

# DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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# Spring Leadership Meeting May 12-13 2010 Hay River Reserve, NT

#### Attendance:

**Grand Chief Samuel Gargan** 

Chief Roy Fabian Elder Pat Martel
Chief Lloyd Chicot Elder Sarah Chicot
Proxy Gabe Hardisty Elder Henry Hardisty
Proxy Stanley Sanguez Elder Ernest Hardisty
President Marie Lafferty Elder Barb Sloat
Chief Jim Antoine Elder Rita Cli

Chief Dolphus Jumbo Elder Thomas Kotchea
Chief Abner Cayen Elder James Cayen
Chief Fred Tesou Elder Leon Konisenta
Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge 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 Georges Erasmus, Chief Negotiator Ronnie Antoine, Sound Tech Alex Tambour, Translator

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

Motion #01 12MAY2010 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** 

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. Also noted that there is an assembly coming up to advise him of any suggestions for that.

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 and Benefits there hasn't been a meeting and it has to be determined. 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 Sanguez would like some information on the AAROM Program and the information on Access and 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.

MOTION #2 12MAY2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP
Moved that the DFN Leadership accept the agenda, as presented.
Moved by Elder Gabe Hardisty
Seconded by Chief Roy Fabian
MOTION CARRIED.

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.

Elder Gabe Hardisty mentioned if you're a Chief and those who are followers, the Council would use their words on how they direct people. Tonight we should talk about it and bring it up.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan: Before the support program used to work on the land and go trapping and hunting and all these things, we should do that here too. Since recently we talked about the Dehcho Process, the Government they look at it and the Treaty point of view. It's not proper yet so when we look at the aboriginal rights, the Chiefs and Leadership they want to look. People have seen five different messages throughout the community. No one knew what took place. Litigation to go to court and lobby to speak with Ottawa changed the policy. The last one was the declaration, the five things that have been brought to the communities. Nobody said anything about it, so we're still having a difficult time. If we choose something out of these five, someone will think about it, yet they will feel it. If we take a good look at these circumstances, there are Treaty Land entitlements and things like that.

If we go that way, KFN might think that way for us. Dehcho people, if we're going to go that way we have to have, there's 5000 of us. If we're going to choose land entitlement we should have bigger land for us. 220,000 square km. If we talk to the Government if they want to take us to court, it would take a long time, maybe five to ten years from now, we're supposed to meet with them.

It might take about ten years for things to take place, but we have to change that, what's going to happen if we do that, it will take a lot of years to work on. Right now we talk about this conference and land claims, it seems like it sounds good. Everything that we think about we can add it, for land use plan, on that issue I'm not going to say anything about it. In 2006 when this declaration was made, we are still standing on it, in 2006 that land use planning was made, even land withdrawal. White people are talking about that also right now, it's really strong those things that are coming out, the hydro, they have to look at it, even in renewable resources they are the ones that work on these things. The hunters and trappers, it even affected them, the people from the Dehcho it seems like we're not getting anything out of it. Even them, when they built that dam, its like there's no muskrats or anything. We feel it we know what's happening.

Maybe one day when we work on these things, all our things will be gone from it, we don't benefit from our treaty. Were talking about this pipeline also, there's been a lot of things said about it, fort providence Nahanni butte people, Kakisa, Dehcho people, their still working on it, and looking at it. Since 1973, Burger started that thing, how many leaders they all talked about it, when they talk about it, that's when the pipeline started in 1973, in 2001 they had a special assembly in Wrigley, in 2006 the JR hearing, the elders have spoke up and all these things, whoever lived along the Mackenzie River they put their input in.

This coming Christmas they have made 176 conversations, whatever we look at it, all these people are saying 2013, we will deicide what we're going to do. We have worked on all these things, even the NWT water strategy, the assemblies, Stephen Kakfwi, he's going to tell us about it. Who is going to be the government of all these things, who is going to take their place, we have to tell them. It would be good if someone from the Dehcho could take his place, or from Simpson. If we don't say anything about it nothing is going to take place.

Yesterday they were going to tell us what was going to take place, but it didn't happen, they had staff meetings, I'm kind of embarrassed about what took place, I told them a lot of concerns, when their working, it seems like nothing is going ahead because of, this fall the assembly we're going to talk to them and see what we can do. It seems like their not getting through to anybody, the last meeting last April, I told them to give us time so we can look at these things. And it could go on the agenda if we got enough time, the executive committee, we have to ask what they think about this situation. Some other things I'm not going to bring up, but besides that, when we become a leader, what does it mean? What are the examples to be a leader, that's what I'm thinking about, even the treaty rights, all these things that we follow with guidelines, its all coming out in front there's a lot of issues being brought up on these things, before I say anything to them, I think about what I want to say but I follow examples.

If we put it on the radio, then maybe people will know what's going on. Think about what' your going got say, everyone will hear it. If we're going to follow that guideline, it will be no good. We have to think about what we're going to do, this message I'm giving you lets all stand together. Besides that what we tell you right now, this assembly its going to be brought out. IF things are not accomplished here, we can talk about it at the assembly, that's all I have to tell you.

**Stanley Sanguez:** The ones that 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, I appreciate that you brought that. Nolan Swartzentruber's replacement, I had a chance to speak with him, he is leaving this June, retiring, I'm not old, I'm not young, I'm in between, he's been doing it for 30 years, how is that going to be handled through the Dehcho leadership, for appointee, or internally on how that should be chose.

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 here, on how the assembly is going to be handled this summer, the issue that we bring to the assembly should be brought tout 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 and 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, already ADK is 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 policy, 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 chairman to express the concern, ads first nation governing ourselves, we would like to see those positions, our positions. It becomes vacant, but not replaced. Those new positions have to be filled with our people. Those are the kinds of messages we have to send. Our membership, 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. Unless it comes from those first nations that are effecting us.

Chief Jim Antoine: I just want to comment what Grand Chief reported to us since the last leadership meeting. As a chief I've just been here 10 months now, he said at that time you didn't say anything about it. He did not respond to it, I want to be clear I've just been here ten months. I think the option of court should always still be there, everything we do here, should be the Indian actions or decisions should be based on the possibility of an eventual court case; we still have an outstanding case. 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 claim. What does that mean; we have to explore that. I just wanted to comment on that. On the land use plan, there was 2006 we took a stand on it in Kakisa, in LKFN we 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, chief and council is to try and reach every 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. Mike Nadli whose chair of the Land use plan, has said he cannot change it anymore, maybe at the Dehcho assembly, so we said we would do some work on it at the community level.

As for water we know about all the water pollution in Alberta, all this stuff is going into the river, and into the Mackenzie, BC is planning to make another dam. On the point for the National Energy Board, I want to make ti clear as a chief, I also made a statement following the council of elders and harvesters that herb represented, Jonas was there representing the council of harvesters and elders. We got direction from there. 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, the forwarded me the copies before hand, I recommended changes, you didn't chair your comments with me, I would have made some suggestions.

In the north we got a lot of bad press, it didn't make us look very good, as a chief I try to be respectful of everybody. That's a direction from our members. When we got bad press, and this is the form to raise it at, 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, all the emails, the leaders requested they help to do a presentation, so all the leaders that 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 6 option, I agree with that. Again too, 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, and fellow man too. 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. If there is an issue that needs to be dealt with head on, by all means. Values are values, its what I grew up with.

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 6, 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, and negotiations I hear the land and resources issue, Mahsi.

**President Marie Lafferty**: I just wanted to comment with the Grand Chief, the one is, 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. 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 needs 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.

Break.

# 4. Dehcho Process Update

Georges Erasmus: So again you can follow along with the binder. 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, so we had a year of monthly meetings, we tried meeting with Canada, we didn't meet in the summertime. 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 basically final agreements language, so it means its taking more time. It also means once we get an agreement in principal, if everyone is ok 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. There's a lot that's new, but we'll deal with some things.

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 that, the issues like Dehcho Resource Management Authority, which to us is a central approach to how 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 up till now. 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, former guy here 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 table, people should come to our Dehcho table. If they are dealing with fishery the Department of Fisheries & Oceans comes, if we're dealing with Parks, then Parks comes, whatever they want to call the process that's been set up, to follow upon McCrank. We're going to suggest it be brought to our table. So that's a very major item.

In our session will be next week, we'll have a chance to find out what they thinks going to happen there, it would be nothing more then the federal negotiator with Canada saying it's out of my hands now, deal with someone else, and that will be that.

Some of the chapters that we're dealing with, there's 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 harvesters compensation, the Tlicho agreed to it, now its 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. Were 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 would have, the 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 and 11, its 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 begun talking about things like education with the GNWT, since a month ago, not a lot has happened in this area. 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. University it's more limited, authority is much stronger through k and 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 System, K-12, so our students can go anywhere in the world and are recognized as passing the same exams they would in Edmonton, 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. That's where we're at on these discussions. 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 discussions we have with time is it's understandable right now, its 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 well 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 enrolment, 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 wishing for an early enrolment, we're suggesting once we have an agreement in principle, and that it could be completed perhaps after the agreement is all finished, we'd like to start early, we're having some discussions on that. A small committee has been created, with someone from Canada, part of what we're dealing with now, is the present Canadian government would like to keep things on the cheap, how about if we just use the band lists, we don't have to do an enrolment. Everywhere else, there used to be a complete enrolment, everyone lays out there 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 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.

Like living with this new highway. It's safe to say that we should go ahead 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, and 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 90 km stretch; it would create jobs for young people. We know about young people looking for work, if we could put this project back the way, I think for me, yes let's go over it, take it and work with it. We'll have our highway continue all the way to arctic red. The charters are too expensive to fly anywhere. Day by day everything's changed. You can't go back trapping. It's something that I can deal with. Mahsi.

**Chief Jim Antoine:** Thank you for the presentation, the Mackenzie valley highway, we heard the announcement from the federal government where they are planning to put some money into a study.

The chief from Wrigley, Tim Lennie, I spoke at this a couple of times, he's 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, the last November, the LKFN we have a company Nogha Enterprises we have a joint venture with PKFN, maintain the airport, maintain the highway to Wrigley, and do the winter road all the way from Wrigley to black water. 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, anytime any dollars is going to any community, any government dollars the aboriginal corporation should try and grab it instead of an outside company coming in. With very little remaining in the community. Whatever way we decide the money should go to the companies from the Dehcho

**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 included in those dollars, for heavy duty equipment, I would like to know a timeframe approx.

**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 12MAY2010 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 12MAY2010 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. Maybe we can get a motion drafted up

## 6. Negotiations

**A/Executive Director Patrick Scott:** Tab 3 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 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 resubmit the revised budgets to INAC after this meeting. We will submit them afterwards. 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 4, key results, these are the objectives that are supposed to come out of the money we spend.

Patrick is reading out the report and proposals.

**Stanley Sanguez:** 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. I'm taking note of your concern Stan.

**Chief Jim Antoine**; Thank you, earlier on 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 "I" to be honest with you, I don't know what section I 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 breakdown. There is a spreadsheet on page 7. I'm not sure what that part is for \$151,000, I don't know if that is core funding.

Chris Reid, Legal Advisor: The section "I" 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 three thousand 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, it's on the blue sheet. This money is used for youth camp, resource management coordinator, and you see a budget for \$191,043.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: The floor is open.

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

**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, and contractors, training capacity development, materials and supplies, travel, accommodation, mileage, per diem, and administration fees. We pull monies to make meetings, so if we have special workshops like last fall, brought the leaders together, we had it here. The cover the cost of 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 11 years since this whole Dehcho Process started; we've gone down the line. The other standing of Dene people is they stand on the treaty. This Dehcho Process or Comprehensive Claim, it's based on the Treaty. There is a formal negotiation going on with the federal and territorial government. At the same time at the community level.

**Gabe Hardisty**; I guess this is why I go back to 1993 Declaration. We're supposed to be on step ahead of the government and that has never happened. The elders' understanding of the Treaty rights is more powerful than anything. My feeling today looking at the whole territorial government, there's not treaty. Everything has been turned over to the territorial government with out consulting us. Our treaty houses that we've been asking to buy your own treaty house again. This is the reason why we want to have a treaty conference. All the health, education, housing and hunting, they are 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 5 to 100 years? It could be done, lets do it. It's really hurting me, that nothing happened. A motion was made in the assembly, nobody carries it out. 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 relation and 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 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 a 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. Its 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, one of the ones 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.

**A/Executive Director Patrick Scott:** If we can go back to the discussion on the treaty conference, on tab 13 there is a budget for an estimated cost for the treaty conference. A budget has been developed, it's not a part of the negotiations submissions.

**WHEREAS**, the Dehcho Process is continuing towards an Agreement-in-Principle on land and self-government; and

WHEREAS, the DFN leadership need to be kept well informed regarding the issues being negotiated in order to give direction to the DFN negotiating team; and WHEREAS, there is not sufficient time during regular leadership meetings for thorough discussion of the Dehcho Process.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the DFN will hold a three day workshop on current issues in the Dehcho Process as soon as possible.

Herb Norwegian, Chair: Any further comments? I will read the resolution into the record.

WHEREAS, Canada requested funding proposals to be submitted by March 2010 and; WHEREAS, leaders did not have the opportunity to review submission prior to Canada's deadline: and

**WHEREAS**, Dehcho First Nations leaders provided conditional agreement and the right of revision at the Spring Leadership Meeting, May 11–13, 2010.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the Dehcho First Nations approves funding proposals for Gathering Strength, Negotiation Preparedness and Interim Resource Development Agreement Funding; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,** Dehcho First Nations acquire whatever additional funding is required for a Treaty Conference to be held in August 2010; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, Dehcho First Nations explore other funding sources than Canada to strengthen resources for the Dehcho Process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Dehcho First Nations provide quarterly written and expenditure reports to each Dehcho First Nation leader.

Moved by Chief Jim Antoine
Seconded by Chief Dolphus Jumbo

Motion Carried

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

Raymond Sonfrere, Chair: The floor is open for questions

**Peter Redvers:** One of the things we have question why does ADK has land quantum and being shared with Yukon and BC. Canada isn't at least allowing ADK expand their land use in the Yukon, signing in 1922, the Yukon was not party to that agreement. The two communities have stated that they are supported ADK of the Yukon and BC.

In fact the agreement is only for the NWT, they are going to sign off an agreement to allow them. Can't have two treaties. We only can point that out.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge: I support Nahanni. It is encouraging and honourable and encourages them not to give up. Trying to keep negotiating. If it had to go to the courts it would be pretty scary. I will like to support and it is possible between ADK and two bands 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 would the work plan could 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.

**Gabe Hardisty:** What we have left in our communities and our areas and 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 and don't. I support you guys for what you are doing for your communities.

**Stanley Sanguez:** 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.

**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 what ever 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.

**Peter Redvers:** There are two issues. The ADK they agreed they would not set up their own but would fall under the existing one. First Nation fairly hold a strong. The second one is particular to ADK, Canada want 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

# Spring Leadership Meeting May 13, 2010 – Day Two Hay River Reserve, NT

# 8. NWT Water Strategy – Stephen Kakfwi

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan noted 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 affected the people and animals. There were a couple of suggestion that there needs to be a plan and they need to work together to resolve the matter before it gets worst. Thanked Mr. Kakfwi for his presentation.

Richard Lafferty asked if there were any monies for putting on a summer programs 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. Asked Mr. Kakfwi to help implement the Dehcho Land Use Plan so it can be a tool to help control the development after the effects and would really appreciate it. 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.

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 97 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 is what I'm saying; 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 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, anything that has to do with it, means our land, therefore, all our meetings are to be done on Dehcho land, 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, their our women that go out there every year to pick berries. They told us, what are you going to be needed, and we harvested.

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 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. Peter Cizek did a lot of good work for us, Dehcho people are on the right track, don't you give into those governments, it's 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 whole Dehcho process, what we thought that we were going to be the Dehcho government, everything is produced on the land, revenue royalties, even a portion will come to us, as Dehcho first nation.

But now for me I really got a question regarding this self government process, 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 80s. 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.

I have been thinking about that occasionally about what that means to us as a first nation. I'm hearing some doubt, about DCRMA, about the land use plan, and that kind. I keep thinking about the framework agreement in how DCRMA is the backbone of the whole Dehcho process. If that's off the table, self government to Canada, 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, were usually always find ourselves in these situations, I guess there are a number o 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 O. and 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 YK. The funding will be cut off too and there is no programs transferred to APG. The JRP, 176 recommendation in December and the hearing April 12<sup>th</sup>.

NEB had a hearing on April 12<sup>th</sup>, JRP is completed. NEB was April 15<sup>th</sup>. At least that I know that today is the day the Federal 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

Jim Antoine: as we all know this one here has been going on. The previous leaders there 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 O saying that September 18<sup>th</sup> the leaders postpone and because of that nothing has been done to date.

There is nothing to report accept 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.

**Chief Roy Fabian:** For a long time people wouldn't accept it.

**Chief Jim Antoine:** 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 Sanguez:** Jim is right, our last meeting was Randy Oddenbriete, when we first parted with Jean Fraser, we met in Calgary, myself Keyna, Berna and Darcy Moses. It felt good that we had something with Imperial Oil on Harvester's Compensation. All of a sudden we got a call, they don't agree with the Harvesters 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. Today, 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 we can wrap this portion of the meeting up?

**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 info 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

**WHEREAS** the Dehcho Process negotiations are continuing with Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and;

**WHEREAS** the discussions under the Protected Areas Strategy are continuing in good faith and;

**WHEREAS** Canada and the Dehcho First Nations (DFN) have signed an Interim Measures Agreement (IMA); and

WHEREAS, the interim land withdrawals in the Dehcho are due to expire October 31, 2010.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the Government of Canada renew all the existing land withdrawals in the Dehcho Territory until 2015.

Moved by Chief Lloyd Chicot Second by Chief Jim Antoine Motion Carried

# **Resolution #4 - Completion of the Mackenzie Highway**

**WHEREAS**, the Government of the NWT is preparing to complete the construction of the Mackenzie Highway north of Wrigley; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dehcho First Nations will be impacted by the construction of the highway; and **WHEREAS**, construction of the highway must bring economic benefits to Dehcho communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dehcho First Nations will consider supporting the completion of a Project Description Report for the section of the proposed Mackenzie Highway within the Dehcho; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the DFN will establish a Working Group to ensure all DFN interests are adequately addressed.

Moved by Freddy Christie Second by Marie Lafferty Motion Carried

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 who is a corporation 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 nation. What it says, Dehcho First Nations will create a working group. The working group will determine how, mainly because 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 ok too.

**Proxy Gabe Hardisty:** I agree with Jim, it could be "therefore be it resolved"

**Proxy Stanley Sanguez:** 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; the group should suggest the corporation undertake that work. How do people feel about that?

Chief Roy Fabian: One of the things, like back in 80s we built that 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. Where the Dehcho Corporation, they budgeted \$26 million, they planned on contracting it out. If you take a look at something like that, how these other construction companies, how much money they must make on big projects like that. The reason we did that, back then because fort laird 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 nation 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 and was chief, 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 Samuel Gargan:** The leaders all know, we came up with a list of groups, one was the MVLWB, Eric Menicoche got dismissed. 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, you're 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 Horsey would like to sit on the Species at Risk.

**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. There is a name there, Jason Horsey has suggested.

## Resolution #8 Species at Risk

**WHEREAS**, DFN requires a representative on the Species at Risk Committee; **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Dehcho First Nations leadership endorses the appointment of Jason Horesay to the Species at Risk Committee.

Moved by Fred Christie Seconded by Rita Cli Motion Carried

# Dehcho Health and social Services Board - Allan Landry

**WHEREAS,** Allan Landry has been the representative for DFN on the Dehcho Health & Social Services Board and the Aboriginal Sports Circle; and

WHEREAS, Allan Landry has been convicted in the courts of the NWT;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** the DFN Leadership withdraws their support on having Allan Landry be the representative; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** the respective boards remove Allan Landry as the Dehcho First Nations representative.

#### DISCUSSION

**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**

**WHEREAS**, the Government of the NWT is preparing to complete the construction of the Mackenzie Highway north of Wrigley; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dehcho First Nations will be impacted by the construction of the highway; and **WHEREAS**, construction of the highway must bring economic benefits to Dehcho communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dehcho First Nations will consider supporting the completion of a Project Description Report for the section of the proposed Mackenzie Highway within the Dehcho; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the DFN will establish a Working Group to ensure all DFN interests are adequately addressed.

Moved by Freddy Christie Second by Marie Lafferty

## **Resolution for Devolution**

**WHEREAS**, DFN has active observer of the Aboriginal Summit negotiations on Devolution; and **WHEREAS**, the Federal and Territorial Governments walked away from the Devolution table and cut off negotiations and funding with the Aboriginal Summit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Devolution Negotiations were uncompleted when the negotiations were terminated; and

**WHEREAS**, Devolution will adversely affect all Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in the NWT and is prejudicial to the Dehcho Process; and

WHEREAS, Section 35 Rights are protected by the Canadian Constitution;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** the DFN does not support the Federal Government making any Devolution Agreement with the Government of the NWT that will affect Dehcho in any way without the consent of Dehcho First Nations.

Moved by Henry Hardisty Second by Barb Sloat

# **Resolution #6 MVLWB Representative**

**WHEREAS,** the Mackenzie Valley Land & Water Board requires a representative from the Dehcho;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the DFN Leadership recommend the appointment of Keyna Norwegian to the Mackenzie Valley Land & Water Board.

Moved by Fred Christie Seconded by Rita Cli 1 against

## **Resolution #7 Board Representatives**

**WHEREAS**, Allan Landry has been the representative for DFN on the Dehcho Health & Social Services Board and the Aboriginal Sports Circle; and

WHEREAS, Allan Landry has been convicted in the courts of the NWT;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** the DFN Leadership withdraws their support on having Allan Landry be the representative; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** the respective boards remove Allan Landry as the Dehcho First Nations representative.

Moved by Barb Sloat Seconder Sarah Chicot 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.

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

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

**Grand Chief Samuel Gargan:** You have in your tab 14 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. ADK to be part of this organization and make them feel welcome. I did ask the staff to provide you Dehcho awards of, the best bush, best trapper, longest chief. Take a look at the list and if you have anything you want to bring forward. Will recognize them and everybody will hear them. If there is anything that we need to do differently call acting Executive Director or Ria.

**Closing Prayer – Elder Pat Martel**