



DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

PO BOX 89, FORT SIMPSON, NT X0E 0N0
TEL: (867) 695-2355/2610 FAX: (867) 695-2038/2927
TOLL FREE: 1-866-995-3748
E-MAIL: dcfn@dehcho.org



Fall Leadership Meeting Fort Providence, NT October 5-7, 2010

Attendance:

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan
Chief Jim Antoine
Chief Tim Lennie
Chief Dolphus Jumbo
Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge
A/Chief Stanley Sanguéz
President Marie Lafferty

Ernest Cazon
Gabe Hardisty
Victor Jumbo

Ernest Hardisty
Danny Peterson

Absent:

Chief Lloyd Chicot/Elder
Chief Abner Cayen/Elder
Chief Roy Fabian/Elder
Chief Fred Tesou/Elder
President Albert Lafferty/Elder

DFN Staff/Contractors:

Ria Letcher
Sara McLeod
Violet Jumbo
Crystal Gaule
Bernadette Norwegian
Georges Erasmus, Chief Negotiator

Pauline Deneyoua
Leona Louie
Felix Isaiah
Chris Reid, Legal Counsel
Ron Antoine, Sound Tech

Feeding of the Fire Ceremony.

Joachim is welcoming the leadership to the community. Advised the leadership the meeting will resume on day two in the recreation center. A lot of things are quiet in the Dehcho. There's a lot of serious issues within the community is going on. Had a band council meeting last night, which was interesting. Chief Joachim wants to treat the leadership to a traditional supper on Wednesday. Look forward to our time together for the next three days.

**MOTION #08 24/FEB/11 2011 WINTER LEADERSHIP MEETING
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MOVED BY CHIEF TIM LENNIE, SECONDED BY A/CHIEF STANLEY SANGUEZ
MOTION CARRIED**

Grand Chief indicated that the chairs have changed, Margaret Leishman & Doug Lamalice.

Appointment of Chairs

Motion #01 05OCT2010 FALL LEADERSHIP
Moved that the DFN Leadership accept the Chairs, Doug Lamalice and Margaret Leishman for the duration of the Fall Leadership Meeting.
Moved by Chief Jim Antoine
Second by delegate Stanley Sanguéz
Carried

Chair Margret Leishman is very familiar with Fort Providence and is very comfortable here. We are gathering for a three day meeting. Think of what you would like to see in the future. She heard little children praying at the fire feeding ceremony. Bring out the issues you've been thinking about for the present and the future. She is honoured to chair. She would like to thank Joachim & Sam.

Approval of the Agenda

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge suggests to table the minutes from the previous leadership meeting and to approve it on the third day to have time to look over them.

Proxy Stanley Sanguéz wants to put the Dehcho Regional Corporation on the agenda. Recognized two high school students from TSS that will be listening to our meeting Ariel & Megan.

Executive Director Ria Letcher would like to suggest having the Dehcho Economic Corporation and the Executive Committee report moved to the third day.

Chief Jim Antoine points out that housing is a big issue and would like to invite someone from the Government to come here, the Minister.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan is letting everyone know that Jackson Lafferty will be here and suggested to a make a point to the Minister while he's here. Advised the Leadership that today will be spent on providing information.

Chair Doug Lamalice asks to approve the agenda as modified, and amended.

Chief Tim Lennie pointed out that there is a lot to talk about. Mentioned there is lack of resources and funding in the community. Leadership and Negotiators are having difficult times getting resources at a regional level. Pointed out that he cannot deal with the Dehcho Process in his community anymore. Social and economic issues that are dealt with on a daily basis as Chief feels he has a right to ask questions.

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MOTION CARRIED

Noted he was Chief for many years and many Elders have passed, which gave him strong words. They were his advisors. Gabe is the only elder now.

Elder Gabe Hardisty talked about attending meetings and the issues that were brought up. The Canadian Government gave us some money and they see to control us - not pleased with it. We have struggled with the money and it's an investment for them, so they can control it. We are the ones that know what has to be done. We have to stand together. If the money runs out we will all be against each other.

Elder Ernest Cazon suggested hunting corridor to be on the agenda.

Executive Director Ria Letcher mentioned that we move it to day two right after housing. Grand Chief asked if the financial statements be moved to after the Dehcho Process.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge noted that Grey Nyuli was nominated as representative for the Dehcho Development Corporation and would like some clarification.

Executive Director Ria Letcher is explained the DDC transferred all their holdings, the Dehcho portion hasn't been action and we need further discussion. Who is going to hold the shares with that agreed with Joachim to have the discussion.

President Marie Lafferty requested to have another full or half day added to finish our agenda.

Grand Chief is saying that we can do Edehzhie and Nahanni today because they are just reports.

MOTION#02	05OCT2010	FALL LEADERSHIP
Moved that the DFN Leadership approve the agenda with changes.		
Moved by delegate Stanley Sanguéz		
Second by President Marie Lafferty		
Motion carried.		

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan Briefing (Attached)

Break 10:30 AM

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MOTION CARRIED**

Dehcho Access and Benefits Update (Attached)

Questions/Comments

Executive Director Ria Letcher asked under the Access and Benefits, once the agreement is finalized the bulk of the compensation hinges on a final agreement, correct?

Shane Parrish replied that it's a big concern when we go to the communities. DFN is one of the signatories of the agreement as well as the First Nations and the Métis Locals. When we get to the final draft, the communities will be given support allowing them to review the document and to have discussions.

Executive Director Ria Letcher asked if there are figures. It needs to be made clear that there is a bonus and everything comes after a Dehcho Final Agreement. It's not as upfront as it should be.

Shane Parrish noted that it's between 5-7 million.

Chief Jim Antoine mentioned we are supposed to be meeting as a leadership team but we didn't have enough time. Noted that Chief Roy Fabian and Chief Lloyd Chicot aren't present at the moment. The best solution is to set a date for the Leadership team meeting.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan asked on how we're operating and what is the legal implication of a referendum? Is there no turning back, can you enlighten us?

Shane Parish explained the legal department as far as Imperial is concerned Band Council Resolution is all they require. Refer to the Executive Director Ria Letcher for the financial stuff

Executive Director Ria Letcher explained that she seen the draft agreement from Imperial Oil and has agreed and has met with Matt. I haven't heard or seen any agreements on this work yet and it's been cash flowed by DFN. It's unfunded work at this point and had this conversation with the Executive.

Chief Tim Lennie stated his concerns about that agreement. Noted what Shane Parrish and Mel Benson have done was awesome. Never thought we would get this far with this agreement. It has started in 2001 when a resolution was passed in Fort Liard to build a pipeline.

Where are you going to get this land to put ahead this pipeline? At that time we did not have two pennies to rub together on this issue. Have argued and pleaded, cried and been on his knees trying to acquire resources to deal with it at the community level.

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MOTION CARRIED**

Without anything like that we wanted to go ahead and build a pipeline. Had to call for an environmental assessment. I have a lot of respect for the DFN staff they have done a great job. The one question is right in the heart of our traditional territory. We have a great concern.

There is no way in this world that Imperial Oil will agree or get to the table to discuss access. As a leader does he need a signed document to generate revenue from industry working in our land? Land Claim Agreement to do this, we are way ahead of our time. Our people can consider it; we're in an unsettled area. All the fun and games are over now. After this is completed, how are we going to share this?

It's not a question to Chief Lennie it's a question to the membership that I represent. How much are they willing to share with the Dehcho, it's something that you got to ask the people and we have a lot of internal questions? We got to be fair and transparent. Noted that he's been trying for the past six months to inform members of what's been happening. A lot of youth in Wrigley attended the AGM. Not only this leadership but the next leadership in our place need to inform people on a regular basis. There's no way in this world, that our people that we represent, will know what we are talking about, thank you for putting good work into place.

Chief Jim Antoine thanked Shane for his presentation. As the Leadership we haven't met too often to talk about this. It's worth it even though it's not funded. This is for all the Leaders who would like to know the positions of what's going on here. Work has been done on a very important level. We don't hear comments or directions on other communities.

Noted that he would like to hear what everyone feels about it. It's a big decision and a lot of work has been done on it. Doesn't know if they have discussions on this in the communities. There should be direction on how far we're going to take this. There's money and benefits in there. The APG mentioned we're not negotiating that with Imperial Oil it's already done. It's a decision we need to make. Always like to move forward with full support of this initiative. Move on with it as fast as we can, it's not a solid decision.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan informed the Leadership the National Energy Board is having its report done on the 12th of this month.

Noted we have different groups working on different issues. From the readings of what is happening it's far better than other agreements signed by other regions. The people there are acting in our best interest. We have the same situation with the Dehcho Process. Doesn't interfere with the negotiations, if it looks pretty good we continue to work on it. Once the final document comes out most of the leaders will be happy with it.

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Stanley Sanguiez commented that everything changes and is thankful that the Leadership kept him on the working group. The mandate was to look at everything. We have meetings but there isn't much of a turnout. So many meetings happened and a lot of people don't care anymore. I'm happy with the group that I'm in and the progress keeps going. We have to listen to people to guide us. One concern was the Special Assembly resolution. Looked at it really carefully to see how to incorporate the resolution with negotiations and it is ongoing. Like the Grand Chief said we have to give it back; this is what we found out.

Being part of the team I feel comfortable. At the beginning we thought we had something in Calgary. We come back and we didn't agree to the harvesters. Now it's back on track. We have to learn to do the sharing development; this is what we should think about. We're making progress.

Elder Gabe Hardisty indicated that it is very difficult to understand. You mention benefits to a member of the community and what is the first thing to come to mind? Money. This report isn't enough, doesn't explain enough. All it talks about is very few cash flows and business opportunity. What is behind it? It's hard to explain to members. A lot of work needs to be done. I understand but for my partner, it's not telling them anything. Need to highlight more of this work. Explain to members what it means.

Shane Parrish said hopefully in the next months, moving from negotiating to ratifying basically have an agreement that needs to be ratified. Will include things like publications i.e. Dehcho Drum, radio, information in both languages about the agreement. Community visits, talking and explaining, a need for a meeting of just the Leadership.

Chief Dolphus Jumbo touched on a meeting in Fort Simpson. There was an incident there and was not involved in the Leadership and could not approve to sign. There was one that had the pipeline going through and we have not seen any benefits. Touched on how it affected the animals and waters. Said if the benefits go to his trap line he will be okay with the pipeline. Asked how we are going to prepare for our children. There are concerns about the animals declining. We have to have everything document on what they are purposing.

Shane Parrish noted these are important details and the issues that we are dealing with Imperial Oil. The impact of the pipeline was brought up a few times. We are working hard on the agreement and monitoring the component on the impacts. Negotiate compensation. How that is dealt with is up to the communities. Think they are coming around on our way of thinking.

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President Marie Lafferty explained that the Access and Benefits has not gone to the communities. We are going to have to get to our community this fall and put a number of issues on the agenda to see how they feel about this. There is the first payout and the compensation. When it is mentioned it is the cash payout to the harvesters and the other side we'll put this aside for another day. The government have been waving money to us but have not seen anything. Need to have meetings and talk to people. Would like to see the people to get a payout and have been waiting for a long time. If you are not going to give money to people for supplies and the people are in need and we have to help them and not store it away. Take care of the people now.

Shane Parrish noted that he has not been assigned that task and that it is a scary one. One issue, part of the formula is based on population. The Métis is part of the issue and need to work on that. The internal agreement is the hardest one.

Pat Martel touched on the pipeline and that they are off the corridor and near a lake, concerns with how they would benefit from it and how this project would work. Communities, how are they benefitting? We must work together, we are from one land Public opinion still needs to be gauged. Share with members. This will allow progress. Waiting till last minute will not be good.

Robert Lamalice is explaining that Chief Roy Fabian is in Yellowknife, they are here representing him. We have agreed to work together. Some are missing. We may not all agree especially with missing communities. Pipeline the world and out environment is changing. 60's it used to be cold today it has changed significantly. Trapping is more difficultly. McMurray there is environmental devastation. Feds are smart they control us through money and probably discuss this fact. The Leaders are in charge and look after the environment.

The young people I worry about them and their future. The future will be modernized. We have federal funds that the government gave us the ten Dehcho communities. ADK has severed from the Dehcho. He also worries about the Dehcho Government and the Grand Chief. In the south the land is carved up for development this is our land. In the end we may not be able to hunt.

This land provides for our people. It is hard to speak in these forums. All gathered here today we are here to support each other. On the pipeline if we work together we will see progress, the fire feeding was great, I am happy to be here, doing this we will retain our language. Mahsi

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Trout Lake / Nahanni Butte / ADK Overlap (Attached)

President Marie Lafferty stated that the only rep here, it would be hard if there were only one representative.

Executive Director Ria Letcher is explaining that Fred did provide information for those who were at the governance workshop. *Reading out the update from Peter Redvers.*

Chair Doug Lamalice would like to acknowledge former premier Stephen Kakfwi is present.

Grand Chief is stating that Georges is going to be doing his report tomorrow, and maybe the implications.

Executive Director Ria Letcher is explaining that the opening of the Nahanni Butte highway is today, that's why they aren't present, and Fred will join us tomorrow.

Mackenzie Highway Initiative Update (Attached)

Questions/Comments

Robert Lamalice is asking, why isn't the First Nation involved with their traditional land? In the past, Birch and Sandy Creek has been upgraded. We as a First Nation weren't involved in that contract would like to see First Nation people given a chance for a job to work. We're not being recognized on traditional land. Getting fed up, outsiders taking all our money all the time. Not only people from south can do the work. There are lots of people think the same way.

Pietro indicated that there is a lot of aboriginal staff here in Fort Providence; there is a lot of highway staff. We have a negotiated contract policy, which proved quite successful. Of course we would like northern companies to get involved.

Gabe Hardisty is informing the leadership of the people in Tulita working on this highway. They already met with the government on the proposal to do the study. We got established with our PKFN contract. From the Dehcho side, it's in PKFN traditional areas. We wanted to get some money from the government to do a study.

We still have a lot of work to do; it's going to take a little while. Not sure if we don't have any funds, is this going to go ahead or not. Need to get our MOU worked out with Sahtu and ourselves.

Chief Tim Lennie indicated that we might as well clear the air. The highway has been discussed prior to my reinstatement as Chief last December. In Fort Simpson, we made a statement in regards to the highway, as a member you hear things and have mixed feelings, passing through our traditional territory, no where, anywhere, any day, I will

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MOTION CARRIED**

interfere as a Chief, what happens at other First Nations jurisdictions.

In PKFN we expect the same; the PDR proposal was given to Grand Chief and I would like to thank the Grand Chief for giving me that respect and the recognition to control that proposal. In regards to our administration and finance, we have been developing as a community these past couple of months.

I understand where the Sahtu is coming from. We had a meeting in Wrigley twice now, asked a question to Minister of Transportation, if you extend the highway where are you going to get the land from? Membership needs to have full participation in that decision, you have to have an approval process. What is the percentage of ok? When do we proceed? My position is unstable because of my health. In regards to whether they accept or not accept this highway.

A meeting date needs to be set with regards to this PDR work. Past couple of weeks we have been meeting with potential partners with regards to this study. Had discussions with potential consultants, and Sahtu, to prolong the project. The highway extends only from Wrigley to the Sahtu settlement area. Why can't we build a highway all the way to Oscar Creek, on the other side of Norman Wells? Are going to do a feasibility study with regards to this highway? When it's all done, we're finding out how it's going to be funded.

Is it in the government's mind, that this corporation will be considered into this highway? The benefits are the job, the business opportunities. Those are political questions that he felt needed to be asked. The sooner the council make a decision to meet with Mr. Stephens, the sooner this work can go underway.

Pietro agreed with the Chief, the decision process lies within the community, there are no time lines and it's an interest with people up and down the valley. To come to the decisions themselves, how they want to participate, and drive a project in their own back yard, as far as funding, the government has a role. There are other ways of approaching things like partnerships. Nothing is written in stone. We'll wait until you're ready to engage us further, well take it from there.

Richard Lafferty would like to add some cautionary words to this discussion. Just down the road here there is a bridge in place. This Minister is untrustworthy; the Deputy Minister emailed me twice this spring, saying that there was work. We're dealing with a dishonest group. Mahsi.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge is explaining the work needs to be done especially in the smaller Dehcho communities, which are going to be highly impacted. Suggesting that the consultation that the GNWT and Canada, can fund that consultation to begin right away. Also thinking because we belong to a regional Economic Corporation there is a number of dollars. DDC, on November 2nd, there is going to be a meeting, if there's any

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extra money there; we can quickly offer assistance to the community of Wrigley without getting to political.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan asks Chief Tim Lennie to look at his agreement, there is things missing. A private company too, Imperial Oil has done their assessment. They may be able to share some of that information.

Chief Tim Lennie is making things clear, we haven't actually reviewed it, doesn't have a consultant. We need to review the agreement and fix it up.

Executive Director Ria Letcher stated the next step is to meet, there is a representative that can work with DOT and Jim Stephens. Pietro will get Jim Stevens to contact Ria in regards to that.

Chief Jim Antoine would like to thank Department of Transportation for their presentation. Existing winter roads and bridges, it talks about alignment, sounds like the winter road isn't going to be used all the way. Some of the bridges have to be moved. Been a desire to have this highway going north. That would probably be the best way to go.

Appointments

Jason Horesay was appointed to Species at Risk at the leadership and now looking for an alternate. Misty Ireland has expressed interested.

MOTION #03 05 OCT 2010
Moved that the DFN Leadership moved to appoint Misty Ireland as an alternate on the NWT Species at Risk Committee.
Moved by Chief Tim Lennie
Seconded by Chief Jim Antoine
Motion Carried

MOTION #04 05 OCT 2010
Moved that the DFN Leadership nominate Bertha Norwegian on the Dehcho Health & Social Service Board.
Moved by delegate Stanley Sanguéz
Seconded by President Marie Lafferty
Carried unanimously

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MOTION CARRIED

Denendeh Development Corporation

No information in the package.

Joachim Bonnetrouge indicated to the leadership that they need to clarify the appointment if it is for a year or three or until the leadership decides to make a change. For our community we don't have an issue until you find out what the understanding for DFN and if we can defer this.

DDC discussion deferred to winter leadership meeting.

Chief Jim Antoine noted that we talked about the A&B and APG came up and no discussion about it. Shane and Sam indicated the NEB will make a decision soon. Membership said don't wait any longer because we won't have anything like with IPL. *Chief Antoine referring to a letter from Bob Reid.* Each community needs to talk about it as to what their position is to date. It is something to think about for the next day or two and put it back to the agenda.

Chief Tim Lennie added if there is a deadline maybe we can hear them out.

Stanley Sanguiez stated he has been acting Chief and noted that JMRFN has not been watching their funds and now they are in recovery and had to lay off half of the staff. JMR First Nation should be in the clear come April 1st. Talked about when he was younger how the ice was thick and now it's thin, it changed a lot. Had a base study and survey done in JMR? Concern that there are numerous moose being shot on the highway, no safe guards in place.

Leon St. Pierre talked on the bridge being dismantled and no aboriginal has been hired. Have to look at what they take way for them to put things on the land.

Dolphus Jumbo talked about his community. Don't have highway structures and people use charter to get in and out of the community. In the past, we were told we didn't have to pay for our houses but recently we now have to pay, thinks it is based on development in the communities. Only have minor subcontracts. As a Chief have a lot of work to do in Development Corporation.

Economic Development has been increasing and prefers to work as Chief. Stated that the Government can take land whatever they feel like it. Need to stand on our Treaties. The people are the ones that guide me and tell me what to do. Touched on the pipeline saying only time we are going to be making money is when the oil flows. Exploration and economic development has to be tied to it so we can make money. Expressed concern about the moose being hunted.

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Joachim Bonnetrouge noted that the concerns come from the people and need to rely and learn from each other. Said they have no money for over a year and everything has been quite. Touched on the Dehcho Bridge and how it would affect the water.

They are going to look into the impact benefits. Talked about the workshop that happened on the reserve last week on what was discussion. Noted his band council is not satisfied with the negotiations. Will take more about it tomorrow when we get to the negotiations.

Jim Antoine touched on the Treaty Conference that was held this year. The message heard there we did not come from anywhere but from here and lived here as long as we can remember. The white people have their own version of the treaty and we have our own. Talked about when he was Chief in 1974. Power and authority is that we have to hang to the land and resource but didn't say how we can do it. It is up to us to figure it out. Touched on the chain of command of the leadership as far as the Grand Chief goes. Noted that there is a fear of the unknown and they need to say it like it is.

Margaret did a brief overview on what was discussed today and asked the leadership to think about it. Noted that people are waiting to hear what the outcome of the meetings.

Closing Prayer – Elder Pat Martel

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October 6, 2010 – Morning Session

Opening Prayer - Stanley Sanguéz

Margret Leishman is reading out the highlights of the agenda for the day. Grand Chief had informed the chairs that there are two people coming for the meeting but they are not here yet.

Edehzhie Protected Areas

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge is suggesting that it be done by Jonas Antoine, but he's not here. *Grand Chief is reading out the update on the Edehzhie Protected Area update that is in the binders.*

EDEHZHIE PROTECTED AREAS (Attached)

The leadership had a big concern that Edehzhie is being transferred to Environment Canada. Eventually Edehzhie will become a part of our claims and agreement. Jonas is not here, and there wasn't much to report.

Edehzhie tabled

Chair Doug Lamalice acknowledged Robert and Morris Vital from Nahanni Butte.

Water Strategy Report

Grand Chief brought up meeting last summer, had met with the First Nations in the area of BC, who aren't too pleased with the dam being built. BC Hydro was intent on building the dam. No one from Dehcho attended that meeting. Another water conference in Manitoba is next summer. Ovide Mercredi wants it to be held in his area. We will be hearing more about that.

They want us to participate because we help them a lot. We are working with them on the water strategy. We have come to a conclusion on that as well. Minister of the Environment, Michael Miltenberger, whatever goes on in the tar sands, we feel the impact. Eventually it will get so bad; we won't be able to drink the water.

The GNWT is involved in those discussions. We feel that we should be participating as well. We should be working on the water conservation. If it's ok with the membership, Stephen Kakfwi would like to give an update on that.

Stephen Kakfwi is explaining that he works on water strategy. Government announced they had an agreement with the leadership. I had to go see every Chief, to see if everyone agreed, to go ahead with development of the water strategy. Their going

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MOTION CARRIED**

online, asking people what is it they should do. They're trying to have discussions with BC and Alberta to present a strategy so those provinces could do the same.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Chief Tim Lennie noted that he has questions about the document, was it put in the binder for a purpose, which would deliver and do the questionnaire. There should be a more proper way of doing it.

Chief Jim Antoine stated that there is money out there; we just have to look for it. Speaking about the water, it's very important for us. They asked how we feel about how important the water is. They ask us about how we use the water in our communities. We have to say yes to all those questions. Every human uses water. Do people in the communities know anything about water?

This will be distributed to all kinds of people; water is a part of our land we have to protect it. Our waters are changing because the water flows from down south. Being the Chief in Fort Simpson there's a lot of traffic on the Mackenzie that go right by my community. No matter what we say about protecting the waters, in surrounding areas.

Elder Ted Landry is speaking on water; it has been in discussions for a long time now. In the summertime we go to our summer cabin down river. Has noticed that the water has been changing for several years now. The water has been changing colors, and it's green. The water towards the island is brown. When Berna was Chief, it was a very dangerous thing to be dealing with, seen pipes and it was dangerous because the water was flowing towards us, and dangerous stuff in those pipes, the water didn't freeze into ice.

White men don't seem to care, have told this story many times. I have told my opinions about it. I said my peace and no one mentioned anything bad. White men only mention money. Even in fort Chip a lot of people have died from the contaminants in the water. I have listened to people talk, our message can be felt, this water is important to us, what Stephen had said, it's not like that here among us. Brought up issue of Francois Paulette attended a meeting which he represented the aboriginal peoples.

Pat Martel is explaining that only recently the issue of water has come about. You see that something drastic is going to happen to something like the water, you have to strategize something about it as soon as possible. Dene people are very knowledgeable about the water. So when you discuss the waters they know what is happening. People are saying they cannot drink the water. The fish have sores on them; people are saying they cannot eat the fish. It's about time we start discussing the water issues. We have to push so work can get started on the water issues. If it's polluted, who's going to fix it for us?

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Elder Gabe Hardisty is explaining that water is our main source of survival. It's only been three years since we started discussing the water issue. We have to utilize our Elders so they can guide us in these discussions about water. People working on the ice road, the ice formations have changed drastically.

The ice seems to be very weak. When spring comes around, we see a decline in ducks and geese. If we talk about these issues, I think the Dehcho people should sit alone, and talk to the government on these issues. We were to select a person, to be knowledgeable about funding, and look for it for us.

It's very difficult in the area, funding. They have made it difficult for us; it's the main source of survival for every living thing. People that use the river system for transportation, the water is changing, we can't even scoop up a cup to drink, and the water is polluted. If we were to come up with a strong resolution, so the young people can learn about it.

Grand Chief is explaining that he's going to Edmonton, for a proposal workshop. One of the staff is going to find out about it, if you want to attend this conference, we can find the funding for it. We can give copies of the proposal, all these things about planet changes on this pamphlet. The things that we come up with in regards to ourselves we'll give you copies of that too.

Chief Tim Lennie indicated that they were the ones that brought up the issue on water. Why did all of a sudden this issue come up on the government table? Water is going to be on the negotiating table. We have a boundary with the Tlicho, the Sahtu. They wouldn't sit with me over the years, because I want to protect it. Our people down there are involved with economic development. No resources to talk about and sit with our neighbours about strategizing. This has to be a priority, the previous leaders; we've been talking about water for quite some time. Government got a hold of it; we got the picture.

Over the years a lot of people travel down south, bringing our concerns forward, we're not fixing anything though. We have to dedicate this water issue to some of our members to deal with. Also wants to recognize some people in the Dehcho.

Grand Chief is explaining that we can send a brief to all communities. We don't have the money to do that. We might want to ask Nic Larter, to put on the workshop on water protection.

Stephen Kakfwi thanked the Dehcho leadership; we started out with a vision. One of them was to make our own government. Residential schools had an impact on a number of us. Canada and the churches recognized what they did to us was wrong. We want to manage our own life.

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We have achieved a tremendous amount. When the Premier started to talk to communities and leaders about what is the vision for the north. More than anything I wanted to talk to some of the leaders, why don't we sit down together and see if we still agree on some things.

All the old chiefs and Elders kept telling us to work together. Some of us spent a lot of time arguing and fighting with each other. This piece of work we truly need to give that advice to everybody. When all the regions meet, what kind of government are we going to use to govern ourselves?

It's not a complicated document; it says there has to be some sort of reconciliation with the chiefs, our government, and the public. Have to create something, to make laws and decisions. As we said this morning, pay attention to other things for a while, next thing you know the water issue takes off. Those are the comments, and there was a press release. I will leave this document with the chair. I will get some support for the work that some of us did.

Elder Ted Landry is speaking on behalf of the water; the information that he's given us is useful. Recently we have begun thinking about all the effects, on the water and land. This is a concern because it's for the young people of our future.

Chair Doug Lamalice asked for more discussion on this topic?

Grand Chief is informing that the document Stephen has brought is going to be circulated. The Premier has given Dehcho First Nations some money, for common vision. We get a small working group together to respond, to how we work as a Dehcho First Nations government. We can still answer those questions in those contexts. We are recognizing them as a primary government, that's what I dot want to see happen. Steven has got together as part of that questionnaire. We still have to schedule a meeting, date and so on. Devolution we really need to move on this, the quicker the better.

Robert Vital is giving his opening remarks explaining that it is new for him. Worked hard the Nahanni National Park and letting the Leadership know that the Nahanni National Park belongs to the whole Dehcho.

Morris Vital talked on fish that there were not much left. Also talked about the log houses in Nahanni Butte and only having nine. Talked about it and were told a road will be constructed. To get the benefits is only if you let us expand the Park. We worked hard on protecting and monitoring the water. Teaching the younger children about boating and boat safety is important.

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Margaret Leishman did an overview of the discussion on the meeting this morning and asked the Leadership to think about it for further discussion. Two people are coming in today to discuss the Housing. LUP and Dehcho Process to be discussed after lunch. Thanked the speakers this morning.

LUNCH 12:03

October 6, 2010 - Afternoon Session

Dehcho Land Use Plan

Georges Erasmus is letting the leadership know that the negotiations team met twice with Petr Cizek. There continues to be some difficult issues. Also I have been giving Tim some advice now and then. We will get right into the presentation.

Peter Cizek is letting the leadership know that a direction to move forward needs to be made today. What decisions need to be made?

MOTION#05 06 OCT 10

Leadership moved to go into camera @ 3:12 pm

Moved by Stanley Sanguéz

Seconded by Gabe Hardisty

Carried

MOTION#06 06 OCT 10

Leadership Moved to go out of camera @ 4:40 pm

Moved by Chief Tim Lennie

Seconded by Chief Jim Antoine

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge is announcing that there will be a dinner for the chiefs, Elders, and staff.

Closing prayer by Caroline Bonnetrouge

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October 7, 2010 – Morning Session

Chair Margaret Leishman is doing opening comments

Chief Negotiator's Report (Attached)

George Erasmus is going to start with the Dehcho report that was handed out yesterday. Not going to spend too much time on it, then going to switch to a chapter that we would like direction, on community governance. Were dealing with harvesting on a number of chapters, they all follow a certain pattern. It provides general rights to Dehcho members. Went to the issue of taxation, had someone from the department of finance, when they deal with taxing powers, it's the department of finance that deals with it.

We had a presentation from this woman, second meeting we had with her. They're evolving the concept that the Dehcho government will be able to have taxing powers. There are three levels of taxation; they've done it in Tlicho, Canada steps back. The Tlicho one of the first laws they made was to pass a tax law. Now the money goes to the Tlicho government if you live in their community or territory.

It's important to do that, or the money goes back to Ottawa. We spent some time on that issue. The issue of the McCrank report had been interfering in our negotiations. Canada was reluctant to do very much until they verified what they were going to do with the McCrank recommendation. One was to merge all the land and water boards into one.

Elder Ted Landry is explaining, in reference to hunting and trapping, you've relied on the things we've told you in the past. In the area of Edehzhie, there are some houses that are situated there. We've held on to our lands until now. I've made a road leading to those cabins. There's a non aboriginal that's living there. If he were to help himself, what are we going to do, take him to court? There's a house that's being built on the road to Hay River, no one seems to know who it belongs to. Within the Dehcho region, we're watching what's going on. He wants Peter Cizek to be aware of what's being said.

We were told in the past that they were going to shut some areas, thinks about that. Lived in the Horn Mountains, they want that area protected. The person that is there has no rights to the area. The Dehcho utilizes that area. Simpson uses it as well. The land was created for our use. Rightfully the land belongs to us. We cannot emphasize that strongly enough.

Proxy Stanley Sanguiez is commenting on some things that they ask us, from the Hay River meeting. Had asked pat to give him something he could bring home. The McCrank case, we met with Mr. Pollard, don't know if the message had got to him.

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Talked about different chapters, within the areas you were directed to work on. Trying to think, got to bring this home, and need help.

George is explaining to Stanley about the document is being passed out, is the one we need direction on. This morning was a general update on what is going on; those chapters have been handed out many times. If possible we can go through the community government document. We would like to be able to give it to Canada. It's not a final document. We're not closing any doors by handing it to them; Chris is going to walk through it.

Chris Reid read and summarized the Community Government Chapter.

Governance Chapter attached

Georges is suggesting a motion for that requirement.

Chief Tim Lennie is questioning a lot of things that we haven't been involved with. Has concerns, but understands he's inherited something. Yesterday had mentioned, as Chief the way to work with my people and community it's only through funding. Wants to train and teach the young people, and let them become aware of the things we are doing. It's for them and for the future. If we keep arguing about what was done, then we won't get ahead.

Other people want to boss us around, but we are the people from the communities. When we have meetings, there are very few people that attend. Chris and Georges reviewed the document with us, I want to tell them the documents were signed when I was not the Chief, and I want to leave it at that.

RESOLUTION #01 - RE: Dehcho Process

Elder Pat Martel indicated that there are suggestions for this, want other people to help and support us. We are here for support that's why we are at this table. We have further discussions and thoughts on this. Wanted to let you know we are still thinking about it. Don't know what we're going to do in the future.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge added when you do it the non-Dene way, it has to be written down and document everything. Needs to inform and share with the leaders if we entertain this motion, he's going to have a difficult time supporting it. Past assemblies, we did give general direction. The primary guidance is to negotiate land and self-government. Direction given by the Band Council, some of the members did see drafts and they disagree with it and would not support self government models that are similar to what the Tlicho have. He's going to have difficulty giving direction to negotiators at this time. We could go into camera.

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The other suggestion is, a lot of the communities recognize that we've come along way. With regards to land, we have plans for our land. A lot of the band and chiefs are under a lot of pressure today. We are under a lot of economic pressures. Some communities that is willing to enter into some economic development projects. Going to suggest that we recommend a major shift in our negotiations, suggest that we put it as a priority, this issue of land and resources.

The other point is, the way things are going, and we need to remain at the negotiating table. Seems like there is no media here, whatever positions we have made in the past year, our negotiators are doing there best, it doesn't seem like we're a priority with the government of Canada today.

We are one of the communities that want to get community work done, especially in regards to negotiations. We agree that we are into comprehensive land claim. Section 35 we still have legally protected constitutional right to self government. Maybe we can still use that to assist self-government negotiations. If I supported what was drafted today, it's not going to fly in my community.

Georges asked Joachim to explain some of the problems.

Joachim Bonnetrouge explained at one time, being involved with the Dene Nation, there's a possibility of what every government creates in the north, certain section where they would have some special powers,

Stanley Sanguéz is indicating that the document should be at a community level, it's just a suggestion. At home, we wanted to do the work at home first. Basically we need to work on our community's constitution. That would feed to the document that we are tabling to the federal government. There are some suggestions in the structure of the community government. When the Dehcho region had started drafting on the Dehcho's constitution, which is still in draft form, at one point brought that constitution home, I was told we should work on ours first. It is a concern for my community that we need the constitution first.

Chair explained there are a few suggestions on the table.

Chief Jim Antoine is telling about his time in Hay River with the workshop. Georges gave a presentation about negotiations, spoke the concerns of all this work that's been done already, would like my members to know everything about it. It is not the case today. Brought a number of people from Liidlii Kue members, so we can look and see how we're going to explain, as Chief we listen to the details at workshops and meetings from our negotiators. The work has been going on for years. Work has been already going on; decision has already been made on how to do things.

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In Liidlil Kue, we changed a number of people, the decision is made by previous administration, we have to learn and reassess it. Chris asked if we were comfortable tabling this at the negotiations table, I'm not comfortable, it's the same concern as last week, to do it the right way, is to give us a chance to talk about the workshop. At this point, it's the same concern I have last week I have it here today. I asked the chief when the new village council started, told them we have unfinished business, the municipal boundary was given to them by the territorial government. They have been warned about what kind of discussions might take place.

Georges indicated that we can hold off on this, delaying the work on it. You have documents that Grand Chief Michael Nadli gave to Indian Affairs Minister, twelve years ago. It's been around for a long time because you're in charge of your community constitution you can create that. Joachim, are you saying to put it right in there? I suggest we withdrawal the resolution, no use rushing if people aren't comfortable. Suggest we leave that for another time.

Georges is asking the leadership for a date for a Land Use Workshop. Asked Petr if the last part of December 1 & 2. We'll set it up for then and to look and see if we can do community travel.

Richard Lafferty wants to assist in giving background in merging the three local governments. They hired him to work with the committee, Mike Nadli was aware of it, and were also working with him, and brought him into discussion at that time.

Chief Tim Lennie is alright with removing the resolution.

Stanley Sanguiez told Georges if they meet with the feds, to ask for monies to help with the community constitutions, which would help the process. Suggesting letting them know at the negotiating table, the funding is on the agenda.

Georges understands the Grand Chief and executive director are making a trip to Ottawa, for additional money. This concludes the report.

Lunch

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October 7, 2010 - Afternoon Session

Meeting resumes 2:04

Chair Doug Lamalice is announcing that Minister Jackson Lafferty is present in our meeting.

Minister Lafferty is announcing his opening remarks, has a few staff with him, Deputy Minister of ECE Dan Daniels, Julia Mott, Morgan McPherson. It was a goal for him to visit all communities. Just going to speak on what's going on in our departments. Give an idea of some of the key pieces of ECE.

We want to table a document, from the language symposium, we heard from over two hundred language specialists. Also talks about the Language Commissioner's Office and the status. Those are the key discussions that will take place within the Legislative Assembly. We need to go through a process of introducing that in the House; Standing Committee will take that as a passage. We're very excited about that.

Andy Norwegian was there for an advisory group, same with Grand Chief Gargan. Can't give much detail right now, but there are over 70 recommendations. I want to hear the people; we will be in all regions, by April of next year. Ever since I came on board of becoming Minister, any discussion we've had, even my senior staff have been there. Don't want to take up much time, here to listen to the leadership to take notes. What we can't answer today, we can get back to you. Minister Lafferty thanked the leadership for allowing them to visit the community.

Stanley Sanguéz has a daughter that goes to College in Red Deer, having a hard time with Student Financial Assistance; I think there's too much red tape with your SFA.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge is commenting about his concerns to Minister Lafferty.

Richard Lafferty made comments to Minister Lafferty.

President Marie Lafferty is voicing her concerns about the education system in Fort Simpson to Minister Lafferty.

Chief Tim Lennie is voicing his concerns to Minister Lafferty about the ECE office in Fort Simpson. It's been very difficult, hasn't been easy. All your resources are in one community. All your social programs, apply for it. You need to service our community, and also have a lot of issues.

Bernadette Norwegian spoke on concerns of graduates in Fort Simpson whom cannot read or write. When we speak about education, we're not talking about preschool and kindergarten. It's a life long process the bottom line is education.

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Chief Jim Antoine is speaking on education and justice. It really has to do with each community. Two days ago we had our feeding of the fire ceremony. Grade 1 said a prayer for us. That's the type of education we need in all the schools. It's a very good approach that has to continue. Prior to that they did a week of camping on the river, it's an initiative by the community by itself.

Find a way to encourage that sort of approach, in government the rule by legislature, to try to make things work. We have too much of that, policies & regulations from the GNWT and the Federal Government. We had a Treaty Conference in Fort Simpson, the teachings is that, the five dollars a year that we see, it's not worth anything.

In 1921 they were directed to make Treaties. For us, that five dollars a year, we continue to hang on to this land for Treaty. We're part of the Dehcho First Nations so we all have our own traditional territories. We're trying to find a way to work collectively. The reality today is that we still hang on to our land and resources. We've never given up this power and authority to say, here this is yours now, and you're my boss.

Now were told the territorial government from Housing Corporation will not build houses on band land, they have to give the land to the government for them to make houses. We don't have a direct voice in what we say happens.

Robert Lamalice noted that kids are dropping out and not they do a lot of swearing and use alcohol. What have a problem and would like to see you come to their home town to see what is going on. Invited people like that but never show up. We are losing our language and culture.

They brought in a French school and spent a lot of school and think that the Government have more respect for them than us. The Dene people are not being listened to. Everything is changing and down the road they will probably more white people on our land. He would like to see a First Nation school.

Talked about the Dene Nation meeting i.e. like sitting around the table and nothing is being done. Lack of funding and can't go forward. They are in control of everything. We got no say. Today you see school teachers; they have no training to work with little kids. Teachers have such a bad attitude towards native kids. You can't yell at kids or anything.

I wish we could all understand each other. Each community is so different. These teachers have to understand. Last week I went out with some students, the teachers don't know anything about the Dene people. Some people have no clue on how we live. I'm very glad that minister Lafferty came to this meeting to listen to us. Each time I go to one of these I learn something new.

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Chief Dolphus Jumbo added he doesn't know if Minister Lafferty will come to our community. If we work together we have to be strong. One of the reports that came up was about education, and the children. We have to get some monies together to keep the education for our future. We have to work with the kids to get the education. We have to teach our children to become lawyers and consultants. If they want to continue with the education that they need, they can become lawyers and educators. This is the only way they can have a good education to get a job.

The school we have in Trout Lake, there are too many kids in one classroom and we were asking for extra space. There is no money available for that they have told us. They want us to work towards self education, with the lack of education, how we can accomplish what they want us to do? They need papers to say they have been educated. The paper that comes with the education, they can go forward with it.

When you look at the situation there's no jobs for the people, there's no Mines in our area. It's only if we return to our original way of life, I think we will benefit better.

Grand Chief is informing the Leadership that we are doing a language survey. We do have a good program in Fort Smith; we don't have one in the Dehcho. There are some issues in regards to who can stay there and who cannot. We do have a lot of students who fall between the cracks. There are a lot of students who do apply to higher learning in southern institutions; it would be nice if we can have the education system provide a service to their high school students regarding potential colleges.

Master Trust Report - Darlene Sibbeston

The deadline for the comments is October 29th. We're going to do advertising, first part in the year; deadline for business plans and proposals is March 31st, and \$365,000 available for funds.

We sent posters on Monday to all the schools in the Dehcho because we don't have a logo. Want to be identified different from DFN. First prize is \$5,000 deadlines for entries is October 29th. In the next couple of months, we will be asking DFN for concrete evidence that it is a public body of governance. Lawyers will be asking for this information. In January we will start community visits.

Grand Chief is speaking on the Investment Management Board, wondering if there was a way to get around that, telling each other what we're going to do. I'm wondering if there is a way those five lawyers you have will answer the question.

The Trust Fund has specific purposes. The capital Trust Funds are \$15,000,000.

Jim Antoine spoke on the Trust and that he is familiar and knows about it. The fifteen million that is put in there stays there. There's a huge expense on the accountants and lawyers. Is it necessary, to have so many hangers on it? We are trying to make money

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MOTION CARRIED**

and people know we have it. Can we do it for less of a cost? When we used to have those kinds of reports, it's in the middle of hundreds of different things.

I need some clarification; different members ask me questions, when I go home, people ask questions so I need to be clear.

Darlene is commenting on Jim's questions. Part of their fees was to assist the Board in putting the Trust together. When I had mentioned community visits, if you give a date and talk to membership, we can discuss anything and everything. Mavis was appointed by the assembly.

Richard Lafferty is further explaining the Trust to the leadership the purpose of each fund under the Master Trust.

Executive Director, Ria Letcher is speaking on the Trust. There is one area, it's to do with the pensions for our leaders they are on limited salaries, when their done their done. They don't qualify for EI or anything like that. Here we are pounding the table, for a great cause on behalf of our people. Darlene noted to look into that concern, and it's a very valid question for the committee. Executive Director Ria Letcher is stating that it will be a wonderful idea for the leadership.

Chair Margaret Leishman thanked Darlene for her presentation, and is reading out the Hunting Corridor resolution.

Resolution#01	07 OCT 2010	Fall Leadership
RE: Hunting Corridor		
Moved by Chief Tim Lennie		
Seconded by Ernest Cazon		

WHEREAS, the Mackenzie Valley Highway 1 & 7 was a no hunting corridor; and
WHEREAS, the GNWT has opened the Mackenzie Valley Highway 1 & 7 to hunting in the 1990s; and
WHEREAS, DFN has seen a significant increase of non-resident hunters in the Dehcho; and
WHEREAS, there is a safety issue with so many hunters and limited enforcement; and
WHEREAS, DFN is seeing increased pressures to the wildlife population in our area as a result of Big Game Outfitting and most recently the ban on hunting Barrenland Caribou; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVE THAT, for the safety of our residents and the preservations of our wildlife, the Dehcho First Nations request a no hunting corridor within the asserted Dehcho Territory; and

MOTION #08 24/FEB/11 2011 WINTER LEADERSHIP MEETING
MOVED THAT THE DFN LEADERSHIP APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: 2010 SPRING LEADERSHIP MINUTES, 2010 FALL LEADERSHIP MINUTES AND CONFERENCE CALLS OF OCTOBER 29 – NOVEMBER 1, 2010, NOVEMBER 18, 2010, JANUARY 20, 2011, FEBRUARY 8, 2011
MOVED BY CHIEF TIM LENNIE, SECONDED BY A/CHIEF STANLEY SANGUEZ
MOTION CARRIED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the GNWT come into adherence with the standards set out across Canada.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Carl Lafferty indicated that they are willing to look at options, sections of the highways, and November 15th to December 31st we will be doing community consultations.

Stanley Sanguéz is asking if there is any provision in the Wildlife Act, has been seeing southern licence plates. Carl Lafferty is saying that if anyone see's anything suspicious to call. It does raise alarm bells in communities. Elder Ernest Cazon is commenting does it mean just the Mackenzie valley highway, or does it include the Liard highway.

Pat Martel is talking about the Liard Highway, it's not written on there, the roads and other highways it's not mentioned on the letter that is put forward to us.

Ernest Cazon is telling the leadership that being in Fort Liard; he has heard various comments about white people hunting on the highway. Morris Vital agreed that there is too much hunters. There are a lot of workers on the road. People from Nahanni complain there is too much hunters on the road too. Robert Vital added that there are few hunters in Nahanni Butte and it's disturbing when you see hunters with guns on the roads.

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge is explaining that the moose hunting season starts September all the way to November. Are we for now just designating the Mackenzie highway? Are we saying non-resident hunters? Needs more clarity, we're trying to pick up all the highways. The pressure is during moose hunting season. You have people coming from Alberta. You have to be a little bit more specific, unless we're all pitching in, it's going to be really hard to enforce, unless we pick some really sensitive areas.

Chair is reading out the changes to the resolution #1 on the hunting corridor.

Chief Tim Lennie is speaking on behalf of the resolution and about the hunting on the highways, asked for assistance from the RCMP when they are patrolling into communities. Whether we like it or not, they are abusing our aboriginal treaty rights. There's one thing that government has always said, when we make roads in your territory, we give you each an access to go hunting, go out to camps. No restrictions, for easier access. It made it easier for everybody. Where is that? All of a sudden we are a part of the whole public.

Talking about the Wildlife Act, it's going to interfere with our aboriginal Treaty Rights. As a First Nations person in your position, you took something really big. The white people are paying you to push their paper for them; you have to convince me of that.

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MOTION CARRIED**

I was going into Ft. Simpson one night and saw something on the road; I took out my gun thinking it was a moose. As I got closer, noticed it was a person so I went up to this individual that was walking in the bush, he tells me good morning, what seems to be the problem. I didn't know what to say, was very upset. I was ready to shoot; my sister was so upset because I was vibrating, ready to take a shot from a distance.

We are still in negotiations with wildlife and land managements and when we are in the process of the resolving these issues. Don't support the Wildlife Act. The resolutions is passed doesn't not mention aboriginal rights. Some communities shut down during the spring and fall, will there be an affect when the decisions are made. Concerns about the decline issues, DFN is using fly-ins to hunting lands and not going by land. Why not restrict using planes and that is why we have a decline in caribou. Need to do more hands on. Concern about how the Government changed our way of life.

Carl Lafferty responded that all these changes, if you want to tweak, is up to you. 100% buy in it is easier to sell. I will be bringing your concerns back with me.

Executive Committee Report

Bertha Norwegian did an overview of the motions from the Executive Committee meetings June 2010 to October. (Attached)

Tim has a concern on how Advisory service to the communities has changed before the negotiations. Ria indicated the Operational Plan has been passed at the assembly, option two. Have combined the information and was handed out.

MOTION #07 07OCT2010 Fall Leadership Meeting
Moved that the DFN Leadership accept the appendixes, as presented, to the Work Plan for 2010 – 2011.
Moved by Chief Tim Lennie
Seconded by President Marie Lafferty

Chair Doug noted the minutes will be deferred the Winter Leadership meeting. Margaret reviewed the dates of the Winter Leadership Meeting, February 22-24, Spring Leadership, April 12-14 and Assembly will be held June 27-30.

Executive Director Ria Letcher explained that information on the appendixes has been on going. Overview of programs of DFN, had to do a five year strategy plan done by the AHRDA Coordinator. As of October 3rd we are going by this plan.

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MOTION CARRIED

Margaret Leishman noted the information you have should be taken home and review, with your members. Thanked everyone

Chief Jim Antoine reviewed the executive committee motions.

Closing Prayer by Margaret Leishman

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MOTION CARRIED**