

# Dehcho Gᓄᓄi

Dehcho First Nations

August/2023



## Timber Kings in Nahanni Butte building the new Arbor June 2023

**2**  
Grand Chief Mes-  
sage

**3**  
AAROM Updates

**5**  
Negotiations Up-  
dates

**7**  
Health and Well-  
ness Updates

**9**  
ISETS Updates

**11**  
Language and  
Culture Updates

**13**  
Edézhíe Updates

**16**  
Lands and  
Resource  
Updates

**17**  
DFN Staff

**18**  
DFN Contact Info



# Grand Chief Message

By: Herb Norwegian



**T**oday, I am honoured to give you a quick snapshot of who we are and what we do in the Dehcho.

We are honoured again to unite all our people on this great land. We are honoured to hear the birds, animals, and everything on our land. We are also honoured to have the visitors visit us in our territories.

We appreciate all the leaders, elders, chiefs, and

young people working in our communities to keep us safe and happy.

We hope we continue to be happy, thrive, and move forward. We will claw our way to the top of the mountain where the sun shines and where the goats and the sheep live.

We hope that we all meet together as one people at the top.

Mahsi Cho

## Get To Know Sharon



Sharon Nahanni - Allen suzhę, gots'ęh Líídlı Kúę náhnde. Semq Mabel Nahanni Nahzą Dehę megúlı. Setá Archie Horesay Pehdzéh Kı megúlı. Semq membadee Bella gots'ę medene Gabızhe Sanguéz got'sę Tthék'ęhdélı segen-shq. Dúh naheghá Dene Zhatie ts'ęhk'eh eghálae-da.

My name is Sharon Nahanni - Allen, I live in Fort Simpson. My mother's name is Mabel Nahanni, she was born in Nahanni Butte. My father's name is Archie Horesay, he was born in Wrigley. My mothers older sister Bella and her husband Gabızhe Sanguéz raised me in Jean Marie River. I am the new Language Manager.

**2023 - 2024 Dene Zhatie Language Program Proposals Funding Applications Now Being Accepted**

For Further Information Contact Sharon Allen, Language Manager 867-695-2610 sharon\_allen@dehcho.org

# AAROM Updates

By: Mike Low

**D**ehcho AAROM has spent the last several months planning with communities for upcoming projects and gathering information on issues and concerns.

Travel also occurred, including the AAROM Coordinator and a delegation from Deh Gah Gotie First Nation attending the ILI Guardians Gathering to see what other groups were doing in their territories across the country.

The Deh Gah Gotie Guardians, Joe Lacorne and Stephen Nadli, participated in a panel discussion with the AAROM Coordinator.

This summer, each Dehcho community will again have an active Guardian program, patrolling and monitoring the waterways in each area. Each community has up to 2 Guardians trained and hired yearly to patrol their territories on the water, counting wildlife and birds and monitoring water quality.

- In addition to the Guardians, specific projects will occur, including the following: Dehcho AAROM will again be carrying out two fly-in sampling projects to collect data related to the varying levels of mercury in fish from Dehcho Lakes.
- In June, Heidi Swanson from the University of Waterloo will take a group of university students to Little Doctor Lake to conduct sampling



and a field course.

- In August, sampling will occur at either Reid Lake or Airport Lake, and local Guardians will be utilized for this work.
- In late August, Dehcho AAROM will be holding a fish camp at Ekali Lake in coordination with some research conducted by the University of Waterloo on the bioaccessibility of mercury from fish to humans. This study looks at how cooking methods decrease the amount of mercury that goes into a person from eating fish. This project will require hiring local Guardians, cooks, and cook's helpers from Jean Marie River.

## Employment Opportunities:

Please check out <http://www.dehcho.org> for detailed position

information.





- A second fish camp being planned for this year is the annual Deh Gah Gotie Fish Camp, which will take place closer to town this year for safety reasons. Funding is being applied for from a University of Alberta project called Aramat, and will incorporate an indigenous place-based names component. The fish camp will employ camp tenders, Guardians, camp cooks, cook's helpers, and elders from Deh Gah Gotie.
  - Lastly, a recreational fishing survey project is being planned. A second boat to monitor the recreational fishery of Deh Gah Gotie is being sought. Funds have been applied for from DFO to have two new people hired to survey recreational anglers and count how many people are fishing and for how long. This crew will hopefully turn into a full-time second Guardian crew for DGGFN.
- Some other agreements and projects for this year include:
- Collecting water samples for blue-green algae,
  - Carrying out sampling for ECC's community-based water program,
  - Collecting samples of permafrost runoff for U of A,
  - Assisting DFO with sampling on GSL
  - Assisting with sampling to develop a NASA remote sensing tool with Boston University.

# Negotiations Updates

By: Michael Nadil



**M**y name is Michael M. Nadli and I am the Chief Negotiator for the Dehcho First Nations. I work on a contractual basis and I have been in this position since December 2020. I am bilingual in Dehcho Dene Zhatie and English. My past work experience include working as Dehcho MLA, Sub-Chief of the Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation, Intergovernmental Affairs Advisor, and former Dehcho Grand Chief. I own and operate my business Nadli & Associates Consulting. I live and work out of my home community of Fort Providence.

As part of the Dehcho Negotiations Team, I work along with Negotiations Administrator Leona Tanche, Language Specialist Sharon Allen, Communications Coordinator Bryan Strong, and Legal Counsel Chris Reid. The Dehcho Negotiations Team is a unit that Protect and Uphold the Treaty Rights and Aboriginal Title, and interests of the Dehcho First Nations. We represent

Dehcho First Nations at the Main Table negotiations along with GNWT and Federal Negotiators. Our purpose is to achieve agreements on Self-Government and Lands and Resources. Our mission could be described as "Nahetsie Treaty 11 gondie duhdze senitsile", meaning we are putting the words of our ancestor's understanding of Treaty 11 into present day agreements.

The Dehcho Negotiations Team and negotiations is modeled after the Dene-Metis Land Claim process of the 1980's. Each of the five regions of the Dene Nation had a Chief Negotiator and team to work at a national level. Today, the Dehcho Chief Negotiator leads a team and works along with the Grand Chief, Leadership, Dehcho Assembly, and DFN organization. Negotiations is about talking and resolving conflict within a system among two or more parties. Key issues at the Dehcho Negotiating Main Table are described in the 21 Common Ground Principles of 1999; that Dehcho, GNWT, and Canada, disagree on the Ownership, Jurisdiction, and Sovereignty of the Dehcho First Nations traditional territory. This is at the heart of current negotiations on Self-Government and Lands and Resources.

<p><b>Upcoming Programs:</b></p> <p>Dehcho Journey to My Best Self Healing Program August 6 to August 29</p>	<p>2023 (Applications are no longer being accepted)</p> <p>Indigenous Language and Language Nests Proposals Due</p>	
--	---	--

## Negotiations Updates

---

As of July 2023, the Dehcho Self-Government Main Table negotiations are at an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) stage, with the Rolling Draft AIP being seventy-five percent complete. The Dehcho along with the GNWT and Canada, are also part of the Land Use Planning Committee that are developing an Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan since 2001, which is about ninety-eight percent complete. The Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) was developed from the period of 2004 to 2014 with emphasis on Self-Government. The DFN Negotiations Team's focus for this year is to advance Lands and Resource matters such as the Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan, Dehcho Resource Management Authority, many of the big issues that were not addressed during pre-Devolution. We also want to achieve tentative agreements on furthering chapters of the AIP and establish Main Table working groups. We also plan on holding frequent Virtual Town Hall information sessions to provide negotiation reports and updates. Key timelines include the Land Use Planning Committee's objective of the approval and implementation of the Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan (IDLUP) and the next Federal Election by 2025. After an Agreement-in-Principle is supported and ratified, a Final Agreement is expected to be concluded within two years.

Planning and Strategy for Main Table negotiations is a critical function of the Dehcho Negotiations Team. It is important to prepare for each negotiating session by reviewing issues, interests and

positions, and determining appropriate strategies. For this to happen, the Dehcho Negotiations Team have frequent team meetings and discussion, connect through video conferences and calls, attend Think Tanks, and also report to the Grand Chief and Leadership. Most recently, the parties agreed to hold monthly negotiating sessions to March 31, 2024. Dehcho Negotiations Team have been push to ensure Main Table Negotiating sessions are held in Dehcho communities.

The next Main Table session is scheduled for August 14-16 and is virtual. Following is the Dehcho Self-Government Main Table Negotiations:

- August 14 to 16 2023 (Virtual)
- September 18 to 19 2023 (Virtual)
- October 16 to 20 2023 (Ottawa, ON)
- November 20 to 22 2023 (Virtual)
- December 18 - 20 2023 (In-Person Location To Be Determined)
- January 22 to 26 2024 (In-Person Location To Be Determined)
- February 26 to March 1 2024 (In-Person Location To Be Determined)
- March 25 to 28 2024 (In-Person Location To Be Determined)

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact me at my email at: [Michael\\_Nadli@dehcho.org](mailto:Michael_Nadli@dehcho.org)

Mahsi,

Michael M. Nadli  
Chief Negotiator

## Wildfires:

Wildfires affect many communities across Canada, Northwest Territories, and our Dehcho Region. During this challenging time, Dehcho First Nation keeps the communities, people, and DFN members

affected by wildfires in our hearts and minds.

Please keep an eye on the Government of Northwest Territories for wildfire updates. Clicking on the Dehcho region will provide information about the conditions and fire danger forecast.

Let's keep our communities safe and minimize the chances of a human-caused wildfires. For more safety tips, check out the government's page on ways to prevent wildfires.



## Dene Words of the Season:

Łukéh is spring

Dene k'éé June –  
Eyéth'ęę Sa éhts'edi azhí  
ghq̄h kaéhts'edi t'á dıı  
q̄dzee sa nadet'ah k'eh  
ésáá chı gots'ęh chųah  
kaq̄ndıh deyéhtth'ęę nıęle.

In Dene k'éé we  
call the month of June -  
Eyéth'ęę Sa, which means  
Egg Moon. It is during this  
cycle of the moon ducks  
and birds lay their eggs

Imbéh Gudéh –  
Summer Words

### Weather - Kadı dagondıh

Gókó – warm

Nááts'i – windy

Dzene gonezų - good  
day

Chq̄ - rain

Nátene – thunder

### Golq̄ah

Sah – bear

Tsá – beaver

Golq̄ - moose

Gah – rabbit

Medzıh- caribou

Nogie – fox

Nóda – lynx

### Chuah

Xah – geese

Dıh – chicken

Chı – duck

Ehndaa – eagle

Mbehddh – owl

Ezhahı – raven

Mbehk'á - seagull.

# Health and Wellness Updates

By: Kristen Tanche



*Photo: Dehcho Regional Health & Wellness Working Group Meeting, in October 2022, in Katlodechee at the Dene Wellness Center.*

**W**e are excited to share the latest updates from the Dehcho First Nations Health and Wellness Division.

### Expansion of the Health & Wellness Division

The Health & Wellness Division has expanded its team, now consisting of Health & Wellness Director Kristen Tanche, Regional Health & Wellness Programmer Karen Felker, and Regional On the Land Coordinator Britney

Nadli. We also have several casual staff and contractors supporting our initiatives.

### Guiding Statements

The Health & Wellness Division, led by the Health & Wellness Working Group, has drafted guiding statements to shape our vision and principles. These statements reflect our vision for healthy communities, rooted in Dene culture and language, and emphasize the importance of community-driven programs and strong

communication.

**Regional Healing and On-the-Land  
Programming**

We have successfully delivered several on-the-land and healing programs, including a Follow-up Healing Program, Journey to my Best Self-Healing Program, Grief and Healing Program, the Dehcho K’ehodi Annual Gathering Youth Ecology and Traditional Knowledge Camp, and Yundaa Gogha. These programs have been lead by our dedicated staff, Karen Felker and Britney Nadli.

**Upcoming Programs**

Journey to my Best Self-Healing Program, an Elder’s Healing Program, and the Youth Ecology and Traditional Knowledge Camp are in the planning stages or have already been advertised.

These programs promote culture, language learning, leadership skills, reconciliation, decolonization, well-being and more.

**Health and Wellness Projects:**

We continue to work with federal funds and projects to support the development of our vision, implement various initiatives and support community initiatives. We have received funds for mental wellness, a regional mobile wellness team, COVID-19, and we planning a regional Patient Advocate project and expanding midwifery and doula services in partnership with the Northern Birthwork Collective.



*Photo of our Dry Meat At our August 2022  
Healing Program, taken by Frank Hope*

**Contact Information:**

We remain dedicated to promoting health and wellness within the Dehcho First Nations communities. Together, we strive for positive, thriving communities rooted in our land, language, and culture.

For more information or detailed inquires, please reach out to Kristen Tanche, Regional Health & Wellness Director. [kristen\\_tanche@dehcho.org](mailto:kristen_tanche@dehcho.org)

Sincerely , The Dehcho First Nations  
Health and Wellness Division

**Upcoming  
Public  
Meetings:**

Negotiations Town Hall  
August 9 2023 7PM (Virtual)

Negotiations Main Table  
Meeting - Virtual  
August 14 - 16 2023

DFN Annual General Meeting  
August 22 to 24 2023  
(Tentative)

Negotiations Main Table  
Meeting - Virtual

September 18 - 29 2023

Negotiations Main Table  
Meeting - Ottawa, ON  
October 16 - 20 2023

Negotiations Main Table  
Meeting - Virtual  
November 20 - 22 2023



# ISETS Updates

By: Josanne Kenny



## Indigenous Skills & Employment Training Program

**I**n April the Dehcho First Nations' ISET Program completed a post-secondary tour with 16 youth from our region. We toured five post-secondary institutions in Calgary and Edmonton. Above is a picture of the group at Mount Royal University.

The ISET Program has offered or will be offering the following:

- Chainsaw Safety Training, Wilderness First Aid, and Canadian Firearms Safety Training for all Dehcho communities
- We partnered with Nogha Enterprises and GNWT's Education, Culture & Employment department to offer Carpentry Skills Training in Fort Simpson June 19 to August 11, 2023
- The ISET staff participated in the Career Fairs in Fort Simpson, Fort Liard, and Fort Providence
- Class 5 and Class 7 driver training

will be offered in the communities in the coming weeks

At the top of the next page is a picture of one of our safety training courses being offered in Fort Providence.

The ISET program is currently accepting applications for post-secondary top-up, the deadline to apply is July 15th. If you are interested in applying, please contact our office.

We are also accepting proposals for wage subsidies, if you are interested in knowing more about this please contact our office.

The ISET Program is planning an Early Learning and Child Care regional meeting in August for our daycares and early learning and child care programs in our region. We would also like to invite organizations who are interested in starting programs in their communities. If you are interested in knowing more about this, please contact our office.





**Dehcho First Nations Memorial Awards & Scholarships**

We are happy to announce that a \$1,000 Trades Scholarship has been added to the Dehcho First Nations Memorial Awards & Scholarships.

We are currently accepting applications for DFN Memorial Awards & Scholarships, the deadline to apply is June 30th. If you would like an application, please call our

office or email [DFN\\_scholarship@dehcho.org](mailto:DFN_scholarship@dehcho.org)

**Post-Secondary Student Support Program**

The deadline to apply for the Post-Secondary Student Support Program is June 30th. If you would like to apply, please call our office or email [training@dehcho.org](mailto:training@dehcho.org)



**Community Notice**  
**30th Annual Dehcho Assembly**  
**Azhíi duwe**



**Dehcho Declaration**

We the Dene of the Dehcho have lived on our homeland according to our own laws and system of government since time immemorial.

Our homeland is comprised of the ancestral territories and waters of the Dehcho Dene. We were put here by the Creator as keepers of our waters and lands.

The Peace Treaties of 1899 and 1921 with the non-Dene recognize the inherent political rights and powers of the Dehcho First Nation. Only sovereign peoples can make treaties with each other. Therefore our aboriginal rights and titles and oral treaties cannot be extinguished by any Euro-Canadian government.

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.

Today we reaffirm, assert and exercise our inherent rights and powers to govern ourselves as a nation.

We the Dene of the Dehcho stand firm behind our First Nation government.

**Where:** Nahanni Butte, NT  
**When:** August 29 - 31 2023

**For More Information:**  
**Call:** 867-695-2610  
**E-mail:** [Sara\\_McLeod@dehcho.org](mailto:Sara_McLeod@dehcho.org)  
**Website:** [www.dehcho.org](http://www.dehcho.org)



# Language and Culture Updates

By: Sharon Allen

## Language Coordinators Workshop:

**L**anguage Coordinators met in K'at'l'odeeche Hay River to discuss their programs and initiatives for their community.

In photo are Rene Squirrel -AHS, Sonya Frise - WPFN, Joyce M. McLeod-AHS, Victoria Gargan - JMRFN, Aline Gargan-AHS, Brenda Deneyoua-LKFN, Gail Sanguenz-JMRFN, Tyrone Sanguenz-JMRFN, and Sharon Allen-DFN

## Language Initiatives:

Community Coordinators wish to promote language revitalization initiatives using the following activities in their community.

- Preserving our stories by way of archiving.
- Host evening classes using the language.
- Use promotion items as incentive for language learning.

- Record activities, make them into booklets, and create puppet stories.
- Hire an Elder to visit the communities to teach youth on skill building skills at the community level.
- Create everyday spaces with labels in the workspace.

## Planning

Communities have expressed a need for capacity building; their hopes to do more in their communities (Regionally DFN can support communities on the hiring of translators to build up resources to support varying dialects). Communities lack the capacity to be able to carry out the task of creating community resources.

## Workshops

There are plans for a community language workshop in Fort Providence in

## Upcoming Training:

First Aid Various  
Communities

Chain Saw Safety Various  
Communities

Canadian Firearms Safety  
Training Course Various  
Communities





October.

There will be continued workshops to ensure that language learning and transfer of knowledge will continue in communities. The workshops are meant to continue ongoing learning for Dehcho Dene.

### **Training Opportunities**

These are ways that language learning can continue by community members to ensure that knowledge is being passed down to community members through community initiatives. Language Coordinators have been requested to be sent out for training in instruction and language development. CILLDI summer courses have been planned for the summer. There are plans for continued workshops later in the fall with Language experts to conduct training.

### **Community Update**

Language programming in communities have been largely busy this year. Many programs have met the requirements for the Regional Language Plan. There have been community targets met such as cultural on-the-land programming, evening language classes, labeling, flash cards, and hiring translators to do programming. Some communities have collaborated with other programs in their

community; recreation, language justice, tourism, family learning and seniors. Radio announcements are translated at various times.

### **Promotional Items**

This year the theme was Dene K'ée Gudeh Segha Nezu – Sichu Goghe Aht'í. I like to speak Dene. I am in. There are new promotional items at the office for pick up. We have mostly adult, youth, children and toddler sizing. There are limited sizes for the "Dene" t-shirts. We have also purchased Introduce yourself postcards. Dene Laws are posted on Magnets and posters. Please call our office and inquire about our merchandise. All merchandise is FREE to Dehcho Dene members.



# Edézhíe Updates

By: Ashley Menicoche



**E**dézhíe Regional Coordinator, along with the Community Coordinators and Guardians have been working steady since April. We started off the Fiscal year, with a group Travel to the protected area, with Global Philanthropic team via Snowmobile.

The group consisted of 8 Edézhíe guardians and 5 Global Philanthropic Staff. The Global team truly wants to thank the Dehcho First Nations for providing them with the incredible opportunity to meet with the staff and community firsthand. Getting the chance to meet everyone face to face, experience Edézhíe has given their team a better understanding of the project, and the importance of protecting this land for the Dene people as well as for the health of the planet.

The Edezhie Staff were invited to attend the First Nations National Guardians Gathering in Ottawa. Nearly 350 Guardians, leaders, partners, and allies came together to learn and celebrate Guardianship. Edézhíe Regional Coordinator was asked to be a panelist to speak on the topic of Guardians and Wildfire in the Dehcho

*"Guardians can play a critical role in strengthening Indigenous leadership in fire management and response. The*

*Guardians in each region across Canada learn from examples of fire response training and communities' emergency response. But with that, we would all need to come together to put a action plan in place. This Spring we have seen and witness in the Dehcho, how fast a wildfire can spread, and what it can take from us. Its dangerous and we need to teach our younger generations what the meaning of Fire Smart is. Here in our Communities, out at our Cabins and just in general when boating and having a Picnic with our Families."*

Here are some highlights Safety Training:

- Chainsaw Safety Training
- Canadian Firearms safety training
- Wilderness first aid training
- Contaminated Site Phase 1-2 Training
- Anthrax Training
- Supervisory training for Community Coordinators

## Winter training

- Snowmobile training / Maintenance training

### Cabins in the protected area:

- An exciting part of our work in Edézhíe is and around the locations of our operational cabin's that have been built within the boundaries of the Edézhíe. In order for us to fulfill the needs of the community in regard to the Indigenous Protected Area, infrastructure, such as cabins and trail development/maintenance is required. These cabin's will be used as a base for conducting research, monitoring and other Edézhíe work. Also, being useful to community land users!

Good job to Edézhíe Guardians and Community Coordinators!

### Edezhie Going Green:

- Winter 2023-24 we are collaborating with Gonezu Solar Energy to have solar panels installed to each of the 4 Cabins within the protected area. Gonezu Electricians will travel with the Guardians to their cabin's to complete the installation, train the Land Guardians on how to use and maintain the Solar and battery storage systems
- This Summer we have the guardians clearing and falling trees around their cabins. (Fire Smart)

**"Remember to be sure your Fire is out!! "**

### River Monitoring/ Patrolling

- Edézhíe Guardian's have been patrolling the waters of Willow River and Horn River. These two rivers flow from the watershed of Edezhie into the Mackenzie River.
- Deh Gah Got'ie Edézhíe Guardians have been steady Patrolling the Boundary - stopping and checking to see if they knew that they were close to our newly established National wildlife Protected area. They also providing members with permit applications.

### Signage for the Boundary the protected area

- Watch out for new signs this Fall. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has been working to get our signs for the 4 communities to have in place on the boundary lines of Edézhíe access routes. In the mean time, there has been heavy activity near the Fort Providence access – Deh Gah Got'ie Guardians made their own signs to put in the Edézhíe protected area to notify permit holders that they need to reach out to the Local Edézhíe Community Coordinator's.

Edezhie Guardians main purpose is to protect the land, water, and air of Edezhie and to Educate the people of Edezhie.







### **Our Community Coordinators are here for you!!**

That's why there always on the lookout for issues and observations from anyone. If you or someone you know noticed something, or hears a concern related to the Protected Area, we ask that you report it to one of our Community Coordinators or Regional Office Dehcho First Nations.

Some examples of issues that could be reported include:

- Non – Section 35 rights holders
- Observations on changes to the environment (animal behaviour, habitat, etc.)
- Issues with hunting/trapping/fishing/gathering

### **Working to have Edézhíe Cleaned:**

The Elder harvester committee in each of the communities have showed and identified on maps of which lakes and shores that need to be cleaned up of Old Rusted Barrels. This needs to be taken out in order for us to maintain clean pure waters in the protected area of Edézhíe.

We had our first round of Community consultation in the community of Fort Providence. Jean Marie river and Fort providence merged together to Host a one day meeting with the elders from the two communities to work with Stantec to show which areas on the map that needs high attention.

Later this summer Fort Simpson and Wrigley will be scheduling one day meeting with Stantec staff, the Elders and Guardians to identify on maps where there is clean up need to be done.

### **The goals we are working with Edehzhie are:**

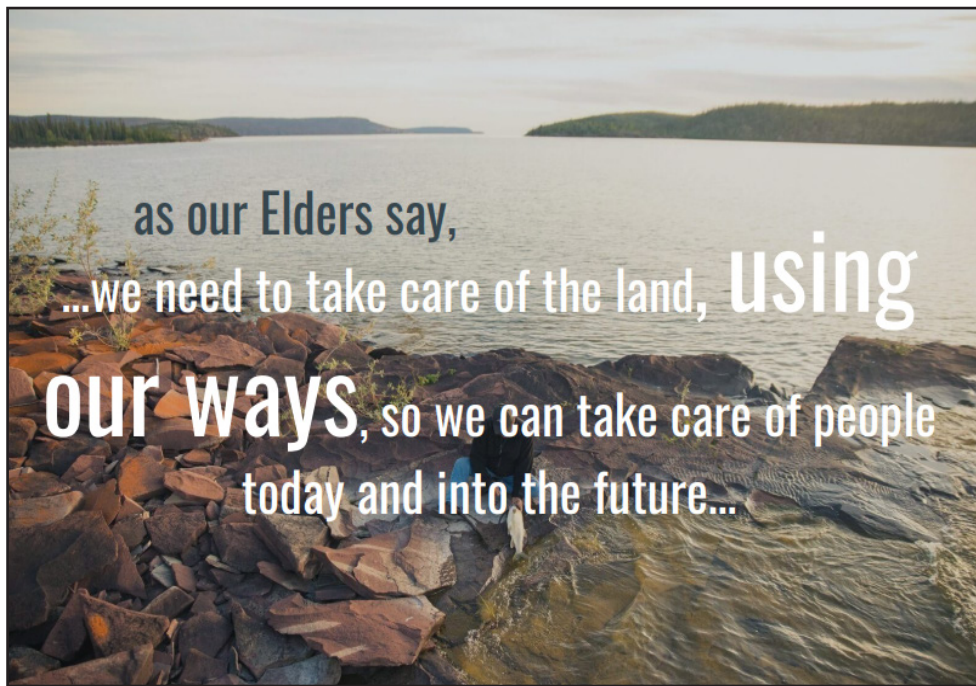
- Protecting the land and waters and the animals
- Safeguarding these areas for future generations
- Be guided by our Elders every step of the way
- Ensuring that Dehcho Dene continue to use the land for Hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering
- Supporting Dene Ahthít'e language when working together on the land.

### **Working with the School to bring Dene Knowledge to our Younger Generations:**

LKFN Guardians collaborate with Líídlj Kúę Elementary School for a 5 day Spring Culture Camp. This camp was located by Martine River. The Guardians and Teachers worked together to mentor our youth in many different area's about monitoring birds, identifying animal tracks, traditional medicine, when to harvest and what to look out for, why we use them, also the big event daily was getting the camp site ready for the day and talk about protected lands in our region, and the impotence behind protection. What a great week that was for the Edehzhie Crew here in Fort Simpson.

# Lands and Resources Updates

By: Ramona Pearson



*Photo and Quote Credit: Indigenous Leadership Initiative (ILI)*

## **Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence (NWT PFP)**

*"Centering the NWT PFP on Indigenous leadership and meaningful partnerships among all will ensure genuinely transformative outcomes for people, lands, and waters".*

**I**n December 2022, Trudeau's Government announced an \$800M commitment to support Indigenous-led conservation and protect 30% of Canada's landmass by 2030. The funding will be negotiated over 2023, and available to participating communities across the Northwest Territories.

Dehcho First Nations (DFN) is continuing support for the implementation of the Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence (NWT PFP) for Dehcho communities. The NWT PFP is a new type of fund that will be available to Indigenous Governments territory-wide to support conservation activities. Communities who have chosen to participate will be eligible for

funding to support conservation-related activities such as starting up Guardians programs, supporting existing Guardians and protected areas, implementing support for wildlife and conservation area management and operations, and exploring community-based and regional economic development.

All communities in the Dehcho, excluding two, have submitted bilateral tools to be counted as participants in the process. The final signing ceremony for the NWT PFP will be held on August 25 2023, and a new name for the fund is being workshopped by those at the table. Stay tuned for more details!

## **Support for Dehcho Protected Areas**

DFN is helping communities finalize planning for their Indigenous Protected Conserved Areas (IPCAs). Dehcho Protected Areas Communities (DPAC) are: Sambaa K'e First Nation, Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation, Tthets'ek'ehdelj First Nation and K'at'odeeche First Nation.



In May, the group held a two-day legal workshop to explore pathways to protection, including different legislative tools and options for Dehcho IPCAs. These resources are available for communities with the permission of

the DPAC communities and was shared broadly amongst those communities who expressed interest in establishing protected areas.

# Dehcho First Nations Staff

<b>Grand Chief:</b>	Herb Norwegian
<b>Executive Director:</b>	Alison de Pelham
<b>Assistant Executive Director:</b>	Vacant
<b>Executive Director Trainee:</b>	Vacant
<b>Finance Manager:</b>	Dora Tsetso
<b>Senior Executive Administrator:</b>	Sara McLeod
<b>Administrative Secretary/Receptionist:</b>	Emma Amundson
<b>Education and Training Manager:</b>	Josanne Kenny
<b>Employment Development Officer:</b>	Diane Simba
<b>Employment Development Coordinator:</b>	Shirley Gargan
<b>Employment Development Assistant:</b>	Agnes Bonnetrouge
<b>Regional Health and Wellness Director:</b>	Kristen Tanche
<b>Health and Wellness Programmer:</b>	Karen Felker
<b>Health and Wellness Administrator/Birthing Project Coordinator:</b>	Emily Hardisty Marcellais
<b>On-The-Land Coordinator:</b>	Britney Nadil
<b>Chief Negotiator:</b>	Michael Nadli (Independent Contractor)
<b>Negotiations Administrator:</b>	Leona Tanche
<b>Legal Advisor:</b>	Chris Reid (Independent Contractor)
<b>Resource Management Coordinator:</b>	Ramona Pearson
<b>Language Manager:</b>	Sharon Allen
<b>AAROM Coordinator:</b>	Mike Low
<b>AAROM Technical Advisor:</b>	Melanie Simba
<b>Edézhíe Regional Coordinator:</b>	Ashley Menicoche
<b>Edézhíe Administrator:</b>	Lauren Corneile-Lafferty
<b>Edézhíe Community Coordinators:</b>	Trisha Landry
Deh Gáh Got'ie Kúé Coordinator	Arial Sanguéz
Tthets'ék'edéli Coordinator	Darren Hardisty
Íídlıı Kúé Coordinator	Nicole Hardisty
Pehdzeh Ki Coordinator	
<b>Edézhíe Community Guardians:</b>	Henry Sabourin & Michael Minoza
Deh Gáh Got'ie Kúé Guardians	Kody Hardisty-Sangris & Richard Sanguéz
Tthets'ék'edéli Guardians	Allan Bonnetrouge & Kurt Tsetso
Íídlıı Kúé Guardians	Freddie Lennie & Jamie Moses
Pehdzeh Ki Guardians	Bryan Strong Professional Services and Consulting
<b>Communications Coordinator:</b>	

# Contact Us



PO Box 89  
Fort Simpson., NT  
X0E 0N0  
Phone: 867-695-2610 or 867-695-2355  
Fax: 867-695-2927  
Toll Free: 1-866-995-3748  
Website: <http://www.dehcho.org>