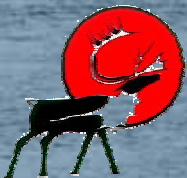
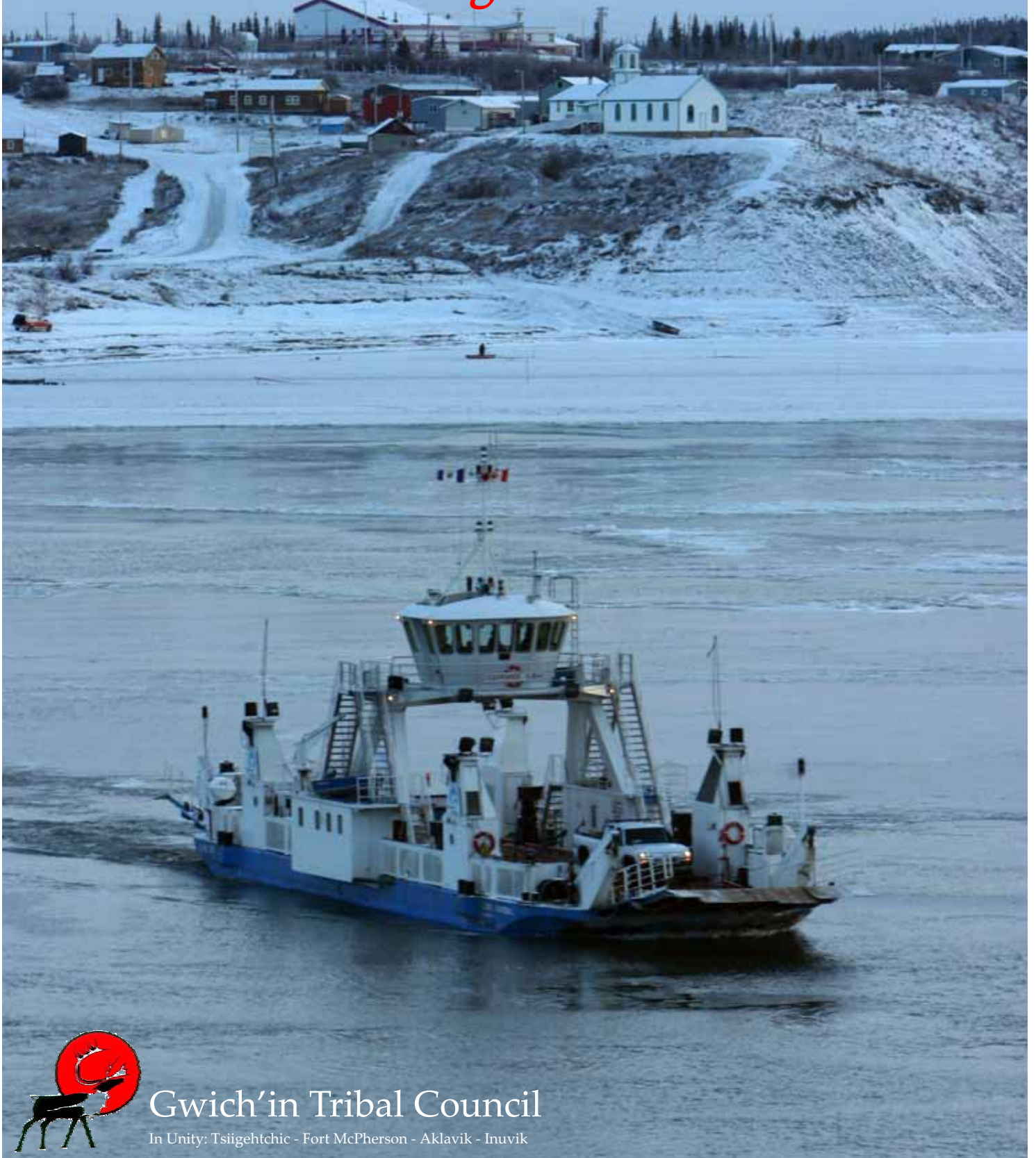


# Dagwidi'ii

September — October 2006

*"What We Are Doing"*



Gwich'in Tribal Council

In Unity: Tsiigehtchic - Fort McPherson - Aklavik - Inuvik



**'Dagwidi'ii - What We Are Doing' is a newsletter of the:**

**GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL**

**1-3 Council Crescent PO Box 1509 Inuvik NT X0E 0T0**

**Ph: 867-777-7900 Enrolment: Toll Free 1-866-414-4670**

**Fx: 867-777-7919 Website: [www.gwichin.nt.ca](http://www.gwichin.nt.ca)**

The Gwich'in Tribal Council is an Aboriginal organization that represents Gwich'in Beneficiaries in the Mackenzie-Delta of the Northwest Territories.

The objectives of the Council 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	Peter Ross	953-3201
Director, Gwichya Gwich'in Council	Phillip Blake	953-3201
Director, Tetlit Gwich'in Council	Johnny Kay	952-2330
Director, Tetlit Gwich'in Council	Eileen Koe	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**

CFO / Director	Greg Cayen	777-7904
Controller	Charlene Ross	777-7908
Office Manager	Vicki Alexie	952-2593
Senior Finance Officer	Norma Blake	952-2526
Finance Officer	Evelyn Bullock	777-7917
Finance Clerk	Deanna Smith	777-7951
Office Manager / Boards & Trust	Cheryl Wright	777-7916
Corporate Secretary	Millie Jansen	777-7900

## **BENEFICIARY SERVICES**

Director	Tammy Rogers	777-7902
Administrative Assistant	Gina Firth	777-7925
Regional Education Manager	Debbie English	777-7926
ASEP Coordinator	Margaret Thompson	952-2500
AHRDA Coordinator	Diane Koe	952-2501
E & T Programs Coordinator	Andrée Jove	777-7915
Employment Liaison Officer	Connie Stewart	777-7909
Communications Advisor	Lawrence Norbert	777-7923

## **LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION**

Director	Norm Snowshoe	777-7912
Lands Manager	Mardy Semmler	777-7913
Assistant Lands Manager	Dwayne Semple	777-7911
Lands & Resource Officer	Glen Alexie	777-7914
GIS Technician	Tracy Creighton	777-7942
Environmental Impact Assessment	Kim Hawkins	777-7934

## **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

Manager	Jake Heron	777-7932
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## **REGIONAL WELLNESS**

Manager	Denise Kurszewski	777-7927
Elders & Youth Coordinator	Victor Stewart	952-2524
Regional FASD Coordinator	Tena Blake	952-2592
Regional Diabetes Coordinator	Shandel Furlong	978-2340

## **SELF-GOVERNMENT**

Chief Negotiator	Charles Furlong	777-7915
Director / Assistant Negotiator	Karen Snowshoe	777-7924
Regional S/G Coordinator	Margaret Gordon	777-7941
Regional S/G Coordinator	Mavis Clark	777-7910



## EXECUTIVE

Drin Gwiinzii! We wish to send our condolences to the Teya, Francis and Koe families in Fort McPherson and to the family of the late George John. Our prayers are with each of you during your time of sorrow.



We are pleased to report that significant progress has been made at the self-government table. Chief Charles Furlong advised the Executive that the Chief Negotiators for Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Gwich'in are in the process of initialling the Process and Schedule Agreement and are eager for a public signing ceremony to take place among their principals. The signing of this Agreement not only highlights the progress that the Gwich'in Self-Government Negotiations Main-Table has made this past year but it also highlights the commitment of the three governments to quickly conclude a Memorandum of Under-

standing. A letter of invitation was sent to DIAND Minister Jim Prentice and GNWT Premier Joe Handley to attend an official signing ceremony in later November to commemorate reaching this important milestone. We feel that a high profile signing will increase public awareness about the three government's commitment to supporting a progressive Self-Government negotiations main-table.

A joint GTC-GNWT Leadership meeting has been scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> in Inuvik. This will be our inaugural regional leadership meeting with Premier Handley and his Cabinet colleagues. A number of items will be discussed including self-government, resource revenue sharing/devolution, Gwich'in MOU, the GNWT Socio-economic Agreement, and community issues. We look forward to this meeting and to all future joint leadership meetings with the GNWT.



The GTC met with representatives from Kodiak Petroleum to discuss the proposed Grandview 2D Seismic Program scheduled for January 2007. This seismic project straddles the GSA and the K'ahsho Got'ine District in the Sahtu Settlement Area. Kodiak Petroleum estimates approximately \$5-million budget for the seismic program and up to \$20-million for a drilling program in 2008. They will require equipment, a 40-60 man sleigh camp and a number of personnel.



The GTC also met with members of the Xahweguweh/Yamoga Land Corporation to discuss potential joint venture opportunities which will come with this project. The Ka'hsho

Got'ine also wishes to conclude the trans-boundary agreement and to develop an Economic Corridor Agreement. The GTC looks forward working with our neighbours in the Sahtu!

## CORPORATE SERVICES



### Finance Update

We are pleased to report that the market value of the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation at October 31<sup>st</sup> amounts to \$128,417,689. We are optimistic that our fund will reach its target value of \$132,000,000 by March 31, 2007. The fund earned 4.4% return for April 1 – October 31 period. We are also very pleased to announce that on November 15<sup>th</sup>, the GTC Board of Directors approved a beneficiary distribution of \$331 to be paid on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

We are currently preparing a financial policy manual for the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation. This manual will outline accountability requirements for disbursements from the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation commencing April 1, 2008.

In addition the strategic plan for the Gwich'in Development Corporation is being updated and will be presented to the GTC Board of Directors in January 2008 for approval.

Work will continue in 2007 on the Gwich'in Tribal Council strategic plan. Major emphasis will be placed on working with the communities to increase their administrative and financial capacity as a first step in preparing for Gwich'in self-government.

The Executive wishes all participants a Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!

Mahsi Cho,

Fred, Mary Ann, Tom and Greg



## BENEFICIARY SERVICES

For those of you who don't know I would like to introduce our newly-named department of Beneficiary Services. Back in September, the GTC Executive approved a reorganization of our previous departments Human Resources, Education and Training and Communications. It only made sense to have all of our services that we provide to you, our beneficiaries, under one department.

So you may be asking yourself who and what is Beneficiary Services. Below is a brief description of our staff and their functions.

### Director

Tammy Rogers oversees the department and reports to the executive on the activities of the department. She is also responsible for providing the Human Resource function to the staff of the Gwich'in Tribal Council, and Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. She maintains all employee files, all



staffing of positions as well as sits on various committees in the community regarding capacity development. Over the next few months Tammy will be working closely with a contractor on conducting Human Resource Assessments in the communities.

### Manager Education & Training

Debra English is responsible for the day to day operations of the Education and Training Staff. Debbie has two staff in Fort McPherson who report to her and provide services to beneficiaries accessing education and training programs. Under Debbie's responsibility are the

following programs, ASEP - Aboriginal Skills to Employment Partnership, AHRDA- Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement. Debbie works closely with our funders as well as groups and individuals that we fund.

Debbie supervises Diane Koe AHRDA Coordinator and Margaret Thompson ASEP Coordinator. Both of Debbie's staff are responsible for administer there program areas and providing day to day assistance and support to their clients under these programs. Both Diane and Margaret work from our Fort McPherson Office.

### Office Manager

While not technically a part of Beneficiary Services, Cheryl Wright provides many vital services to our Beneficiaries and reports on them to the Director of Beneficiary Services. Our Education and Training Fund programs, Bursaries, Scholarships, Grad Gifts and Tutoring are processed through Cheryl. She also keeps track of all enrolment of beneficiaries entering and leaving our claim.



### Administrative Assistant

Gina Firth joined our Department on November 14, moving to Inuvik from Fort McPherson. Gina's responsibilities will be to keep us organized as a department. She will be issuing enrolment cards to beneficiaries, assisting where needed and keeping our Human Resource Data Base up to date. All of you who have not submitted your résumé to our

data base and would like to or would like to just update your file feel free to contact Gina, she will be happy to assist you.

### Communications Advisor

Lawrence Norbert does an excellent job in keeping you informed on all our activities, he has been very instrumental in increasing the profile of the Gwich'in Tribal Council. An example of the great work that Lawrence does is right here in your hands, this newsletter.

In the future, our submission to the newsletter will be a report on our activities over the previous two-month period. If you have any questions about



any of the programs and services that we offer please call, stop by for a coffee or send us an email. We are here to serve you.



## LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION



Drin Gwiinzii. The LRI staff would like to send condolences out to the families who lost loved ones this fall. You're in our thoughts and prayers through these difficult times.

### Implementation

In September, the Implementation Committee met in Inuvik. The Implementation Committee is made up of representatives from the Government of Canada, GNWT and the GTC. The committee's role is to implement provisions of the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*. The minutes from these meetings are available at the GTC office in Inuvik.

### Wildlife Management

Due to the concern with the decrease in Caribou numbers across the north, there was a workshop held in Inuvik on November 1-2. Representa-

tives from the Inuvialuit, Gwich'in, Co-Management Boards, and GNWT met to discuss the decline of the Caribou and what measures should be taken to try and bring the caribou numbers back up. Some issues discussed were excess harvesting, sale of caribou and harvesting rights. The workshop results/minutes will be sent to the communities when they are completed.

The PCMB held its meeting in Aklavik on November 4-5, with Norman Snowshoe and Vice-President Mary Ann Ross in attendance. We participated in discussions about the Dempster Highway Regulations review process. Minutes from the meetings will be sent to the communities when they are completed.

### Land Management

The Lands Manager held

discussions with Kodiak Petroleum who will be doing seismic work in the Little Chicago Area. This area is in both the GSA and the Sahtu Settlement Area. There was also a meeting with Kodiak Petroleum, GTC, Kasho Gotine, and Mackenzie Valley Construction to discuss the seismic project.

Diamondex also made presentations to the Lands staff in relation to their diamond exploration program in the GSA.



Since the last reporting period there was some staff turnover. Dwayne Semple has moved on to the GNWT and the GTC wishes him well in his new employment. Mavis Clark, administration assistant, will be working with the Self-Government team. We wish Mavis well and know she will be an asset to that unit.

Have a safe and happy winter.

## REGIONAL WELLNESS

Drin Gwiinzii. We're hoping that everyone is taking advantage of the mild temperatures and getting outdoors to jiggle, walk or ski-doo. We remind everyone to make safety a priority. If your children are ski-dooing, ensure that they wear helmets and obey the laws for driving.

At the Regional Wellness Office, we would like to welcome Tena Blake and Shandel Furlong who have joined us. Each will be working from their respective communities; Tena is the Regional FASD Coordinator and will be working out of Fort McPherson. Shandel is the Regional Diabetes Coordinator and will be working out of Aklavik, both are employed until March 31, 2007. The ladies are motivated and anxious to get going on a number of projects and initiatives. I'm sure your community will be seeing them soon.

We are still receiving a fair number of inquiries regarding the Residential School Compensation. To date, most Elders have received their advance payment. There are still a few who are waiting, and some who have had to do more research to locate their files. The Com-

mon Experience Payment process is still in process and we cannot give people a time as to when the payments will start. We ask that everyone be patient and we will advise everyone when we get more information.



The Beaufort Delta Health & Social Services Authority Community Counselling Program will be hosting an Addictions Conference during the week of December 4<sup>th</sup>. The conference is focused on addictions prevention, intervention, and aftercare services and is targeting Community Wellness Workers, Mental Health & Addictions Counsellors, Social Workers,

Nurses, Community Health Representatives, Doctors, and other front line workers. We are involved in the planning and hope to have a few community people attending. We are also involved in Diabetes Strategic Planning with the Department of Health and in discussion on a number of issues with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. It is hoped that - through these partnerships - we will be able to better coordinate health services for the people of this region.

As the Christmas season approaches, we hope that everyone will take time to focus on the true meaning - being together and grateful for all the wonderful gifts we have received: our land, water, food, families and friends. In this time leading up to Christmas, we are aware that many people experience depression and sadness. Please take time to give words of encouragement and assist anyone you know who may be experiencing depression and sadness, to seek help. If you have any questions or are looking for information, please feel free to call me at 777-7927.

## REGIONAL WELLNESS – FASD / DIABETES



Hello, my name is Tena Blake. I have started my position as the GTC Regional FASD Coordinator. I live in and will be working from Fort McPherson. My office is located at the Charles Koe Building My office hours are Monday to Thursday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Until my phone is connected, I can be reached at 952-2393 or at Victor Stewart's office number: 952-2592.

Working in this position, I hope to increase awareness about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), provide education and work towards strategies with families who are affected. I will be visiting the communities to meet with interested people to discuss the project. In the New Year I will be coordinating Traditional Parenting Workshops in each

community as well as doing presentations for the public and in the schools.

I look forward to working on this project and to be able to assist the Gwich'in communities working towards a goal of healthy lifestyles. I will keep you updated on the project and will provide my updated contact information once it is available. Until then, enjoy the beautiful winter weather!



My name is Shandel Furlong and I'm the new GTC Regional Diabetes Coordinator. I will be working with the four Gwich'in communities to provide information, services and programs about diabetes. I am planning to set up workshops, open houses and home visits to the Beneficiaries who are affected by diabetes or have a family

history of diabetes.

We know that Aboriginal people have a much higher chance of developing diabetes than other Canadians. Diabetes can lead to serious health problems including heart disease, kidney disease, blindness and nerve damage. We can prevent some of these by eating healthy and exercising. A healthy lifestyle means getting more exercise and fresh air as well as eating well: traditional foods like meat, fish and berries are very good, as well as fruit, vegetables and pasta. We can all encourage each other to avoid junk food and smoking!

One of the things I will be doing is creating a cookbook for people in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. If you have any recipes – especially ones using traditional foods – and would like to contribute them, please leave a message for me at 867-978-2340 or email [sfurlong@gwichin.nt.ca](mailto:sfurlong@gwichin.nt.ca). I will update everyone with new contact numbers once I am set up. I hope to see you all soon.



## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Gwich'in business community is moving forward in spite of the ups and downs being reported on the Mackenzie Gas Project. As reported earlier, the first Business Development workshop with Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd took place at the Alex Moses - Greenland building in Inuvik on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006. There were nine Gwich'in businesses represented, and two GTC staff members. Four representatives came from Fort McPherson and the remainder were from Inuvik. Imperial Oil had five officials there, consisting of the following; Northern Business Development and Benefits Manager, Gordon B. Deets, Kevin Jonason, Procurement Advisor, Dieter Busse, Safety Advisor, Grace Blake, Regional Liaison and Linda McDonald.

The workshop dealt with scope of work items, procurement processes and health/safety items from the owner's



(IOL) perspective on the Mackenzie Gas Project. The general consensus was the first session was informative and meaningful. There were some very good and pertinent questions being asked by the participants of the IOL officials.

The main purpose of the workshops are to inform Gwich'in businesses of the opportunities being generated from the MGP and the role the Benefits Agreement with IOL has in the process.

Being prepared for business is an ongoing process, and Gwich'in are leading in their preparations for the MGP.

There will be other workshops, the next one being

planned for the later part of January 2007 in Fort McPherson.

For those people from Tsiigehtchi and Fort McPherson who missed the last session, you're encouraged to plan for the next session.

For those registered Gwich'in businesses, please be advised as a follow up to the introduction letter on the MOU Evaluation by "*kisquard*," they will be conducting some in-person interviews during the week of December 4<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>. Your assistance and cooperation would be most appreciated.

## GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

The GSCI congratulates Shawna Nerysoo on the arrival of her daughter Keyana on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

### *Second Language Curriculum*

The Gwich'in Language Centre has been participating in the translation of a second-language curriculum to teach Gwich'in and this is to be piloted in schools. Edward Wright attended a Subject Advisory Committee meeting held in Yellowknife on October 4 and 5 on the second-language curriculum where a workplan and timelines were developed for further work to be completed based on the review of the curriculum. Sharon Snowshoe and William Firth participated in an in-service session held on the second language curriculum with the aboriginal instructors as part of the Beaufort-Delta Regional Educators' Conference held on October 11-13 in Inuvik. After providing an update at the October BDEC meetings in Inuvik, Edward, along with Cathy Cockney of the Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre, discussed further issues of the 2<sup>nd</sup> language curriculum, and looked at planning the next Language Teachers meetings/conference which would revolve around



the curriculum as the core of the meetings. Resources would be secured to achieve the overall goals of delivering the curriculum as effectively as possible with further development of the Language Instructors' skills and abilities.

### *Teet'it Gwich'in Googwandak*

This is a community history book project that will describe the history, stories, legends, archaeology, and much more of the Teet'it Gwich'in. Eleanor Firth has been re-translating COPE tapes that will be used in this project. These tapes were recorded in the 1970s with Gwich'in Elders and have never been fully translated. Many of the

stories are about living on the land 50 to 100 years ago. This information will be very important to the community history book. A newsletter about the progress on this project will be delivered soon to Fort McPherson.

### *GSCI Five-Year Plan*

The final GSCI Five-Year Plan is complete and was presented and approved at the GSCI Board Meeting held in Fort McPherson on October 16 and 17. The Five-Year Plan outlines the direction the GSCI will take in research, staffing, and office locations. The GSCI plans to present the 5-year plan to the DGO's in each community. The next step is for the Board of Directors of the Gwich'in Tribal Council to review and to seek their approval of the plan at a future meeting.



## GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

### *Gwich'in Language Centre – Customer Friendly!*

The Gwich'in Language Centre is always working to create a friendly space for community members to drop in and look at their collection of materials about the language. If you are interested in learning the language, please feel free to drop by for resource material and advice.

### *Dene Nation Mapping Project – Phase II*

The GSCI has received funding to work with the Dene Nation to conserve and copy Gwich'in materials from the Dene Mapping Project. The original mapping project was carried out in the 1970s and 1980s, when Elders and harvesters drew trails and trap-lines on maps, and community researchers recorded tapes about people's use of the land. This year, the Gwich'in maps (stored in Yellowknife) will be conserved by a specialist, and some equipment for storage of archival materials will be purchased. A beneficiary working in Yellowknife will copy and digitize some cassette tapes and paper files. Several maps will be scanned into a computer file for Tracy Creighton at GTC to review.

### *Ehdiitat Gwich'in Historic Sites Nomination Project, Aklavik*

The GSCI is undertaking two projects in Aklavik this fiscal year: The first one is completing the Ehdiitat Place Names project (started in 1999), and the second is nominating one or two places to the NWT Cultural Places Program. The Gwich'in Integrated GIS Project and the GSCI will travel to Aklavik in November to meet with Elders for a 2-day 'verification session' of Ehdiitat Gwich'in Place Names. After the place names are verified, one or two sites to be nominated to the Historic Sites Register will be selected by a steering committee. The steering committee selected by the Chief and Council are: Mary Kendi, Alfred Semple, Catherine Semple, Annie B. Gordon, Danny Greenland, Mildred Edwards, Freddy Greenland and Sigmour Furlong.

### *Vik'ooyendik Historic Sites Nomination Project, Tsiigehtchic*

The GSCI and the Gwichya Gwich'in Council will be working together to nominate Church Hill to the NWT Historic Sites Register. The community steering committee held a meeting on October 12, 2006 in Tsiigehtchic. The Steering Committee members discussed the boundary of the historic site, and photographs were taken of the hill and the rivers. The Steering Committee members discussed the importance of the hill and why it should be nominated as an historic site; for example, they indicated that the hill can be used as a look-out – you can see up the Arctic Red River and up and down the Mackenzie River for kilometers from the top of the hill. The Deetrin' ehchii k'it (Crow Beds) were also photographed as they will be part of the history.



## GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE



*brown and singed grebes knew they had been tricked and became angry. They became so angry that they chased the Raven until they caught him. They grabbed him by the wings, head and feet and swung him over the flames, holding him there until all his feathers had burned from his body. The Raven became so baked that his beak fell off. The grebes took the beak and allowed the Raven to fly off in disgrace.*

– Edward Nazon

From the Gwichya Gwich'in Googwandak community history book (Page 9–10):

*This event began one day when a man paddled in from Point Separation to Arctic Red River. As he came nearer the settlement, he cried out that the finest family of grebes up river had perished in an epidemic. The grebes heard the news and were shocked and sad, and all went into mourning for their very fine brothers. Wood was gathered to set the scene for the grebes to go into mourning. By jumping in and out of the flames, the grebes*

*showed their sorrow. They believed that this practice would spare the spirits of the dead grebes. The Raven watched as the family of grebes jumped in and out of the huge flames until their long golden hair had become singed and brown. This was just what the Raven wanted to happen for he was the man that paddled to the settlement to bring the news of the epidemic. The Raven jumped back into the canoe and cried out for all to hear, 'I don't really know if the news that I brought of the death of the finest grebe is true, for it may not be the truth.' Now the*

Raven was allowed to fly away, but by now he was so weak that he made it only as far as his camp, Deetrin' ehchii k'it, 'Raven's Bed.' This is a series of three shallow holes, made by Raven when he lay down here to recover. They are still visible south of the church.

*And that is where he slept and had his camp. That's why they call it Deetrin' ehchii k'it—he slept there all the time, you see? That's where he was hiding himself all the time.*

– John Paul Kendo

## GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

### *Gwich'in Language Lessons*

The GLC has contacted Leanne Hinton from Berkeley University in California to assist in the format of teaching and learning Gwich'in from local fluent speakers. The method we would like to attempt was created and has proven its success within the communities in Alaska. Once dates and further information are confirmed, this will be communicated to the communities.

### *Other Proposals: Gwich'in Language Centre*

The Language Centre is seeking funding to create an "Interactive" computer-based language chart program that would be more enticing to our computer-literate younger people. The language charts include language sentences to reinforce the letter, sound and pronunciation, and it includes "verbal" exchanges between two individuals to further reinforce language. The program can also have cultural informa-

tion such as living on the land.

The Language Centre is also seeking funds to start a Traditional Drumming project. The Centre's goal is to get this traditional form of communication and celebration back into



our culture so that it can be used in our gatherings to further strengthen our Gwich'in identity. Please contact the Language Centre at 952-2377 for more information or to lend

a hand.

A new Elder's Biographies calendar is in the works, and the Language Centre is considering printing all the biographies in a book. They anticipate about 70 Elders from all four communities will be in the book.

### *Dinjii Zhuh Ginjik: Font Updating, Dictionary*

Chris Harvey, a linguist and computer software developer, came to Inuvik and Fort McPherson to train all the Language Centre and GSCI staff in using a new type of computer font, called a Unicode font, and keyboard program. It is now easier for us all to produce materials in our Gwich'in Language. Now, computer documents produced in the Gwich'in Language today will still be readable in ten years. Chris also visited the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board and the Gwich'in Tribal

Council to introduce the font and keyboard. A new edition of the Gwich'in dictionary will be published in spring of next year.

Hain' choo Shilak kat!



The Gwich'in Development Corporation and Flint Energy Services Ltd. Appoint James B. Firth as Operations Centre Manager for Mackenzie Valley Construction Ltd, effective January 1, 2007. "JB" held a number of senior positions within NorthwesTel (including its predecessor, CN Communications) over the last 34 years and was formerly the Chief of the Inuvik Indian Band and President of the Nihtat Gwich'in Council during 1990-2003. The GDC is a 51% investment partner with Flint Energy Services in Mackenzie Valley Construction Ltd, a civil construction company positioned to compete for the principle contracts of a proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipeline. James is flanked by (left) G.W. (Gary) Foreman, Vice-President, Production Services, and Keith Lambert, Vice-President, Conventional Oil & Gas, both of Flint Energy Services Ltd.

## HAPPY RETIREMENT

- FROM TRAPLINE TO MANAGEMENT -



After 35 years with NorthwesTel (and its predecessor, CN), Robert Charlie is hanging up his telephone. Robert is also chair of the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and sits on the GTC Education & Training Committee.

## passages

After losing his battle with cancer, family and friends of **Joe Begg** celebrate his life at a memorial in Yellowknife.  
Photo courtesy of Nadira Begg



**George John**, founding member of the Izhai K'aii Tat Gwich'in, was a favourite for chairing our annual general assemblies.



**Archie Lennie, Jr.**, former resident of Tsiigehchic, was a friend of the Gwich'in from the Sahtu Region.



### GWICH'IN SOCIAL— Barrhead, AB, November 11



The GTC made a donation for a social gathering of Gwich'in in the Edmonton area, which took place at Barrhead, about a 2-hour drive northwest of Edmonton. Gwich'in—along with their Inuvialuit friends—gave dance demonstrations for the Barrhead guests, who were treated to a dinner and Gwich'in cake, plus the fine music of Dennis Thompson, Albert Koe and Agnes Mitchell. The Communications Advisor made a

short presentation on the GTC, our land claim, the drive for self-sufficiency and self-determination, and promoted the Midway lake Music Festival. News friends were made with Barrhead residents and we wish to thank the organizers for promoting Gwich'in culture and lifestyle. They in turn want to wish their relatives and friends "up around there" greetings for Christmas and the New Year.



PHOTOS WHICH SOMEHOW DIDN'T MAKE OUR PAST ISSUES



PHOTOS WHICH SOMEHOW DIDN'T MAKE OUR PAST ISSUES



PHOTOS WHICH SOMEHOW DIDN'T MAKE OUR PAST ISSUES



### PHOTOS WHICH SOMEHOW DIDN'T MAKE OUR PAST ISSUES



PHOTOS WHICH SOMEHOW DIDN'T MAKE OUR PAST ISSUES





PWNHC photos:  
left, centre



The RCMP is hiring! Canada's national police service is looking for people from all walks of life interested in a career in policing. We offer a challenging and exciting future to those interested in making a difference in their communities and their country. There has never been a better time to apply! Due to retirements and increasing demands for police officers across the country, the RCMP plans to train up to 2,000 cadets each year for the next few years.

Canadian citizen, 19 years or older (may begin the application process at 18), be of good character, proficient in either English or French, have a high school diploma or equivalent, possess a class 5 unrestricted driver's licence and meet our medical/health standards.

To apply to the RCMP, you must be a

To apply, call Cpl. Violet Pokiak, RCMP Recruiting Section in Yellowknife at 867-669-5115 or contact your nearest RCMP detachment. To find out more about the RCMP, visit our website at [www.rcmp.gc.ca](http://www.rcmp.gc.ca).



PWNHC photos: top,  
right, bottom



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TO:

*Have a safe Christmas season*

