



Deh Cho Visions



Volume 1, Issue 1

August 2004

Special points of interest:

- Kakisa Assembly
- Special Assembly Scheduled for August
- Fall Leadership Meeting Scheduled for October
- New Employees at DCFN
- Traditional Food Section
- Constitutional Development



Chief Keyna Norwegian and daughter Newmoon at 2004 Kakisa Assembly

“Extensive reading is a price-

12th Assembly in Kakisa

Delegates began arriving in Kakisa on June 28, 2004 for Deh Cho First Nations' 12th annual assembly. Office staff were busy with preparations for the meeting right up until departure for Kakisa but the meeting began as planned on June 29th.

Following were the main topics of discussion at the meeting: Community Concerns, Naxecho, Youth, Auditor's, Executive Committee and Resource Management Reports, Protected Areas Strategy, Nahanni National Park Expansion, Land Use Planning Committee, Negotiations Report, Interim Resource Development Agreement, Draft Constitution/General AiP, Resolutions, Pipeline Update, Pipeline Working Group, Aboriginal Skills to Employment Partnership and Regional Training Scholarship Announcement and Language Working Group.

Guest speakers included Tli Cho Grand Chief, Joe Rabesca; MP Ethel Blondin-

Andrew; Dene National Chief Noline Villebrun; Assembly of First Nations Regional Vice-Chief, Bill Erasmus; Chief of Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Ndilo), Darrel Beaulieu and Chief of Dene Tha' First Nation, Stephen Didzena.

The assembly was not all work and no play. AFN Regional Vice-Chief, Bill Erasmus, presented the chiefs with *Assembly of First Nations* jackets and included MP Ethel Blondin-Andrew. There were nightly drum dances with drummers from all the participating communities. One night twenty-three drummers performed at one time which was an amazing sight to behold. A youth talent show was held on June 30th and was followed by the adult talent show on July 1st. The arbor was packed for the adult talent show with visitors from as far away as Yellowknife. There were many talented individuals - both young and old who were truly deserving of the accolades that flowed their way. A good time was had by one and all.



DCFN's Annual Assembly in Kakisa— June 2004

This year there was a large youth delegation. They had their own “breakout session” and brought forth many innovative and unique ideas. These young people are obviously well on their way to becoming informed and involved individuals who would certainly one day be a credit in our struggle to govern ourselves.



DCFN staff at a drum dance at Kakisa Assembly



In foreground: Grand Chief Herb Norwegian, Chief Negotiator Georges Erasmus and Legal Counsel, Chris Reid. Chief Keyna Norwegian in red hat in background.



Ria Letcher, Assistant Negotiator (L) and Cynthia Mandeville, Negotiations Secretary at Rabbitkettle Lake—June 2004

Special Assembly and Fall Leadership Meeting Scheduled for Aug. & Oct./04

A *Leadership Tele-Conference* was held on July 7, 2004. At that time the Leadership agreed by consensus, to hold a **Special Assembly** from August 23—27, 2004 in Fort Providence. Also discussed was a possible date and location for the **Fall Leadership meeting**. The Leadership tentatively scheduled the meeting for late **October** at the Hay River Reserve.

Meeting With Minister Anderson

In addition to the above topics, the Leadership discussed a meeting with the Minister of Environment, David Anderson, in the near future. M.P. Ethel Bondin-Andrew's office will be setting up the meeting. There is a possibility that one local Chief may attend the meeting along with Grand Chief Herb Norwegian and Chief Negotiator Georges Erasmus.

Dates for Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee's Community Visits

The Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee's Consultation Schedule for the month of August 2004 are as follows:

August 9 & 10	Wrigley
August 12 & 13	Fort Liard
August 17	Yellowknife
August 18	Yellowknife
August 19	Yellowknife
August 20	Yellowknife
August 23	Ottawa
August 25	Calgary
August 27	Vancouver
August 30 & 31	Fort Providence
Sept. 1 & 2	Kakisa



DehchoMLA Michael McLeod and Premier Joe Handley at 2004 Kakisa Assembly



Elders gathered for a group photo during

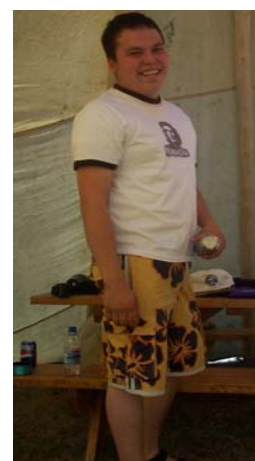


Heidi Wiebe, Ex. Dir. for Dehcho Land Use Planning Comm.—2004 Kakisa Assembly

New Employees at DCFN

Brandon Buggins

Brandon was hired as a Negotiations summer student on June 22nd and will be employed until September 3/04. This young man is a member of LKFN and was born in Yellowknife on June 1, 1985 to Keyna Norwegian of Fort Simpson and Gabe Buggins from Fort Resolution. Brandon lived in Yellowknife for the first five years of his life then moved to Fort Simpson until he was eleven years old. The family moved to Edmonton for a year in 1996 when his mother returned to school. Depending on his grades, Brandon plans on pursuing a Civil Engineering degree after he completes grade twelve next year. He plans on applying to the University of Toronto or University of Alberta. Brandon has a four year old sister named Newmoon.



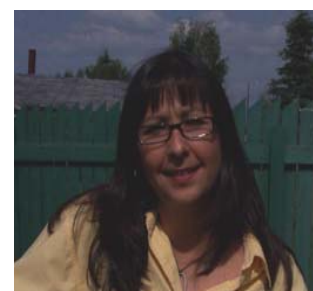
Shannon Cazon

Shannon was hired as a summer student for a six-week period to help out with reception duties. She was born in Yellowknife on May 10, 1988 and is a member of LKFN. Her parents are Mary Jane (nee Nayally) Cazon of Wrigley and Gilbert Cazon of Fort Simpson. She has two sisters and one brother. Shannon will be entering grade eleven this fall and plans on applying to the University of Alberta or NAIT after she completes high school. Her goal is to obtain a Forest Technician degree. Shannon's future goals include traveling throughout Europe.



Gloria Watsyk

Gloria started as the AHRDA Coordinator on June 24, 2004 and is a member of the Jean Marie River First Nations. Gloria attended Grande Prairie Regional College and graduated in 1992 with a Business Administration Diploma in Accounting/Finance and has worked in various financial capacities since. Although all of her immediate family now live in Yellowknife, she is very happy to be back in Fort Simpson. She has already traveled to a few offices and is looking forward arranging a regional AHRDA holders meeting in early September and meeting all staff.



Marilyn Hardisty

Dehcho Process Communication team is proud to have Marilyn Hardisty in the capacity of Information Officer. Originally from Jean Marie River, Marilyn Hardisty is the daughter of well-known artisan and elder, Sarah Hardisty. Her education and complimentary skills in bilingual communications, product development, technical expertise, knowledge of the Dehcho and its residents will be a great contribution to the team. Marilyn will be visiting communities in the near future. For information on the Dehcho Process, Marilyn can be reached at 867-695-2610 or by e-mail at marilyn_hardisty@dehchofirstnations.com



Traditional Food Section

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Stuffed Moose Heart

Wipe one moose heart with a damp cloth, soak overnight in salted water, then drain. Mix together in a bowl:

- 1 cup of fine bread crumbs
- 1 stalk of celery, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon sage
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Hollow out the top of the heart. Stuff with the sage stuffing mixture then close the opening. Coat the heart with a mixture of flour with salt and pepper. Dot the heart with butter or bacon drippings. Place in a covered roaster and bake at 325 ° until done, about 3 hours. Baste occasionally.

“In the past, people mostly lived on things cooked on open fire. That’s why there was little sickness. Now, people cook most everything in frying pans, that’s why people get sick.” (the late Anne Buggins, elder from Hay River Reserve)

Season Appropriate Slavey Words & Translation

<u>Slavey</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Slavey</u>	<u>English</u>
Sah	Bear	Ezhóghndih	Ball game
Chicho	Mallard	náots’ezheh	
Ch’oh	Porcupine Quills	Elá tótogohthe k’é	Boat Landing
Ehddhaa	Dry fish	Méhnáchjadlúu	Buoy/Channel Marker
Deh	Crane		
Elá	Boat	Elá nóqtle	Ferry
T’so	Insect	Tleelá	Outboard Motor
T’oo	Paddle	Dechjká elá	Scow
Tthah	Carrot	Et’óah	Flower
Tth’ih	Mosquito	Jíe	Fruit/Berries
Ts’ahle	Frog	Tha ndu	Sandbar
Xah	Geese	Gohtléh zhólé	Dust
		Imbéh taní	Mid-summer

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Constitutional Development

Assistant Negotiators' Report

Following the Kakisa Assembly from June 29 to July 2, 2004, direction was provided to further constitutional work on the "Towards the Dehcho Government" paper. Assistant Negotiators, Ria Letcher and Samuel Gargan, have been undertaking on-going community visits. Chief Negotiator, Georges Erasmus will be conducting workshop sessions in Fort Providence, Hay River Reserve, Fort Simpson and Fort Liard. Dates for the workshops are to be determined. The communities are strongly urged to participate in these workshops. Included for your information are the schedules for community visits:

August 10, 2004	Nahanni Butte
August 11 & 12	Fort Liard
August 16 to 20	Fort Simpson
August 23 to 27	Fort Simpson



Assistant Negotiator, Ria Letcher



Assistant Negotiator, Samuel Gargan

M.P. Ethel Blondin-Andrew, left, Grand Chief Herb Norwegian and Co-Chair Wesley Hardisty at Kakisa, June 2004



Proverb - "A little nonsense now and then is relished by the

2003/2004 Annual Reports are available at DCFN



Fort Simpson Metis Local President, Marie Lafferty, left, and Albertine Rodh, at the 2004 Kakisa Assembly

Towards a Dehcho Government

(for discussion purposes only)

The following questions are the issues that were discussed at the 12th Annual Kakisa Assembly. We are seeking community feedback. Please submit your comments to Dehcho First Nations.

1. Are the Dehcho First Nations still committed to Dene Public Government for the whole Dehcho Territory, including Dene and non-Dene in decision-making, or would you prefer a model in which First Nations Governments exclusively govern lands?
2. Do the DFN support the negotiation of a final agreement based on “shared stewardship” and “shared ownership” of all lands and resources in the Dehcho, or would you prefer to divide the territory into parcels, some owned entirely by the Dene and Metis of the region and other areas owned by Canada?
3. If Dene public government is preferred over land selection, what would be a fair residency requirement for non-Dene before they can vote in Dehcho Government elections?
4. Should there be guaranteed seats on Councils for Dene and Metis?
5. What powers should the local governments of the Dehcho have?
6. What powers should the regional governments have?
7. What role should Canada have in governing lands and resources and people of the Dehcho after a final agreement?
8. What role should the GNWT have?
9. Should councillors be elected, or appointed by elders? Or should each community decide for itself how councilors will be chosen?
10. What role should elders have in the government of the Dehcho?

Please request constitutional information at:
Phone: (867) 695-2355/2610
Fax: (867) 695-2038/2927
E-mail: dcfn@dehchofirstnations.com



August 2004

(This is subject to change—last updated August 3rd)



1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14
Assistant Negotiator— Nahanni Butte Assistant Negotiator - Fort Liard Elders Meeting - Fort Simpson

15 16 17 18 19 20 21
Negotiation Team Door to Door Visits—Fort Simpson

22 23 24 25 26 27 28
Negotiation Team Door to Door Visits—Fort Simpson

29 30 31
Nax'cho Working Group Meeting
Tentative Dene Nation Assembly - Yellowknife

Deh Cho First Nations

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Fax: (867) 695-2038/2927

We're on the Web
dehchofirstnations.com

"Strong, proud, happy people through self-government and sustainable economic development while maintaining the integrity of land and Dene/Metis traditions."



Around the campfire at Kakisa Assembly.

"Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestor, we borrow it from our children."

Dene Laws

Share What You Have

Help Each Other

Love Each Other As Much As Possible

Be Respectful of Elders and Everything Around You

Pass On the Teachings

Be Happy At All Times

Sleep At Night and Work During the Day

Be Polite and Don't Argue With Anyone

Young Girls and Boys Should Behave Respectively



Drummers from various communities at a Kakisa drum dance. There were 23



Fort Providence delegates at the 2004 assembly in Kakisa.



Youth delegates at the Kakisa Assembly.



Taking a break at Kakisa Assembly.