



DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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Spring Leadership Meeting
May 12-13 2010
Chief Lamalice Complex
Hay River Reserve, NT

Attendance:

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan
Chief Roy Fabian
Chief Lloyd Chicot
Proxy Gabe Hardisty
Proxy Stanley Sanguiez
President Marie Lafferty
Chief Jim Antoine
Chief Dolphus Jumbo
Chief Abner Cayen
Chief Fred Tesou
Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge

Elder Pat Martel
Elder Sarah Chicot
Elder Henry Hardisty
Elder Ernest Hardisty
Elder Barb Sloat
Elder Rita Cli
Elder Thomas Kotchea
Elder James Cayen
Elder Leon Konisenta
Elder James Elleze

Chairs:

Herb Norwegian

Raymond Sonfrere

Staff:

Patrick Scott, A/Executive Director
Sara McLeod, Office/Travel Manager
Leona Louie, Negotiations Secretary
Felix Isiah, Information Officer Tech
Chris Reid, Legal Advisory
Neil Phillips, Sound Tech Helper
Joe Tambour, Translator

Pauline Deneyoua, Finance Clerk
Crystal Gaule, Administrative Secretary
Violet Jumbo, Language Specialist
George Erasmus, Chief Negotiator
Ronnie Antoine, Sound Tech
Alex Tambour, Translator

- 1. Opening prayer by Pat Martel**
- 2. Appointment of Chairs**

Motion #01 05/12/2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP

Moved that the DFN Leadership accept Chairs Herb Norwegian and Raymond Sonfrere for duration of the Spring Leadership Meeting.

Moved by Chief Jim Antoine

Seconded by Elder Gabe Hardisty

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION #08 24/FEB/11 2011 WINTER LEADERSHIP MEETING
MOVED THAT THE DFN LEADERSHIP APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: 2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP, 2010 FALL LEADERSHIP AND CONFERENCE CALL OF OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 1, 2010, NOVEMBER 18, 2010, JANUARY 20, 2011 AND FEBRUARY 8, 2011.
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MOTION CARRIED

Chief Jim Antoine raised a point of training people to chair the leadership meetings and assemblies so the meetings can run effectively.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan reminded the Leadership a motion has been passed that we now have Raymond Sonfrere and Herb Norwegian chairing the meeting.

Chief Roy Fabian thanked and welcomed the Leadership. Mentioned that one of their members passed away and some are in mourning. We have to respect him in remembrance of him. For how long we're going to have meetings here we have to look at that and work late tonight. They have never been chairs. We talk about West Point even the Chief from West Point is here, the Elders never sat with us for a long time they are here. They have a Chief now and they brought the Elders here. It's good to see them sitting with us. If someone's missing we have to think about them. Now it's spring again and everything is changing around us, even down south.

We want things to look better for the future. I wish you all the best and let our spirits be strong, let's help each other, support each other and work together. Even though there are hard times we have to go through, sometimes we do things by mistakes and we have to fix it. They go down south and work for these things; let them speak on our behalf, for Canada also. So, how we work here let them recognize us for what we are. I want to bring up another thing, for a long time these people that are looking for oil, diamonds and all these things those they take from our land. We're not pleased with what's going on around us. It seems that nothing is going our way. We are the Chiefs of our land. We have to take a look at this really carefully. When they started and tried to settle land claims that's what I would like to say, thank you.

3. Approval of Agenda

Co-chair Herb Norwegian went over the agenda items with the Leadership.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan noted that a lot of the agenda items are in the binders. We don't really need to get into the agenda items unless we have questions. The JRP we have information, Mackenzie Gas we got information on that too. Access & Benefits - there hasn't been a meeting. We still need someone to serve on the Wildlife Review Board that's the other appointment that we need to look at.

Chief Jim Antoine suggested one of the agenda items should be about Chief and council.

Stanley Sanguetz would like some information on the AAROM Program and the information on Access & Benefits.

Elder Rita Cli wants to know what's happening on the Land Use Plan and the Dehcho Process. Also wants to know what's going on with the Hay River Reserve side table. We haven't been brought up to speed.

<p>MOTION #2 05/12/2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP Moved that the DFN Leadership accept the agenda with noted changes. Moved by Elder Gabe Hardisty Seconded by Chief Roy Fabian MOTION CARRIED</p>

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Chief Roy Fabian indicated that there is one issue they have raised last week in regards to land quantum. It went to Sam and the Chief Negotiator. We did a discussion paper on land quantum with our lawyer. It was forwarded to the Dehcho First Nation's office. I was just wondering if that is going to be discussed.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan noted that he doesn't speak for the Negotiation Team and can't comment for them but can comment on the Land Use Plan. The information on the Land Use Plan is in the binders. We are providing the information.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: When we work on these things, we don't benefit from our Treaty. We're talking about the pipeline; there's been a lot of things said about it. Fort Providence, Nahanni Butte and Kakisa are still working on it.

Proxy Stanley Sanguetz: I would like to point out the assembly has to deal with the expiry date, the land withdrawal. I'm a bit concerned about. It is impacting our communities in the Dehcho region as we speak.

The court challenge versus the federal government, somehow it has to refer with what it has to do with the Dehcho Process. It has to be looked at seriously at the assembly. This is a last stitch effort on how the assembly is going to be handled this summer. The issue that we bring to the assembly should be brought out now. I appreciate the report that the Grand Chief gives us on that issue.

I'm concerned as a community member, with the side table, elder/councillor Rita Cli has raised that. As part of our process that is going ahead here. Its worse to see that our communities get divided and conquered by the federal government. ADK already doing that. What is going to happen on the Reserve? The main table needs to help us to understand, what happens with the rest of us, do we keep on fighting when it comes to Treaty issues? We have an assembly that's coming up. I'm not sure what's going to happen here. I always kind of thought about that all the time. The company has policies, it's driving a wedge on all our communities and regions here. Mahsi.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: Just in regards to some of the positions that are going to become vacant. At one point, there was a letter written to Nolan regarding his replacement. We need to write a letter to the Chair of Education Board to express the concern, First Nation governing ourselves. We would like to see those positions. Those new positions have to be filled with our people. Those are the kinds of messages we have to send. I've always taken a position that the Elders took, regardless of our affiliates, you have to take it in that's a way of dealing with all the issues in the region.

Chief Jim Antoine: I just want to comment what Grand Chief reported to us since the last leadership meeting. I think the option of court should always be there. If you don't like it, take us to court. I think at some point if things don't go our way, we would have to go that route, we shouldn't rule it out completely. The federal government changed their policy, for Comprehensive Claims. What does that mean? We have to explore that.

On the Land Use Plan, in 2006, we took a stand on it in Kakisa. LKFN had a meeting with Michael Nadli, I invited all the former Chiefs to attend, people from Liidlii Kue who were connected with the whole process. Our goal for Chief and council is to try and reach every

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MOTION CARRIED**

single member in our First Nations and inform them the best we can. This is the first time some people were ever told about this, even though it's been going on seven years. People were concerned about the way their tradition areas have been designated. Michael Nadli, Chair of the Land Use Plan has said he cannot change it anymore, maybe at the Dehcho Assembly.

As for water, we know about all the water pollution in Alberta. All this stuff is going into the river and into the Mackenzie. British Columbia is planning to make another dam. On the point for the National Energy Board, I want to make it clear as a Chief, Grand Chief you spoke in a way where it included all of us. I have a problem with some of the statements that you made especially to Aboriginal Pipeline Group. I don't think there was a need for it.

As a Chief, they forwarded me the copies beforehand, I recommended changes, you didn't share your comments with me. I would have made some suggestions. I have some disagreements on some of the points you made.

The other part of it is, you talk about your staff, as an elected people in the community, I have stepped into staff situations like you have too. I don't know where the advice is going to come from; I don't know if you want direction on that or leave it to the Executive Committee. On the Canadian Zinc, on community development I think it is very important that the members have jobs and put food on the table, if it goes good two years from now we can hire our people.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: With regards to the NEB hearings, the leaders requested they help to do a presentation so all the leaders were represented. I apologize if you felt that it should include everybody then we can do that too. The request was by the five communities. The six option, I agree with that. Again, unity is still my preference, that's the way I'll always operate and I represent everyone in the region and I will continue to operate that way.

I got invited to Fort McMurray, to do a presentation. The only thing I could think about is the ethics, the downstream ecosystems and residence. To deal with the issues, in light of what's happening right now, like in Mexico and things like that. We have a moral duty to the land. I cannot think any other way; I don't always make leaders happy. Its difficult for me to think that industry is more important than the land.

Approval of Winter Leadership Minutes 2010

Herb Norwegian, Chair: The floor is open for further comments

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge: Good Morning. I would suggest recognizing the time, there were good points made by the leaders, some of it is internal. At some point the next day or two, we may need to go in camera. I would like to suggest that for now, we table the item number six, the minutes of the Winter Leadership and maybe make a motion, to read the minutes later today or tonight. Let us get into the Dehcho Process. I hear the land and resources issue. Mahsi.

President Marie Lafferty: I just wanted to comment with the Grand Chief. I didn't quite understand when you were speaking about it. I couldn't make out what or who you were talking about. Could you slow down a little, so it could be translated properly? The issue with the staff is a very delicate one; it should be dealt with internally, with the Executive Committee, that's my own personal thoughts.

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The other was the dam they want to build in BC, I heard François Paulette, talk about it and he said a lot of good things. Our river is getting polluted, it isn't the same as what it was 50 years ago. We should find out more about it and speak on it, send a message to BC.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: I can provide you with the written text. I also got copies of the species and trapping statistics and also a letter on Devolution. With regards to site C, do we really need to be intervenes in that process? Leadership need to give a direction on that.

Elder Rita Cli: I agree that we should table the minutes. From what I've read, there's a few typos, our Chief negotiator says we have to stand it up in court, when we leave a paper trail for the kids, it has to be a legal document.

4. Dehcho Process Update

Georges Erasmus: We've had regular sessions since we've got over the business about a year ago. When Canada wouldn't meet with us for a while because our assembly suggested that we deal with the Land Use Plan, we were given flexibility last spring. The assembly had confirmed that.

We had a year of monthly meetings. We tried meeting with Canada, we didn't meet in the summer time otherwise we meet regularly. It's a slow process; Canada is trying to get a very detailed agreement. They've made it very clear the agreement we're having with them, the chapters is an agreement they don't have. For summary, they've decided with us, its going to be final agreements language so it means its taking more time. It also means once we get an agreement in principle. If everyone is okay with the general direction, the time will be shorter. Not a tremendous amount has changed, since the last time we met. We had meetings with the leadership in February and March.

One important thing that continues to happen, Canada and the GNWT are trying to get us to use the Tlicho Agreement as a model. They would really prefer if we changed the words from 'Tlicho' to 'Dehcho'. Every time we try to make it better, it really gets tough. They have to get new directions every time we try to improve on the Tlicho Agreement.

The other reason why we have big delays, Canada has been interested in changing the Land Use Regulations, the water boards stuff is something that they've been looking at. There's too many boards, everyone is aware that the McCrank Report saying everything should be merged into one. What that meant was because of the issues like Dehcho Resource Management Authority, which to us is a central approach to land development whether oil or gas or mining, like forestry, would be through all the Dehcho Resource Management Authority.

We haven't been able to deal with that. We have to wait until the Minister and cabinet respond to McCrank. Minister Strahl made his announcement in Yellowknife; they've put up process of appointing somebody from Hay River that was part of the Legislative Assembly. Now we have to deal with him. It's just another delaying tactic. Rather than trying to break up the process we're trying to suggest that if we're going to do anything on this, that it would be at our Dehcho table. If they are dealing with Fisheries, the DFO comes, if we're dealing with Parks, then Parks comes. We're going to suggest it be brought to our table.

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That's a very major item to deal with next week. We'll have a chance to find out what they think is going to happen there. It would be nothing more than the Federal Negotiator with Canada saying it's out of my hands now, deal with someone else and that will be that.

There are a number of chapters that have been at work for some time. You have seen them as they've been moving along. We have a chapter on Harvester's Compensation, the Tlicho agreed to it, now it's being discussed at our table. Traditional people on the land hunting and trapping, if their trap lines are interfered with, what we've been trying to do is expand what is on the Agreements. We've been getting a lot of static with the GNWT and Canada. We're trying to expand a notion of harvesting so it includes picking berries and other things like that. We've been having a bit of trouble, so far we've continued to push on that.

It's a chapter in all the agreements; it allows government as a last resort to be able to take some of our land for public purpose, for a highway or maybe a school or whatever. We threw in a monkey wrench; the Dehcho government should be able to expropriate Crown Land. If the Dehcho needed it for public purpose, we said just in case the Dehcho want to build a highway, so that everybody will be the same. No one asked for that before. If they did, they never got it, it's created a wrinkle they are trying to swallow. We have a number of harvesting chapters, migratory birds, wildlife, trees, plants and those kinds of stuff. They're all following a certain kind of pattern that's the same.

On the selected lands the Dehcho rights are clear. For instance, the trees would be owned by the Dehcho so we can decide how we are going to manage them. The rights are strongest, the harvesting rights are throughout the whole Dehcho territory, there is a few restrictions. If they fenced off their land, ask permission or this kind of stuff.

There are some minor qualifiers like that, outside of that your rights would be very clear. You can hunt and fish any time of the year. Treaties 8 & 11 – it's being clarified and there for all year around use. Because the Dehcho are going to clearly have their land rights recognized, on those lands that will be retained, what kind of access does the public have? They usually allow free access just for passing through, they can't set up structures and so forth. For instance, hunting and fishing would be controlled and restricted. It allows people to move through but not to set up permanent structures, cabins and stuff.

We began talking about things like Education with the GNWT. Not a lot has happened in this area, the GNWT is taking the lead, Education is an area of jurisdiction that they will clearly recognize the Dehcho to be able to practice. It's across the board through Early Childhood, K to 12, Early Adult Education and Post Secondary, its more limited. Authority is much stronger through K - 12. What they do want to retain and is continuing to talk about this, is to control graduation, they want a certain standard for the NWT. They are saying if people are able to go to University, they have to hit a certain standard which should be achieved. It's also sensible of what they are proposing. For now, we can continue to use the Alberta's system K-12 so our students can go anywhere in the world and are recognized as passing the same exams they would in Edmonton as the same in the NWT.

The curriculum framework would continue with the GNWT, it doesn't control the curriculum. We can create any one we wish and there are minimum things of achievement for each grade. On the university level, they don't have any problems with the Dehcho creating a College, what they're saying they want to control the actual granting of degrees and so forth. The kind of

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discussions we have with them is it's understandable. Right now, it's hard to have a College for the NWT because our population is so small. Maybe in 50 years, the population has grown, the Dehcho should have their own authority to have a College.

Their response now is we'll talk to us later about it, that part is still being explored. The basic position of Canada and the GNWT, Dehcho should control their own education. We have also looked at Eligibility and Enrollment, we have brought that to you a number of times, anyone who is a descendant who lived in the Dehcho area will be a part of the agreement and have the right to be enrolled. We're pushing for an early Enrollment and suggesting once we have an Agreement in Principle and that it could be completed, perhaps after the agreement is finished, we'd like to start early.

A small committee has been created with someone from Canada and the GNWT. Part of what we're dealing with now is the present Canadian government would like to keep things low cost. How about if we just use the band lists, we don't have to do an enrollment? Everywhere else, there used to be a complete enrollment, everyone lays out their ancestry. You come up with your family tree and you show your ancestry. So you get a complete picture of how you're connected. At the moment Canada is trying to keep this on the cheap and trying to find ways to cut corners.

The big decision will be at the assembly and there will be a signing. This will not go to the parliament. For us we will have to send out a lot of information for people to understand it and at leadership.

5. Jim Stevens Presentation – Mackenzie Highway Extension

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: The other consideration is if the Dehcho has the most highway infrastructure than any other territories. We know what we have, we also know how this has impacted on us. The road does create environmental issues, you drive from Fort Providence to Yellowknife, the draining systems are not good, we're drowning out trees. If we agree to do it and we have to make sure it's environmentally friendly and Dehcho driven. We need a motion to agree with it.

Proxy Gabe Hardisty: I didn't do this point myself. It was dealing with the Elders and they wanted to stop the highway so I did. It was coming in too fast, we're just a small community in the Dehcho. Wrigley moved in 1966, we're trying to get ourselves established. At the same time, the highway was coming towards our community. The Elders were really concerned about that. In a few years, it continued to Wrigley.

In our tradition our environment we need to make sure that everything is handled right, not to make a mess out of it again. I would like to see our young people training on this ninety kilometre stretch; it would create jobs for young people. We know about young people looking for work. Yes, let's go over it, take it and work with it. We'll have our highway continue all the way to Arctic Red River. The charters are too expensive to fly anywhere. Day by day everything's changed. You can't go back trapping. Mahsi.

Chief Jim Antoine: Thank you for the presentation on the Mackenzie Valley Highway. We heard the announcement from the federal government where they are planning to put some money into the study. I spoke with Wrigley Chief, Tim Lennie, about this a couple of times. He's

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saying that this highway has been planted through PKFN traditional territory. For me, I respect the community of Wrigley, from what I see it's their traditional territory. It's up to them to see how they are going to get themselves organized. That's the way I view things. Having said that, we have a company, Nogha Enterprises joint venture with PKFN to maintain the airport and the highway to Wrigley and do the winter road all the way from Wrigley to Blackwater.

We're actually doing something already; we're also going to be replacing the Shale Creek Bridge as a joint venture. As a small community corporation working along different infrastructures along the highway, we have to decide how we're going to do it internally. The way that I see things, any government dollars, the aboriginal corporations should try and grab it instead of an outside company coming in.

Jim Stevens: This project that we're doing is allowing the Dehcho to let the maximum amount stay in the region.

President Marie Lafferty; I would like to know how soon this project is going to take place, because the pipeline seems to be put on hold for a number of years now, is this highway going to be coming ahead of the pipeline or built along with it? I would like to know how soon because there is a lot of young people in the region and a lot of dollars for training. It's all geared towards the pipeline. We may be able to get it changed and include the highway training as well in those dollars, for heavy duty equipment, I would like to know a timeframe approximate.

Jim Stevens; The highway and the pipeline are totally independent of each other. The work we are doing now is to gather information and bring it to the regulators so it could be permit ready. Construction would be two to three years away.

Georges Erasmus: We're aware that Canada has provided on another option, Fort Liard is involved now in negotiations.

MOTION#03 05/12/2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP
Moved that the DFN Leadership move to go in-camera @ 1:00 pm.
Moved by Elder Gabe Hardisty
Seconded by President Marie Lafferty
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION#04 05/12/2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP
Moved that the DFN Leadership come out of camera @ 2:55 pm.
Moved by Chief Roy Fabian
Seconded by Elder Henry Hardisty
MOTION CARRIED

Herb Norwegian, Chair: I believe the budgeting and proposal review, I believe that is Pat Scott, he will do the Dehcho proposal budget and review. Maybe afterwards we can go into the overlap discussion.

6. Negotiations

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: Tab three is where you will find the information in your binders. I am sitting in for Ria and I will try and walk you through these. The budgets come to

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the leadership before they are submitted to INAC. Because the budgets had to be submitted in order for them to be considered, we had a teleconference. We made a commitment to bring the budgets here and then we will re-submit the revised budgets to INAC after this meeting. You do need to know that what you have here is what we submitted to INAC. I'm not going to go through the narrative. It describes what the monies will be used for. If you turn to page four, key results, these are the objectives that are supposed to come out of the money we spend.

Patrick reading out the report and proposals.

Stanley Sanguiez: We reported what was happening to negotiations. That was a good thing that was taken place, we seriously need to put that monies back in to the community.

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: The money that was used for that community person, that ran out a couple of years ago. It wasn't actually out of this budget, it was monies that was cut from the overall operations from Canada.

Chief Jim Antoine: Thank you. A couple of months ago, the Executive Director got us to sign this document. It was pretty odd I've never had to do this before. She wanted all of our signatures, like she was approving something that hasn't been put together yet.

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: I think that document was because there had not been a leadership meeting to review submissions, we had a deadline. It was for Canada to take note that these budgets have not been reviewed by leadership. It was to meet the initial deadline that Canada had made.

Chief Jim Antoine; I would like to make a point that it doesn't happen again. I am not going to sign anything like that again. It was pretty strange. I don't think we should practice that anymore.

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: Section "1" to be honest with you, I don't know what section 1 is in the application form. I don't know if Chris or Georges could comment on the last part of the application; on the detailed breakdowns. There is a spreadsheet on page seven. I'm not sure what that partner for \$151,000.

Chris Reid, Legal Advisor: The section "1" is a summary of the pages that follow. I believe that what this means is if you look at the first column, this proposal is asking to contribute \$75,000 towards the administrative costs of negotiations, partners are asking to give \$72,754, so the total cost would be \$151,000. The \$3000 from the applicant would come from the DFN Core funding.

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott; I don't know if people want to look at these spreadsheets in detail, I don't know what the practice is. The next part of the section three is the Interim Measures Agreement and there is a budget on page three. This money is used for Youth Camp, Resource Management Coordinator for \$191,043.

Proxy Gabe Hardisty: Contractors, \$65,000; the other page you have another contractors for \$297,000. What's all these contractors?

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A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: One of them would be Laura Pitkanen working on drafting then we have Petr Cizek, making contribution to the Land Use Planning and then we supplement what the Land Use Planning rates are. There are a number of short term contracts that are issued for specific work. For example, we had work done on Interim Measures. It's a variety of things; we pull the contract money together and use it for specific matters.

The next budget you see is the Interim Resource Development Agreement. This \$150,000 is result of the IMA. It's broken down into wages, benefits, cash grants, contractors, training, capacity development, materials and supplies, travel, accommodation, mileage, per diem and administration fees. We pull monies to make meetings. If we have special workshops like last fall, brought the leaders together, the cost to cover that meeting, we would use the money from different budgets.

The next one is the Gathering Strength Proposal. It supports the negotiations process, the Elders committee, specifically the constitutional and community governments work that goes on, language. Coming back to Stanley's concern, there was no longer money available for each community to be funded, we included a request some monies to hire a field worker, to work with each of the communities to make sure there is more consultation flow into the communities.

You will see a breakdown of the budget; the total is \$700,000. The summary at the top, \$190,000 for negotiations sessions.

Chief Jim Antoine: I'd like to address the Treaty Conference item because last summer at the assembly in Jean Marie there was a resolution to hold a Treaty Conference in 2010 in LKFN in the fall. The reason for that is we had an earlier discussion about Treaty. It's been eleven years since this whole Dehcho Process started. The understanding of Dene people is they stand on the Treaty. So this Dehcho Process or Comprehensive Claim is based on the Treaty. There are formal negotiations going on with the federal and territorial government at the same time, at the community level.

Proxy Gabe Hardisty; I guess this is why I go back to 1993 Declaration. We're supposed to be one step ahead of the government and that has never happened. The Elders' understanding of the Treaty rights is more powerful than anything. My feelings today, looking at the whole territorial government, there's no Treaty. Everything has been turned over to the territorial government without consulting us.

All the health, education, housing and hunting, there getting away from it, it's washing down to nothing now. We let that happen. Sometimes, I think about this whole deal, what the hell are we doing here? I've been involved since 1972. The Elders used to stand up to the Treaty rights and talk about everything. There's nothing now, nobody talks about it anymore. What's going to happen in the next 50 to 100 years? Its really hurting me that nothing happened. A motion was made in the assembly and nobody carried it out. This is why we are not getting anywhere. I think we should get something done and have this meeting and deal with our Treaty rights.

Chief Lloyd Chicot: On the budget, some of the concerns that were brought up this morning, in relation to the community, "Chief and council". We have looked at this a number of ways over the years. Basically, the proposals that we're submitting hasn't changed in a number of years. We spend a lot of time talking about the budget but it doesn't change, it just stays the same. That's the way it is in the community level, you get some money for core funding and economic

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development, it doesn't change. It's like we're spinning our wheels. That's one of the things that I was thinking about earlier. One of the things that we've looked at was to do Self-Government at the regional level. It's like we're creating bureaucracy within the regions, setting up our own government to take care of our own people.

The expectations from the young people, at the end of the day once we sign our agreement, we ratify all the agreements that they are going to be well off. That is not the picture that's going to be out there once we finish negotiations. The biggest thing when you look at the budget is protection of our land and resources. Even then we're using the same money to achieve what we want but we are not getting anywhere. It's one of the discussions we've been having for a long time.

At the community level, there are some of us that do a lot of work. How we could try to tie the two together? We have our settlement funds, we talked about is the economic arm of the region and how it might work. There's ways that we can do it. Even at the community level, there's money coming in. At this level, with the negotiations and the position that we're in, we are not really taking advantage, I wanted to mention that.

7. Nahanni/Trout Lake/ADK Overlap - Peter Redvers

One of the things we question is why ADK have land quantum and being shared with Yukon and BC? Canada isn't allowing ADK to expand their Land Use in the Yukon, the signing in 1922, Yukon was not party to that agreement. The two communities have stated that they are not supporting ADK with issue in the Yukon and BC. In fact, the agreement is only for the NWT, they are going to sign off an agreement to allow them. You can't have two Treaties. We only can point that out.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge: I support Nahanni. It is honourable and encourage them not to give up. If it had to go to the courts, it would be pretty scary. I will like to support them and it is possible between ADK and two bands that a boundary can be negotiated. I'm glad that you did give an example of the agreement. Ourselves and the Tlicho and that agreement is simple and does respect land users on both sides. I would like to support that. You do have an idea that would work and still be for this year and do you have a budget? Are you getting your monies soon or do you need support?

Peter Redvers: Don't think we need a motion but any statement of support would be helpful.

Proxy Gabe Hardisty: What we have left in our communities and our areas, we need to keep that document for your families. Sometimes it takes a lot of work but it continues. You might come out with the right decision some day. Don't let it come to arbitration. I have seen some letters written when you are making documents with your partnership and you can't back out and if you are not ready for that then put it down. They might not come out with any benefits with their claim. It is hard to understand that and should stick to their area. I support you guys for what you are doing for your communities.

Stanley Sanguiez: I want to refer to the boundary. Within the Dehcho boundary there's a Métis claim of the Dehcho and not what part they are claim. I think they are claiming the Redknife area.

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Peter Redvers: I'm aware of what you are talking about but can not speak to that. Maybe the negotiators can respond to that.

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: We had no formal request to meet with them but internal discussion has been made.

Chief Roy Fabian: Just to the response to the Métis. We have that problem here and we asked Canada on that issue. They said once we have land claim settlement and whatever land they get, they can do what ever they want with it. There is a new court case in place regarding Treaties where they talk about indigenous land use. In our case, KFN is only the indigenous land holders. They can settle their land in our territory and we don't agree with it. Once the Land Claims is settled, the boundaries is going to determine what the settlement will be .

Peter Redvers: There are two issues. ADK agreed they would not set up their own but would fall under the existing one. The second one is particularly to ADK, Canada wants to have them select their full land quantum, the mapping what we done, what is left in the NWT in the southwest corner.

Closing Prayer

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**Spring Leadership Meeting
Chief Lamalice Complex
Hay River Reserve, NT
May 13, 2010
Day Two**

Opening Prayer

8. NWT Water Strategy – Stephen Kakfwi

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan indicated that the Water Strategy started quite a few years ago and have repeatedly requested to change the wording and said that there should be something without prejudice to the Dehcho Process. You will see that the things that aboriginal people face. The water is a jurisdiction in our Dehcho Process.

The Leadership noted all their concerns regarding the pollution of the water and land and how it is affecting the people and animals. There were a couple of suggestions that there needs to be planned and they need to work together to resolve the matter before it gets worst. Thanks to Mr. Kakfwi for his presentation.

Richard Lafferty asked if there were any monies for putting on a summer program which will focus on water and the students will be able to get credits.

Elder Rita Cli reminded people that we still have the Dehcho Land Use Plan, which was done by Dehcho people and harvesters and was passed in Kakisa in 2006. Since then GNWT and Canada have delayed the approval and implementation. The Dehcho have always said in the past, Dehcho is not against development. The Dehcho Land Use is done and the Gwich'in and Sahtu people are now working on theirs. The younger generation would really benefit from it.

Chief Jim Antoine mentioned the water strategy was talked about at Dene Nation Leadership meeting in Dettah last fall. Touched on the meeting in Liidlii Kue with Stephen and there were a lot of concerns raised about the water.

In Yellowknife, when this was raised and had mentioned that it's a good idea to try to get everyone's collective review of what the water strategy should be in the north. The position of the Dene is a very strong position. Asked Steven if he is going to be working on this to keep in mind if we're going to include everyone else, the Dene's position is going to get pretty watered down. The final version might not be good enough for us, it may be good for every collective, if you include everyone else, for us it would be a stepping stone, I would like to say that once again and we are interested. Territorial government is trying to spend money putting something together. There is things happening, the PAS on Edehzhie, is basically to protect that watershed on top of the plateau. We do not want to have any industrial around there.

The only way we can do it right now is select a land through claims or go through protected areas strategy. Has a concern because the Government will gain control of the PAS. Don't know whether we should turn it over to a Federal Government to keep our water and keep it intact. The Park Expansion the point behind it was to protect the watershed - to keep it clean and intact. Noted it was the decision of the Leadership to do that before his time as Chief.

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Commented that their studying and during their study they are polluting and would like to get samples of water from all the sub watersheds. Trout River, Mackenzie would like get samples so we know today what's there.

Steven Kakfwi mentioned that he raised it and said it's just the way they did it. Noted that Jim use to be the Premier. They had put everything in one department and it was RWED as one department. Joe Handley came and split it again into two departments. The Government was already broke and doesn't know why they did that. Somehow on issues of Land Use Planning, it was industry trade and investment. When you're talking about the Nahanni Expansion to protect the headwaters, it's not Mike Miltenberger that's responsible, it's Bob McLeod. It should be fixed as an election item for the next Government.

On the other issues I've said I think the Premier recognized that more and more. They cannot just go to you and say we want to work together so let's sign an agreement. It doesn't work like that. For some reason it's a really narrow approach maybe they don't have the experience some of us have in working with that.

It's always been our view that you're not going to agree on everything but the things that you need done, we have to act on it. The GNWT and the Dehcho are working on these things together. Right now I don't know if you have one item that you can say we're working together or getting along. Unfortunately there are a lot of things that's not working with you. No doubt contracted with this paper because they know. They agree to have meetings with me because they know waters important but I have no problem to tell them how they should do their work.

This is the second year and I'm still here, so I supposed they don't mind to hear the things that need to be said to them. I want the strategy to work but I also want your Land Use Plan to work. The Land Use Plan is just as important. Thank you very much, and I bless you in your work, Mahsi.

9. NWT Devolution Process

Patrick Scott doing presentation on Devolution

Richard Lafferty: I just wanted to add a little bit, up until 1997, I was your observer actually Jim Antoine worked with me in the last portion of the agreement. Every time it came to a stop, was because the GNWT or Canada walked out. They didn't like the way it was going, the aboriginal people were winning. Their doing two things which are critical to the Dehcho, and our negotiation process. John Pollard is in charge of the regulatory scenario around resource development, they want to collapse all the boards and have one main board. I'm an assistant negotiator now and a part of my job is looking at the financing. If they go ahead with this, we will loose our negotiations, we will have to sign on at some future date. These are the two biggest issues we face; this really needs some serious thought and clear direction for the Grand Chief and negotiating team. It doesn't get more serious than this in my view, Mahsi.

Elder Rita Cli: What Richard is saying is right; it's really going to impact on Dehcho Process. We have to ensure our Chiefs go to this meeting on the 26-27 in Yellowknife. I really think our Chiefs need to be there, the Chiefs are the government of the Dehcho in my eyes. I really think they need to make sure that their voices are heard, we're being bombarded by governments. Dehcho has always been very strong and firm when they take a position. It seems like you guys

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are not doing your homework. It doesn't hurt to pick up the phone and ask if you don't know. I read a lot, and I speak our language, I know when I speak I know what I'm saying because I've done research. When I go to a meeting, I am prepared for a fight. I fight for the kids, not our Elders. What we leave behind is something they have to be proud of. We have to remember that we are Treaty holders; majority of Dehcho is Treaty 11. That's the most powerful tool we have is our Treaty. Our Elders have said to stand on that. That treat is not with GNWT, it's with us and the crown. The one that represents the crown is the feds. We have to say it's nation to nation, government to government. When we say that you area ready, accept the GNWT. When we first started Dehcho Process, Dehcho people had said our government is not GNWT, our government is Dehcho, and that's why we are where we are today. We seem to be back tracking, and we need to be firm. The position we've taken we still have to stand on it. If it wasn't for our Treaty, they wouldn't be talking to us. Treaties are forever, it's not an agreement that you can chuck aside.

The Elders that have gone on had said, "You stand on your Treaty, don't let it go". I've said it from the day I became involved in Dehcho, that's the position Dehcho is standing on but somehow the government have broken a piece of our region apart. There are still 9 communities standing on the Dehcho Process, we need to be strong and stand on that. When we first started Dehcho Process, all our meetings are to be done on Dehcho lands, you have to have them come to us, not us running to them to Ottawa. They come to us.

That was just a political statement, we're not doing things like we have started, it seems like we're giving into them. We have to stand on our Treaty that is a must. Treaty is our land, and our resources, we just finished talking about our water. When we talk about water, that's the most important resource we have. If the government wants to talk to us, they should be helping us implementing this Land Use Plan. I was part of it, I'm a harvester, I go out there faithfully to gather berries every year, there's parts of it that's not in the Land Use Plan, but it has to be firm, there are women that go out there every year to pick berries.

I go out there to pick our berries, the fish and the medicine and go fishing. I made sure that all these waters are protected. I wanted to make sure it's protected for our kids. That's the most important resource. I'll say it again, telling the government it's our Treaty that is the most important tool we have. I am a grandmother and mother, I want to make sure our kids of tomorrow are well looked after. We have to leave a good paper trail for them so that our kids of tomorrow will benefit. This Land Use Plan is good that other countries are looking at it. If we had done that we wouldn't be in the position we are in today, Chinese people are saying that. Petr Cizek did a lot of good work for us. Dehcho people are on the right track, don't you give into those governments, its our land and our resources and we're going to protect it. Mahsi.

Chief Roy Fabian: What Rita is saying is really important. Back when we first started with the Dehcho Process, what we thought that we were going to be the Dehcho government, everything is produced on the land, royalties, even a portion will come to us, as Dehcho First Nations. Under the Comprehensive Claims, it changes the whole picture. During that leadership meeting, I was the only one left at the table for the Dehcho, everyone had left. Dene Nation leadership meeting last fall, one of the last topics was the GNWT. The idea was trying to revive what they were pushing back in the 1980's. That was put back on the table; there are certain regions that are really pushing for it. What I understood is what they were trying to do; they wanted to get the Dene people involved in the process, so we can play a role in developing the NWT constitution. So we can gain control of how the GNWT operates.

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I have been thinking about that occasionally about what that means to us as a First Nation. I'm hearing some doubt, about DCRA, about the Land Use Plan, and that kind. I keep thinking about the framework agreement in how DCRA is the backbone of the whole Dehcho Process. If that's off the table, we're just going to govern our own land. So what happens to all the land outside that we select? That becomes a big issue.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge: Good morning, we usually find ourselves in these situations. I guess there are a number of very tough, very serious items in front of the Dehcho First Nations. On the devolution, I don't know how much time we have left, maybe this is an item we can ask for it to be done very quickly, a legal review to take a good look at what our interests is.

Lunch

10. Mackenzie Gas Project

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: They had a working group established a year ago to discuss the land and access agreement. One April 15, spoke with Randy said they had a budget to start discussing that again. Ria has more information on that and they are just waiting for the money. APG - there is no new developments but heard they are going to shut down the office in Yellowknife. The funding will be cut off too and there is no programs transferred to APG.

NEB had a hearing on April 12th, JRP is completed. NEB was April 15th. At least that I know that today is the day the federal government will respond. I asked Joe to stand by to see what the paper and position is and will give copies to the communities. There maybe a new arrangement for APG and has been considered. They are not going to make any announcement on the APG. We have a window.

11. Access and Benefits

Chief Jim Antoine: As we all know, this one here has been going on. The previous leaders that were on there are no longer on there. The last time they had a meeting was March 2009. Imperial and DFN were involved in this and everyone walked away from the table. Shane Parrish, noting has happen until we had a leadership in February. Shane did a report to us in Fort Simpson. Grand Chief written a letter to Randy Ottenbriet saying that September 18th meeting with the leaders was postponed because of that nothing has been done to date. There is nothing to report except that LKFN is in the right away and PKFN is also in that. Not too sure if Jean Marie is involved and Trout Lake is doing something for themselves.

Fort Simpson Métis are also involved, we should plan on meeting and we'll organize a meeting sometime next month and follow up with the Grand Chief with Imperial Oil. This is all I have to report at this time, Mahsi.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: Are there any comments?

Proxy Stanley Sanguéz: Jim is right. Our last meeting, we met in Calgary, myself Keyna, Berna and Darcy Moses. It felt good that we had something with Imperial Oil on Harvesters Compensation. All of a sudden we got a call, they don't agree with the Harvesters

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Compensation. I asked the harvesters what they were thinking about the impact. It would be good to get back to the table and finish off. We have to report to the assembly anyway. Mahsi.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: Thanks Stanley the floor is open to the issue. If not, Grand Chief is there any more reports that you may want to speak to?

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: In September, the National Energy Board is going to submit their final report. The GNWT will be responding to the recommendations that the JRP made, maybe we can respond.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: Is there any further comments? Ok, if we can wrap this portion of the meeting up. Elder Rita Cli?

Elder Rita Cli: Thanks. I think what needs to happen; there was a lot of info that had been gathered. I really think a meeting should happen to get it together and bring it to the assembly. There is a lot of good information that had been gathered by Dehcho. If you can get funding, I think Grand Chief made reference to that. Mahsi.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: I was just trying to find out if there was a Contribution Agreement with Imperial Oil. We're still waiting, this is something that is led by Jim so, if there is going to be a meeting he will be the one directing it.

Resolution #3 – Land Withdrawals

Moved by Chief Lloyd Chicot

Second by Chief Jim Antoine

Resolution #4 - Completion of the Mackenzie Highway

Moved by Freddy Christie

Second by Marie Lafferty

Chief Jim Antoine: Thank you. Speaking on the resolution of the completion of the Mackenzie highway, I want to know how PKFN feel about it. Having said that, Nogha Enterprises is a economic arm of the LKFN, we have joint venture with PKFN to maintain the winter roads. We maintain the existing highways and the airport together, we also have a joint venture with Ndulee crossing. We are hands on and we work with numbers and heavy equipment and contracts. With Tim, we were looking at that extension if it were to happen. This motion here says that Dehcho First Nations is going to do that. Who in Dehcho First Nations is going to do that because DFN is a political organization, it's not business. I'm wondering if someone could tell me how they see this working, everyone has business arms. I haven't thought it through I'm just asking a question. So does our joint venture back off and let you guys do it? What is the intention here?

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: It's still in draft form so it could be the Dehcho Development Corporation, but that was what I thought Dehcho First Nations. What it says, Dehcho First Nations will create a working group. The working group will determine how the other agreements look in other regions, to do the feasibility analysis. These are the types of examples that I know of. Maybe that's the best way to approach it. If it's our Corporation then that's okay too.

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Proxy Gabe Hardisty: I agree with Jim, it could be “therefore be it resolved”

Proxy Stanley Sanguéz: There’s a man who did the presentation yesterday, why don’t we follow his format? We don’t need to come up with a resolution to put it in effect. It’s nice to have everybody participated in this project. Mahsi.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: The suggestion is to create a Dehcho group. What will probably happen is the group should suggest the Corporation undertake that work. How do people feel about that?

Chief Roy Fabian: Back in 1980’s, we built the highway to Wrigley, a nine mile stretch. I remember back then how the government had budgeted \$26 million to do that little section of highway. When the work was done, we spent \$13 million, the government never disclosed that. The reason we did that, back then because Fort Liard was involved, even with all the equipment we could gather in the region, there wasn’t enough equipment in the whole region. We set up the Dehcho Regional Corporation and leased the rest and built that highway.

Proxy Gabe Hardisty: Maybe this resolution is just too fast. Understanding we’re saying we should make a resolution for a group to deal with this highway. It should be a starting point. This is just asking that only Dehcho First Nations would be controlling things, I don’t think people would like this very much. Every community should have a group to deal with the territorial government. For me that would be the best way to look at it.

Elder Rita Cli: I think you guys should table this resolution. Chief Fabian made reference to it, I remember the past where Dehcho had been involved in this Corporation like that. When Harry was still with us, he had said that he didn’t want to see the Regional Corporation compete with a local community Corporations. That’s why the project between those highways to Wrigley was finished, they dissolved that Corporation. I really think what needs to happen, is this needs to be tabled.

Both mover and seconder agreed to table the resolution for setting up a working group.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: We would like to move onto number four. I would like to turn this over to the Grand Chief, four items that need to be addressed.

12. Appointments

Grand Chief: The leaders all know, we came up with a list of groups that need filling. One was the MVLWB, Eric Menicoche got dismissed, so we came up with five names, they are all from Fort Simpson, we never really decided.

A/Executive Director Patrick Scott: Chris Reid asked me to remind you, your making appointments to the minister, for the MVLWB. The minister makes the appointment; he wanted to make sure you were fully clear on that.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: We should have resolution into that effect

Elder Rita Cli: Jason Horesay would like to sit on the Species at Risk.

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Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: I want to tell you that last fall, all these vacancies, we gave notice up. At the winter meeting, we couldn't fill all of it because there was no names coming forward. There is a name there, Jason Horesay has suggested.

Motion to Accept Jason Horsey for the Species at Risk

Dehcho Health and social Services Board – Allan Landry

Elder Rita Cli: We don't have anything in black and white to back up this Dehcho endorsement of appointment in our binder. This is a very important appointment.

Resolution on the Mackenzie Highway Extension

Moved by Freddy Christie

Second by Marie Lafferty

Resolution for Devolution

Moved by Henry Hardisty

Second by Barb Sloat

Discussion

Question has been called

Resolution #6 MVLWB

Mover Rita Cli

Secunder ??

1 against

Resolution #8 Species at Risk

Moved by Fred Christie

Second by Rita Cli

Resolution #7 Board Representatives

Moved by Barb Sloat

Secunder Sara Chicot

Question has been called

Discussion

6 abstentions.

13. Dehcho Annual Assembly

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: There was a suggestion that to have the assembly in two places. Survey was done on whether to have it either at JMR or the Reserve, there was a tie and one person broke the tie. The annual assembly also has the Elders and Youth. June 22-24, 2010 will be our assembly for three days. The staff have provided information for the assembly. The minutes have not be passed.

Stanley Sanguiez: Wilbert would like to make a suggestion to honour our late Fred Norwegian.

Wilbert Antoine: I was really moved by the past four days, the passing of a very dear friend and cousin. I think we should honour him, of a moment of silence and prayer.

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Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: You have the assembly agenda. If there is anything that you need to mention or if anything is missed let me know. The focus is on the Dehcho Process and also on unity. CKLB will be doing live coverage of our assembly. You want to say things for other people to hear.

Closing Prayer – Elder Pat Martel

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