

UPDATE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS.

(I) Deh Cho Process Update:

Deh Cho Process: is our Land Management!!

“Take Care Of Our Land!”

Land Management Not Land Sale!!

Mahsi Cho.

Note: This information have been posted up at our Leadership Meetings.

Deh Cho Process is: (Process = Advance something going on, proceeding.)

- A process to move the Deh Cho Proposal forward
- based on our treaty & Aboriginal Rights & Titles on the 1993 Deh Cho Declaration.

Negotiation Team are:

Chris Reid Chief Negotiator:

- Metis lawyer from Southern Ontario
- has experience in litigation/negotiations

Asst. Negotiator:

Herb Norwegian who also works on Land Use Occupancy, will be doing Community workshops per - Resolution #01, February 10/2000.

Mapping Technician: Jeff Pandke

- hired this fall, is co-shared with DCFN & LKFN
- has experience in GIS mapping which is a requirement that is hard to come by.

Secretary Leona Louie:

- does all clerical work that needs to get done.

To date:

- Deh Cho is involved in Bilateral (two sides) Talks in two phases with Canada
 - base on 21 Common Ground Principles (a rule or Code of Conduct)

- **Phase One Negotiators** is to reach Agreements on:

- 1) Funding
- 2) Interim Protection
- 3) Framework Agreement

these talks will be until March 31/00

Phase One: to end of March/00

- scoping session, to find an outline possibilities with Canada
 (ie) is Canada truly sincere and faithful to negotiate with Deh Cho in a FAIR & EQUITABLE (equally) Matter

- why to end of March/00 is due to funding up to then. This is a contribution funding, break down is - Negotiation Preparedness
 - Capacity building

NOTE: Deh Cho does not like existing Federal Government LAND CLAIM & SELF Government funding.

Deh Cho prefers funding Arrangement for negotiations that is FAIR and EQUITABLE;
No Loan funding but financed by Public funds.

- FUNDING needs to be enough to keep our people informed and involved.

- Deh Cho is weary of the Federal Government using FUNDING as a negotiating tool against us.

Bilateral Talks With Canada to date:

September, 17-18/99 - Fort Simpson, NT

November 4-6/99 - Fort Providence, NT

- Talks key issues were:

- Funding
- Interim Protection
- Framework Agreement

NOTE: The most important issue in Phase one is **INTERIM PROTECTION**

November 4- 6/99

-Deh Cho and Federal Negotiators discussed Interim Protection and draft Framework Agreement which were tabled.

September 17/99

-Federal Negotiators presented their view of Interim Protection.

- Deh Cho reviewed this positively as this use to be only achievable after a Frame agreement.

- Deh Cho pushed Canada to discuss Interim Protection Agreement before a Framework Agreement.

- Deh Cho First Nations prefer to protect all of their LANDS in Interim Protection Agreement.

Federal Government position is:

-only certain lands, not all of our Lands can be protected.

-Interim Protection be based on the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act.

-A Mini-Panel of Deh Cho and Government representatives be set up to monitor Interim Protection.

-Government will respect the Deh Cho Moratorium of August/97.

NOTE: Framework Agreement spells out:

- negotiating process
- time frame
- dispute mechanisms
- parties to negotiations
- Bilateral talks between Deh Cho and Canada
- Deh Cho prefers that memberships be both Dene and Metis descendants
- reflect the Deh Cho 21 Common Ground Principles
- Deh Cho Declaration of 1993

NOTE: Federal Government & Position is that:

- the 21 Common Ground Principles have not all been accepted by Federal Government.

-Boundary of Deh Cho Draft Framework Agreement in the next session.

-Federal Government insist that GNWT be involved in Deh Cho Process Negotiations.

Key Issues Deh Cho face are:

- Involvement of Government in Deh Cho Process if any.
- Interests in Deh Cho Mineral, Oil & Gas developments.
- Resource Revenue Sharing
- Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

Action to date:**January/00.**

- A GNWT workshop in Yellowknife,
- agreed to a Political accord
- working team are: Grand Chief Mike Nadli, Chief Rita Cli, Elder Leo Norwegian, Assistant Negotiator Herb Norwegian.
- Minister Bob Nault of DIAND came to this meeting RE: Update of activities.

February 7-11/00**Winter Leadership in Hay River Reserve**

3 important issues were

- Interim Protection
- Political Accord
- Framework agreement

Update by Chief Negotiator Chris Reid that the 3 issues were send to the federal Government, no response to date. Our position on the 3 issues are quite strong and might not be accepted therefore Deh Cho Leadership reviewed them and accepted them per total were Resolution #01 Feb 10 00.

Total Resolutions were:

- (1) Interim Measures & Political Accord.
- (2) Organization Structure
- (3) Membership
- (4) Dene Zhatie Implementation Process
- (5) Pipeline Workshop Group
- (6) GNWT

- The resolutions are available to all Deh Cho membership.
- Deh Cho Negotiations Team will be doing Community visit and Elders workshop before end of March 00.
- Deh Cho Bilateral talks with Canada is positive yet continues because we do not know the extent on Canada's preparedness to Compromise to meet Deh Cho interests.

NOTE: Both Deh Cho and Canada agree that OUR Bilateral talks should build on TRUST at this stage

DRC Update

January 14/00 LKFN Application for Judicial filed review.

- Press release done same day
- hand out available of Press Release

Feb 9/00 Liard First Nation (Kaska) call to our lawyer Jeff Rath as they are also wanting to do Judicial Review of their Land. The reason is that while they are negotiating with the Federal Gov't they are still issuing Land Use Permits. Per Protocol their lawyer called to ask authorization to talk to our lawyer which, authorized as we need to work together to send a message to the Gov't.

Feb16/00, I called Jeff Rath's office as he was out of the Country, I talked to Deanne White who's handling LKFN's file. Advised her to fax update information to LKFN's office today for our membership meeting.

Gathering Place:

(Across from Parks office)

When we first got elected we said we will look into a new hall called the Gathering Place for our people. As we have been putting money in trust for this project, it is now feasible for us to go ahead with it. we now need your input to see what goes into the building

(ie) Daycare

Swimming Pool

Library

???

We would like to form a membership committee to help us reach our goal.

Election Guidelines,

-This is election year we need to set guidelines to follow.

-The one thing I would like to recommend is whoever thinks of running needs to make a COMMITMENT and be **dedicated**.

-The First Nation is now dealing with issues that really needs attention as we try to make a better tomorrow for our future generations.

Mashie Cho.