase with

both location and tabular data and summarized and prioritized the heritage and cultural places listed. The geographic database was generated from the three Gwich'in Places Names databases (Gwichya Gwich'in, Teet'it Gwich'in, and Ehditit Gwich'in place names) compiled over the last 15 years through extensive research carried out by GSCI. A draft report along with the database was prepared and submitted to the GLUPB in September, 2007.

Knut Lang Camp nomination

A document nominating Knut Lang camp as a significant NWT Historic Site was drafted by Kristi Benson (GSCI) in partnership with the Knut Lang Steering Committee in Aklavik and submitted to the Cultural Places Program at the PWNHC for inclusion in the NWT Historic Sites Register.

Land Use Permit, Archaeological Permit and Scientific Research Licence Applications

GSCI continues to review land use applications forwarded from GTC and the Gwich'in Land and Water Board for their possible impacts on heritage resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Our GIS capabilities however have been severely hampered since the spring of 2007 due to financial restraints within the organization. We are currently looking for ways to fund and reinstate a GIS position to assist with this and other research. GSCI also continues to review Archaeological Permit Applications made to the PWNHC and Scientific Research Licence Applications made to the Aurora Research Institute for research

within the GSA. GSCI also negotiates Research Agreements with researchers interested in working with GSCI following the spirit and guidelines outlined in the GTC Gwich'in TK Policy.

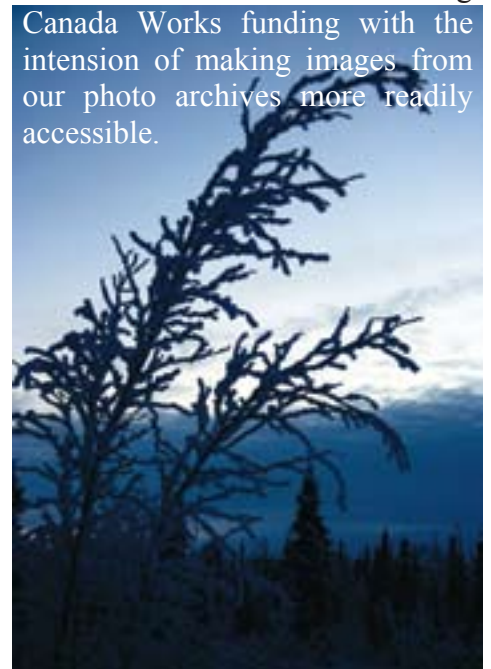
Peel Watershed Land Use Planning Commission

GSCI provided comment on the "*Preliminary Summary of Heritage Values in the Peel River Watershed Planning Area*" drafted for the Commission by Dr. Ruth Gotthardt (Yukon Heritage Resources) with Barbara Hogan (Yukon Historic Sites).

Photo Digitization Project

In the summer of 2007, Linda Wright, a Gwich'in beneficiary, digitized 4,000 images from the photo collection on file in the GSCI Research Office in Yellowknife. She also organized the photo albums by project, provided digital images requested by the public and researched database catalogues for the future. This work was carried out with Young

Canada Works funding with the intension of making images from our photo archives more readily accessible.



GS&CI

Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (PWNHC) Exhibit

GSCI provided information and reviewed the text for a new exhibit being developed at the museum called "*Yamoria: The One Who Travels*". Yamoria is known throughout northern Alberta, the NWT, Yukon and Alaska and is called Atachùukajì in Gwich'in. Mrs. Mary Kendi from Aklavik is showcased as one of the six Dene storytellers and Gabe Andre's story about Atachùukajì is also featured. The exhibit uses a variety of media including oral and written stories, art work, and an animated video. Accompanying the legends will be Dene artifacts and a large map where visitors can see the imprint that Atachùukajì had on the land as he travelled throughout northern Alberta, the NWT, Yukon and Alaska. The exhibit will open in February 2008.



Vik'ooyendik nomination

A document nominating Vik'ooyendik (Church Hill) in Tsiigehtchic as a significant NWT Historic Site was drafted by GSCI Heritage Researcher Alestine Andre in partnership with the Vikooyendik Steering Committee in Tsiigehtchic and submitted to the Cultural Places Program at the PWNHC for inclusion in the NWT Historic Sites Register.

GWICH'IN LANGUAGE CENTRE

CBQM Video Documenting

Sherri Debastien spent the weekend of November 30-December 2 videotaping announcers and programming for CBQM's anniversary. All footage which she recorded will be made available to Dennis Allen and crew from the National Film Board who is producing a documentary on CBQM and its history and how it plays an important role in the lives of Teetl'it Gwich'in and others in the region.

Gwich'in Elders' Biographies Calendar

The 2008 Gwich'in Elder's Calendar is now available from GSCI and showcases the following Elders: Sarah Jane Firth, Bella Greenland, Joanne Snowshoe, Jane Charlie, Doris Simon-Itsi, Clara Neyando, Therese Remy Sawyer, Charlie Stewart, Stephen Bonnetplume, Caroline Kay, Pearl Carmichael, Dale Louis Clark, and Elizabeth Blake.

Gwich'in Language Dictionary – 7th Edition

We are now in the final stages of verification and data entry of the terms and phrases for the seventh edition of the Gwich'in Language Dictionary. Once the settings and format have been checked it will be ready for printing.

Second Language Curriculum

The piloting of the 2nd language curriculum is continuing for the 2007/08 academic year. There have been no changes or new developments with the program as it is being delivered. Professional development days for the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit instructors were held on September 25-26, 2007 at the Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre in Inuvik for the 2nd language curriculum.

Whitehorse – Tukudh Workshop

A Tukudh Language Workshop was held in Whitehorse at the Yukon Native Language Centre from November 27-29, 2007 which was hosted by John Ritter and attended by William G. Firth, Edward Wright and Joanne Snowshoe.

Yellowknife Computer Games Development

In late October, Edward Wright, William G. Firth and Gladys Alexie attended a Teaching and Learning Centre workshop in Yellowknife on resource development to construct computer games for language instruction and development.

December Scenes



Career Week, November 5, 2007



Food at the GTC Open House was provided by the Aurora College Camp Cook Program (left, Gwich'in graduates Bella Greenland and Ellen Firth).



SAMS students Richard Stewart, Hammy Stewart, Jackson Smith and Sky Koe line up for lunch



As part of the SHSS scavenger hunt, teams did a blind selection of GTC staff names...



...then tried matching the name to the photograph...ehhhh, Roy!



"Who's 'Silalee'??!"

...and then had to do a jig before on their way to the next stop.





Fanny Greenland from Aklavik, Bernice Francis from Tetlit Zeh and Amy Thompson from Inuvik attend the annual assembly of the Native Communications Society of the NWT in Yellowknife, November 2007

Seasonal snow sculptures in Tetlit Zeh done by James William Wilson and Junior Oscar



Chief Paul Niditchie School Xmas Concert



CPNS Christmas Concert



'Dagwidi'ii - What We Are Doing'
is a newsmagazine of GTC activities
published **every three months**
for the information of
Gwich'in Beneficiaries.

Please send your suggestions, comments or
photographs to our address or e-mail:
Inorbert@gwichin.nt.ca
Ph: 867-777-7923 Fx: 867-777-7919

All photos by Lawrence Norbert,
GTC Communications, unless noted otherwise.
Publisher: Canarctic Graphics

Dagwidi'ii
Beneficiary Services
Gwich'in Tribal Council
PO Box 1509
Inuvik NT X0E 0T0
Canada

TO:

See you later, Moe

Friends, relatives and GTC staff were saddened at the sudden death of Maurice Cardinal, son of the late Edward and Joanne Nazon from Tsiigehtchic. "Moe" was a constant presence at the GTC office, helping out as much as he could and bringing a sense of light humour (seen here decorating the GTC office with Martina Carrol). "The Boys" paid their respects in light of his rabbit-snaring skills...

