



## Dehcho First Nations Annual Assembly Postponed Due to Wildfire Season and Fire Bans

Dehcho Leaders and Elders Decide to Reschedule the Assembly  
tentatively August 13 - 15 2024

The Dehcho First Nations (DFN) announced today that the Annual Assembly, which was scheduled to take place from June 11 to June 13, 2024, in Nahanni Butte, has been postponed due to the wildfire season and fire bans in place in the region. The decision was made after consultation with Dehcho Leaders and Elders, who expressed their concern for the safety and well-being of the participants and the communities.

The Annual Assembly is a gathering of Dehcho First Nations members, leaders, elders, youth, and guests, who come together to celebrate the culture, history, and achievements of the Dehcho people, as well as to discuss the issues and priorities facing the region. The Assembly is also an opportunity to showcase the local talents, arts, and crafts of the Dehcho communities.

DFN Grand Chief Herb Norwegian said that the postponement was a difficult but necessary

decision, given the current situation and the uncertainty of the wildfire season. “We know how important the Annual Assembly is for our people, and how much we look forward to it every year. However, we also must consider the health and safety of our participants and our communities, especially during this challenging time. We have been in communication with the Dehcho Leaders and Elders, and they have agreed that it is better to reschedule the Assembly for a later date, when the conditions are more favorable and the fire bans are lifted,” he said.

Norwegian added the new date and location of the Annual Assembly is tentatively scheduled for August 13 – 15, 2024, in Fort Simpson, Northwest Territories. DFN will continue to work on the agenda and the preparations for the event. Thank you, the host community of Nahanni Butte, for their understanding and support.

“We appreciate the efforts and the hospitality of the Naha Dehe Dene Band, and we hope to be able to celebrate with them soon. We also thank all the Dehcho First Nations members, leaders, Elders, youth, and guests for their patience and cooperation. We look forward to seeing you all at the tentative August Annual Assembly, where we will continue to

strengthen our unity, our identity, and our vision as Dehcho people,” Grand Chief Herb Norwegian said.

For more information, please contact the DFN office at (867) 695-2610 or visit the DFN website at [www.dehcho.org](http://www.dehcho.org).

## Wildfires

### What are wildfires and why are they dangerous?

Wildfires are uncontrolled fires that burn in forests, grasslands, or other natural areas. They can be caused by lightning, human activities, or extreme weather conditions. Wildfires can spread quickly and unpredictably, threatening lives, homes, and wildlife. They can also produce smoke, ash, and harmful pollutants that can affect air quality and health.

### How to prepare for a wildfire?

There are some steps you can take to reduce the risk of wildfires and prepare for an emergency. Here are some tips:

- Keep informed about the fire danger rating and fire bans in your area. You can check the Northwest Territories Fire Information website <https://www.gov.nt.ca/ecc/en/services/wildfire-update> for updates and alerts.
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the fire danger rating and fire bans in your area. You can check the Northwest Territories Fire Information website [URL] for updates and alerts.

- Create a fire-smart zone around your home and property. This means clearing away any flammable materials, such as dry leaves, branches, or debris, within 10 meters of your home. You can also prune trees and shrubs, and use fire-resistant materials for your roof, siding, and deck.
- Have an emergency plan and kit ready. Your plan should include how to evacuate, where to go, and how to communicate with your family and friends. Your kit should include essential items, such as water, food, medication, flashlight, radio, and copies of important documents.
- Follow the instructions of local authorities and firefighters. If you are

told to evacuate, do so immediately and safely. Do not return to your home until you are told it is safe to do so.

### How to protect yourself from wildfire smoke?

Wildfire smoke can cause health problems, such as irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat, coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, and asthma attacks. People who are more vulnerable to the effects of smoke include children, seniors, pregnant women, and people with chronic respiratory or heart conditions. To protect yourself from wildfire smoke, you can:

- Stay indoors as much as possible and keep your windows and doors closed.
- Use an air purifier or a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter if you have one.

- Avoid outdoor activities, especially physical exertion, when the air quality is poor. You can check the Air Quality Health Index [https://weather.gc.ca/airquality/pages/provincial\\_summary/nt\\_e.html](https://weather.gc.ca/airquality/pages/provincial_summary/nt_e.html) for your area.
- Seek medical attention if you have trouble breathing, chest pain, or other severe symptoms.

## Message from Grand Chief Herb Norwegian

We are grateful for this opportunity to connect with you and share some positive words. We are living in a time when we need to come together and celebrate our land, our people, and our culture. We are proud to be part of the Dehcho Territory, a place of beauty, strength, and resilience.

As we write this message, we are aware of the fires that are threatening our communities and our lands. We pray for the safety and well-being of everyone who is affected by this situation. We hope that the Creator will protect us and guide us through this difficult time. We also hope that those who are out on the land or in their cabins are safe and taking care of each other. We in the Dehcho are a caring and supportive people, and we want to make sure that everyone is healthy, loved, and cared for.

There is a lot happening in the world that affects us as the Dehcho people. We want to keep you informed and involved in the decisions that shape our future. We have a negotiating team that is ready to present some key areas that we want to move forward with to the assembly. We need your feedback and input on these areas, as they are crucial for our self-determination and our relationship with the land. The environment is changing rapidly around us, and we need to

be prepared and proactive. The Dehcho is the heart of the water and the land, and we have a responsibility to protect and preserve it. We need to have our moccasins on the ground, standing firm and proud.

One of the most important issues that we face as the Dehcho people is the ownership and control of our lands and resources. We need to have a solid land base that includes both surface and subsurface rights. We need to be able to call our land our own, and to manage it according to our values and interests. If we want to survive and thrive as a people, we need to own our land. We hope that the assembly will give us clear direction and support on this matter, and that you will understand the importance and urgency of this issue.

We want to thank you for your patience and your participation in this process. We look forward to seeing you at the assembly, where we can share stories, learn from each other, and ensure that our Elders and youth are cared for. We are confident that together, we can achieve our vision and goals as the Dehcho people.

Mahsi Cho, from the heart of the Dehcho Territory.



# Dehcho Process Update

There is some exciting news coming for the Dehcho Process! During the Special Leadership meeting in March 2024, DFN staff said that federal funding to support the DFN in negotiations was capped at \$500,000 per year. Since then, the Dehcho Negotiations Team has investigated and confirmed with Canada that the Dehcho Process is eligible for a maximum of \$6,000,000.00 per year.

With the funding comes new rules. Canada's new funding formula involves increased details about the timelines, activities, deliverables and costs. Part of the formula is how funding has been used in the past, and to continue to receive funding, milestones and deliverables must be met. The potential of being provided more funding means more reporting and accountability to meet the requirements. If the Dehcho cannot meet the funding requirements, deliverables, etc., future funding could be affected and possibly limited. The Dehcho must be unified to ensure adequate funding for the Dehcho Process and future process initiatives.

The increased potential maximum in funding means that more progress can be made with proposed

activities such as side tables, working groups, language initiatives, and fulfilling increased staffing and communications needs as requested by communities.

In March 2024, the Dehcho negotiations team held a special workshop-based meeting with Dehcho leaders and Elders directly involved with the Dehcho Process. This workshop aimed to provide clarification and decision-making around shared stewardship, the Dehcho Resource Management Authority, and further direction on negotiation-related topics that needed leadership input. While discussions were good, there was an expressed need for more in-depth exploration by Dehcho representatives on the topics presented. Upcoming meetings will continue these discussions





to provide further direction and consensus among communities.

During the workshop meeting, Dehcho Leaders and Elders met with the Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada Minister Gary Anandasangaree. Minister Anandasangaree spoke about Extinguishment and confirmed the following:

- It is no longer Canada's policy to use extinguishment as a tool for concluding negotiations. Extinguishment is no longer Canada's policy. Canada no longer includes cede, release, and/or surrender clauses in its agreements. Canada is amending modern treaties which currently include these clauses.
- Extinguishment is replaced by ongoing

review and discussions, even after concluding negotiations. Canada does not want a treaty to open yearly as some treaties take 30, 40, or 50 years or more to establish. The review process would help address items that come up after concluded agreements.

- Canada is now OK with final land claim agreements containing "predictability" clauses rather than insisting on using one of their models for "certainty"

Minister Anandasangaree also shared that Canada plans to implement a Modern Treaty Implementation Commission to decolonize a very colonialized system. The purpose of the Commission is to oversee and implement modern treaties. The Commission will be an independent body reporting to Canada's Parliament. The Commission may offer a different outlet for accountability regarding modern treaties implementation. Furthermore, the Commission is a direct mechanism into the political system that is not dependent on the Ministers, Ministers' offices, or the CIRNAC department.

Premier RJ Simpson also

met with Dehcho Leaders and Elders during the afternoon portion of the meeting. Premier Simpson is interested in exploring the concept of an Interim Lands Working Group, shared stewardship/decision-making, and learning more about the Dehcho Process.

Another meeting with both Premier Simpson and Minister Anandasangaree will be scheduled this year.

The April 2024 Dehcho Process virtual negotiation session has been deferred until May 2024. The new scheduled dates are from May 14 to 16, 2024, from 9 AM to 5 PM, held on Microsoft Teams. The deferral allowed time for the negotiations team to prep and complete some outstanding tasks, such as the work plan for the upcoming year. The previous Dehcho Process Negotiation Session was held in Ttsets'ehk'edeli First Nation - Jean Marie River in February 2024.

During the February 2024 negotiations sessions, it was determined by the parties that timing of sessions would change from monthly to every six weeks. The schedule change accounts for time working on process-related tasks for all parties.

Negotiation sessions will



# MAHSI UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA LAW STUDENTS

continue to be held virtually, with some held in-person in Dehcho communities. The Main Table has not finalized the list of community sessions.

Further discussion about the Dehcho Resource Management Authority and the Dehcho Land Use Plan Outstanding Items are negotiations priorities. Discussions will continue in the next Dehcho Process session in May 2024. For further information about

this session, please contact your local office for the briefing note distributed to Leadership.

The upcoming year looks to be busy and exciting for the Dehcho Process. The negotiation team looks forward to providing an in-person update at the Dehcho Assembly this summer (planning to be held in Naha Dehe Kue)





# Lands and Resources Update

I came on board at the end of November 2023, and since:

Forwarding permits and encouraging communities to recommend including guardians, local harvesters, land users or resource managers in their scopes of work, I believe this encourages researchers and businesses to start to adjust and include this space. This helps communities and elders feel more comfortable about how the land is being respected and expands the skills and knowledge on the local and guardian programming levels.

Dehcho Kehodi was held in Hay River, NT, on February 13-14, 2024, where there were vital updates from communities on what has been happening on the local level and areas where collaboration can happen around projects, lands and programming. One important message and concern from this meeting is engaging, motivating and including the next generation in future positions and programming; also, a significant aspect is to include the Dene language in all areas.

PFP (Project for Finance Permanence) is the main

initiative taking place. It is a model that leverages government and private funding and supports large-scale, long-term conservation. A full presentation at the annual assembly is provided by the ILI (Indigenous Leadership Initiative). A community-level update is needed before then to address any questions and concerns; updates will be sent during the week of April 28-May 3, 2024.

Funding has been acquired to begin discussions and possible committee establishment around First Nations Climate Change, hoping to start engaging communities in mid-May to initiate important discussions on prioritizing

and addressing some of these concerns.

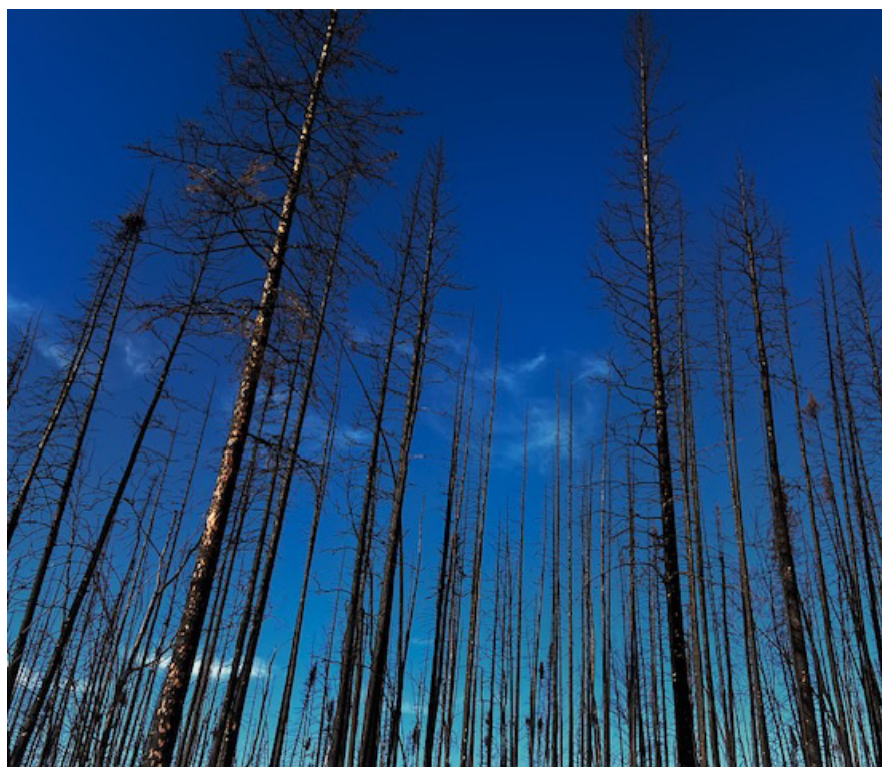
Communities are moving forward with establishing protected areas within their region.

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Species at Risk information is reviewed, comments on indigenous-based tactics have been forwarded, and information is forwarded to communities for review and updates.

Programs that have been completed to date:

- Supporting Well-Being Training that was held in Fort Simpson, NT.



- Dehcho K'ehodi Gathering that was mentioned above in Hay River.
- Dehcho Youth Forums in Fort Simpson and Fort Providence were held.

#### Upcoming Programs:

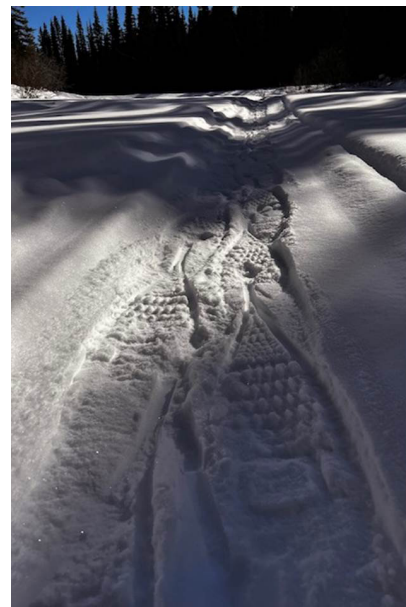
- Yundaa Gogha On the Land Program will be held in Rabbit Kettle Lake

in Nahanni National Park in June.

- Youth Ecology and Traditional Knowledge Cam will be planned for October, location TBA.

I Hope everyone has a wonderful and safe start to the summer!

-By: Jessica Jumbo, Director of Lands and Resources



## Edézhíe Update

Ttsets'éhk'edélj, Pehdzeh Ki, Łíídlj Kúé, and Deh Gáh Got'le, 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 establishing 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 plans which the Community Guardians undertake.

### **Guardian emerging into a leadership role / Guardian takes on the responsibility of a leader / Guardian transitions into a leadership position.**

I want to take this time to update you that these Guardianship Programs have been very successful. Guardian programs create measurable benefits for the communities/ regions in which they are implemented. For example, our Edézhíe Guardian has been elected to Office in his Home Community of Pehdzeh Ki. Congratulations, Chief Jamie!!

### **Cabins and Programming**

The purpose of these cabins in the protected area is to provide a space for cultural and land-based programming for the 4 Communities. In particular, the cabins will serve as a meeting location for Edézhíe guardians and local Elders to provide on-the-land programming for Dehcho students and research and Monitoring activities.

Solar panels are installed in each of the cabins within the protected area. We will be working with the Community Coordinators and Guardians to plan monthly student workshops and training on topics like being safe on the land, including ice safety;





harvesting and preparing fish; trapping and fur preparation, storytelling of the Edézhíe history, traditional medicines, and safe food storage.

#### Monitoring Edézhíe

Edehzhie Guardians and Community Coordinators from 4 Edehzhie communities were busy on each side of the Protected Area.

Winter monitoring consisted of animal tracking, harvester activity, and guardians patrolling the protected area. Data sheets have been created for the guardians to use in the field, and the hope is that mobile data recording will be incorporated in the

future to see results in real-time.

Edézhíe guardians reported that the Snow depth this year has been significantly lower than in previous years. Guardians will continue to update the regional office and Elder Harvester's Committee members throughout the year on all activities while Monitoring and Patrolling Edézhíe.

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**“The Edézhíe Guardians would like to remind all Harvesters and Land users to stay safe and always check in with them before heading out into a protected area.”**

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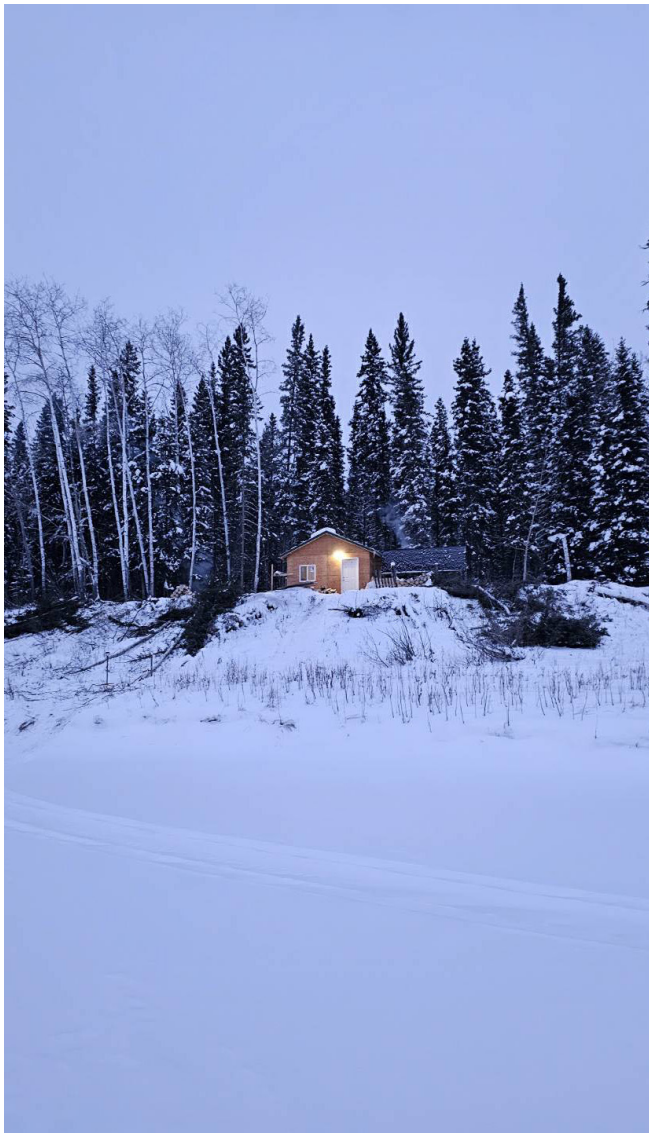
Please follow our Dene Harvesting Protocols.

#### Training

We have been working on the 2024/2025 training plan, as we have hired new guardians. This training is a requirement to ensure that we are up to safety standards and requirements for the job in the field.

Edehzhie Guardians attended a half-day training with Stantec on Comminated Sites Clean-up. Due to the historical Forrest fires this past summer, this training was postponed. Training took place in December 2023 in Yellowknife.

2-day Training for Phase 1 Contaminated sites in



Yellowknife, NT with ECCC and Stantec. The first day was in-class training, and the instructors demonstrated how an environmental remediation process is completed on the second day.

### **Enforcement**

Eyes and Ears Training was attended by Edehzhie Guardians and an ECCC Wildlife Enforcement officer to learn about enforcement within the Protected Area. The training provides Edézhíe Guardians with the background, information, and tools to observe, record, and report non-compliant activities inside the National Wildlife and Dehcho Protected area. It involves a combination of in-class instruction encouraging carefully guided discussion to achieve teaching points and a field

component to enhance the theories discussed in class and practice the techniques learned.

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

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



Don't forget to check us out.  
<https://edehzhie.ca/>



Would like to learn more about Edézhíe, please watch our video.

-By: Ashley Menicoche, Edézhíe Regional Coordinator





## Education and Training Division Update

The Dehcho First Nations Education and Training division staff are:

- Josanne Kenny, Education & Training Manager
- Shirley Gargan, Employment Development Coordinator
- Diane Simba, Employment Development Officer
- Melvin Sabourin, Employment Development Officer
- Agnes Bonnetrouge, Employment Development Assistant
- Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program
- Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP)
- University and College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP)
- Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) Initiative
- Dehcho First Nations Memorial Awards and Scholarships

Since our last newsletter we have delivered the following training opportunities in our communities:

The Education and Training Division oversee the delivery of the following programs:

Chainsaw Safety Training	West Point First Nation	Jan 13-15
Chainsaw Safety Training	Sambaa K'e	Jan 17-19
Wilderness First Aid Training	Sambaa K'e	Jan 22-26
Standard First Aid Training	Fort Providence	Feb 13-14
Class 7 Driver Training	Sambaa K'e	Feb 16-23
Safety Training	Fort Providence	Mar 18-29
Class 5 Driver Training	Fort Providence	Mar 19-28
Safety Training	Katloodeeche First Nation	Apr 1-12

The Education and Training division staff attended the Cannexus 24 Conference in Ottawa, January 28-31. This conference brought together career development professionals from all over Canada who participated in many different career development sessions that provided valuable resources, and opportunities to share best practices and learn from each other.

The Education and Training Manager has been working in partnership with Aurora College on the development of the "Getting Ahead Pilot" that will be delivered in Fort Simpson from September 3 to December 13. For more information on this program, please contact the ISET staff at the regional office. We were happy to learn that the Gotsu Margaret Vandell, Nezu Ts'udaa K'eodih Go'e Go?o Day Care Centre in Fort Providence is now open, the grand opening was on May 1st.

Through Dehcho First Nations' Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care initiative, we were able to support Deh Gah Gotie First Nation with the purchase of a new building for the daycare. We would like to thank Joyce McLeod for all her hard work, long hours, determination, and commitment to this project. It is because of Joyce's hard work, and the work and support of everyone involved, that the daycare is now up and running.

We are currently working on requests for the delivery of training in the communities. We are also accepting proposals for training on the job opportunities, summer student wage subsidies, and early learning and child care programming. For more information on these opportunities, please contact the Education and Training Manager.





Please note the following deadlines for our programs for the upcoming academic year:

PSSSP	Deadline to apply is June 30th
UCEPP	Deadline to apply is June 30th
DFN Scholarships	Deadline to apply is June 30th
ISETs	Deadline to apply is July 15th

For more information on our programs, please contact the Education & Training division staff.

-By: Josanne Kenny, Education and Training Manager

## Aboriginal Aquatic Resources & Ocean Management Update

Happy spring Dehcho! I hope everyone had a good winter after the difficult summer.

During the winter, Dehcho AAROM spent time planning for this year, carrying out water sampling, holding some training courses and scheduling community meetings for the spring.

Starting in January, Dehcho AAROM and Ka'a'gee Tu conducted a winter fish study on Kakisa Lake. Melaine Simba, Darcy Simba, George Simba and Chris Chicot caught and biologically sampled 150 walleye, recording length, weight, sex, maturity and collecting ageing structures.

This data will be sent to DFO for analysis to manage the commercial fishery.

February was surprisingly busy with the K'e hodi gathering and Wilderness First Aid training occurring at the same time in Hay River.



The Dehcho K'e hodi gathering happens yearly through Dehcho AAROM and Dehcho K'e hodi funding. This year, we had a great turnout, with Guardians and

resource personnel from each community attending to discuss projects and issues related to the land and water.

The Wilderness First Aid



course happened in Hay River and included West Point, Nahanni Butte and Fort Providence members. This course is standard for all Guardians and has been significant in providing life-saving actions on several occasions.

In March, water sampling took place at Fish Lake. This sampling is part of Dehcho AAROM and the University of Waterloo's research into algae in Dehcho lakes; there have been observations of blooms in the region with climate change. William Algiers and his father Walter from Liidlii Kue joined Charlie Tale from Pehdze Ki First Nation to skidoo up to Fish Lake and collect water samples from several

locations, using an electric-powered auger to make holes in the ice.

Through funding from the University of Waterloo, William has been hired to work part-time as a research assistant and joins the Dehcho AAROM team. During sampling, he will provide local knowledge and help build Dehcho's AAROM capacity.

Also, during March and April, Dehcho AAROM started to set up community meetings and finalize work plans for the summer and fall. Meetings so far have been scheduled for the following dates and locations: May 14- Deh Gah Gotie First Nation, May 16- Jean Marie River, May

17- Liidlii Kue and May 21- Sambaa K'e. These meetings direct Dehcho AAROM's initiatives and are central to its mission statement of managing aquatic resources. In addition to directives from these spring meetings, several projects are being planned for this summer and fall. First, all community guardian programs will resume in June to resume patrols and monitoring. Through the community guardian programs, several camps will occur in August and September, including the Deh Gah Gotie fish camp, a research camp at Ekali Lake, Mercury research at Dogface and Ekali Lake, and GSL stock studies.

Finally, Dehcho AAROM





used funds to purchase equipment to increase capacity and ensure all this valuable work continues. A new 18ft flat bottom boat with a 90hp outboard was purchased for Sambaa K'e to deal with the extremely low water. Unfortunately, this did not arrive until after the

winter road was closed.

A total of 3 scandic skidoos were purchased, with one going to Kakisa, one to Fort Simpson, and the last one being delivered to Fort Providence. Other purchases include new jackets and hats for Guardians, two

new skidoo trailers and water quality monitoring equipment.

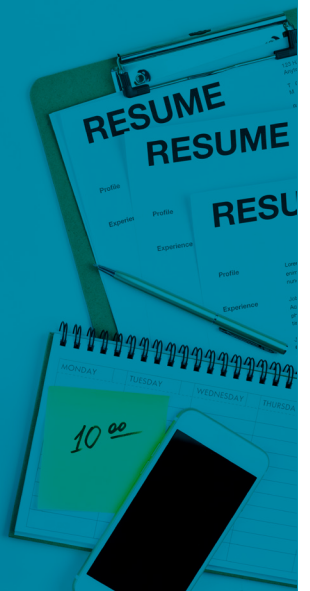
Mahsi, for your continued support of the Dehcho AAROM program.

-By: Mike Low, AAROM Program Coordinator

### Employment Opportunities

- Language Manager  
<https://dehcho.org/employment/language-manager/>
- Janitor  
<https://dehcho.org/employment/janitor-permanent-part-time/>

- Check out <http://dehcho.org> for future employment opportunities





# Health & Wellness Update



The Health and Wellness Division has been busy since the last Dehcho First Nations (DFN) Newsletter. This update will review the division's activities from December 2023 to April 2024.

## New Staff Member

We have welcomed a new Health & Wellness Program Manager, Catherine Blondin. Catherine will oversee all DFN regional Health & Wellness Programming and work with communities. As a long-time resident of the Dehcho, Catherine grew up in Fort Simpson and is Shutagot'ine her addition to the team is well welcomed!





## **Health and Wellness Working Group**

The regional Health & Wellness Working Group has a member from every Dehcho organization. It includes Elders, Health & Wellness Workers, and Executive Directors/Band Managers. Appointed by their Indigenous Organization, the working group has been leading the Division's guiding statements, helping to guide regional programs, and provides space for communities to hear about DFN Health & Wellness Updates and hear updates from each other. They have been meeting once to twice a year.

The working group met this January in Yellowknife, where they participated in learning tours to the Dechinta Center for Research and Learning and the Arctic Indigenous Wellness Foundation. They also had partners present to them and meet them, including the Federal Government, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and the Northern Birthwork Collective. In addition, the group received an update, reviewed the division's

strategic plan, and decided on the working group's next governance structure.

## **Patient Advocate Program**

Dehcho First Nations has secured funding for an Indigenous patient advocate program; last summer, the Dehcho communities agreed upon a process involving a partnership with the Government of the Northwest Territories. This will formally be announced in the coming months. The Health & Wellness division will also start planning on this Dehcho First Nation Community-led program over the following months.

## **Expanding Birthing Services**

As part of a partnership with the Northern Birthwork Collective (NBC), Dehcho First Nations staff Emily Marcellias Hardisty, contractor Dehga Scott, and NBC's contractor Ashley Ens visited the communities of Nahanni Butte, Fort Providence and Fort Simpson to host sharing circles. There were plans to visit more communities but Dehcho First Nations is putting a pause on this

project and will be revisiting its plan. New planning will be happening over the next couple of months.

## **Regional Mobile Wellness Team**

Dehcho First Nations has been working with the Firelight Group (an Indigenous-owned company) to create a report examining the idea, costs, and possibility of a regional mobile wellness team. Similar to the patient advocate program and expanding birthing services, the planning of a Regional Mobile Wellness team will also be occurring over the next few months.

## **General Administration**

With the fiscal year end being March 31, 2024, the division was busy preparing for it by completing reporting and planning for the new fiscal year, as the division has been applying to and seeking new funds to support the division's activities and programs. The division has also been working on other items, like a divisional growth plan with the Firelight Group and program policies.

## Health & Wellness Programs

### Past Programs, December 2023 to April 2024

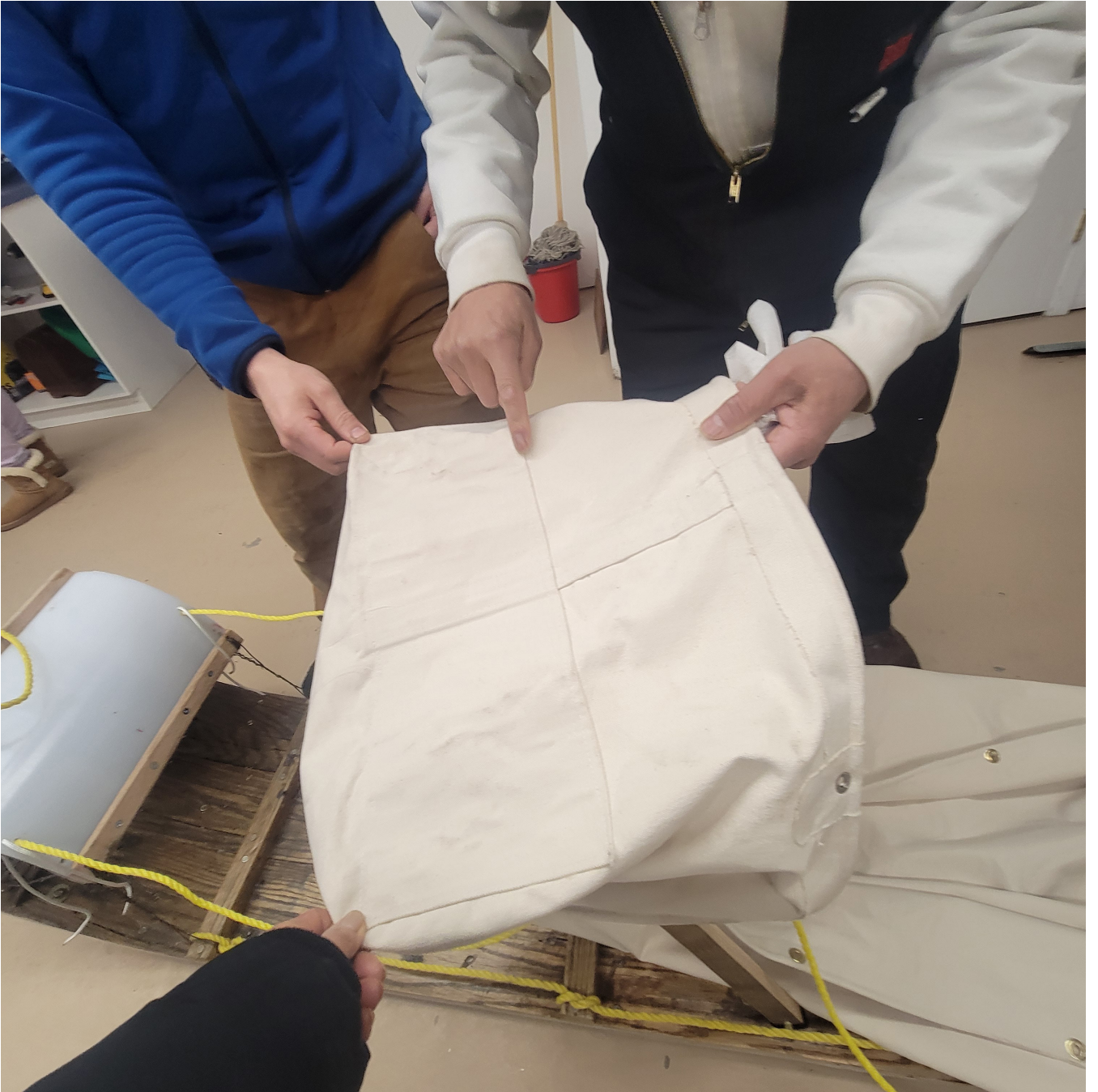
- Supporting Wellbeing Training – January 2024, Fort Simpson
  - The opportunity was offered to the region, and 8 participants from the region attended.
  - Participants were from Nahanni Butte, Wrigley, Sambaa K'e, Fort Simpson, Hay River and West Point.
- Follow-up Healing Program – February 18-25, Fort Simpson
  - This program was for participants of the Annual Journey to My Best Self-Healing Program from 2022 and 2023, and it included a family/support person day.
  - Was led by Shakes the Dust Hope Consulting.
- Community Workshops – Feb – March 2024. Fort Providence, Jean Marie River, Wrigley, Fort Simpson.
  - All communities in the region were contacted to ask who would like to have a community-based healing program. Four communities expressed interest; each one chose what their workshop would focus on.
  - Was led by Shakes the Dust Hope Consulting.

### Upcoming Programs

- Annual Healing Program – March 2025.
  - Location to be announced.
- Grandmother's Program – Fall 2024.
  - Location to be announced.
  - More information to come.
- Follow-up Healing Program – February 2025
  - All past annual healing program participants will be invited to a follow-up program.

-By: Kristen Tanche, Health and Wellness Director & Catherine Blondin, Health and Wellness Manager









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