

Table of Contents

- Executive Report- T. Williams	Pg 2-4
- GOLCA Implementation- D. Bisson	Pg 5
- MCP Regulatory Review Process	
- MCP Benefits & Access Negotiations	
- Summary of MGP Benefits & Access Negotiations	PG 6
- Lands Administration - M. Semmler	Pg 7
- Lands Management & Control Guidelines	
- Frog Creek Pit Management Plan	Pg 8
> Peel River Wells Inspection Program	
> GTC signage Project	
> Cabins on Gwich'in Lands	
- Notice to Gwich'in Beneficiaries	Pg 9
- Resources - Norm Snowshoe	Pg 10
- Self-Government Update	Pg 11
> Elders & Youth Gatherings	
> Gwich'in Youth Workshops	
- Gwich'in Achievement Awards	Pg 12
- Community Policing Consultation	Pg 13
- Employment Liaison Report—M. Gordon	Pg 14
- Aboriginal Skills & Employment Partnership	Pg 15
> Where we are now	
> Who are Employment Officers?	
> Who are the Directors?	
- Education & Training—B. Crawford	Pg 16/17
- Nat'l Aboriginal Achievement Recipients	Pg 18
- Gwich'in Tribal Council Staff	Pg 19



The *Gee, Tea? See* News

Executive Report

The past few months since our last newsletter have been pretty busy. The Executive and staff of the GTC have been working hard on various projects and programs. We would like to take this time to update you on some of the changes to our office as well as some of the projects we are working on.

Admin Staff Restructure

The Executive approved a new organization structure for our Administration staff in our Inuvik office. If you notice a familiar voice answering the phones at the GTC, that would be Millie Jansen, she has moved into the position of Corporate Secretary. Millie will continue to keep the Executive organized as well as booking all corporate travel, purchasing all supplies and greeting the public in her friendly efficient manner. Millie's old position of Executive Assistant will not be filled since it was unfunded and the Executive are confident that we will still continue to provide a good service to all of our beneficiaries and the general public.



Cheryl Wright has also taken on a new role, her new title is Boards and Trusts Coordinator. Cheryl is still in her same location and will continue to look after the Enrolment but has taken on some additional responsibilities which include the Gwich'in Harvesters Assistance Trusts as well as the Education Trust. Cheryl is responsible for

maintaining the effective coordination of these three program areas.

Margaret Gordon has moved from the position of Receptionist to the role of Employment Liaison Officer. The duties of this position remain the same with a few exceptions. Margaret has a great communications background which is being utilized in the production of our newsletter; as well Margaret will

be responsible for updating the GTC Website.

Tammy Rogers has also taken on a new title as Corporate Manager, Tammy will continue to oversee the Human Resource Department as well she will be involved with assisting Greg Cayen, CFO with the GTC operating budget and our Accountabilities.

Human Resource Department

The staff in our HR Department have been busy traveling to the communities, holding open houses and working with beneficiaries to update their resumes for our Human Resource Data Base. Updating our human resource data base is very important for a number of reasons including to identify training and employment opportunities for the Mackenzie Gas Project and to help secure additional program dollars from government.

As a result of third-party funding from various organization, the GTC has been able to continue our work on the data base and hire three casuals for this project. With the other fund-

ing we have received we have been able to hire an additional three people: one as an admin - support person to our HR staff and two in our file room. The file room clerks are busy cataloguing all files to ensure that we have a proper system in place for preserving archival information.



Gwich'in Cup

The week of March 3-6th was the annual Gwich'in Cup minor hockey tournament held in Inuvik. There were 18 teams registered and over 250 participants. Each year this event continues to grow. The Gwich'in Development Corporation is a proud sponsor of this event and appreciates all sponsorship that it receives from companies like First Air and a number of registered Gwich'in Businesses.

GTC Memorandum of Understanding with the GNWT on Contracting in the GSA

On February 8, 2005 Fred Carmichael and Tom Williams travelled to Yellowknife to attend the annual government to government meeting. Fred Carmichael, Chief Charlie Furlong,

Chief Richard Nerysoo (on teleconference) and Tom Williams met with GNWT Minister for RWED, the Honourable Brendan Bell; Minister for Transportation, the Honourable Michael McLeod; Minister for Public Works & Services, the Honourable Floyd Roland; and the Minister for the NWT Housing Corporation, the Honourable David Krutko, along

with their respective deputy ministers. The GNWT presented the GTC a Status Report for 2004/05 on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

on Government Contracting in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. This MOU was initiated to improve Gwich'in business participation in the regional economy. The Gwich'in business community successfully won 66% of total contracts in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Aklavik and Fort McPherson surpassed target rates year, while Inuvik and Tsiigehtchic fell short of this years target goals. Regional contracts, which do not take place in one community, boasted an 84% success rate. The GTC would like to congratulate the business community and wish them well in all their endeavours.

RWED Minister Bell committed to providing funding to the GTC in order to hold a regional meeting on identifying which



contracts the Gwich'in wishes to negotiate for the 2005/2006 fiscal year. The issue of on-going implementation funding was also raised by the GTC: RWED Minister Bell advised that he will respond to the request. The next government to government meeting will be scheduled in June 2005 in Inuvik.

Finance – Greg Cayen

The finance department has been extremely busy during January and February 2005. KPMG is completing the audit for the Gwich'in Development Corporation and its various subsidiaries. The Gwich'in Tribal Council audits will be done in May 2005. All contribution agreements are now being reviewed to ensure that accountabilities are completed by March 31, 2005. In addition, T4's, T4A's, Workers Compensation Board reports and NWT Payroll tax re-

ports are now all completed.

I wish to thank Vicky Alexie and Norma Blake from our Fort McPherson office and Diane Koe and Deanna Smith from our Inuvik office for their very hard work these last two months. These finance officers do an excellent job for the beneficiaries and try to process transactions as quickly as possible.

During March and April, the GTC Executive and Tammy Rogers, Corporate Manager will work on our 2005/2006 GTC budget, the 2005/2006 corporate report and our 2005 annual report.

In regards to the beneficiary distribution made in December 2004, I would like to report the following:

Payment of \$200 to 1,929 Beneficiaries (19 years and older)= **\$385,800**

Payment of \$200 to 1,018

Gwich'in Youth (Gwich'in Children's Trust Fund) = **\$203,600**

TOTAL DISTRIBUTION = \$589,400

As at December 31, 2004 there is \$674,600 invested in the Gwich'in Children's Trust. These distributions occur when a beneficiary turns 19 years of age.

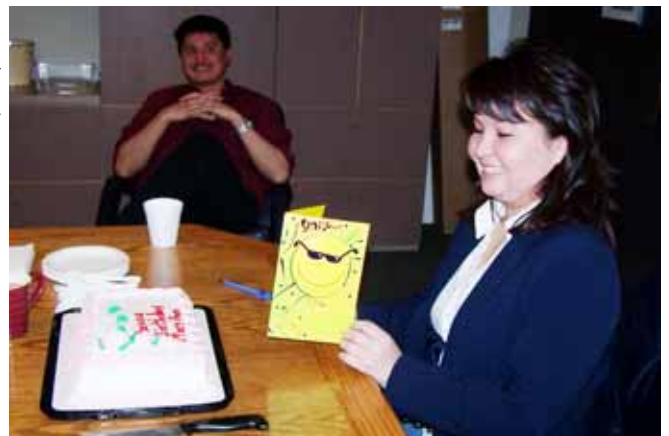
It is always a pleasure to serve the Gwich'in Nation and we look forward to another very productive year.

Mahsi Cho,

- Fred Carmichael, President
- Mary Ann Ross, Vice-President
- Tom Williams, Chief Operating Officer
- Greg Cayen, Chief Financial Officer



Mary Ann celebrates her 29th birthday (again??!!) on March 15th...



GCLCA Implementation

In February, GTC staff will be attending a meeting in Yellowknife to follow-up on the Auditor General's review of how well DIAND was implementing the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (GCLCA). The review concluded that DIAND was not paying enough attention to the objectives of the land claim and not reporting accurately where there are conflicts between DIAND and the GTC. At the meeting in Yellowknife the GTC will be introduced to, and comment on, a proposed new reporting format that should address the Auditor General's concerns.

MGP Regulatory Review Process

GTC and the Nihtat Gwich'in Council have both registered as interveners in the NEB and Joint Review processes. This will provide both with the opportunity to have input into the environmental, socio-economic, and technical review of the pro-

ject. Meanwhile the Joint Review Panel has commenced its technical review and has issued a request that Imperial Oil provide more information on environmental and socio-economic matters.

Interveners may also request further information from Imperial and any person may submit comments or opinions on Imperial's application.

MGP Benefits and Access Negotiations

The MGP Benefits and Access Negotiating team has hired consultants to assist it

with some of the subjects to be negotiated. Over the Christmas period the team worked to produce updated proposed drafts of the terms for the benefits agreement and the land reservation agreement. These proposed drafts will be tabled with Imperial at negotiation meetings in Yellowknife commencing January 18th.

These benefits agreement provisions focus on priority contracting and employment for Gwich'in and suggest detailed procedures to ensure the proposed obligations are met by Imperial Oil.



Gwich'in Land, Culture and Economy for a Better Future.

Summary of MGP Benefits and Access Negotiations: February 14-17, 2005, Yellowknife

The GTC negotiating team met in caucus in Yellowknife on Monday, February 14, 2005. In the caucus the GTC team reviewed Imperial's response to the GTC's revised Benefits Agreement term sheet and prepared its preliminary comments to Imperial. Imperial's response was emailed late to the GTC on Friday, February 11th.

In the meetings with Imperial the GTC listened to Imperial's explanation of terms it wants in the Benefits Agreement and asked that Imperial reply in writing to the

GTC's proposal of terms sent to Imperial over a month ago. Major issues discussed included:

- ◆ Priority employment and contracting
- ◆ Fees
- ◆ Community support and Gwich'in capacity.
- ◆ Construction spread boundaries
- ◆ Imperial's need for assurance to land access and financial certainty
- ◆ GTC's need for environmental protection of the land.

The GTC made it clear to Imperial that priority contracting and employment are a key priority for Gwich'in people. Imperial has indicated that there needs to be a consistency in priority contracting and employment, and fees across all the regions up and down the valley. Imperial's other concern is to keep the project economical.

At the end of the day on Wednesday February 16th, Imperial tabled a copy of its response to the GTC's last version of the land reservation agreement sent to Imperial over a month ago. The GTC team reviewed the document that evening and discussed its initial



responses with Imperial the next day. Imperial needs certainty as to what the costs will be to the project. It also needs to be certain of continued access to the land even if it breaches the agreement. The GTC needs to ensure the land will be protected and that it gets fairly compensated for reserving the land and for granting access, once access is required.

All agreements are in very early drafts. There is still a lot of negotiating to be done. The parties are quite far apart on matters such as fees and compensation.

On Thursday morning Richard Nerysoo and Tom Williams met with the Tulita-Deline benefits and access negotiators to compare approaches. It was agreed that the two groups would continue to meet, and would also try to engage groups up and down the valley.

At the end of the day on Thursday, February 17, 2005, the GTC team caucused with its advisors on fees and procurement to review Imperial's latest proposals

and obtain advice on an appropriate reply.

All the meetings ended with a long list of action items for both parties to

obtain and share further information and proposals. Both parties have much work to do to get ready for the next meeting.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for sometime the 3rd week of March.

Deb Bisson, Director
Lands, Resources &
Implementation



Lands Administration

GTC Lands Administration issued one Land Use authorization for Imperial Oil Ventures Resources Ltd. to conduct geo-technical research along the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project pipeline route.

Land Administration received a land use authorization application from Hunt Oil for a temporary access road into the Yukon – Turner Lake area for the 2005 season. Hunt Oil has cancelled their proposed program for this winter and are proposing to do the 3-D Seismic Program during the 2006 season.

Lands Administration staff are continuing to develop land management policies for Gwich'in-owned lands.

We are also continuing to collect information with regard to

residential leases within the GSA.

The GTC provided two Environmental Monitor training courses to beneficiaries from September 27 – October 8, 2004 in Fort McPherson and Inuvik. Twenty-two (22) beneficiaries successfully completed the course. West Delta Golder was contracted by GTC to conduct the training.

Brian Alexie was hired by the GTC as the Lands and Resources Officer in November 2004. We welcome Brian to the team.

Forrest Kendi was hired as the Casual Lands and Resources Officer in August and



Environmental Monitors Dennis Semple and Fred Jerome (near KM 251 on the Dempster Highway) - Imperial Oil Resources 2005 Winter Field Geo Technical Investigation Program.

completed his duties in late September 2004.

Lands Management & Control Guidelines

In September 2004, five new policies with respect to the establishment of campsites on Gwich'in Land were proposed to the GTC Board of Directors. The policies were recommended at a Regional RRC meeting held in January 2005.

The GTC Board approved all recommendations by staff. The Board also suggested clarifying Section 1.1 (2) of the Guidelines to say "New camps and residences require approval of the DGO, upon recommendation of the local RRC." Prior to this change, the guideline stated that the RRC grants approval.

Mardy Semmler
Lands Manager



Frog Creek Pit Management Plan

Howard Townsend of Wolverine Land Management has been hired to complete this plan. In August 2004, he and Dwayne met with the Gwich'in Land & Water Board, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada, GNWT Transportation and McKenzie Valley Construction to discuss the management options of the plan. Basically, everybody in the meeting supports the idea of having a plan, especially INAC who at some point wants to establish plans for some of the pits and quarries on crown land in the GSA. Several suggestions were made which Wolverine Land Management will make and then revise the maps. The plan was presented to and approved by the GTC Executive Council in February 2005.

Peel River Wells Inspection Program

There are eighteen (18) abandoned well-sites within the Peel River Watershed, among which the Gwich'in and the Yukon Territorial Government have identified six as priority wells of concern. In September 2004, the YTG was assisted by Dwayne in obtaining ground and

water samples along with photographs at all sites. A report will be submitted to all interested parties sometime in the new-year after samples are analyzed at Indian Affairs Whitehorse laboratory. The Yukon Oil & Gas Management Branch indicated they have hired a consultant to do one technical report and one plain language report earlier this January. The reports will be presented to all interested parties in the spring.



GTC Signage Project

All Dempster Highway signs were installed in August 2004 by J.B. Enterprises. Mardy reported in September that the GSA Welcome sign is no longer

standing and may have been knocked down by a tractor trailer. An inspection of parcel corner signs is scheduled within the next month to assess whether signs are still in place. When new funds become available, the GTC may consider having signs made to mark Gwich'in Lands along the major GSA rivers.

Cabins on Gwich'in Lands

Dwayne will submit a proposal for the GTC to implement a cabin registry system applicable to Gwich'in-owned land. Basically, all cabins must now be registered. Any new cabin owner must apply to the local Renewable Resource Council for approval; and receive a cabin reserve (like a lease) from the GTC on the advice of the local RRC. Conditions may include keeping the site clean and non-transfer of use or ownership to non-Gwich'in without GTC approval. There will be no fee for the lease. The lease entitles the owner to have his cabin registered in the GTC cabin registry, and all cabins not registered can be removed by the GTC. Owners who do not comply may end up having their cabins confiscated by the GTC.

NOTICE

Registration of Gwich'in beneficiary Campsites on Gwich'in Lands

To all Gwich'in who currently have campsites on Gwich'in Settlement Lands: please be advised that the Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) is requesting you to register your campsites with the GTC in order to receive a Gwich'in Residential Lease (certificate). This will ensure the GTC has the location of your campsite in the GTC cabin database. There is no requirement to pay any fees for having your campsite registered and you will be contacted when other applications for land uses may conflict with your use. Once registered, you will be presented with a Gwich'in Nation Flag.

Process for the establishment of New Gwich'in Beneficiary Camps

New residences on Gwich'in Settlement Lands must be approved by the local DGO's and all decisions copied to GTC. When the RRC's receives a request from any Gwich'in to build a camp or residence on Gwich'in Settlement Lands, it shall consider the following procedure.

1. The RRC Coordinator will assist with completing an application to establish a campsite on Gwich'in Land and prepare for discussion at next RRC Council Meeting.
2. The RRC will review the request, considering the following questions (Chapter 6.11.4 of the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council Manual).
3. The RRC will record their decision in the RRC minutes and advise the DGO of the decision.
4. The Application Form(s) and DGO Approval shall be copied to the GTC Lands & Resources for entry in the Gwich'in Lands Registry.

Process for the establishment of New Non-Gwich'in Camps

Non-Gwich'in Beneficiaries wanting to lease Gwich'in Settlement Lands for the purpose of constructing a camp must comply with the following procedure.

1. Submit a Gwich'in Land and Resources application with the appropriate application fee to the GTC.
2. The GLR Officials will review the application to determine if it is complete.
3. The application and a map are distributed to community Gwich'in referral organizations for a 10-day review/comment period.
4. Providing that the Gwich'in referral organization have no objections, a Residential Lease Authorization will be drafted for the applicant's consideration.
5. All information will be entered into the Gwich'in Lands Registry and the applicant will be required to pay an annual rental fee for use of a site.

Application Fee: \$624

Annual Rental Fee: \$ 500/year



Resources – *Norm Snowshoe, Manager*

Drin Gwiinzii Shilak Kat

In the December 2004 issue, I said “*Good day, my young dogs*” due to translation error. I apologize if anyone was offended but from all responses I got, it was a good laugh!

I chaired the Regional RRC Meeting held in Aklavik during the third week of January 2005. Updates were received from RWED, GRRB, GTC and Northern Gas Project Secretariat on completed and proposed activities. The RRCs also passed several motions which included support for site clean-up on the Peel River, increasing honorar-

ium for attendance at regional RRC meetings, and RRC staff training initiatives. Minutes of the meeting will be available shortly and sent to communities.

The GNWT has contracted with SENES, a southern consultant firm, to carry out an audit on the environment in the NWT. They will check on environmental trends, regulatory regimes, and the state of the



environment. They will meet with various Gwich'in boards and organizations in Inuvik and Aklavik during February. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this audit.

**Chief and Band Council Orientation Workshop
Fort McPherson, January 13th**



SELF-GOVERNMENT UPDATE

Executive Council Direction

On February 3rd, the Gwich'in Tribal Council Executive gave direction for the Community Development Manager and Beaufort Delta Self-Government Office to emphasize the development of Gwich'in Community Constitutions in their present efforts, within the context of developing Gwich'in governmental institutions.

The GTC self-government staff is to work with community staff, self-government advisory committees and Gwich'in leadership to conduct workshops that would help in understanding existing government models, government concepts, the broader social and legal context of government in the Beaufort-Delta, and to facilitate discussions. Fort McPherson has already begun preliminary drafting of a Gwich'in Constitution while Aklavik and Tsiigehtchic have each begun early drafts of their Gwich'in First Nation Authority constitutions (charters). Two more workshops are planned for the Nihtat



Gwich'in (March 3-4) and Tetlit Gwich'in (March 7-8) .

Elders & Youth Gatherings

At the first gathering hosted by Tetlit Zeh in December 2004, the Elders expressed their willingness to help the Youth with more on-the-land cultural activities. The Ehdiiat Gwich'in Council will host the second Gwich'in Elders and



Youth Self-Government Workshop on March 11-12. These workshops are to promote education and understanding of the self-government process, including a Gwich'in Constitution and GFNA charters, and to develop cultural ties between the two generations.

Gwich'in Youth Workshops

The GTC, Beaufort-Delta Self-Government Office, and York

University have partnered to have two law students on a seven-week placement. Maggie Farrington and Senwung Luk have met with Gwich'in youth to develop self-government presentations for high school audiences. The workshops will cover such concepts as governmental structures (e.g., law making authorities, division of powers), Treaty 11 and its significance, the inherent right of Aboriginal self-government, the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*, and the Beaufort-Delta self-government initiative.

Maggie and Senwung met with junior and senior high school students at Chief Paul Niditchie School and Samuel Hearne Secondary School with plans to meet others at Moose Kerr School and Chief Julius School.





GWICH'IN ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The GTC – in conjunction with the Gwich'in Development Corporation – will establish a Gwich'in Achievement Awards to encourage and recognize those people who have demonstrated excellence, leadership or exceptional dedication to service in ways that bring credit to the Gwich'in Nation.

The GAA is established to build self-esteem and pride for the Gwich'in Nation and to provide role models for Gwich'in youth. The awards will serve to honour our Elders, Youth and leaders who share a vision of equality and human dignity and who make a difference in Gwich'in society.

Under the guidelines, any Gwich'in or Canadian resident may nominate individuals:

- of Gwich'in heritage enrolled in the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*;
- who demonstrate outstanding career achievement or personal accomplishment;
- of any age (youth achiever nominees must be 15-25 years of age);
- permanent Canadian Resident.

All career areas are eligible for nomination and include, but are not limited to:

Gwich'in Land

- Environment
- Fisheries
- Natural Resources

Gwich'in Culture

- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Education
- Law and Justice
- Athletics

- Media & Communications
- Community & Public Service
- Health & Social Services

Gwich'in Economy

- Business and Commerce
- Community Development

Gwich'in Lifetime Achievement

Gwich'in Future – Our Youth

The deadline to receive nominations will be 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 13, 2005. Additional forms or information can be obtained by calling Mary Ann Ross at the Gwich'in Tribal Council at 1-867-777-7900.

The 2005 GAA recipients will be honoured at the GTC Annual General Assembly to be held in





Community Policing Consultation (Beaufort-Delta Region)
Inuvik, January 25, 2005

This was one of five regional meetings to be held across the NWT by the RCMP, Justice Canada and the GNWT Justice to gather input on policing in the North. The result will be a strategic plan for the future of policing in the NWT, Nunavut and the Yukon.

Representation at this meeting was from all Beaufort-Delta communities, plus several RCMP detachment commanders and senior members from "G" Division in Yellowknife. Comments and questions were - for the most part - expressed

in previous meetings, e.g. 2004 Community Justice Conference, but centred mainly on:

- inadequate human resources at the detachment level;
- improvements to incidence response time, e.g. Sachs Harbour and Tsiigehtchic;
- more cultural and community orientation for new members; and
- plans by the RCMP to deal with the negative social impacts of the proposed oil and gas pipeline construction.

Comments and questions from the GTC delegate concentrated mainly on:

- the passage of a Police Ser-

vices Act for the NWT to allow for the creation of regional Aboriginal police forces that would augment the human resource shortages presently experienced by "G" Division; and

- the low level of commitment to the Social Agenda as promoted by the NWT Legislative Assembly, which is resulting in the RCMP having to deal mainly with social issues rather than law enforcement.

At every opportunity, the facilitators were encouraged to include in their report, to the GNWT Justice, the cancellation of the proposed \$45-million courthouse facility in Yellowknife in favour of distributing those monies to community justice committees and victim service programs.



Margaret Gordon,
Employment Liaison Officer

The Community Feast that was organized by the Gwich' in Tribal Council, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Inuvik Native Band and the Ingamo Hall Friendship Centre on the 17th of December was a great success. We plan to make this an annual event; hopefully we will attract as many people as we did last year.

Since my last report I've spoken to a few companies in the Oil & Gas Industry. Tom I. Williams (*not the GTC one*) called from Esso Resources in Calgary and we discussed getting some training for a few of our beneficiaries. We then had a conference call with Tara Cardinal from Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and discussed the training needs. Colt KBR wanted at least three individuals from each organization to train as nod well operators, bus drivers, cooks, driller's assistant and environmental monitors. These people will then in turn become mentors.

I met with Bill Chevrier of Colt KBR and gave him names of potential candidates for the training. Once the contractor has the names he wants he will be contacting the individuals. This training is set up so that

we have some beneficiaries with the proper credentials in place when the pipeline goes through. Colt KBR has notified me that MacKenzie Valley Construction is the contractor and once we have names, the training will begin.

I will be working closely with the Human Resources Data Base clerks when they go out to the communities to get information for the data base. We will be visiting the Gwich' in communities in February. In March, a follow-up meeting will be planned for each of the communities for those people we missed.

At the moment I've been working hard with the Career Quest 2005 committee to make sure we put on a good display. Career Quest will be held

March 16 - 17. It is held annually to help students think about what they would like to do when they finish high school. We also let them know about available training opportunities. Local companies or organizations gather information on employment and training needed for a specific job. We encourage them to finish school so that they can get proper training. I'll have more details and pictures in the next edition of the GTC Newsletter.

If you haven't done up a resume yet or would like to get one done, please come in and see me during regular business hours, I'll be happy to help you out...you can also fill out the Human Resource Data Base forms while you're in the office.



Aboriginal Skills & Employment Partnership (ASEP)

Background:

On October 2003, the Honorable Ethel Blondin-Andrew announced a new training initiative—the Aboriginal Skills & Employment Partnership (ASEP).

The purpose of this initiative is to provide employment and training opportunities so that aboriginal people can participate in the oil & gas industry in the Northwest Territories. This is a shared initiative that required the support of industry, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Aboriginal Governments along the corridor of the proposed MacKenzie Valley Pipeline.

Nellie Cournoyea (Chair, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation) and I were in attendance at the announcement. We had responded that, to be effective, program decisions must be made by the respective Aboriginal Governments by and on behalf of their memberships. Almost a year later, our 160 page proposal was approved.

On October 1st, 2004 Aboriginal Futures Society hosted the ASEP celebration in the new Aurora Campus.

Acknowledgement:

I commend those who put this proposal together from its first to final stages.

I would like to thank the man who performed his magic, President Fred Carmichael. Fred pulled in the Deh Cho when it was thought impossible to do so but he talked to Grand Chief Herb Norwegian who, in the interests of his membership, agreed to join. Without all the Aboriginal groups affected we would not have had a pan-territorial initiative.

Great appreciation to Nellie Cournoyea for her persistence and the time she devoted to put this proposal together.

A big thank you to our wonderful staff and IRC staff that put in a lot of time and expertise: Tom Williams, Barb Crawford, Colin MacGregor and Lucy Kuptana.

I have always paid recognition when it is due and I would like to thank Leslie Allen—ADM

ECE, Roger Connelly --COO IRC, George Hamilton—Imperial Oil Resources, Gerry Simon – ConocoPhillips Canada, Murry Slezak—Shell Canada, Rob Hunt—Akita Drilling Ltd, Joanne Young of IOL, Larry Hutchinson—then Sahtu Secretariat, Krista Rivet—then ECE, John Holman—DCFN, Lorayne Moses—DCFN, Kerry Robinson and Aurora College staff and Don Antoine—Aboriginal Summit for all participating in the beginning, middle and end stages of the proposal.

I would finally like to thank Mr. Brian Penney, Interim—Executive Director of the Aboriginal Futures Society. Brian was hired as the consultant to pull together and work with all the various people mentioned to complete the proposal and start up the Aboriginal Futures Society whose members include representatives from the Gwich'in, Inuvialuit, Sahtu, Deh Cho, Industry, and the Government of the Northwest Territories. We are currently recruiting an Executive Director for our Inuvik Office.

Where we are now:

As you can see the whole process took a long time. A lot of people were involved. I know that many people have questions on ASEP and I hope that I can answer a lot of them in my report.

The GTC ASEP budget of \$284,220 for this fiscal year was approved by Aboriginal Futures. By the end of March 2005, we will have delivered training to our membership in Drill Rig Operations, Emergency Medical Responder, Heavy Equipment, Safety Training, Small Engine Repair, Trades Access and University Access.

The GTC 2005/2006 ASEP Training Plan is under development and will devote \$568,000 to deliver the following opportunities:

- ◆ **Basic Skills & Pre-Employment**—Bridging Employment Skills, Class 5 Driver Training, UCAP, Trades Access and Pre-Technology.
- ◆ **Industrial Skills:** Heavy Equipment Operation, Emergency Medical Responder, Safety Training, Trades, Marine



Training, Small Engine Repair and Drill Rig Training.

- ◆ **Employment Support:** Train-the-Trainer.

GTC will receive almost \$2-million over the next three years to provide training opportunities in the oil and gas industry. The program will focus on employment partnerships that will provide career opportunities for the membership.

Barb Crawford, Manager of Education & Training has toured

the communities, working on the ASEP Training Plan with the input of the Community Employment Officers/Designated Gwich'in Organizations. If you have any suggestions on other education and training not being offered in the Oil & Gas field you can contact **Barb Crawford Toll Free 1-866-414-4669**. If you would like to take advantage of the opportunities now available, please contact your local Community Employment Officer:

Mary Ruth Wilson—Tetlit Gwich'in Council at 867-952-2330

Margaret Thompson—Education & Training at 867-952-2500

Richard Papik—Aklavik Indian Band at 867-978-2340

Gwichya Gwich'in Council at 867-953-3201

Margaret Gordon—Gwich'in Tribal Council at 867-777-7909.

“The opportunity to educate, train and develop your skills will pay off in the end when you can proudly say that you accomplished your goals and have everything you wanted for yourself and your family.”

I hope this information helps our membership with their career choices. With your input, we can make this ASEP initiative work for you and for us.

The GTC is very proud of its ongoing support of ASEP and looks forward to your success. If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to know more about Aboriginal Futures please do not hesitate to contact me at 867-777-7905. In the very near future we will also be putting out more information on ASEP in our newsletter and other forms of communication.

Mahsi Cho,
Mary Ann Ross, Vice President



Honorable Ethel Blondin-Andrew & Micki Okane at the announcement of ASEP funding

CONGRATULATIONS!!
2005 Wise Woman Award Recipients
NWT Status of Women Council



Ruth Wright,
Beaufort-Delta
Region

Tonya Cazon, Deh
Cho Region
(with husband Michael, and daughters Golia (right) and Meegwun (left) -
Tonya is the daughter of Lawrence Norbert,
GTC Self-Government Regional Coordinator



Education & Training Department

Barb Crawford

The first week of February Norma Blake, Margaret Thompson, and I went to Yellowknife to meet with Human Resources Development Canada (HRSDC) to discuss renewal of the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement (AHRDA). There were seven other organizations who administer the AHRDA program there. We discussed the funding levels available and some of the new provisions in the agreement. We tried to come to a consensus on the funding options but were unable to. Upon returning home we were informed that we would have the same funding levels as the 2004-2005 fiscal year. This was very positive as we did not take a cut in the program amounts, although there never seems to be enough money.

The following week I attended a conference in Yellow-

knife called the “NWT Leader’s Network Forum 2005”. It was very interesting and informative. There were a number of workshops including: inspiring workplaces—creating a healthy happy and humane work environment, creating a living workplace for ongoing success and monitoring work-



Rig 63, Ellis Island

shop. The conference was opened by Tony Whitford and ended with Sharon Wood, the first North American woman to climb Mount Everest. The master of ceremonies was Paul Andrew of CBC North Beat. I

would highly recommend this conference to anyone interested in improving their working relationships with colleagues and their work environment.

The last week in February I went on a community tour to meet with organizations and individuals within the Gwich’in Settlement Area. On Monday

February 21st I spent a day in Inuvik. On Tuesday February 22nd I spent the day in Tsiigehtchic. On Wednesday February 23rd I spent the day in Aklavik. On Thursday February 24th I went on a rig tour with Rob Hunt and Dave Miller of Akita Equetak. I visited Rig #63 on Ellice Island which is owned by Akita and being operated by Chevron Canada. We arrived at the rig and did a tour, then attended a Safety Meeting with both the day/night

shifts. It was a great experience which helped me to better understand which jobs are available and to meet with beneficiaries. About 50% of Akita’s employees are Gwich’in beneficiaries.

Other meetings which I attended include:

- ◆ Capacity Building Subcommittee—January 7th & February 25th.
- ◆ Petroleum Subcommittee—January 13th.
- ◆ Regional Training Partnership—January 27th & February 17th.
- ◆ Education & Training Committee—January 29th & February 19th.
- ◆ Aurora College—February 1st & February 21st.
- ◆ Tetlit Training Committee – January 12—26th.

The Education & Training Development has developed this years training plan and budget for the Aboriginal Skills to Employment Partnership (ASEP) program. This includes: heavy equipment op-



erations, drill rig training, safety, trades, small engine repair, emergency medical responder and pre-employment training. The Pipeline Operations Training Committee (POTC) will be recruiting for individuals interested in industrial training opportunities. If you are interested in this field, you can contact Rory Voudrach, Aurora college at 867-777-7839 or toll free 1-866-287-2655.

It will be an extremely busy year and there will be a lot of opportunities for training. Just remember that our depart-

ment needs at least two weeks to make arrangements for training. Please submit your application as soon as possible since late applications will be necessarily be accepted. Have a nice day!

Barb Crawford, Manager Education & Training Dept. Gwich'in Tribal Council (867) 952-2592 or e-mail: barb_crawford@gov.tetlitzheh.ca.

For Bursaries contact:

Cheryl Wright
Boards & Trustee Coordinator
Box 1509
Inuvik, NWT X0E 0T0
Ph: (867) 777-7916
Fax: (867) 777-7919
E-mail: cw@gwichin.nt.ca



CONGRATULATIONS!!

National Aboriginal Achievement Award Recipients



Sharon Firth, Sports



**Andy Carpenter Sr.
Environment**

Photo: National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation



Bertha Allen, Lifetime Achievement

Photo: J. Bowen, BDSGO

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 16 & 17, 2005

- **Career Quest 2005**

March 18, 2005

- **GTC Board of Directors**

March 21-24, Aklavik

April 18-20, Tsiigehtchic

- **Gwich'in & Inuvialuit Final Self-Government Agreement Negotiations**

March 29-31, 2005

Our Nations, Our Governments: Choosing Our Own Paths

AFN Special Chiefs Assembly, Vancouver BC

April 8-11, 2005

- **Muskrat Jamboree**

April 12-15, 2005

Pipeline Socio-Economic Impacts Conference
Dehcho First Nations, Fort Simpson

April 22, 2005

- **Gwich'in Day**

April 25-26, Edmonton

- **4th Annual Aboriginal Oil & Gas Conference**



Gwich'in Tribal Council - Board of Directors

President	Fred Carmichael	777-7900
Vice-President	Mary Ann Ross	777-7905
Director – Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council	Charlie Furlong	978-2340
Director – Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council	James Edwards	
Director – Nihtat Gwich'in Council	Richard Nerysoo	777-6650
Director – Nihtat Gwich'in Council	Tommy Wright	
Director – Gwichya Gwich'in Council	Peter Ross	953-3201
Director – Gwichya Gwich'in Council	Phillip Blake	
Director – Tetlit Gwich'in Council	Johnny Kay	952-2330
Director – Tetlit Gwich'in Council	Eileen Koe	

Staff

Chief Operating Officer	Tom Williams	777-7903
Corporate Manager.....	Tammy Rogers	777-7902
Corporate Secretary	Millie Jansen	777-7900
Education & Training Manager	Barb Crawford	952-2593
Education Coordinator	Margaret Thompson	952-2500
Employment Liaison Officer.....	Margaret Gordon	777-7909
Boards & Trust Coordinator	Cheryl Wright	777-7916
Regional Wellness Coordinator	Denise Kurszewski	777-7927
Environmental Impact Assessment	Kim Hawkins	777-7934
Community Development Manager	Karen Snowshoe	777-7924
Self-Gov't Regional Coordinator	Lawrence Norbert	777-7926
GCLCA Implementation Director	Deb Bisson	777-7915
Lands Manager.....	Mardy Semmler	777-7913
Assistant Lands Manager	Dwayne Semple	777-7911
Resources Manager	Norm Snowshoe	777-7912
Lands & Resources Officer.....	Brian Alexie	777-7914
Manager of Gwich'in Business Policy ..	Grant Sullivan	777-7932
Chief Financial Officer	Greg Cayen	777-7904
Controller	Joanna Sorochan	777-7908
Senior Accountant	Vicki Alexie	952-2593
Accountant (Education)	Norma Blake	952-2526
Accountant.....	Diane Koe	777-7917
Finance Clerk.....	Deanna Smith	777-7951

The GTC newsletter is a bulletin of activities of the Board and Staff for the information of Gwich'in beneficiaries. We are obliged to let you know:

1. what we have done since the last issue;
2. how it impacts, benefits, influences, involves, concerns or changes your life; and
3. what we plan to do in the next while.

All is not serious though! Humour is a very important part of Gwich'in life – woe is he /she who is not teased in a day!

Please send us your latest joke, comic story, gag, yarn, tale, rumour, or gossip heard from an Elder, government bureaucrat (?!), law student (?!), perhaps truck driver, or yes – even Hippie or Wael (car 9).

Also send us photographs of that latest scandal – oops, community event, or on the land trip!

Please send any contributions to:

The 'Gee, Tea? See' News
PO Box 1509
Inuvik NT X0E 0T0

or email:

mgordon@gwichin.nt.ca
lnorbert@gwichin.nt.ca



2025-2026 KANAWA WINTER CONVENTION



Ah, spring...when a young man's