



DEHCHO GQNDI



"We the Dene of the Dehcho have lived on our homeland according to our own laws and system of government since time immemorial." - Dehcho Declaration of Rights, August 19, 1993.



Message from the Interim Grand Chief

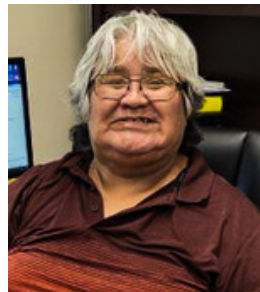
Stanley Sanguex

What a year 2022 has been. First I want to thank my fellow Dehcho leaders who voted for me to serve our region as Interim Grand Chief. I have learned alot, stepping up from the community level to the regional stage back on March 7th. I have been busy reading, attending meetings and being on conference calls for the Dehcho First Nations.

Our dedicated DFN staff, and host committee members from LKFN are busy setting the stage for our 29th Dehcho Annual Assembly. We have a full agenda for three busy days. The work continues as we prepare to elect a new Dehcho Grand Chief. I cannot stress enough, how our next Grand Chief must be a team player and follow the words from our elders and defend our Dehcho traditions. A true Dehcho Leader is not a boss. He will need to work with our Dene and Metis leaders, and rise to facing the challenges in our communities.

We have survived over 150 years of colonization, and continue define our Dehcho way of life 101 years after Treaty 11. We rise above floods that have recently devastated all of our communities. Working together anything is possible!

Mahsicho.



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Program Updates

Edézhíe



Tthets'éhk'edélj, Pehdzeh Ki, Łíídlıı Kúĕ, and Deh Gáh Got'ıĕ, the Edézhíe communities of the Dehcho First Nations, support the establishment of Edézhíe as a Dehcho Protected and National Wildlife Area.

Edézhíe is the first Dehcho Protected Area and the only National Wildlife Area in the Northwest Territories. Dehcho First Nations will work with Environment and Climate Change Canada to ensure Edézhíe is monitored through the Dehcho K'ehodi Stewardship and Guardians program according to Dehcho laws.

During 2021 and the first half of 2022, parties significantly progressed towards the establishment of the Edézhíe Dehcho Protected Area and National Wildlife Area. Four Communities share the responsibility of monitoring Edézhíe. Coordinators from all four communities work with Dehcho First Nations, to develop workplans which the Community Guardians undertake.



"The protection and stewardship of Edézhíe is the sacred responsibility of the Dehcho First Nations, as passed down to us through the generations from our Elders. Edézhíe communities have worked hard for many years to achieve designation as a National Wildlife Area following establishment as a Dehcho Protected Area. This is a great milestone for the Dehcho First Nations, and is a step towards ensuring our way of life can be maintained for our future generations. Edézhíe will always be a place my family calls home.

Our Elders have always said, "Edézhíe is a place of great power, and we are to take care of her, its our responsibility to return our offering."

- Ashley Menicoche, Edézhíe Regional Coordinator

Program Updates

Health & Wellness

By DFN Regional Health and Wellness Coordinator Kristen Tanche

The Health & Wellness coordinator position began in 2020. The original intended work was to form a vision, of health & wellness for the region by the region, led by Indigenous people, and communities.

The position and the duties have evolved and expanded to include the coordination of the Dehcho Regional Health & Wellness working group, delivery of events related to Health & Wellness, delivery of programs, and more.

If you would like to learn more about what is happening in Health and Wellness please contact the Coordinator.



2021 Regional Health & Wellness Gathering

Dehcho First Nations hosted the Dehcho Health & Wellness Gathering in Fort Simpson/Liidlii Kue, August 10-12th, 2021. The gathering brought together 60 people from across the Dehcho. At the gathering, there was a safe space created to talk about culture, healing and networking. Information was shared about initiatives across the North from the Arctic Indigenous Wellness Foundation and Dene Nation. Updates were given on Dehcho First Nations' work in Health & Wellness, and regional Dehcho Health & Wellness priorities and goals were discussed. This gathering was part of Dehcho First Nations' Health & Wellness initiative and will help inform future Health & Wellness planning.



Upcoming Programs

Healing Program

In August 2022 there will be a second Dehcho Healing Program held at the North Nahanni Naturalist Lodge on Cli Lake. Advertisements will be out at the end of June. The program will be facilitated by Shakes the Dust Hope Consulting and will prioritize Dehcho members and their Descendants.

Management of Health & Wellness Funds

In 2022 there was an increase in funds related to COVID and Mental Wellness! Stay tuned as communities plan their own activities and more activities come from the regional level.

July 2021- Dehcho Health & Wellness Working
Group Meeting Participants

Program Updates

ISETS

	Heavy Equipment Operator training is currently happening in Fort Simpson and we have 8 people participating
	Class 7 & 5 driver training is taking place in Fort Liard June 22-July 7 and we have 17 people participating
	Class 7 & 5 driver training is taking place in Fort Simpson July 11-28, applications are still being accepted until June 30th
	The Trades Awareness Program for Grades 9-12 is being held in Fort Smith July 11-15 for students in our region
	The Dehcho First Nations' scholarship application deadline is June 30
	The Post-Secondary Student Support Program application deadline is June 30
	The ISET program application for the fall is July 15



ISETS Team: Diane Simba, Shirley Gargan, Agnes Bonnetrouge and Josanne Kenny.

Safety Training will be offered in Fort Liard and Fort Simpson in July.

Wilderness First Aid will be offered in Fort Simpson.

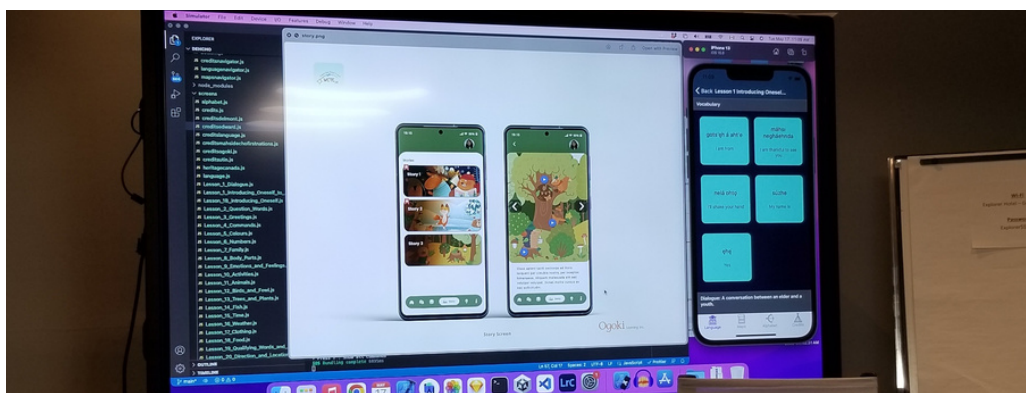
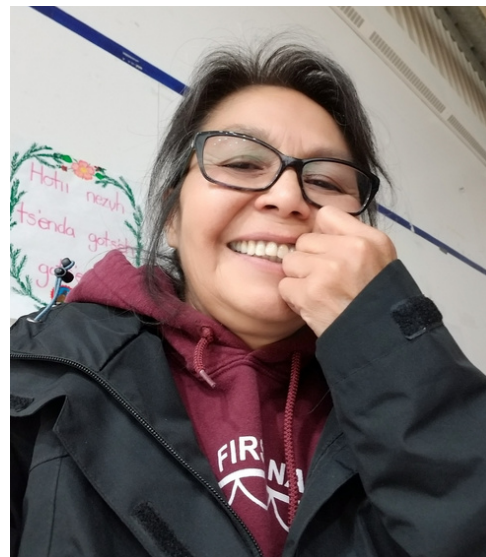
Class 7 & 5 driver training will be offered in Wrigley in September.

For more info contact:
josanne_kenny@dehcho.org

Program Updates

iolet Jumbo, Regional Languages Coordinator

- Dene Zhatié app for both iphone and android is near completion and awaiting final view before it is available for download on the App Store and Google Play. The app is focused on lessons and was recorded in a studio and put together by Ogoki Learning Inc. This a tool for individuals that have an interest in learning to speak Dene Zhatié.
- Reprint of resources was purchased; Dene Zhatié pocketbook and Dene Law posters.
- Mentor-Apprentice Program with GNWT-ECE started the end of September with 9 pairs from 2 communities. The MAP pairs completed the program March 31, 2022.
- DFN held a 2 pair MAP program which ran from December 2022 to March 2022.
- Work had started on a dictionary app with Ogoki Learning Inc. compiling the data base.



The following initiatives have started for 2022-2023.

- This fiscal year the Literacy funding of \$60,000.00 is combined with the Language funding which gave each community allocations a \$6,000.00 increase.
- Work on the dictionary app for iphones, android, and ipads have started. The voice recording will be completed over summer and submitted to the app developer.
- Mentor-Apprentice Program (MAP) with GNWT-ECE will start in July 2022 with a workshop for the participants that are accepted into the program. There are a maximum of 10 pairs from the Dehcho Region.



Program Updates Negotiations

"Our laws from the Creator do not allow us to cede, release, surrender or extinguish our inherent rights. The leadership of the Dehcho upholds the teachings of the Elders as the guiding principles of Dene government now and in the future." - Dehcho Declaration of Rights, August 19, 1993.



Message from the Negotiations Team

Michael Nadli, Chris Reid, Leona Tanche, Violet Jumbo, and Josh Campbell

It is about 23 years since negotiations began in 1999. As Grand Chief at that time, I am grateful we had many elders that set the course we are on today. Through their guidance, the Dehcho Assembly passed and directed many resolutions on protecting the land and standing on the oral version of Treaty 11 of 1921.

The Framework Agreement and Interim Measures Agreement that we signed in 2001 are still in effect, but negotiations have been stalled since 2015 when the DFN rejected the GNWT's lowball offer on lands and resources. In 2019 the DFN decided to take lands and resources temporarily off the table and focus on negotiating an agreement on self-government. At some point, when there is a better chance of reaching an agreement, DFN will resume negotiations on lands and resources. This has become known as the "modular approach" to negotiations. The first "module" will be a self-government agreement which will transfer governing authorities to the Dehcho Government and Dehcho Community Governments, while future modules will cover lands and resources and other issues.

The parties have met occasionally over the past few years, but real negotiations have not happened for several reasons, including federal and territorial elections and the problems and delays with assembling a Dehcho negotiating team. However, I am happy to report that we have finally resumed full-scale negotiations toward a non-binding Dehcho self-government agreement-in-principle which will include Dehcho community control over their community lands, jurisdiction over the Education of Dehcho kids, and much more.

Over the coming year we also expect to complete the Dehcho Land Use Plan and then bring it back to the DFN for further consultations and approval. At the same time, the negotiating team will be working to help develop a governance model and a Dehcho constitution.

With respect to lands and resources, we are not currently negotiating, but we are also not standing still. As directed by the Leadership, we are working on a Dehcho Land Code which will allow the Dehcho First Nations to exercise jurisdiction over all the lands, resources and water of the whole Dehcho territory. Once the Land Code is complete and approved by the DFN it will replace most federal and GNWT laws.

Program Updates

Resource Management



I would like to introduce myself in my new role as the Dehcho First Nations Resource Management Coordinator. I am looking forward to collaborating with each of your communities in the coming months. To begin, I will be reaching out to establish relationships with Lands & Resources staff and management in each community. I am very excited to support you in your work, so thank you for your patience as I will have many questions. I want to extend my thanks to Dahti Tsetso for providing her support to me while I transition into this role. Dahti's guidance is immeasurably valuable, and I expect to learn as much as I can.

Over the next three months I will be completing my probationary period while working to familiarize myself with Lands & Resources files and agreements including the Interim Measures Agreement, and the Dehcho K'ehodi Stewardship and Monitoring Program. I intend to strengthen my understanding of our working groups and working partnerships moving forward and am excited to take on more responsibilities.

I will be continuing my work with the Regional 5-year Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy as the Climate Lead as well as working with the Energy Lead, Jason Collard, to provide my support to regional energy planning and project implementation in communities. My work with the negotiations team will also continue. I am very thankful for this opportunity to grow with Dehcho First Nations. Máhsicho, Ramona Pearson, Dehcho First Nations Resource Management Coordinator

Dehcho First Nations Staff

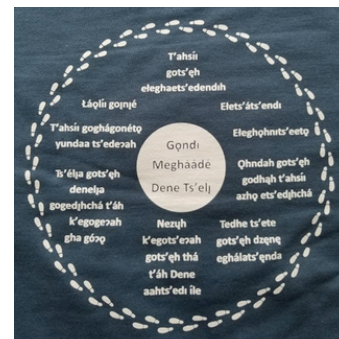



Grand Chief	Stanley Sanguéz
Executive Director	Alison de Pelham
Finance Manager	Dora Tsetso
Senior Executive Administrator	Sara McLeod
Administrative Secretary/Receptionist	Emma Amundson
Education & Training Manager	Josanne Kenny
Employment Development Officer	Diane Simba
Regional Health & Wellness Coordinator	Kristen Tanche
Chief Negotiator	Michael Nadli
Resource Management Coordinator	Ramona Pearson
Negotiations Administrator	Leona Tanche
Language Manager	Violet Jumbo
AAROM Coordinator	Mike Low
AAROM Technical Advisor	Melaine Simba
Edézhzhíe Regional Coordinator	Ashley Menicoche
Edézhzhíe Administrator	Lauren Corneille-Lafferty
Edézhzhíe Community Coordinators	
Deh Gáh Got'ie Kúé Coordinator	Trisha Landry
Tthets'ék'edélj Coordinator	Arial Sanguéz
Łíídlj Kúé Coordinator	James Tsetso
Pehdzeh Ki Coordinator	Rose Moses
Communications Coordinator	Joshua Campbell





Dehcho First Nations 2022 Promotional Items



Unisex dark gray Joggers \$30.00

Ladies Climate Waterproof Jackets \$65.00

Unisex Full Zip Lightweight Hoodie \$50.00

Columbia Fleece Sweaters \$52.00

Baseball Caps (Sandwich Cap) \$20.00

Camo Panel Military Cap \$30.00

Safeguard Aluminum Wallets \$ 8.00

Dehcho Drum Music CD \$20.00

Dehcho Drum Music Cassettes \$ 5.00

Orange Pocket Notebook with Pen \$ 6.00

Fold up Chairs w/cooler \$15.00

Canvas Sailing Zip Tote bag \$25.00

Zippered Cotton Boat Tote Bag \$20.00

Rumble Bottle, Bluetooth Speaker 14oz Stainless \$40.00

Spray Sanitizer 1 oz \$ 5.00

Twister Smartphone Holder & Stand \$ 5.00

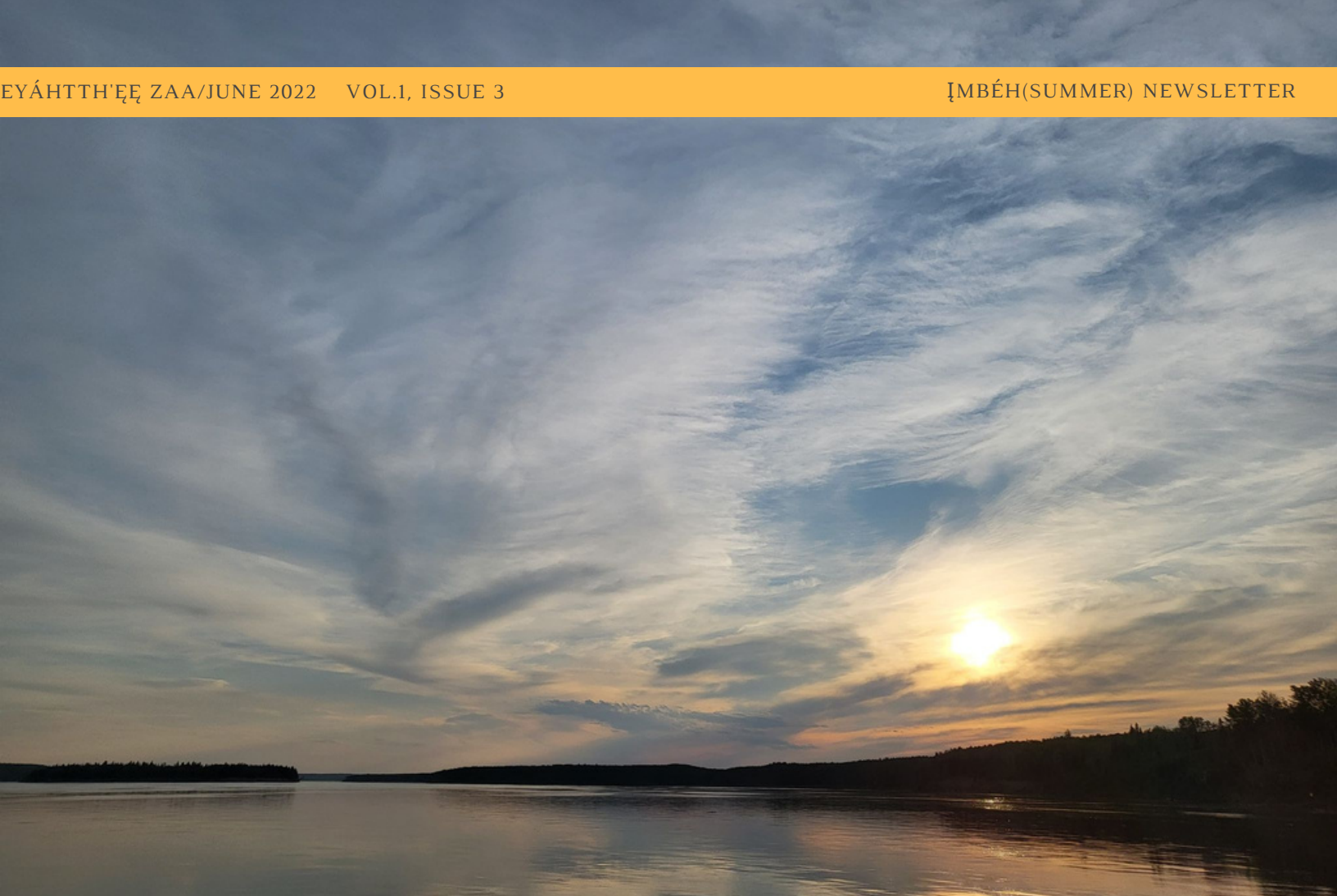
2-Ply Face Mask \$15.00

Wave Sandwich Cap with Face mask buttons \$25.00

Small Tissue Packet \$ 2.00

Deluxe Travel Duffel 22" \$40.00





Contact Us



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