

## **Dehcho First Nations**

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## \*\*\*\*\*\*\* For Immediate Release \*\*\*\*\*\*

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

Due to the ongoing state of emergency within the Northwest Territories caused by the 2023 Wildfires, the 30th Dehcho Annual Assembly that was to be hosted in Nahanni Butte, NT is cancelled.

The safety of our communities, members, and people are of top priority for Dehcho First Nations. With the uncertainties of when people will be permitted to return, and the state/effects wildfires will have on our land, cancellation of the annual assembly is the best option.

Dehcho First Nations appreciates the efforts made across our lands to ensure they are safe and protecting our communities. For the communities and homes that the wildfires have destroyed, Dehcho First Nations is sorry for your losses. The people of the Northwest Territories are strong; together, we will rebuild and become even stronger.

Information, updates, or reports that would be addressed during the 30th Annual Assembly, Dehcho First Nations will explore options for dispersing the information and discussing relevant matters.

Please continue to follow local emergency orders regarding the wildfires. Your safety is of the utmost importance. We look forward to gathering together in the future.

For further information, comments, or questions, please get in touch with Grand Chief Herb Norwegian by phone at 867-695-2355 or by email at herb\_norwegian@dehcho.org