



# DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

BOX 89, FORT SIMPSON, NT X0E 0N0  
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Website:



Winter Leadership Meeting  
Hay River, NT  
January 13-14, 2026

Resolution # 01

Moved by:

Albert Lafferty, President,  
Fort Providence Metis Council

Seconded by:

Gabe Hardisty, Elder  
Pehzdeh Ki First Nation

CARRIED

9 For

1 Against

2 Abstentions

Certified copy of Resolution  
made in Hay River dated  
January 13, 2026

Herb Norwegian  
Grand Chief

## RE: Land and Resources Negotiations

**WHEREAS** Dehcho Process Negotiations towards a non-binding Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) on lands, resources, and self-government have been ongoing since 2001; and

**WHEREAS** negotiations on ownership of lands and resources were paused in 2018, until such time as there is a reasonable prospect of the parties finding common ground; and

**WHEREAS** the 2018 joint offer from Canada and the GNWT contains elements of a fair and reasonable agreement on lands and resources; and

**WHEREAS** Canada no longer insists on extinguishment and now supports a living treaty based on recognition of rights which can be amended in the future; and


**WHEREAS** it is essential that an agreement be reached which recognizes paramount Dehcho Government jurisdiction over Dehcho lands and resources,

**Moved by:**



**Albert Lafferty, President,  
Fort Providence Metis Council**

**Seconded by:**



**Gabe Hardisty, Elder  
Pehzdeh Ki First Nation**

**CARRIED**

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**Herb Norwegian  
Grand Chief**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**1. Negotiations Framework:**

Dehcho First Nations negotiators will continue AiP negotiations with Canada and the GNWT based on the joint offer on lands and resources, with no arbitrary or unfair conditions attached to the identification and location of Dehcho lands.

**2. Jurisdictional Authority:**

DFN negotiators will work towards a non-binding AiP which recognizes primary Dehcho jurisdiction over Dehcho lands, surface and subsurface, including jurisdiction to control access to Dehcho lands by persons who are not residents or Citizens of the Dehcho.

**3. Resource Management:**

The Dehcho AiP should also recognize Dehcho jurisdiction over fish harvesting on Dehcho lands and waters, wildlife harvesting and forest fires on Dehcho and provide for a meaningful partnership role in managing lands and resources throughout the whole Dehcho traditional territory.

**4. Equality of Benefits:**

DFN negotiators shall ensure the AiP includes provisions for the equitable distribution of all benefits, programs, and services to all Dehcho Citizens, ensuring that status and non-status members receive unequivocally equal access and benefits under the final agreement.





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Resolution # 02

Moved by:

Kele Antoine, Chief  
Liidlii Kue First Nation

Seconded by:

Devon Felker  
West Point First Nation

**CARRIED**

**12 For**

**0 Against**

**0 Abstentions**

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Herb Norwegian  
Grand Chief

## RE: Supporting Lands Negotiations

**WHEREAS** the Dehcho Process has long sought the recognition of Dehcho lands to be owned and governed collectively by the Dehcho First Nations, alongside community lands to be owned and governed by individual Dehcho Community Governments; and

**WHEREAS** a modern Dehcho Treaty must provide certainty, stability, and the ability for present and future generations to exercise governance, stewardship, and decision – making authority over their lands; and

**WHEREAS** Dehcho First Nations communities require adequate resources, technical capacity, and access to accurate and comprehensive information in order to meaningfully prepare for and participate in land identification and retention negotiations; and

**WHEREAS** effective land identification requires access to maps, assessments, and data – including mineral, environmental, and land-use information – to support informed decision-making and long-term planning for at least the next 100 years;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Dehcho First Nations call upon Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee to provide Dehcho First Nations and their communities with all necessary financial, technical, and informational support to undertake land identification and retention negotiations; and

**Moved by:**



**Kele Antoine, Chief  
Liidlil Kue First Nation**

**Seconded by:**



**Devon Felker, Chief  
West Point First Nation**

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0 Against  
0 Abstentions**

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**Herb Norwegian  
Grand Chief**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** such support shall include, but not limited to, access to existing and updated maps, mineral and resource assessments, land-use data, and any other information required to assist Dehcho communities in identifying, retaining, owning, and governing their lands in a fully informed manner.