

ATTN:
CBC Newsworld – SEAN
CBC Radio News - MARK
CBC Radio Current Affairs – RUTH
CBQM Radio - SUSAN
News/North – TARA
The Drum - TERRY



GWICH'IN HEALING CAMP OWNERSHIP TRANSFERRED TO FORT McPHERSON D.G.O.

The Gwich'in Tribal Council has transferred ownership of the T'loondih Healing Camp to the Tetlit Gwich'in Council of Fort McPherson.

The camp is located 20 miles south of Fort McPherson. It was designed to be a remote healing camp suitable for such activities as family counseling and dealing with the trauma of residential school abuse. It is accessible by boat in summer, and ice road in winter. Unfortunately, because of its location, it was not in use very often.

The people of Fort McPherson felt they could put the camp to use and expressed an interest in acquiring the building. The Gwich'in Tribal Council agreed that Fort McPherson was in a better position to run the facility. The community is closer to T'loondih than Inuvik is, and it was the desire of the community to take over management and ownership of the facility. At the Gwich'in Assembly in August, the Fort McPherson delegation put forward a motion to have ownership transferred to the Tetlit Gwich'in Council. Delegates to the assembly unanimously agreed.

The residents of Fort McPherson plan to use the camp to run regional social programs. They will take over the T'loondih Healing Society and will continue its work. The camp will still be accessible to Gwich'in beneficiaries and other outside groups who wish to use the facility.

The Gwich'in Tribal Council's board of directors gave final approval to the transfer of ownership on December 16, and the transfer was finalized on December 19, 2002.

“T'loondih” is a Gwich'in word that refers to a grassy hill located across from the camp. It is pronounced “CLONE-dee”.

**For more information, contact:
Megan Holsapple
Dryas Communications
867-678-2512**