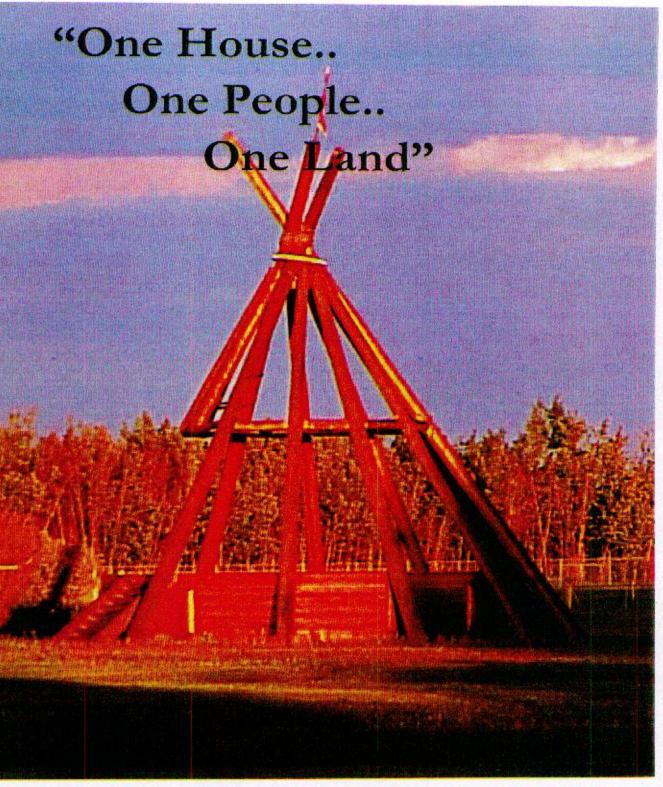
2002 ANNUAL REPORT



Through the Deh Cho Process we are striving towards establishing a "One House" Government for all Deh Cho residents, including Dene, Metis and non-aboriginal people. We now have a frame for the house and we are working towards completing it.

~Grand Chief, Michael Nadli~



~Highlights~

Governance Workshop Report

Grand Chief Assembly Report

Minister's Message

Deh Cho Process Update

2002 Assembly Resolutions

2002 Auditor's Report

Peace Treaty



Grand Chief 2002 Annual Assembly Report Michael Nadli

Welcome to the 2002 Annual Deh Cho Assembly. The theme of this year's Assembly is "One House". Through the Deh Cho Process we are striving towards establishing a "One House" government for all Deh Cho residents, including Dene, Metis and non-aborigmal people. In this light, we need to be cognizant of our views and respect each other and our cultural identifies. Importantly, we need to begin defining our foundation plan for our "ONE HOUSE".

The 2002 Annual Assembly will be my last Assembly before my term comes to an end at the 2003 Annual Assembly. My term as your Grand Chief and six years of service has been a great challenge. In anticipation of me not seeking a third term, I wanted to make the transition back to my home community, build a house and spend more time with my family. For those reasons I have been working out of Fort Providence since March 2002 through an agreement I reached with the Leadership at the March Leadership Meeting. Ten years ago the Deh Cho Region held its first Assembly in Kakisa to path out the Deh Cho Process. In this year, we have moved in the areas of Economic Development, Governance initiatives to define the values and principles of a Dene Government and the principles of Lands and Resource management. We also continued to make slow but sure progress in our negotiations with governments. At this point we are in the final stages of completing the Interim Resource Development Agreement. We are also continuing with the Land Withdrawals and Land Use Planning. We anticipate as we conclude this stage we will then move to Phase Two of our negotiations soon.

My role as your Grand Chief includes being the Governance Coordinator and Chief Executive Officer of the organization. Aside from the political and management functions, I also travel on behalf of the Deh Cho in representing our interests and views with our negotiations, strategically attending sessions and receiving briefings by our Chief Negotiator and Team. One occasion of travel was making a presentation to the Arctic Gas Symposium in March 6-8, Calgary, Alberta which I have attached for your information. For the most part, my role confines me to be present in our office in Fort Simpson. I regret I have not traveled extensively into our communities to meet with our local membership, Elders, Chiefs and Dene Council, and Presidents of Metis Boards. I am routinely involved with Leadership, Elders and Executive Committee Meetings. We have periodic face to-face meetings and also Tele-conferences. We also have Leadership Caucus Meetings and we have had one workshop in November 2001.

I believe within this year, we have introduced and tabled many concepts with the Leadership and Elders. One example is the One House Concept on Resource Development. Such a regime would set a collective decision making process with the involvement and support of all our member organizations and communities, to engage industry from a position of collective strength. We all realize that industry is big and powerful, with an abundance of money and resources. It is rather facetious to think that a giant company will meet the demands of one small community. To avoid such a situation of calamity, the going thought is why can't we all work together instead of doing piece-meal and separate approaches? In this way, Industry would have to deal with our communities together as one instead of nine separate communities. From a positive industry perspective, this process may mean an efficient and timely decision making process. This is one of many concepts we have introduced through our Governance.

In our Governance initiative, our basic purpose is to define what kind of Dene Government we will set up. As you may be aware, the 1994 Deh Cho Proposal remains a significant part of our thinking. We want to define what are the Dene Values and Principles that could form the basis of our Dene Government. Of course in this instance, we also need to discuss Aboriginal Government versus Public Governments. I think it is fair to say thus far our consensus is for a Public Government for the Deh Cho. These by far are the most challenging issues we face. My perspective is why should we wait for eight years to begin this work when it could be done now? We have seen from the experience of settled claimant groups that this work is critical and must be done now, not after we sign agreements!

In closing, I once again thank the Administrative Staff that continues on hard. In our visions of a Dene Government, we often forget the people aspect aside from the protracted structure and indentations of authorities. We forget that the people who will implement and make or break our Governments are the staff we all have in our offices. They will be the ones that decide whether our Government will work. In this light, my appreciation goes out to the Administrative Staff. This year has been a remarkable personal challenge. Not only do I have to defend our positions, I must stand on the principles, values and traditions, and beliefs of our people. Yet people must realize that things are the way they are for reasons that we sometimes cannot comprehend because it is simply not our responsibility and beyond our hope. Hope means: yes, things are not impossible. Mahsi.

These principles, while fundamental to the Deh Cho tradition of governance, are universal values which should be readily understood and accepted as good principles of governance by new residents of the territory. These principles of Deh Cho governance, like many of the important principles of British and Canadian parliamentary democracy, have not been written down as formal constitutional rules. Knowledge of these Deh Cho principles will continue to be transmitted by elders to succeeding generations. But consideration might be given to preparing a statement of Deh Cho principles for the Preamble of the written Deh Cho Constitution. Such a statement would be especially instructive for new residents of the

The Framework Agreement says that the Deh Cho Government should be based upon "Deh Cho First Nations laws and customs and other Canadian laws and customs." One important Canadian law that was recognized as applicable is the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. As stated in the Common Ground Principles, the rights of all Canadians which are guaranteed by the Charter of Rights will be respected by the Government of the Deh Cho but in a manner that is consistent with protecting the Aboriginal and Treaty right of the Deh Cho.

One House, One People

There was a clear consensus that Deh Cho Government should be a government for all of the permanent residents of the Deh Cho territory. There was no desire to divide the population of the territory into two separate categories of Deh Cho and non Deh Cho. In implementing a Deh Cho Government, the Deh Cho wish to build one house with room for all who reside in the Deh Cho.

This is in accord with the commitment in the Framework Agreement to Deh Cho Government being "a public government". The term "public government" raises fear that Deh Cho Government would have to conform to some standard model of Canadian government. But it was made clear that this is not the case. Public government means that the Deh Cho Government would be the primary government for delivery of governmental services to all the residents of the Deh Cho territory,

Membership in Deh Cho Government

A preference was expressed in the workshop for referring to all those who participate in the Deh Cho Government as "members" rather than "citizens". There was agreement that all those who reside in the Deh Cho territory should be considered "members" with a right to participate and hold office in Deh Cho Government. Some minimum period of residency would be required to qualify for membership. Two years was mentioned by some as an appropriate residence requirement.

Membership in Deh Cho Government is not the same thing as membership in the Deh Cho First Nations. Those who belong to the Deh Cho First Nations have special treaty rights. The question of whether membership in the Deh Cho First Nations would be governed by the Indian Act was raised. In the discussion of this question it was recognized that under the Agreement with Canada it will be up to the Deh Cho First Nations to determine membership in the Deh Cho First Nations.

Work needs to be done on how membership in the Deh Cho First Nations and eligibility for Treaty benefits, and benefits arising under a new Agreement with Canada will be defined. Also more consideration needs to be given to how membership in Deh Cho First Nations relates to membership in Deh Cho Government.

7. One House with Two Stories

Deh Cho Government will operate at two levels: the local or community level and the Deh Cho regional level.

In the Deh Cho tradition of government, the local community is the most fundamental level of government. It is primarily at the community level that the Deh Cho have exercised their responsibility for caring for land, nurturing the young and maintaining peace and social harmony. The primacy of the community level of government would continue under the Deh Cho Government now being implemented.

Deh Cho Community Government would replace all governments in the region that now function at the community level: band councils, hamlet, village and town councils. This process may require a transitional period so that existing structures can be phased into new structures.

Deh Cho Regional Government would be the government for the whole Deh Cho territory. It would be the government responsible for making policy and enacting laws for the entire region, and for co-ordinating the shared activities of the communities.



The Role of Elders

A distinctive feature of Deh Cho governance has been the important role played by elders. The importance of this role was evident in the conduct of this workshop. Many elders contributed to the discussion and enabled all who participated to understand how elders are recognized and to appreciate the kind of knowledge and guidance they provide Deh Cho Society. If the Deh Cho Government to be implemented and recognized through the Agreement with Canada is to be truly Deh Cho Government, it must be a system of governance in which elders continue to play a vital role.

Deh Cho Government should be structured and conducted in a manner that will make it possible to have the knowledge and advice of elders on all matters of policy and in the selection of leaders. A role for elders should be provided for at both the

The way in which elders emerge in Deh Cho communities and the way in which their advice is obtained has been a part of the Deh Cho people's "unwritten constitution". The elder's role in Deh Cho society and government will, at least in part, continue in this informal way. But suggestions were made that institutional arrangements should be made to provide for the elders role in Deh Cho Government. One suggestion was that there be a an elder's "senate" or "upper house" - at the re-

It will be important for the clders and the Deh Cho leadership to design the best way of ensuring that the role of

Diversity at the Community Level

In implementing Deh Cho Government it will be important to leave room for a great deal of diversity at the community level. Communities in the Deh Cho region have different traditions. They also differ considerably in the size and ethnic mix of their populations. This means that communities may have different governmental structures and take on different ranges of services and programs. Participants in the workshop recognized that at the local/community level "one size would defi-

In many - perhaps in all - Deh Cho communities, extended families have traditionally been recognized as having responsibility for the care of specific lands and waters. There is a desire to continue distinctive aspects of Deh Cho governance. In the past this practice of government appears to have been carried on informally without being formally provided for in institutions. Consideration should be given to whether and how the role of families should be more formally institutionalized in Deh Cho governance.

The special circumstances of the Town of Hay River were frequently mentioned in the workshop. Over half the population of the Deh Cho territory reside in this town. The majority are non-native. How the Town of Hay River would fit into a region-wide system of Deh Cho Government needs to be investigated. One suggestion is that a special workshop on the

Representation Options and Issues

Various methods of representing individuals and communities in Deh Cho Government were discussed in the workshop. The methods of selection which were considered included the following:

- representatives of extended families
- consensus with the elders
- traditional representatives of an area of land
- representatives of local community institutions
- individuals voting: one person, one vote

There was no consensus that any one of these methods should prevail over another.

In response to a questionnaire prepared by the facilitator, Deh Cho First Nations representatives took the positions that "there will be no elections" and that "selection of leaders will be by consensus, both at the local and regional level." In the break out group on this subject some supported the idea that Deh Cho Government at both the local and regional level might combine several methods of selection or representation. At the community level there is room for a great deal of diversity on the methods of representation and selection that are used. In communities that are small and have very few residents who are not members of the Deh Cho First Nation traditional methods could continue. But communities with significant numbers of residents who do not belong to First Nations will have to provide for appropriate ways of having these members represented. The Deh Cho First Nations might encourage communities to set up their own workshops on how to combine methods of selection and representation in Deh Cho Community Governments.



Workshop participants saw a governmental authority with responsibility for all of the Northwest Territories having a role both in establishing standards in areas such as educational curriculum, professional accreditation, housing and safety, as well as in providing expensive, technical services in areas such as medicine and transportation.

The workshop did not get into questions of which laws should be paramount in areas where both the Deh Cho and other governments have law-making powers. These questions (as well as precisely defining the fields of jurisdiction under Deh Cho governance) are matters more appropriate for negotiations than a workshop. However one principle on which there was a consensus is the need to eliminate as much as possible duplication in the provision of government of services. There is a strong desire to avoid overlap and red-tape, and to build a system of governance which, in this sense, is highly efficient. It was acknowledged that for this to happen, the federal and territorial governments will have to change their laws and policies to make room for a Deh Cho Government that is truly primary.

11. Finances and Self-Sufficiency

A constant theme throughout the workshop was that for the Deh Cho self-government to be meaningful it must be, as much as possible, self-sufficient. Real autonomy does not exist for a people whose primary government depends of begging for resources from outside governments. The Deh Cho wants future arrangements for the financing of services to be governed by their treaty-relationship with Canada.

It was agreed that Deh Cho Government will have the power to raise money by raxation. But the Deh Cho people and their leaders recognize that their capacity to be self-sufficient will very much hinge on their access to revenues derived from the Deh Cho's natural resources. This issue will be the focus of the next workshop.

12. Relations with Other Governments

The workshop considered relationships among the four levels of governments with which the Deh Cho are involved:

~The Deh Cho Community Government is the most fundamental for them.

~The Deh Cho Regional Government is where representatives of the Deh Cho communities deal with their common interests.

~The Government of the Northwest Territories they would like to see is one which is constituted by representatives of the various regions that make up the Territory and which deals with the common interests of the Territory.

"The Government of Canada is the one with which they have treaty relations.

The break-up group that considered these relationships reported that it is important for the Deh Cho people to be able "to see themselves" at all of these four levels of government.

The Deh Cho Leadership referred to the relationship they want Deh Cho Government to have with the GNWT as "an administrative relationship". They do not want Deh Cho Government to be treated as a "junior" level of government, subordinate to a Territorial Government in Yellowknife. Hence there was considerable interest in the ideas of reconfiguring the GNWT as a Congress or Council of the regions. If this idea is to be pursued, it should be introduced by the Deh Cho leadership into forums discussing the future structure of the GNWT.

13. Conclusions

The workshops made good progress in defining the general structure and nature of the Deh Cho Government to be implemented in the Agreement with Canada. It would be a government that builds on the generations of experience and distinct traditions of the Deh Cho Dene. As such it would give primacy to government at the community level and provide a role for elders at both the community and local level. It would be a single government operating at two levels—the community and the regional—for a united people—the people of Deh Cho.

Possible future steps are indicated in this report by **bold type**. These are just the facilitator's suggestions. Mostly they are concerned with how to adapt traditional Deh Cho principles and practices to a governmental system that must be the primary government for many persons who are not familiar with that tradition.

LANDS AND GOVERNANCE WORKSHOP

Trout Lake—May 23—24, 2002 Report of Facilitator, Peter Russell

1. The Workshop

The first two days of the workshop, May 21-22, were attended by Deh Cho Dene/Metis elders, representatives of all the Deh Cho communities, members of the Deh Cho First Nations negotiating team and members of the Trout Lake community. Representatives of the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the facilitator joined the workshop on May 23. Mr. Blake Lyons representing the NWT Federation of Municipalities, a representative of the village of Enterprise and Chuck Blythe, Superintendent of the Nahanni National Park also joined the workshop at this time.

This report covers only the last two days of the workshop. References to the first two days are based on summaries presented to the second stage of the workshop by Chris Reid and Herb Norwegian.

As with the earlier workshop on governance, this workshop was not a negotiating session. The objective of the part of the workshop covered by this report was to enable the parties to communicate their interests to one another and to explore together possible ways of overcoming differences on the issues discussed.

2. The Practice of Deh Cho Land Use Management

Though the term "land use management" has not been used recently by the Deh Cho Dene, they have been practicing land management for a very long time. The process of taking care of their lands and waters and making decisions about their use and distribution of their resources has been a vital part of Deh Cho governance since long before the white-man arrived. The Deh Cho Dene/Metis intend to carry that responsibility forward into the future. A key objective of the Agreement with Canada and the GNWT which they are now beginning to negotiate is to re affirm their role as "Keepers of our Lands and Water." Their approach assumes that they are the owners of all the lands, waters and natural resources in the Deh Cho Territory, and that to operate their system of land management they require jurisdiction over all aspects of land and resource management in their homeland.

To implement the Interim Measures Agreement with Canada and the GNWT, the Deh Cho Dene/Metis have been identifying parts of their territory which are to be "withdrawn" from development and areas in which development can take place. During the first two days of the workshop, the Deh Cho/Metis explored their decision-making process on land use in the four "areas of development" that have been identified. Their mapping exercise has shown that in each of these areas two or more Deh Cho communities have traditional harvesting interests. One of the issues discussed was how to resolve issues of overlapping interest in these areas. Another issue is to identify development decisions to be made by local communities and those to be made by the central Deh Cho Government. Yet another issue is whether seismic activity can take place on withdrawn lands.

3. The Priority of Land Management

The Deh Cho see working out a system of land use planning as the number one priority at the present time. They recognize that there are differences with Canada on treaty and land ownership issues, and that it would be best, eventually, to resolve those issues. But they believe that real progress can be made in the interim in establishing and operating a system of managing the lands and resources of their territory which secures and advances their interests as well as those of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories. If a mutually acceptable system of making decisions about the use of land and development of resources can be made to work, underlying issues concerning land and treaty rights may become less "scary" and easier to resolve.

During the workshop the representative of the Government of Canada acknowledged differences with the Deh Cho on fundamental legal questions, but agreed that these differences should not prevent proceeding with the system of land use planning called for in the Interim Measures Agreement.

4. Principles and Objectives of Land Management

In the first stage of the workshop the Deh Cho discussed a number of principles and objectives that should guide decision-making about land and resources on their territory. As reported to those participating in the second stage of the workshop





these principles and objectives were as follows:

- 1] In areas of development, development should proceed at a slow and moderate pace.
- 2] Development must always take place in a manner that shows respect for the land, that is sustainable and not destructive
- 3] In distributing the economic benefits of development, the priorities should be: first, residents of the Deh Cho territory;
- 4] Although the Government of Canada might collect toyalties from resource development, the value of these royalties should be returned to the Deh Cho and not to the Government of the NWT.
- 5] A Deh Cho Development Act is needed to set our a comprehensive set of rules governing development on the Deh Cho
- 6] There should be a single authority in the Deh Cho for issuing permits for every kind of resource development, and regu-

In setting out this statement of principles and objectives, Deh Cho representatives said that they were willing to negotiate on

Government of Canada's Position on Land Management

Robin Aitkin reminded the workshop that his team has a mandate from Cabinet to explore the approach to land and resource decision making favoured by the Deh Cho and to develop options on how to respond to these proposals by 2004.

The Government of Canada's preference is to treat land issues in a similar manner to that used in "comprehensive agreements." If this approach were followed, full Deh Cho ownership and control would apply only to "community lands", while the remaining parts of the Deh Cho territory would be Crown lands on which Deh Cho jurisdiction is devolved by the fedcral government and resource management is shared with federal and territorial governments. The Government of Canada recognized that this is different from the approach favoured by the Deh Cho which calls for Deh Cho ownership and jurisdiction of the whole Deh Cho territory.

Despite differences about title, ownership and jurisdiction, the federal government believes that it may be possible to establish a mutually acceptable system of land use planning for the whole Deh Cho territory. It certainly wants to work at trying to do this. It would be much easier to obtain a consensus within the Government of Canada on land and resource issues if proposals were based on the preferred federal approach. However, Robin Aitkin said his team has a mandate to explore the Deh Cho proposal and develop options for responding to it.

The Government of Canada attaches high importance to linking land use planning and management in the Deh Cho to the system established for coordinating land and water management in the Mackenzie Valley under the Mackenzie Valley Re-

Canada's objective is to reach an agreement that clarifies rights and responsibilities in land use management. It does not insist on establishing absolute certainty, nor aim for extinguishments of native title.

Government of The Northwest Territories' Position on Land Management

The GNWT recognizes that the Dch Cho proposal is not a land selection model, and while this raises some questions that have not been faced before, it is willing to explore the Deh Cho proposal.

Its primary interests are wildlife, forestry, commissioner's lands in and around communities and some aspects of environ-

GNWT representatives set our some of the concerns and principles that have governed its policy in the past, recognizing that some of these need to be reviewed and acknowledged that some change is possible to accommodate new approaches. Among those that would need review is retaining GWNT jurisdiction over wildlife and forests. One possibility here is shared or concurrent jurisdiction with regional or Aboriginal governments.



Another policy that the GNWT may need to review in the Deh Cho context is maintaining parity with respect to rights, roles and opportunities among the regions of the NWT. Parity, it was explained, does not require identical agreements but comparable practical outcomes. In the discussion on this point, the Deh Cho representative expressed doubt as to whether their

On several points the GNWT seemed to share common ground with the Deh Cho. These include:

- Land use management and environmental regulation should be done through institutions of public government;
- Management regimes should respect the integrity of the land, should be based on principles of sustainability and respon-
- Both traditional and non-traditional scientific knowledge should be used in making land management decisions.

One point emphasized by the GNWT is that eco-systems, wildlife migration and rivers do not conform to geo-boundaries. Therefore, it is essential that whatever land-use management system is established for the Deh Cho, that it relate effectively to regulatory systems that deal with cross-border eco-systems.

7. Relationship of Deh Cho Land Use Planning to Canada/GNWT

Three models of how Deh Cho land use planning might be related to the federal and territorial governments were discussed:

- Self-management entirely by the Deh Cho with no role for other governments;
- Co-jurisdiction as in comprehensive land claims agreement in which management is shared over Crown lands not owned
- Co-existence as in the current situation where both the Deh Cho First Nations and Canada claim ownership of the same lands and operate their own systems of land management.

There was general agreement that co-existence was not ideal and that it would be best for all the parties to reach an agreement on how to relate to one another and avoid conflict. However, none of the other models were clear guides to structuring a consensual and workable relationship.

Working With Land Use Planning in the Interim Agreement

Implementing the land use planning provisions of the Interim Measures Agreement appears to be the most practical way, at present, of moving beyond co-existence towards a co-operative way of managing land and resources in the Deh Cho. The Land Use Planning Committee called for in the Agreement has been established. Its four members [two appointed by the Deh Cho First Nations, one each by Canada and the GNWI] have chosen Herb Norwegian to chair the committee. The Committee has begun to hire staff and will soon open an office in Fort Providence.

The Land Use Planning Committee will develop a land use plan which must be approved by the Deh Cho First Nations. The Plan must also be approved by GNWT and forwarded to the federal Minister of DIAND " for consideration". The Minister may give policy directions based on the Plan to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

Robin Aitkin suggested that the system of land management under the Interim Measures Agreement was close to the cojurisdiction model. However, from the Deh Cho's perspective, a serious short-coming of this system is that the Land Use Plan does not have the force of law—the federal minister retains a discretionary power as to whether to base policy directions on it. Discussion indicated that if this limitation were overcome, a system of land use planning such as that currently being carried out by the Land Use Planning Committee chaired by Herb Norwegian might be an acceptable way of achieving inter-governmental co-operation in land and resource decision-making in the Deh Cho.

A further point that was made several times in the discussion is that, while it is important for the parties to have veto powers, intergovernmental decision-making on land resource management works best when the objective is to develop consensus rather than exercise vetoes.

9. Nahanni National Park

This last point was well illustrated by discussion of progress in implementing the provision of the Interim Measures Agreement for a system of co-managing the Park Reserve. A Consensus Team consisting of 3 Deh Cho appointees and appointees of federal government has been established and is drafting a park management plan. Chuck Blythe, the Park Superintendent, described how Deh Cho people and Park staff are working together on the Consensus Team to develop a strategic plan.





MLA MESSAGE

Members of the Deh Cho First Nation

Another year has past, and as I reflect on the difficult decisions placed in front of each and every one of you regarding the important issues of land, resources, government and development, I am confident that your progress will continue.

As you struggle to ensure a future for the people of the Deh Cho, you are still faced with issues that are fundamental to every day life. With an expectation of resource development, comes hope for employment and business opportunities, but this development touches the core issues placed in front of the leadership and members of the Deh Cho Fist Nation making your decisions that are much more difficult. Your strong beliefs, will and determination will continue to build the foundation for future generations.

I wish you every success for the future.

Mahsi.

Michael McLeod MLA, Deh Cho



Minister's Message

First, I commend the Deh Cho First Nations for their continued progress in Deh Cho Process negotiations. The Government of the Northwest Territories fully supports the right of Aboriginal people to implement their right to self-govern and we will continue to work with you towards this goal.

The theme "One House" for this year's Annual Report could not be more appropriate. Housing provides us with shelter and comfort. Providing and sharing shelter is one of the most important ways to keep the family unit strong and stable.

If we work under one house, we can pool our resources and learn from one another. Together, we can come up with creative ideas for how to co-operate to advance our common goals, which include the implementation of Aboriginal and Treaty rights as well as maximizing economic development.

Collaboration is an investment for the future of our people. The Government of the Northwest Territories remains committed to ensuring that people in the NWT benefit from resource development and that development occurs in a sustainable manner. Our governments can work together to build self-reliant and healthy communities.

On behalf of my cabinet colleagues and the Government of the Northwest Territories, I wish the Deh Cho elders, Chiefs, councilors, families, youth and children a good year as we work in unity towards a strong northern economy.

Monourable/Jim Antoine Minister of Aberignal Affairs

~2002 Annual Assembly~



President Albert Lafferty



Chief Maurice Mendo



Chief Rita Cli & Rosemary Gill



Chief Stanley Sanguez



Joy & Albertine Rodh & Richard Lafferty



Alison de Pelham & Robert Stewart



Grand Chief Michael Nadli & MP Ethol Blondin-Andrew



Former Chief Pat Martel



Former Chief Karen Thomas



Elder Gabe Hardisty



Chief Lloyd Chicot



Former Chief Percy Hardisty



Chief Leon Konisenta

Deh Cho Youth



Charles Yohin School Students



Anthony Betsaka



Jasmin Hardisty & Wesley Marcellais



Joshua Cazon & Mom Dora



Calvin Villeneuve



Marlana Tsetso



Alisha Norwegian



Halley Lafferty



Ravanna Hanna



Rylan Hardisty



Thaddeus Kotchea



Meegwun Cazon



Travis Kotchea



Tristen Sibbeston

Deh Cho Process Update

Last year, the Deh Cho First Nations and the Government of Canada signed a Framework Agreement that lays out how negotiations will proceed. They also signed an Interim Measures Agreement, which gives the Deh Cho a role in resource management decisions in the region while a final agreement is being negotiated.

Over the past year, we have made progress on the next stage of negotiations, which includes:

1. Establishing a land use planning committee;

2. Interim land withdrawals;

3. An Interim Resource Development Agreement; and

4. An Agreement-in-Principle on land, resources and governance issues.

1. Land Use Planning Committee

The Land Use Planning Committee has established an office in Fort Providence, the committee members have been appointed, and staffing should be complete by this fall. Once it is approved the land use plan will provide for the conservation and development of the land, waters and other resources in the Deh Cho territory.

2. Interim Land Withdrawal

"Interim land withdrawals" is a process that will ensure that certain lands are protected during the negotiations towards a final agreement. The Interim Measures Agreement sets out four key guidelines for identifying what lands can be considered for withdrawal:

- a) lands barvested for food and medicinal purposes;
- b) culturally and spiritually significant areas;
- c) lands which are ecologically sensitive; and
- d) watershed protection.

Deh Cho negotiators are consulting Deh Cho community members and gathering the most complete information they can to identify lands that should be withdrawn. To do this, they will visit each Deh Cho community to present information and hear people's views.

Once an agreement is reached, the lands will be set aside by a federal Order in Council until negotiations on a final agreement are complete. No mining claims can be registered or land leases issued on withdrawn lands. Existing interests, such as mining claims that are already registered, would not be affected.

3. Interim Resource Development Agreement

Negotiators are working toward an Interim Resource Development Agreement, know in Dene as Duh Gogha Ndeh ts'eh Saamba Holeh Ts'ehk'eh Eleh Seegots'eleh. With this agreement in place, the Deh Cho will be able to benefit from resource development in the Deh Cho territory and participate in economic development opportunities while a final agreement is being negotiated. The agreement also outlines a process for community involvement in oil and gas development and for the negotiation of impact benefit agreements.

4. Agreement-in-Principle

Under the Framework Agreement, the Deh Cho First Nations, the Government of Canada and the GNWT have agreed to work toward an Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) in five years. Early in negotiations, the DCFN stresses that we are looking for a final agreement that is based on land management, not land selection. This approach is new to land and resource negotiations in Canada.

The parties have agreed to work towards a General Agreement-in-Principle (GAIP) as a step towards an AIP. Unlike an AIP, which is very detailed, a GAIP would be designed to address, in broad terms, the major elements of a final agreement.

To begin identifying what elements will be dealt with in the GAIP, a governance workshop was held in Fort Simpson in April. Another workshop was held in Trout Lake in May on land management issues. Peter Russell facilitated both workshops and his reports are available through the DCFN office.



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10^{1H} ANNUAL DEH CHO ASSEMBLY KAKISA LAKE, NT JUNE 24 – 28, 2002

Resolution #01

RE: Proposed Protected Areas

Moved by Leo Norwegian, Regional Elder Seconded by Chief Stanley Sanguez

1 Abstention CARRIED

Resolution #02

RE: Creation of a Regional Development Corporation for the Deh Cho First Nations

Moved by Chief Stanley Sanguez Seconded by Richard Lafferty, delegate

CARRIED

Resolution #03

RE: Operational Plan

Moved by Chief Sam Gargan Seconded by Chief Percy Hardisty

CARRIED

Resolution #04

RE: Draft Constitution & Bv-Laws

Moved by Chicf Karen Thomas Seconded by Chief Rita Cli

CARRIED

Government of Denendeh

Resolution #05

RE; Elders' Council

Moved by Elder Ted Landry Seconded by Elder Edward Jumbo

CARRIED

Resolution #08

RE: Interim Resource Development Agreement

Moved by Chief Rita Cli

Seconded by Chief Sam Gargan

CARRIED

Resolution #12

RE: Aboriginal Human Resources Development

Agreement (AHRDA)

Moved by Chief Stanley Sanguez Seconded by Chief Karen Thomas

CARRIED

Resolution #13

RE: Deputy Grand Chief

Moved by Chief Karen Thomas Seconded by Chief Percy Hardisty

1 Opposition CARRIED

Resolution #19

RE: Cash Grants

Moved by Chief Stanley Sanguez Seconded by Chief Rita Cli

3 Abstentions CARRIED

DEH CHO REGION ELDERS



Edward Jumbo



Joe Punch



Jane Grossetete



Jim Thomas



George Boots



Madeline Nelner & Maggie Lafferty



Leon Sassie & Alfred Williams



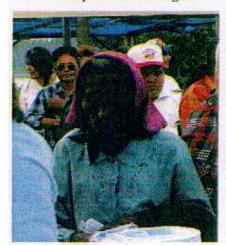
Mary Louise Norwegian



Eliza Cli



Sarah Hardisty



Mary Tsetso



Leo Norwegian



Mary Cazon



BRANCH OFFICE - BOX 89, FORT SIMPSON, NT X0E 0N0 TEL: (867) 695-2355 FAX: (867) 695-2038 E-Mail: dehchofn@cancom.net



10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002 Resolution #01

Moved by:

Leo Norwegian, Regional

Seconded by:

Chief Stanley Sanguez Jean Marle River First Nation

1 Abstention CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 26, 2002

Michael Nadli Grand Chief RE: Proposed Protected Areas

WHEREAS Edéhzhie is an area that is of significant cultural, spiritual and environmental value to the people of the Deh Cho with regards to maintaining a traditional lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, the Deh Gah Got'ie Kue (Fort Providence), Liidlii Kue (Fort Simpson), Tthek'ehdeli (Jean Marie River) and Pehdzeh Ki (Wrigley) First Nations undertook an initiative that will see the protection of Edéhzhie as a candidate protected area under the NWT Protected Areas Strategy (PAS); and

WHEREAS, the Edéhzhie candidate protected area is now at Step 4 of the PAS, meaning that a sponsoring agency, in this case the Canadian Wildlite Service, has agreed to sponsor the area and interim land withdrawal is all but complete; and

WHEREAS, the Edéhzhie candidate protected area is a good example of an effective partnership between Deh Cho communities, Deh Cho First Nations, Dogrib Treaty 11 Council, Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society (CPAWS), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), and the federal & territorial governments; and

WHEREAS, there are other sites within the Deh Cho that meet the goals of the NWT Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) and that need to be protected from all industrial development; and

WHEREAS, under the Interim Measures
Agreement within the Deh Cho Process
numerous other conservation sites have
been identified and are under negotiation
for some form of land withdrawal within the
Deh Cho Process: and

WHEREAS, in view of pressures from oil and gas development and pipelines, time is of essence and it is important for the DCFN that all possible avenues be explored for successful protection of conservation lands;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the delegates at this Assembly formally support the parallel advancement under the PAS (subject to the Deh Cho Declaration of 1993), of sites which have been identified for their ecological or cultural importance for land withdrawal protection under the Interim Measures Agreement.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002

Resolution #02

RE: Creation Of A Regional Development Corporation For The Deh **Cho First Nations**

Chief Stanley Sanguez

Jean Marie River First Nation

Seconded by:

Moved by:

Richard Lafferty Delegate Ft. Providence Metis Local

CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 26, 2002.

Michael Nadli **Grand Chief**

WHEREAS, there exists a need to create a "for-profit", business development corporation to allow First Nations governments and aboriginal businesses to benefit and participate directly in development opportunities in the Deh Cho region;

WHEREAS, the Deh Cho lack the funding, human resources and markets to compete successfully, a regional corporation can partner with these communities and maximize local business opportunities and employment; and

WHEREAS, there are several large-scale. capital intensive projects being considered in the region, the Deh Cho First Nations needs the advice and information their own regional business corporation can provide

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

The Deh Cho First Nations 1. establish the Deh Cho Corporation (DCC);

- DCFN cause to be appointed a founding director from each of the 10 communities chosen by the First Nation and Metis local collectively where appropriate.
- The Assembly adopts
 Resolution #01 of the
 November 5-9, 2001 Leadership
 Meeting, and
- A Committee of Leadership will be established to oversee the implementation of this resolution.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28, 2002 Resolution #03

Chief Sam Gargan Deh Gah Gotle Dene Council

Seconded by:

Moved by:

Chief Fercy Mardisty Pehdzeh Ki First Nation

CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kaklsa Lake, NT dated June 28, 2002

Michael Nadii Grand Chief RE: Operational Plan

WHEREAS, Deh Cho First Nations requires an Operational Plan; and

whereas, the DCFN Executive Committee submitted a draft Strategic Operational Plan to the 10th Annual DCFN Assembly; and

THEREPORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, DCFN 10th Annual Assembly approves the Draft Strategic Operational Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, DCFN consult with each member First Nation and Metis Nation Local to Integrate their community needs into the Operational Plan.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002

Resolution #04

Moved by:

Chief Karen Thomas West Point First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Rita Cli Liidii Kue First Nation

CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 26, 2002.

Michael Nadli Grand Chief

RE: Draft Constitution and By-Laws

WHEREAS, the Assembly has been presented with a draft Constitution and By-Laws; and

WHEREAS, further discussion is required to ensure that the Constitution and By-Laws of the Deh Cho First Nations assist in establishing a public government based on Dene laws and customs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the draft Constitution and By-Laws be referred to a Committee who will review the draft and recommend changes which would reflect Dene laws and customs.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002

Resolution #05

Moved by:

Elder Ted Landry Deh Gah Gotie Dene Council

Seconded by:

Elder Edward Jumbo Sambaa K'e Dene Band

CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 27, 2002.

Michael Nadli Grand Chief RE: Elders' Council

WHEREAS, the Elders Council are an essential part of the government of the Deh Cho; and

WHEREAS, the Elders Council require a budget for their operations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that a budget of \$75,000 be allocated to the Elders Council for the current fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, each First Nation select their respective Elders to the Naxe'cho Keh Council.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002

Resolution #08

Moved by:

Chief Rita Cli Liidlii Kue First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Sam Gargan Deh Gah Gotie Dene Council

CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 28, 2002.

Michael Nadli Grand Chief RE: Interim Resource Development Agreement

WHEREAS, Canada and the Deh Cho First Nations are negotiating an Interim Resource Development Agreement (IRDA): and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the IRDA is to ensure that any new resource development in the Deh Cho provides a fair share of benefits and revenues to our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Deh Cho First Nations have proposed that any royalties resulting from new oil/gas exploration taking place in the Deh Cho prior to a final agreement be shared equitably between Canada and the Deh Cho First Nations; and

WHEREAS, Canada has rejected the Deh Cho proposal and instead only offered to share a small portion of revenues from Mackenzie Valley resource development with the Deh Cho, in exchange for the Deh Cho agreeing to open up new lands for oil/gas exploration, but Canada has not agreed to negotiate a sharing of revenue from Deh Cho oil/gas developments prior to a final agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The Deh Cho First Nations insist that Canada commit to enter into good faith bilateral negotiations with the Deh Cho First Nations on the distribution of any revenue flowing from any new resource development in the Deh Cho, whether it occurs before or after a final agreement; and
- Any revenues flowing to the Deh Cho First Nations from resource development will be spent on economic development related projects at the discretion of the Deh Cho First Nations Leadership and not subject to limitations imposed by Canada.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28.2002

Resolution #12

Moved by:

Chief Stanley Sanguez Jean Marie River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Karen Thomas West Point First Nation

CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 28, 2002.

Michael Nadli Grand Chief RE: Aboriginal Human Resources
Development Agreement (AHRDA)

WHEREAS, Human Resources Development Canada and Deh Cho First Nations have signed a five-year agreement on April 1999, enabling the DCFN to provide human resources development programs designed tailored to meet Human Resources Development needs in our territory; and

WHEREAS, the AHRDA strategy will sunset on March 31, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the DCFN and its communities have developed training and employment programs that are successful in meeting the special needs of the members residing in the Deh Cho territory; and

WHEREAS, the DCFN have encountered many circumstances where there were limitations on the funding and DCFN was not able to meet these special needs, such as the Persons with Disabilities Program, which cannot fund anyone under the age of fifteen, the creation of day care centers and continual funding for its program delivery; and

WHEREAS, the DCFN would like to examine the issues and review the AHRDA strategy and make recommendations that can be followed.

WHEREAS, DCFN and its communities would like to follow up in their strategic plan in the areas of social development; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the DCFN host a meeting with the other regional AHRDA holders within the Mackenzie Valley. This meeting will review the AHRDA strategy; address and identify issues that the AHRDA holders have encountered; share best practices; review the restrictions and address the special needs of the youth, persons with disabilities and the child care program. Recommendations will be presented to HRDC to incorporate in their review of the AHRDA to continue to address the human resources developments needs after March 31, 2004.



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10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002

Resolution #13

Moved by:

Chief Karen Thomas West Point First Nation

Seconded by:

Percy Hardsby Pehdzeh Ki First Nation

1 Opposition CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated JunE 28, 2002.

Michael Nadli Grand Chief RE: Deputy Grand Chief

WHEREAS, the Grand Chief is overworked: and

WHEREAS, there is a desire for an assistant to help the Grand Chief carry out his dufies; and

WHEREAS, this new position will be classified as Deputy Grand Chief;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the job description of the Deputy Grand Chief will be as set out in the draft job description, June 19, 2002; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Deputy Grand Chief budget will be allocated under general revenue.



BRANCH OFFICE - BOX 89, FORT SIMPSON, NT X0E 0N0 TEL: (867) 695-2355 FAX: (867) 695-2038 E-Mail: dehchofn@cancom.net



10th Annual Deh Cho Assembly Kakisa Lake, NT June 24-28,2002 Resolution #19

RE: Cash Grants

Moved by:

Chief Stanley Sanguer Jean Marie River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Rita Cli Liidlii Kue First Nation

3 Abstentions CARRIED

Certified copy of resolution made at Kakisa Lake, NT dated June 28, 2002.

Michael Nadli Grand Chief WHEREAS, Cash grants paid by DCFN to leaders and elders for attending DCFN meetings are intended to compensate communities for the use of their Elders time; and

WHEREAS, Cash grants to leaders are a component of Advisory Services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, effectively effective July 1, 2002, cash grant funds will be transferred by Deh Cho First Nations to all Deh Cho communities rather than being paid directly by Deh Cho First Nations to Leaders and Elders.



Negotiations Secretary, Murina Menicoche

Deh Cho First Nations Staff "Hard at Work"



Sara McLeod & Theresa Cazon-Whelly



Berna Landry & Nahanni Students



Berna Landry & Joe Tambour



Grand Chief Michael Nadli



Receptionist Tilu Norwegian



Chief Negotiator Christopher Reid



Margaret Ireland



Richard Lafferty & Alison de Pelham



Dora Tsetso



Berna Landry & Herb Norwegian

Robert

Accountant/ Management

Box 2116 Yellownifs: N W 7 XIA 296 Tol (967) 873-5135 Fax (167) 873-5596 Enail: stewerts/Mprace.co.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members DEH CHO FIRST NATIONS Deh Cho Region, Northwest Territories

I have examined the Balance Sheet of the DEH CHC FIRST NATIONS as at March 31, 2002, the Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Surplus and the Statement of Cash Flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the First Nations' management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the First Nation as at March 31, 2002, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

May 28, 2002 Yellowknife, N.W.T CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

BALANCE SHEET MARCH 31, 2002

ASSETS

CURRENT Cash Accounts receivable (Note 3) Frepaid expenses	\$ 427,296 698,488 88,935 1,214,719	2001 \$ 311,420 467,201 51,307 829,928
INVESTMENTS IN DEH CHO HOMES LTD. (Note 2)	1	1
CAPITAL ASSETS (Notes 2 and 4)	<u> </u>	1
	\$1,214,721	\$ <u>829,930</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Due to Dene Nation Deferred Revenue (Note 5)	\$ 392,141 245,755 637,896	\$ 223,216 13,776 124,628 361,620
MEMBERS' EQUITY		
SURPLUS	576,825	468,310
	\$1,214,721	\$_829,930

APPROVED:

Grand Chisf

Executive Director

DEH CHO I	IRSI N	NATIONS		
STATEME.	NT OF SU	JRPLUS		
POR THE YEAR E	NIDEED	IARCH 31, 2002		
POR THE TEAKE	TO THE TOTAL OF TH	otten or, 2002		
		2002		2001
GENERAL OPERATING:				
Surplus, Opening, as previously reported	\$	468,310	\$	399,440
				(67,681)
Prior period adjustment (note 6)	-			(07,001)
Surplus, as restated	+ +	468,310		331,758
041,740, 40 100,400				
Excess revenue for the year		108,516		136,552
				140.010
Surplus Closing		576,825		468,310
			-	
	4		-	

STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2002

		2002		2001
REVENUE				(note 8)
Government of Canada	\$	4,381,308	\$	3,433,826
Government of the NWT		353,381		234,631
Other Revenue		178,927		179,508
Transfer from (to) deferred revenue		(130,902)		234,248
		4,782,714		4,082,213
EXPENDITURES				
AHRDA Costs		1,328,776		1,663,188
Staff Costs		804,916		799,874
Transfers to First Nations (non-AHRDA)		626,768		269,696
Travel		553,824	s	404,459
Professional Fees & Subcontractors		349,815		291,119
Cash Grants		274,000		
Chief Negotiators Fees		179,547		
Office Expenses		163,291		166,012
Capital Expenditures		78,565		-
Sound & Translation		79,347		-
Office Supplies		76,786		
Equipment Purchases		76,300		-
Repairs & Maintenance		44,094		M
Telephone		38,169		-
Regional Meetings		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		246,999
Unrecovered Goods & Services Tax		*		40,716
Program Costs		10 h		63,599
	-	4,674,198		3,945,662
EXCESS REVENUE	\$	108,516		\$ 136,552

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2002

OPERATING ACTIVITIES		2002		2001
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Cash provided by (used for) the year	\$	108,516	\$	136,552
Cash provided by (used for)				
changes in non-cash working capital:				
Accounts Receivable		(231,287)		366,811
Prepaid Expenses		(37,628)		(31,412)
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities		168,924		(260,152)
Due to Dene Nation		(13,776)		
Deferred Revenue	-	121,127		(234,249)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH		115,876		(22,450)
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, OPENING	_	311,420	-	333,870
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, CLOSING		427,296		311,420

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2002

NOTE 1 NATURE OF ORGANIZATION

Deh Cho First Nations is the government of aboriginal peoples in the traditional Deh Cho Territory of the Northwest Territories. The membership consists of 14 member community governments (11 First Nations and 3 Metis Locals). Deh Cho First Nations is registered as a non-profit society under the Societies Act of the Northwest Territories. The First Nations Office administers the affairs of the Deh Cho First Nations on behalf of its members. At present, the First Nations Office is economically dependent on the Government of Canada.

NOTE 2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A) General

For the purposes of its financial reporting, by virtue of the fact that the First Nations is a government, it applies the accounting principals for local governments as set out in the CICA Public Sector Accounting Handbook (PSA Handbook). It should be noted that recently there has been much discussion and research on the appropriate accounting policies for First Nations, and these principals are evolving.

B) Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with stated accounting policies requires the First Nations to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amount of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenditures reported in the financial statements. By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty. The effect on the assumptions in the future periods could be significant. Although, at the time of preparation of these statements, the First Nations believes the estimates and assumptions to be reasonable. Some of the more significant management estimates based on past experience relate to allowance for doubtful accounts, the accounting for capital assets, investments and deferred revenue valuation.

C) Inventory

Inventory of materials and general supplies is considered a cost of operations and is not recorded on the balance sheet.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2002

NOTE 2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Con't.)

D) Capital Assets

Capital Assets are recorded as expenditures in the year of acquisition. The cost of capital purchases are reported in Note 4. Capital Assets are amortization using the declining balance method and the rates disclosed in Note 4. One-half years amortization is taken in the year of acquisition.

E) Funding Agency Contract Surplus (Deficit)

According to contracts or contribution agreements with funding agencies, primarily DIAND and Human Resource Development Canada, any contract surplus is to be recovered by the funding agency and any contract deficit is to be retained by the Deh Cho First Nations. Financial statements of the First Nations have not been reviewed by the Deh Cho First Nations when these statements were prepared. Accordingly, any adjustments as a result of the review will similarly be accounted for in the new year.

F) Delivery Agency Contract Surplus (Deficit)

According to contracts of contribution agreements with program delivery agencies, primarily First Nations located in the Deh Cho communities, any contract surplus is to be recovered by the Deh Cho First Nations and any contract deficit is to be retained by the respective First Nation. Financial statements of the various delivery agents have not been reviewed by the Deh Cho First Nations when these statements were prepared. Accordingly, any adjustments as a result of the review will similarly be accounted for in the new year.

G) Financial Instruments

The First Nations' financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and deferred revenues. It is management's opinion that the First Nations is not exposed to significant interest, or noted, the fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value.

			D	ЕН СНО	FIF	RST NATIO	N	S		
		N	OTI	ES TO THE P	INA	NCIALSTATI	MI	ENT		
				Mar	ch 3	1, 2002	-			
NOTE 2)	SIGNIE	'A '	NT ACCOU	DET	TNG POLIC	FC	(- 20)		
Colonia -	nvestments	DIG. VIII IC		NI ACCOU	141	ING POLIC	ES	(con t)	+	
	neinog which	pied by the	Fi	nominal va	lue.	The 100%	OV	vned subsidi	arv	e modified equ owns the offi and expenditur
I	nsured values	at March	31,	2002 are as	fol	lows:			1	
		065	D	:1 1:	1					
		Office	Bu	uding	+		-	696,000	-	
NOTE:	3	ACCOU	NT	S RECEIV	AB	LE				
-		DIANT								
-		DIANI		6.1	1	1	5	575,568	1	
				, Culture &	En	nployment		61,662		
		Dene N	vati	on	-		-	8,130		
		Other		1				8,417	1	
Anno monte					1			653,777		
		Goods	and	l Services T	ax			85,452		
		Less all	ow:	ance for						
		Doubtf	ul A	Accounts-G	ST			(40,967)		
								698,262		
NOTE 4		CAPITAI	A	SSETS						
						2002				2001
						Accumulated	1	Net Book		Net Book
		Rate		Cost	-	Amortization	1	Value		Value
quipme	nt	20%	\$	175,177	\$	135,280	\$	39,897	\$	49,871
Computer	Equipment	30%		119,122		85,999		33,123	-	47,318
ehicles		30%		65,930		-		65,930		-
			\$	360,229	\$	221,279	\$	138,950	\$	97,189
	T 1 1									
	Insured valu	ies at Marc	h 3	31, 2002 are	ถร	follows:	-			
16.	Office Cont	ents					\$	204,000		

	DEH CH	O FIRST NA	TIONS		
	STATEM	ENT OF CASH I	LOWS		
	EVAN TIME VE A	AR ENDED MAI	2CH 31 2002		
	FOR THE YEA	IK ENDED WAS	XCH 31, 2002		
NOTE 5	DEFERRED REVEN	UF.			
Deferred rusers	ne is comprised of amounts	received but n	ot vet eatned	as fol	lows:
Defended tevent	ie is comprised of amounts of		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
			2002		2001
IMA Support			82598		-
	ength 125K (#3)		33780		
Natural Resou			19462		-
	Preparedness 800K #4		19385		
	tess 250 K #5		13337		-
	nal Mapping #8		12202		-
Dene Nation			10567		
	cess (Gathering Strength)		10218		22378
HRDC-AHRI			10071		_
Self Governm			9520		-
WAAG SC25	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		5478		
Contaminants			5200		
Natural Resor			4101		-
	evelopment Corporation		3051		-
West Point #			2636		-
WAAG DC48			2549		-
CPAWS			1600		-
	Preparedness Initiative		-		50188
Aboriginal Su			-		27996
Languages Pr			F		11316
The second secon	Effects Assessment				9775
	Early Childhood		-		2975
			245,755		124,628
10000	DRIOR PERIOD ADI	LICTMENIT			
NOTE 6	PRIOR PERIOD ADJ				
The balances o	f the accumulated surplus as	s at April 1, 20	02 have been	resta	ted to correct errors
deferred revenu	e and Investment in Deh C	ho Homes Ltd	. As follows:		
			2002		2001
Defe	rred revenue-HRDC CRF	\$	-	\$	93,730
Inves	stment in Deh Cho Homes I	td.			(26,049)
		dt		9	67.691
		\$	-	\$	67,681

	DEH CHO FIRST	VATIONS	3	
	STATEMENT OF CAS	HFLOWS		
	FOR THE YEAR ENDED M	(ADCU 21 20	200	
	TOW THE TEAKENDED W	IARCH 31, 21	N)Z	1
NOTE 7	RELATED PARTY TR	ANICACTI	ONIC	
The following t	ransactions were recorded wi	th related p	parties:	
DEVENIUS				
REVENUES				
Pehdzeh Ki F	irst Nation	\$	15,165	
EXPENDITU	DEC			
Acho Dene C		43	240 700	
	tagot'ine Dene Council	\$	260,730	
	ie Dene Council		29,750	-
Fort Liard Me			392,807 21,125	
	ce Metis Local		22,783	-
Fort Simpson			59,064	
	er First Nation		48,895	
Ka'a'gee Tu Fi	rst Nation		79,742	
Katlodeeche F	irst Nation		233,722	
Liidli Kue Firs	t Nation		486,496	
Nahanni Butte			57,813	
Pehdzeh Ki Fi			184,311	
Sambaa K'e D			65,403	
West Point Fir	st Nation		65,370	
			2,008,011	
NOTE 8	COMPARATIVE AMOU	INTES		
		1115		
Comparative exp	enditure amounts on the state	ment of co	onsolidated reven	ue and
expenditures hav	e not been reclassified to con	form to the	presentation add	pted in
current year.				

SCHEDULE OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2002

			Core	DIAND	AHRDA	Other	Total
SCHEDULE	3 1		(Schedule 2)	(Schedule 3)	(Schedule 4)	Schedule 5)	20.000
REVENUE	S				***************************************		
4020	DIAND		835,271	2,193,007	-		3,028,278
4021	DIAND Oth	ier Revenues	14,188	-	-		14,188
4030	GNWT		14,321	6,000		333,060	353,381
4040	HRDC		-		1,338,842	-	1,338,842
4050	Other		110,724	(50,188)		118,419	178,955
4250	Deferred Rev	venue Transfers	2,975	(116,309)	(10,071)	(7,497)	(130,90)
	Total reven	ues	977,480	2,032,510	1,328,771	443,982	4,782,743
EXPENDI	TURES						
5000	AHRDA Ext	penditures			1,328,776	-	1,328,776
The same of the sa	Wages & Ben	The state of the s	400,491	348,757	_	55,319	804,567
	Accounting &		14,589	9,012	-		23,601
	Advertising 8		10,748	13,708		3,509	27,964
	Equipment R		12,830	5,346		339	18,515
	Bad Debts		-				
	Cash Grants		131,350	129,645		13,005	274,000
5630	Cash Short/C	wer	-	-	- 1		
	Professional						7-11-11
5635	Subcontracto	ors	167,419	658,939		306,174	1,132,532
The second secon	Sound & Tra	The state of the s	23,703	50,973		4,671	79,347
5640	Courier & Po	stage	3,449	4,850	-	92	8,391
The second second second	Capital Exper		65,930	-			65,930
	Insurance		10,703	2,303			13,006
5690	Interest & Ba	ink Charges	767	27			794
		ist & Membership	2,819	6,131		5,745	14,694
	Office Suppli		6,071	59,962		10,752	76,786
	Equipment P		1,658	74,642			76,300
	Janitorial Sup		2,503	432	20 a June 11 -		2,935
	Property Tax		4,108	-			4,108
	Miscellaneou	the same of the sa	12,235	12,000			24,235
5760	Rent		5,552	10,228		2,111	17,891
5765	Repair & Mai	intenance	34,294	9,799			44,094
	Vehicle Paym		8,964	3,670		AL WALL	12,635
5771	Scholarships		5,000	-		-	5,000
5780	Telephone		6,633	28,969	-	2,567	38,169
	Travel-Air		70,776	95,346		19,827	185,949
5786	Travel-Accon	nmodation	22,939	59,152		17,514	99,609
5787	Travel-Mileas	gr-	31,350	63,853		16,793	111,996
	Travel-Per D		39,229	97,914	-	19,311	156,454
100 00000000000000000000000000000000000	Childcare		4,300	7,513		150	11,963
5790	Power		6,336	903	-	560	7,800
5791	Heating Fuel		3,389	815			4,204
5792	Water & Sew	er	1,837	150			1,987
5950	Core Exp. Al	location	(295,930)	309,065		(13,135)	man de la companya del companya de la companya del companya de la
	Total Exper	nditures	816,043	2,064,105	1,328,776	465,302	4,674,227
	EXCESS RE	VENUES					
	(EXPENDIT	Characteristics and advantage of the Control of the	161,437	(31,595)	(5)	(21,320)	108,510

SCHEDULE OF OTHER REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2002

0.00 0.00	10 mg/s (2)	TARK.	Surface D	Development D	Development Gray to have	Editionic of	SAWTZICE C	GNATACE Evalua	Samuel	File			PROFESSOR OF STREET				
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	400	+	44,547)	9,411	11,0611	21,610	1,811	1.40.1	1,841	1,118	232.518	12,494	15,000	\$1.45	1 453	16,502	
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	100.00																
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or Capital Capacidin St. S hourance											4						
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190	1,610		1,10	2145	*5	100				404	1,234	1,428			18.3	1.048	
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											100						
Spir thatter Feel																	
S712 Sunc disease																	
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EXCESS REVENUES (TEXPENDITURES)

Column C	State Column Co		SCHEDULE OF DIAND CONTRIBUTION REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	TRIBU	TION R	VENL	SAND	EXPEN	DITUR	ES								
Column C	Cutton C	FORTHE YEAR EN	DING	ARCH	31, 2002	F												
Column C	Cutton C	,															-	
Control Cont	Column C				Manual English	+	O Long Service	7		MA.		1	Sovernance week	Infail	The same	Sond	DCP.	
	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,	REVENUES			Preparediess		_	+		Physina		Study	Group	Keview	Point	Benefits	Strengtho	TOTAL
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Control Cont	Colored Colo	010kher			(50,188)								Ci selle					150,18
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The part	The part of the	Totalrevenues	290,480	01000	780,615	236,663	35,000	20,000	108,447	162,584	30,000	602'01	000'511	2,306		37,436	13,159	2,032,511
March Marc	Particularies Particularie	EXPENDITURES																
Part	Part) Wages#Benefits	290'85	78,359	134,501	916	336	2,494	34,747				199			15,286	8,159	348,75
Particular Par	Control Cont	Account & Legal	9,012	The second second														10.6
1.	The control	5 Advertieng & romotions	617	1,149	1917	289	117	1,038	2,626									11.108
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6.0 Mg	9 9 5 6 1	5 Cash Guart s	008'01		32,025	10,520	2,300	008,80					97,300					129,645
Column C	6.484	0 Cash Stert / Over																
Complete	Compto C	4 Professional Services		-												1		7
Color Colo	Column C	Subcerractors	92.801		869'651	32.20	6,393	43,431	16.623	237.530	15,795	008'6	2,670		1		6009	958.959
Confide Conf	1,2,000 1,2,	o Scund Translation	0.4 00		4,092	1909	1,515	485	268		2,884		0,510		-			26'05
Confige Conf	Consideration Consideratio	1 Capital Expenditures																
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1,090 31,012 6,484 3,055 4,756 1,551 1,5	1,950 31,012 6,484 3,055 4,756 1,551 1,54 1,551 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,752 1,950 1,95	S Travel Sir			59,424	15,163	1917	8,331	606				6116	963				24.36
1,100 23,101 5,142 10,084 9,431 2,240 11,3 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745 1950 1,745	1,700 23,101 5,142 10,084 10,21 2,240 12,40 12	6 TravelAccommodation	0563		31.082	484.9	3,035	4,756	1,851		118		5(0'6	540				59,152
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(EX) KINDITURES)	(EXPINDITURES)	EXCRSS REVENUES	+	太	*	*	11,74((42,500)			(1034)	4		308	01	9.0		(31,596)
		(EXPTROPTURES)																
																	-	ł

DEH CH	O F	IRST NATIO	ONS			
SCHEDULE OF ABORIGINAL HUMAN RESOU	RCE	DEVELOPME	NTR	EVENUES AN	DEX	KPENDITURE.
FOR THE YEA						
TOK THE TEN	KEL	DED MARCH	31, 20	02		
	-					
SCHEDULE 4		CRF		EI		Tota
REVENUE		-		101		10(a
Canada	\$	1,014,648	\$	324,194	\$	1,338,842
Other			1		- 1	1,000,011
Transfer from (to) Deferred Revenue		(10,071)				(10,071
		1,004,577		324,194		1,328,771
EXPENDITURES						
General Administration		43,630		46,263		89,893
Capacity Building Administration		23,295		264,681		287,976
Employment Benefits and Support Measures		573,521		11,255		584,776
Small Urban		24,279		2,000		26,279
First Nations Child Care		275,537				275,537
Youth Programs		50,798			- 1	50,798
Programs for Persons with Disabilities		13,518				13,518
		1,004,577		324,199		1,328,776
EXCESS REVENUE				(5)	-	(5)

6 63.630 5,225 6 63.630 5,225 6 63.630 5,225 6 63.630 896 22 2 3.850 896 22	General Executive Fluid Committee 11,688 14,521 2,975 2,975 75,549 11,056 12,064 480 25,067 7,376 651 7,376	User Leadership	Cradership Retroactive Pay	Regional Diama	Special Assembly Wrights Wrigh	Spring Lendershim	Winder Ladership	
OR THE VEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2002 OR THE VEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2002 STEDILLE 2 Core Nation (Greens AND-Other Sciences And Other A	(a) 31	londer.	Load ers hip Retroactive Pay	Regional DIAND	Special Assembly Wrights Worker Worker Wilder Worker Wilder Wrights Wr	Spring Lendershim	Winter Ludership	
SEPULIE PEAK ENDING MARCH 31, 2002 Core	(a) 11 (b) 12 (c) 12 (c	Topique La Company Com	Condership Retroactive Pay	Regional Diano	Special Assembly Wrights Worker 60,000 60,000	Spring Lendershin	Winter Ludership	
Varion Core Core Core Varion Curers Core Curers Varion Curers Curers Curers Varion Curers Curers Varion Curers Curers Varion Curers Varion Curers Curers Varion Curers Varion Curers Curers Varion Curers V		[Finder	Leadership Retroactive Pay	Regional DIANU	Special Assembly Wrights 60,000 60,000 60,000	Spring lendership	Winter	
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AND Carrens AND-Ather Research AUD-Ather Research TOS. 15 6 4 16 6 3.630 5.225 AUD-Ather Research Transfers TOS. 102 6 3.630 5.225 FENDITURES FENDITURES FOR Service Transfers TOS. 102 6 3.630 5.225 FOR DITURES TOS. 102 6 3.630 6.3.630 6.3.635 FOR DITURES FOR Service Transfers TOS. 102 6.3630 6.3.630 6.3.225 TOS. 103 6.330 1.338 TOS. 1	3	Sopport T	Pay Pay	TOWND DANNE	Wescubly Western 60,000	Spring	Winter Leadership	
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DC	35.				60,000 000,000 1,698			TOTAL
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1,100 1,20	35				00009 00009			19,188
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PENDITURES	355				00000000000000000000000000000000000000			10,724
# PENDITURES # \$ 377.9 PP 1758 4.338 * Contain & Contain # 1259 * Contain & Pennetiene # 12.839 * Contain & Pennetiene # 12.830	38		55,002.5		00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00			2,975
#13 & 3 con line 17.9 pp 17.5 4.3.3 10.0 ming & cgal 14.58 14.58 10.0 ming & cgal 14.58 15.0 10.0 ming & Prometers 12.8.3 10.0 ming & Prometers 12.8.3 10.0 ming & Prometers 12.8 15.0 10.0 ming & Prometers 12.8 15.0 10.0 ming & Prometers 16.2 10.0 ming & Prometers 16.2	35		551,625		1698	-		977,480
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Duck is 12,830	15.		\$1625			4,75	0001	400,491
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Figure F			S1 <mark>623</mark>					M.748
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1,562	207				-	-		6,336
171,158					-			300
		(84,500)	(50,000)			150 9001	700 0000	.837
	189'9	238	1,625	2,585	63,899	(3.220)	(20,000)	5 15 0 5 2 3
(EXPENDITIONS) 45,001 0,567 (9) 17,755	75 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	10.00						0.00,010
		22.23	(1,623)	(2,585)	(3,899)	3,220	(63)	161483

	DEH CHO I	FIRST NATION	VS	
SCHEDU	LE OF EXECUTIVE COSTS,	OTHER REMUNE	RATION AND TRAVE	1
	FOR THE YEAR E	NDED MARCH 31	, 2002	
SCHEDULE 6		Approved	Other	
Name	Position	Salary Range	Remuneration	Tri. 1
	TVSILIVII	\$	\$	Travel
ELECTED OR API	POINTED OFFICIALS	The second secon	Ф	\$
	OINTED OFFICIALS	*		
Michael Nadli	Grand Chief	80,000		16,653
Stanley Sanguez	Executive Committee		19,500	10,000
Lloyd Chicot	Executive Committee		11,775	all the second
Rita Cli	Leadership		10,200	
Leon Konisenta	Leadership		8,550	
Karen Thomas	Executive Committee		7,725	
Sam Gargan	Leadership		6,600	
Pat Martel	Leadership		6,550	
Jean Lafferty-Gargan	Executive Committee		6,550	
Percy Hardisty	Executive Committee		5,025	
Dennis Deneron	Executive Committee		4,800	
David Moses	Leadership		4,350	
Maurice Mendo	Leadership		3,450	
Albert Lafferty	Leadership		3,300	
UNELECTED SEN	IOR OFFICIALS			
Alison de Pelham	Executive Director	73,000		2,450
Note: amounts under	\$2000 not reported			

Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Peace Treaty

The Dene Version of Treaty 11

Preamble:

His Most Gracious Majesty George V, King of Great Britain,

has sent a delegation, under the leadership of Commissioner Henry Anthony Conroy, to Dene country to seek a treaty through which his subjects may travel peacefully on Dene lands to seek minerals for Canada.

His Excellency Bishop Breynat of the Roman Catholic Church assisted Commissioner Conroy at the invitation of the Government of Canada. He has given his solemn word that the words and promises of the Commissioners of the Crown will be honoured by the Government in Canada.

The Dene leadership, through negotiations and discussion with their people, and with the interest and concern to provide their people with a more secure future, have been satisfied by the repeated statements of Commissioner Conroy and Bishop Breynat that this treaty:

Peace Treaty

Has nothing to do with The Land;

Would not give Canada the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the Dene; and therefore has no bearing on Dene jurisdiction and governance over their territories;

Is a symbol of a nation relationship between the Dene and the Crown.

Peace Treaty

This Peace Treaty therefore provides as follows:

To allow the subjects of King George to move peacefully on Dene lands to seek minerals providing their work does not interfere with the Dene;

To meet with a delegation of the king each year to renew this treaty.

Peace Treaty

The Crown Agrees:

To protect the Dene against the invasion of White people on their hunting and fishing territories;

To take care of the education of children;

That medical services would be according to their needs.

Peace Treaty

To come to the assistance of widows, orphans and elders;

That the Dene would not be molested in the kind of life the geographic and climatic conditions imposed on them;

That the Dene would continue to assure their life and that of their families by hunting and fishing.

To supply the Dene with hunting and trapping supplies, including fishnets, bullets, food and other basic needs to go out on the land;

To provide the Dene with housing.

IT IS AGREED THIS TREATY WILL BE HONOURED AS LONG AS THE LAND IS HERE, AS LONG AS THE GRASS GROWS, AS LONG AS THE RIVER FLOWS, AS LONG AS THE SUN RISES IN THE EAST AND SETS IN THE WEST, THIS WILL NOT CHANGE.

Deh Cho First Nations Leadership Listing

Acho Dene Kue General Delivery Fort Liard, NT XOE OAO

Tel: (867) 770-4141 Fax: (867) 770-4144 Chief Floyd Bertrand

IMR First Nation General Delivery Jean Marie River, NT XOE ONO

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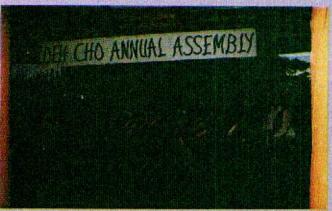
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President Albert Lafferty



Audience at the Deh Cho First Nations 2002 Annual Assembly



Drummers at the Deh Cho First Nations 2002 Annual Assembly

Deh Cho First Nations would like to congratulate the following recipients of the 2002 Scholarship Awards:

- Alice Bouvier
- A Priscilla Canadien
- ♣ Theresa Bonnetrouge
 - A Carsen Hardisty
 - A Kari Lyn Hardisty
 - **♣ Tammy Rowe**



Drummers at the Deh Cho First Nations 2002 Annual Assembly

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