

# MOOSE HIDE

## Golqdhéh



**NAHE NÁHODHE - OUR WAY OF LIFE**



**PROJECT OF DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS**

# welcome

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## máhsı edı megháhahnda

This project is dedicated to our ancestors. They show us the way through the stories they have told, the knowledge they have shared, and the children they have raised.

**Edı tł'a nahecho gı́lé gonats'ęndı́h t'áh mek'eh eghálats'ı́ndá á qt'e. Gogęndıé gháádé goghánahonehtę, t'ahsıı goghágonétę kegedęđhshę nahets'ę́ kagedı, gots'ęh dáęndı́h t'áh dezęą genehsseh.**

To promote Dene Zhatie in the Dehcho region, Dehcho First Nations, in collaboration with partners and local communities, undertook this video and book project to share Dehcho Dene language, culture and knowledge of the land.

**Dehcho zhı́eh gozhatıé k'éndah met'áh ats'et'ı́ gha, Dehcho First Nations, Dene ndaa gohéh eghálagenda, gots'ęh kúé zhágóla ndaa gots'ágęndı t'áh Dehcho Dene zhatıé, gonáhodhe, gots'ęh dáęndı́h ndéh ts'ęh keots'edđhshę t'áh edı edđht'éh náedah gots'ęh edđht'éh mek'ezhats'ehtı k'eh eghálats'ı́dá.**





From October 1 to 7th 2019, twenty-four participants including elders, fluent language speakers, youth and staff members gathered at the Kat'odeeche Dene Wellness Center. Videographers documented the knowledge shared during the week and produced six short videos. The videos were then developed into six booklets in Dene Zhatie entitled Moose Hide, Spruce Tree, Dene Laws, Dene Laws and Stories, Camp Setup, and Plant Wisdom.

**It's'éndaa Zaa íé gots'èh íáhdj, 2019 gots'è ekúh Dene ɔkí honɔ ɔóó-dj íéthede, ɔndah, Dene amii Dene zhatie t'áh nezuh ɔndeh, dezɔa ohndah gots'èh gohéh eghálagedéh Kát'odeeche Dene Najéh K'é íégehdeh. Dene dáɔndíh t'ahsii kegogedjshɔ gots'è kagedi t'áh Dene goedht'éhíhchuh dek'ehnízhénidhah gots'èh mets'èh edjht'éh náedah ehts'étaí aek'áhe ts'ehtsj. Edí edjht'éh náedah ts'ets'j ts'èh edjht'éh mek'ezhats'ehí aetséíia ts'ehts'j.**

We hope that this project inspires our youth. Enjoy.

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**Edí mets'èh keots'edúɔáh ts'enidhè t'áh mek'eh eghálats'índá.  
Nezuh megháahnda.**





We put the hide down before we put down the frame.

**Ala edhéh níts'įᑦa gogháádé mehdę níts'įhge.**

When we start on a moose hide,

**Edi edhéh móots'eníhthi t'á,**

the women that know how to start fleshing around the hide using a knife.

**edi, ts'éłį azhọ zheghogedįshşọ ehsįį azhọ mbeh t'áh zhembáah zhetó ejihgeht'áh.**

Us men, we punch holes into the hide.

**Nahį, mbeh t'áh meghaíge.**

Those who know what to do they help and put the string around the hide.

**Amíı azhíı dáts'eleh gha zheghodįshşọ éhsíı gots'ágendi t'áh t'uh t'áh degezháh.**

Depending on the size of the hide, the hide is stretched on the frame.  
**Edhéh dáecho gháádé, mehdę k'ęę dets'ezháh.**

So, after the hide is tied to the frame, one or two people will go around and check

**Gots'ęh énidé, edhéh mehdę k'eh dets'ezháh t'áa, tęę íle énidé ękene azhę zhęghęgeda**

all the strings to make sure it is tight.

**godelę t'uh t'áh dénęht'ų gha.**

It is good when a strong person tightens the ropes – it is good to work on when it's tight.

**Dene nátse zhek'eh t'uh deht'ih á nezu - godelę nit'ı á meghálats'enda gha nezu.**





After the hide has been attached well, we repeat the process (of tightening) until it is very tight.

**Nezy dets'ehzháh t'áah, godelo t'áh t'uh mek'eh nats'edeht'ih.**

After that is done it is ready to be fleshed with a flesher (bone tool).

**Ezhi kats'jlá t'áa káa enóttah t'áh metóts'edege gha.**

We now have the hide ready on a frame and are fleshing the hide with a flesher.

**Edhéh mehdę k'eh seethídlá gots'ęh káa enóttah t'áh metóts'edege.**

Those that know how are helping, those that are being taught are observing.

**Amii meghálats'enda zheghogedihsho gots'ágendi, amii kededih éhsii goghágenda.**



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There are many of us who have experience working on a hide.

**Amíi edhéh k'eh eghálaįndá ṯ.**

After they are finish fleshing  
**Zhetógedege anagıt'e t'áa**

now we just leave it in the wind facing the sun for a day or two.

**fié, ɔkɪ dzę gots'é nihts'ı  
t'áh egɔ gha sadee ts'é nɔa  
níts'ıhge.**





You don't just turn it and start working on it, you let it dry for one or two days.  
**Kí kaḡndíh nahłats'edeḡa t'áh kéots'eníhthi ḡt'e íle, íie, oki dze ḡots'é ts'ehḡo.**

After it dries, you use a scraper to scrape it.  
**Theḡo t'áa énidé ḡghoh t'áh ts'eghoh.**





This is how we who live here (Hay River) do it.

**Nahí ejɔ (Hay River) náhthídéh kaqndíh á ahthíɔ.**

The people in Samba K'e, Fort Simpson, Jean Marie, they work on it differently.

**Zhéé Samba K'e, ǎíídlɔ Kúé, Tthets'éhk'edélɔ, gúlí zheghálagenda.**

# VOCABULARY

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## PAGE 4

edhéh – moose hide

mehdę - frame (moose hide)

móots'eníhthı – to start on it

ts'élı - women

zhetó – its flesh

mbeh – knife

nahı - us

meghaíge – we poke holes in it

gots'ágendı – they help

t'uh – string/rope

degezháh – they tie it on

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## PAGE 5

dets'ezháh – one ties it on

t'áa – after

łéę - one person

okene – two people

godelq - (it is) hard

dénéht'ı - tied on

nátse – strong

deht'ih – one tightens it

nit'ı – strung

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## PAGE 6

dets'ehzháh – one ties it on



nats'edeht'ih – you tighten it  
again

enóttah – flesher

seethídlá – we fixed it

metóts'edege – you flesh it  
(take the flesh off)

zheghogedıhshq - the ones  
that know how

kededıh – one learning

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## PAGE 7

anagıt'e – they are finished/  
done

tıé – one

qkı – two

nihts'ı – wind

egq - it dries

níts'ıhge – you place it (long  
object)

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## PAGE 9

náhthídéh – we live

ahthıqı - we do it

gúlıı – different

zheghálagenda – they work on  
it



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## Amíi Gots'ágındı

This project is grateful, first and foremost to our elders and fluent language speakers who shared their wealth of knowledge and experience; without your support this project would not be possible.

**Mek'eh eghálats'ındá t'áh amíi gots'ágındıh t'a, ala nahe qındah gots'eh Dene amíi dezhatıé k'ıı zháogındeh edegındıé gots'eh azhıı egogedıhshq nahendáh agedı; azhq nahets'ágendı t'áh nezuh agújá.**

A heartfelt thank you to Kat'odeeche First Nation for hosting this project in their home community.

**Kat'odeeche chu máhsı nahendéh k'eh nahetah edı mek'eh eghálats'ındá.**







This project has been made possible in part by the Government of Canada.

**Government of Canada chu edı mek'eh eghálats'ındá t'áh nahets'ágındı.**

Financial and inkind support was also provided by: Dechinta Center for Research and Learning, Dehcho First Nations and Dehcho K'ehodi.

**Dechinta Center for Research and Learning, Dehcho First Nations gots'eh Dehcho K'ehodi chu saamba t'áh gots'eh nahets'ágındı gha chu.**

Mahsi to Reel Youth and Carrie Breneman for their work on the project.

**Reel Youth gots'eh Carrie Breneman chu edı t'áh nahets'ágındı gha máhsı.**

# WE RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR

## Amí edı k'eh eghálats'ęnda t'áh gots'ágin

Aline Gargan  
Alisha Moses  
Anandi Brownstein  
Betty Hardisty  
Douglas Norwegian  
Elaine Lamalice  
Georgina Fabian  
Helen Kotchea  
James Cayen  
John McLeod  
Jonathan Antoine  
Joyce Mcleod  
Justina Black  
Margaret Ireland  
Margaret Leishman  
Mike Low/ Dehcho AAROM  
Nadine Menicoche  
Nicole Sanguez  
Ramona Pearson  
Robert Lamalice  
Rose Moses  
Violet Fabian  
Yvonne Norwegian

Project leads:  
Kristen Tanche, Violet Jumbo  
and special thanks to  
Andy Norwegian.





**R HELP AND CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROJECT:**

**dí gots'eh gotah ageat'j t'a:**



MADE POSSIBLE BY:



Canada

This project has been made possible in part by the Government of Canada.  
Ce projet a été rendu possible en partie grâce au gouvernement du Canada.

