



# DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

Box 89, Fort Simpson, NT X0E 0N0  
Telephone: (867) 695-2355 Fax: (867) 695-2038  
Toll Free: 1-866-995-3748

---



**October 28, 2016 - For Immediate Release**

## **Dehcho First Nations Reorganize Negotiating Team**

The Dehcho First Nations Leadership have restructured their negotiating team as they head into the final phase of negotiations on an Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) on lands and governance.

The DFN have been negotiating with Canada since 1999, but negotiations were slow or paused for the past two years as the federal and territorial governments held elections in 2015, and then DFN Chief Negotiator Georges Erasmus retired in September, 2015. The process of replacing Georges took longer than expected.

The Dehcho Process negotiations have produced most of an Agreement in Principle (AiP), but the critical sections on lands and resources remain largely unresolved as both Canada and the GNWT have dragged their feet and refused to engage in substantive negotiations.

Today, the Dehcho Leadership met and reorganized their negotiating team, appointing Grand Chief Herb Norwegian as Chief Negotiator. Norwegian worked on the DFN negotiating team between 1999 and 2003, before being elected Grand Chief. The Grand Chief will be assisted by the Dehcho negotiating team and a committee of three DFN members who will attend negotiations.

Grand Chief Herb Norwegian said “we have an experienced negotiating team and we have given our negotiators clear instructions to bring to the negotiating table. We’re excited about resuming main table negotiations and finalizing our agreement with Canada. We hope there will be no more delays in the process.”

For more information, call Grand Chief Herb Norwegian at 867-695-6607 or 695-2355.