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Carmichael handily re-elected in Gwich'in vote

WebPosted Jul 15 2003 09:28 AM CDT

INUVIK, N.W.T. - Voters in the Mackenzie Delta re-elected Fred Carmichael Monday as president of the Gwich'in Tribal Council. Carmichael says about 70 per cent of voters voted for him.

A former council president, Willard Hagen, tried to unseat Carmichael. During the campaign he accused his rival of a being in a conflict of interest. Carmichael is also part of the aboriginal pipeline group hoping to build a Mackenzie Valley gas pipeline.

There's pressure to settle land use and impact benefit agreements with the Gwich'in quickly, in the interest of a pipeline.

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But Carmichael says his position as council president does not interfere with his role on the aboriginal pipeline group. He says the people who voted show they are not concerned about the conflict of interest issue.

money.

He says funding is the biggest issue he's facing as president of the tribal council. He says self-government is impeded when the Gwich'in still have to depend on the government for



Fred Carmichael says voters didn't buy conflict of interest accusations against him

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