

Tłıchq Ndek'áowó

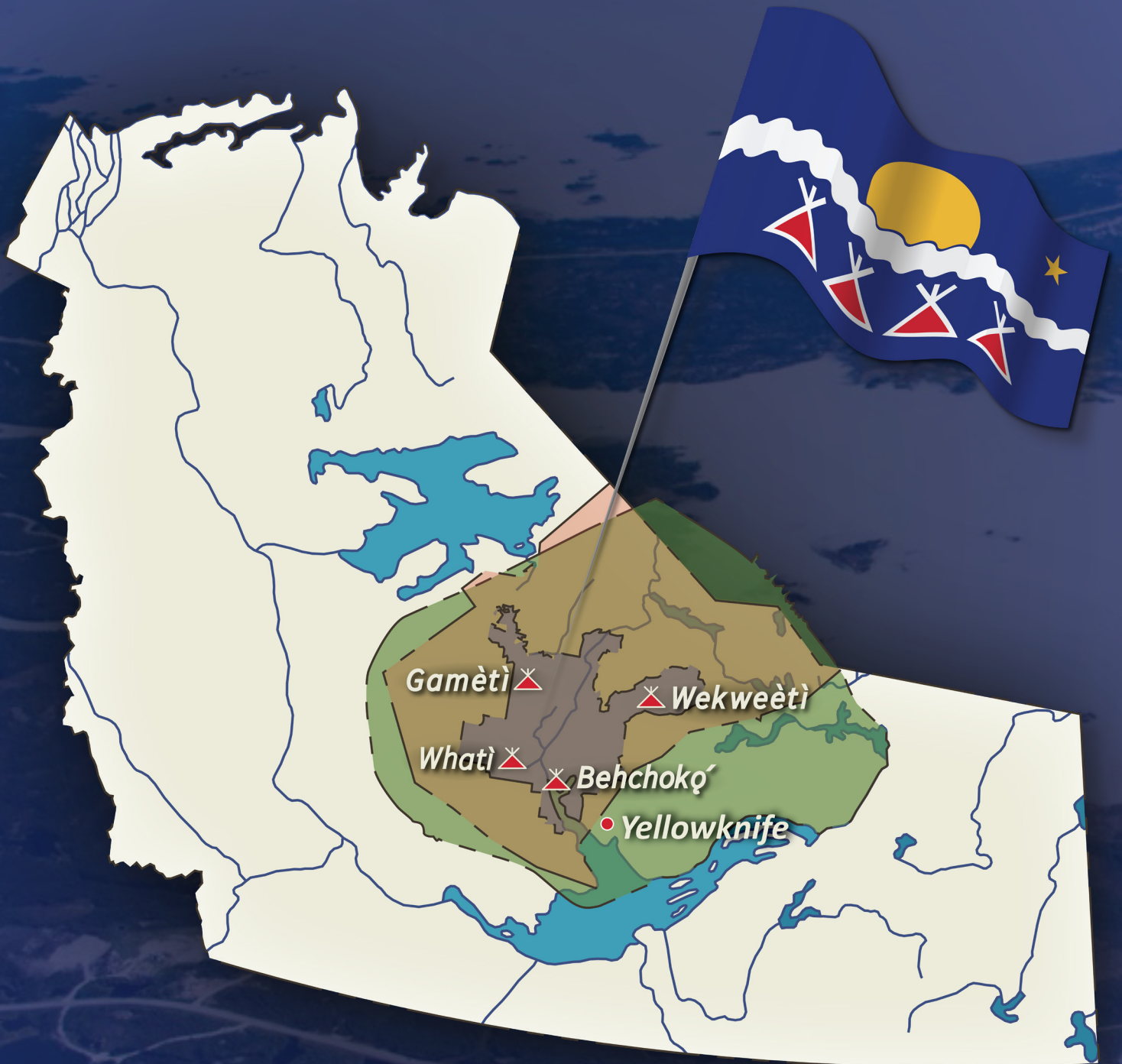


Tłıchq Government

TŁIČHQ NDEK'ÀOWO

2025 Annual Report Summary





Welcome to Annual Report Summary 2025

The Tłıchq Ndek'àowo has made meaningful progress in the past fiscal year, advancing strategic priorities and strengthening programs that support the health, prosperity, and self-determination of Tłıchq citizens. Through collaborative efforts across departments and divisions, the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo has continued to uphold Tłıchq laws, values, and ways of being while building responsive and effective governance. This 2024–2025 Annual Report Summary provides a broad narrative overview of the year's key activities and achievements.

Tłıchq Annual Gathering

Tłıchq Assembly

Chiefs Executive Council

Tłıchq Executive Officer & Executive

Governance

Department
of Client
Services

Department
of Corporate
Services

Department
of Culture
and Lands
Protection

Department
of Early
Childhood

Department
of Healing and
Community
Wellness

Department of
Infrastructure

Department
of Planning and
Partnerships

Message from Grand Chief Jackson Lafferty



Dààht'e?

On behalf of the Chief's Executive Council, it is with deep respect and gratitude that I share this year's Tłıchq Ndek'àowo Annual Report. This document reflects not only the work carried out across our departments and communities but also the strength, determination, and unity of the Tłıchq people.

Each year, we reflect on how far we have come and where we are going. We honour the path our ancestors laid for us, and we look forward with purpose—to protect our rights and to build a strong future for the generations to come. Over the past year, our Government has continued to advance the vision of our Elders and fulfill the responsibilities entrusted to us under the Tłıchq Agreement.

From building homes and supporting students to protecting our lands and waters, this report highlights a wide range of work grounded in Tłıchq values. It speaks to how we are exercising

our inherent rights, strengthening our governance, and investing in the well-being of our people. It also shows how we continue to bring together traditional knowledge and modern systems to serve our communities with integrity and care.

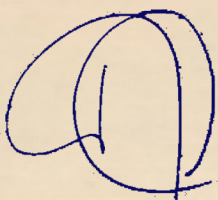
This work is guided by collaboration and commitment. Our Assembly Members, community leaders, youth, Elders, and staff have all played important roles. Together, we hosted cultural gatherings and on-the-land programs, supported healing and mental wellness, improved education services, and delivered training and career pathways to our people. We also continued the planning and negotiations that will lead to the future transfer of more programs and services to the Tłıchq Ndek'aowo, including education and early childhood development.

This year also saw continued focus on our language and culture. Across departments, from Early Childhood to Healing and Community Wellness, we worked to ensure the Tłıchq language and teachings are part of how we raise our children, support our families, and govern our territory. We know that protecting our language and traditions is essential to the strength and identity of our Nation.

Our lands and waters remain at the heart of our way of life. Through land use planning, monitoring programs, and environmental partnerships, we are taking active steps to protect our territory for future generations. Whether through the Dìga Harvesting Program, the Trails of Our Ancestors, or youth wellness camps, we continue to connect our people to the land, to one another, and to who we are as Tłıchq.

None of this work is done alone. I extend my deepest thanks to all the staff, leadership, Elders, youth, and community members who continue to show up, speak up, and lift each other up. We have made great progress, but there is always more to do. As we look to the year ahead, I remain confident in our people, our Government, and our collective strength. We carry with us the teachings of the past, the resilience of the present, and the promise of the future. Let us continue to walk forward together.

Masìcho



Grand Chief Jackson Lafferty
Tłıchq Ndek'aowo



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1 Tłıchq Executive Officer & Executive

The Executive of the Tłıchq Ndek'áowo, led by the Tłıchq Executive Officer (TEO), and supported by Executive staff, provides coordination, strategic support, and administration for the Grand Chief and the Chief's Executive Council (CEC). The TEO helps to ensure alignment across executive, legislative, and departmental functions and supports communication between the CEC and government departments.



Chief's Executive Council

The Executive Team supports the effective functioning of the CEC by organizing regular meetings, ensuring decisions are documented and implemented, and maintaining communication with departments. It also monitors progress on government-wide initiatives, facilitates cross-departmental collaboration, and provides strategic advice to ensure CEC decisions are informed, coordinated, and aligned with the Tłıchq Ndek'áowo's long-term goals.

Administrative Policy Review

The Executive continued to lead a multi-year review of Tłıchq Ndek'àowo administrative policies (launched in 2023) to make them more concise, accessible, and aligned with organizational needs. In 2024–2025, this work advanced with updated policy statements, a revised policy manual, and supporting

standard operating procedures. An internal consultation process involving the TEO, senior managers, and staff helped ensure the policies reflect operational priorities. Final approval remains with the CEC, reinforcing accountability and governance oversight.

Information Technology

To strengthen organizational capacity, the Executive continued the implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, a multi-phase initiative launched in 2023 to improve financial and human resource management across all departments. During the 2024–2025 fiscal

year, work focused on streamlining processes, enhancing coordination, and supporting real-time communication and reporting. With full implementation projected through 2027–2028, the ERP system is expected to significantly improve efficiency, integration, and service delivery across the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo.

Communications

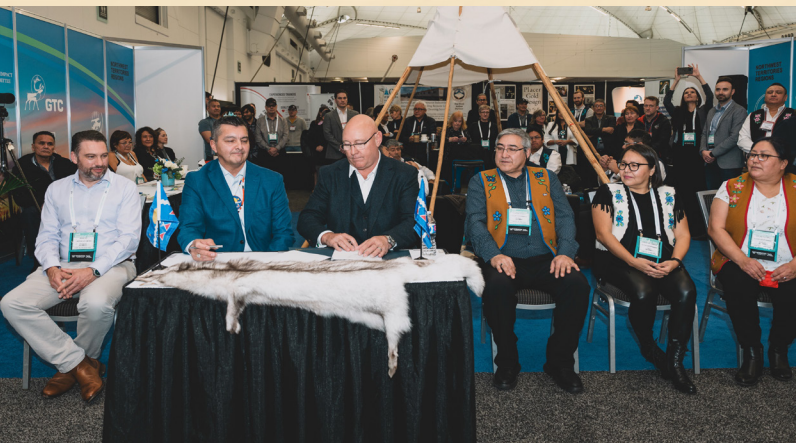
The Executive supported government-wide communications by coordinating messaging for key events and initiatives, developing public materials, and providing strategic

communications support to leadership. This work helped ensure consistent, clear, and culturally grounded communication across the organization and with the public.

In addition to these activities, the Executive works closely with the Tłıchq Investment Corporation to advance regional business initiatives and leads the planning of major infrastructure projects, including the construction of a new bridge over Frank Channel, a transmission line to Whatì and a new education facility in Behchokò. These efforts reflect the Executive's commitment to modernizing governance, strengthening internal coordination, protecting economic opportunities and ensuring that the policies, systems, and services of the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo are responsive to community needs and aligned with long-term self-government objectives.

2 Governance

The Tłıchq Ndek'àowo's Governance division plays a central role in legislative management and community connection, with key highlights from the 2024–2025 fiscal year centering on Assembly sessions, Community Presence Office initiatives, and Mine Liaison coordination. The Senior Director of Governance also acts as the Laws Guardian and ensures alignment with Tłıchq legislative processes.



Assembly Sessions and Annual Gathering

Throughout the year, the 5th Tłıchq Assembly held five formal sessions in each of the four Tłıchq communities. The 20th Annual Gathering took place in Wekweètì in July 2024, alongside the Assembly's 16th Session. These sessions serve as legislative forums but also as essential opportunities for citizen engagement, leadership accountability, and cultural affirmation. In addition to regular sessions, four workshops were conducted to enhance the capacity of Assembly members, covering topics such as emergency management, audit review, traditional governance, and budget planning. Assembly Members also participated in national events like the Land Claims Agreement Coalition Conference in Gatineau, Quebec helping ensure a Tłıchq representation on the national stage.



Community Presence Offices

Community Presence Offices (CPOs) in Whatì, Gamètì, Wekweètì, and Behchokò continued to serve as a vital link between the Government and citizens. Guided by community priorities and the Tłıchq Ndek'áowo's strategic direction, CPOs coordinated a wide range of culturally grounded programs that focused on wellness, food security, youth involvement, and traditional knowledge.

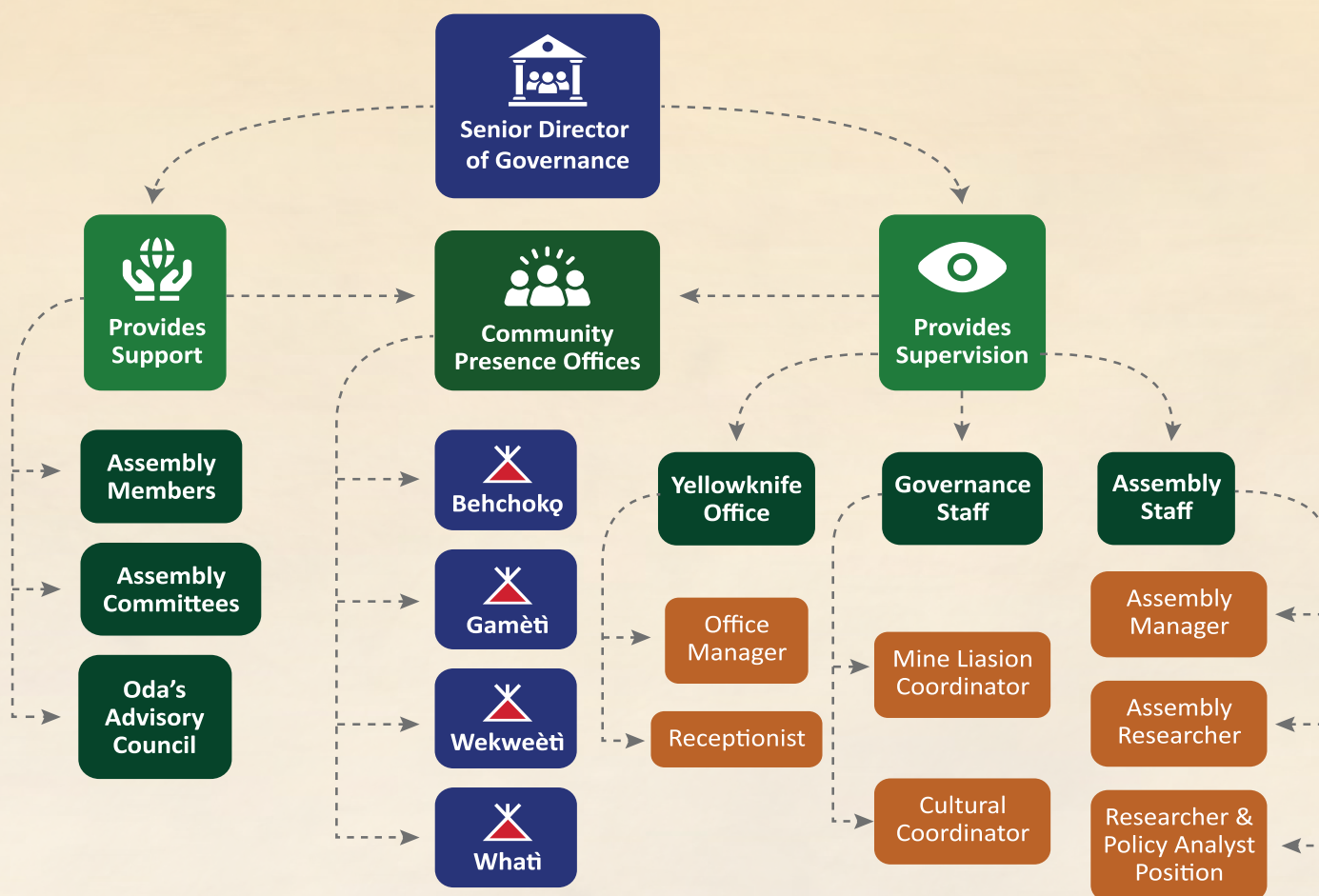
Highlights include delivering seasonal on-the-land programs such as fish camps, caribou harvests, and feeding the fire ceremonies. Community members, including youth and Elders, took part in activities such as hide tanning, drum dances, and trail breaking. CPOs also supported local events and community celebrations throughout the year, including National Indigenous Peoples Day, Tłıchq Day, and Christmas feasts. Beautification projects and youth employment initiatives were undertaken during the summer, while the Imbè and Gravesite Crib Fixing Programs further promoted intergenerational learning and cultural continuity.

CPOs also led major capital and cultural projects, including the opening of the Behchokò Culture Centre and Presence Office in August 2024, the opening of the Wekweètì Presence Office in July 2024, and the construction of new community assets in Whatì, Gamètì, and Wekweètì, such as the Burnt Island culture camp, garden beds, and a mini-golf course.

Mine Liaison Coordination

Until early 2025, the Mine Liaison Coordinator position remained within Governance, serving as the Tłıchq Ndek'áowō's primary link to the mining industry. The Coordinator oversaw the implementation of Impact Benefit Agreements, organized the Resource Management Working Group, and maintained the "listening post" to support mine workers.

The role also emphasized encouraging Tłıchq involvement in the mining sector through employment opportunities and training collaborations with industry partners. The Coordinator attended key mining events such as the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada Conference and the Geoscience Forum and assisted in planning the second annual Tłıchq Night at the AME Roundup in Vancouver. These efforts helped foster both community engagement and industry awareness about the Tłıchq Nation.



Note: In early 2025, the Mine Liaison Coordinator Position was transferred to the Department of Planning and Priorities and the Culture Coordinator position moved to the Governance Division.



3 Department of Client Services

The Department of Client Services continued to provide professional, client-centered support for education, training, employment, business development, and justice services.



Career Development

Hands-on training programs reached over 150 participants in areas such as first aid, chainsaw safety, WHMIS, and security. Through a partnership with ABC Driver Training, over 110 citizens obtained their driver's license. The Youth Industrial Safety program provided job placements in environmental roles, and the Trade and Apprenticeship Pathway System study was completed with community input and is approved for implementation in 2025.



Economic Development

The division expanded its business advisory services to all communities, assisting more than 40 clients with licensing and funding applications. The third Annual Tłıchq Arts Holiday Showcase generated \$142,000 in sales and featured 30+ artists. Partnerships with Aurora College, BluMetric, and Mine Training Society offered internships and training in heavy equipment operation, Class 3 driving, and administration. SEED funding supported 47 entrepreneurs in Whatı and Wekweètı.



Enrolment Services

The Enrolment division processed 120 citizenship applications, issued 200 confirmation letters, and maintained the citizenship registry with 4,607 active citizens. The Citizen Address Update Initiative improved record accuracy and service delivery.



Justice & Victim Services

A \$6 million funding increase, resulting from successful funding applications to the federal and territorial governments, helped stabilize staffing and improve coordination with RCMP and other stakeholders. Over 50 victims received direct court support, and 18 clients participated in restorative justice programs. A new Indigenous Victim Support and Empowerment initiative was launched, and cultural awareness events such as 'Take Back the Night' and 'Every Child Matters' were widely attended.





Post-Secondary Support

The division assisted over 100 students with applications and provided 900 financial contributions for tuition, emergency support, and graduation. 99 individuals enrolled in professional development programs, with 53 completing the requirements for certification. Academic bridging with the University College of the North resulted in 28 students attending classes and four trade placements.



4 Department of Corporate Services

The Department of Corporate Services continued to oversee finances and human resources. This year, it played a key role in the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system rollout, including training and policy updates.





Finance

The Finance division enhanced its performance reporting and maintained comprehensive account codes and policy binders for all managers.



Human Resources

The Human Resources division introduced an employee engagement strategy, a deferred salary leave policy, an onboarding handbook, and a salary scale and position rating matrix. Recruitment strategies were modernized, mental health support was expanded, and training was delivered through the MacEwan Training Program. The department also maintained a strong Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee presence.

5 Department of Culture and Lands Protection

The Department of Culture and Lands Protection is the largest department of Tłıchq Ndek'áowo. With five divisions, this department is responsible for lands protection and renewable resources, land regulation, cultural practices, language revitalization, and research operations and training. Its work includes regulatory oversight, land use planning, environmental stewardship, cultural preservation, language advocacy and revitalization, and research support.



Lands Protection & Renewable Resources

The Lands Protection and Renewable Resources division continues to advance Tłıchǵ-led conservation and land stewardship through a range of environmental monitoring programs and protected area initiatives.

The Tłıchǵ Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Program (TAEMP) gained international recognition this year for its successful integration of traditional knowledge and scientific methods. Local staff were trained to lead data collection on fish, water, and sediment quality across key sites in the region.

The Marian Watershed Stewardship Program (MWSP) established baseline environmental data on climate change and the impacts of historical and potential mining activity. These findings were shared with the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy to support regional planning and decision-making.

The Tłıchǵ Wenek'e Land Use Plan delivered updated local maps and clear guidance for land use practices related to cabins, roads, and tourism infrastructure, reinforcing sustainable development practices.

Important work also continued in protected areas. Infrastructure upgrades and cultural features were added to Dinàgà Wek'èhodì and Nàııııı Wek'èhodì (Whatì Falls), including trail cameras, signage, and ceremonial spaces. The Edézhíé Protected Area, co-managed by Dehcho First Nations

and Canada, reflects a values-based approach to land protection. Over the past year, the Tłıchǵ Ndek'àowo has participated in management planning discussions to support the protection of this important area.

Through the Dìga Harvesting Program and the Ekwò (Caribou) Harvest Monitoring Program, conservation efforts were supported through patrols, community education, and public awareness campaigns. The caribou monitoring program has been widely recognized for its leadership in Indigenous wildlife management.



Research Operations and Training

Dedats'eetsaa: Tłıchǵ Research and Training Institute supports culturally grounded research that sustains Tłıchǵ lands, language, and way of life. Working in partnership with other divisions and research institutions, the team helps guide projects that reflect community priorities, traditional knowledge, and contemporary issues.



Cultural Practices

In 2024–2025, the Cultural Practices division launched a landmark seven-year initiative called Preserving Our Land, Preparing for the Future, in partnership with Natural Resources Canada. With a \$53 million investment through the federal 2 Billion Trees program, this project will plant twelve million trees on Tłıchǫ lands. Rooted in both Tłıchǫ traditional knowledge and modern forestry practices, the initiative aims to restore lands affected by wildfires, strengthen climate resilience, and support critical habitats such as those used by boreal caribou.

The program has already created forty seasonal jobs, with more positions planned for the fall. Local harvesting of cones and seeds promotes sustainability and reinforces community ownership. In addition to planting, the program includes the development of future greenhouses and the integration of FireSmart strategies to enhance long-term community safety and land stewardship.

In 2024–2025, Dedats'eetsaa secured major funding from the Weston Family Foundation, NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program, Canadian Institute of Health Research, NordForsk, and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. These investments support research on aquatic ecosystems, permafrost thaw, mental health, and the cultural impacts of climate change. A life history project with Tłıchǫ interpreters also advanced language revitalization & interpreter training efforts.

This year's Tłıchǫ Research Expo showcased current projects across Mq̄whì Gogha Dè Nǫtłèè, including climate change adaptation, winter ice monitoring with SmartICE, caribou health and recovery, and youth and family well-being. The division continues to play a central role in socio-economic monitoring related to the Tłıchǫ Highway and historical mine sites.

Key initiatives included the 2024 Ekwò Nàxoèhdee K'è program, the continued development of the Tłıchǫ Cultural Commons Digital Archives and Museum, and support for the Elders' Biography Project. Through community-led research and knowledge-sharing, Dedats'eetsaa continues to build capacity, strengthen partnerships, and prepare the Tłıchǫ region for future environmental and social change.





Complementing these land-based initiatives is the Imbè Program, a long-standing summer cultural learning experience, delivered in partnership with the Community Presence Offices (see Governance section) now in its fourteenth year. Designed for participants aged fifteen to thirty, the program helps reconnect young Tłıchq citizens with their culture before they leave their communities to pursue formal education. In 2024, the program welcomed approximately thirty-five participants and thirty Elders, who shared traditional knowledge, skills, and time on the land. Through cultural teachings, hands-on activities, and intergenerational relationships, the Imbè Program strengthens identity, builds confidence, and prepares young people to walk successfully in both Tłıchq and Western worlds.

In the summer of 2024, Trails of Our Ancestors saw 126 participants take part in the annual canoe trip. Ninety-six paddlers in sixteen canoes travelled together from Behchokò to Wekweètì, where thirty community members from Wekweètì joined them. Participants followed the waterways and portage routes used by their Ancestors since time immemorial, living off the land along the way. Paddlers from Gamètì and Whatì joined the Behchokò group for the journey to Wekweètì, the host community of the Annual Gathering.

Language Revitalization

The Language Revitalization division plays a vital role in the revitalization, preservation, and everyday use of Tłıchq Yatì across the region. Guided by community knowledge holders, in collaboration with Elders, educators, and youth, the division works to ensure that the language remains a living, vibrant part of Tłıchq identity and daily life.

Over the past year, the division has continued to deliver community-based programming, develop language learning resources, and support schools, instructors, and fluent speakers to enhance opportunities for learners of all ages. Key initiatives include curriculum development for the Tłıchq Interpreter & Translator Certificate Program, the expansion and maintenance of the Tłıchq Dictionary, documentation of Tłıchq grammar and language structure, and the creation of learner-focused tools and materials.

A strong emphasis has been placed on intergenerational knowledge sharing through land-based language camps, youth mentorship, and Elder-led storytelling sessions. The division also leads transcription projects such as the Tłıchq Elders Biography & Plant Habitat Project, preserving oral histories and cultural knowledge.

Looking ahead, the division is developing a Language Revitalization Strategy for Tłıchq Yatì and is committed to supporting language champions, training new instructors, expanding youth engagement, and ensuring our language is fully integrated into governance and community life.

Lands Regulation

The Lands Regulation division is responsible for regulatory and land administration functions, including the assessment of development proposals, technical submissions, land use administration, and engagement with other governments and agencies on land and resource management. As the primary contact for land use permits, water licences, regulatory reviews, and GNWT consultation requests, the division plays a key role in overseeing access to Tłıchq lands.

In preparation for the Diavik Diamond Mine closure in 2026, the division convened consultants, Elders, youth, and Diavik staff to collaboratively shape the closure plan. Workshops and site visits held in late 2024 and early 2025 generated recommendations that continue to influence final closure planning and monitoring. This work aims to ensure Tłıchq citizens can return to the area

with confidence to hunt, fish, and trap for generations to come.

The division also launched the Traditional Knowledge Advisory Committee for the Slave Geological Province Regional Study, following a 2021 request by the Chief's Executive Council to the federal government. This region—rich in cultural, ecological, and economic value—has been the focus of ongoing discussion in 2024–2025, with Elders from all four Tłıchq communities guiding how future development should respect traditional use and protect key values such as Ekwò (caribou).

The division continued its active role in the Rayrock Remediation Project, participating in site visits and conducting small mammal and radon sampling to ensure long-term environmental safety.





6 Department of Early Childhood

The Department of Early Childhood supports care and education for Tłıchq families and is guided by the Early Childhood Strategy and Framework.





Infrastructure advances include land leasing for the future Behchokò Family Resource Centre, and the delivery of modular units for the Gamètì and Wekwèètì family centres, to be licensed in 2025. The Department of Early Childhood is implementing new innovative ideas to promote the Tłıchǫ language, culture, and ways of knowing within the 'Chekoa nechà-lea k'èhodìi kò' and 'Ełèhot'ıı Hotì Geeda gha Ełets'ats'edıı' program.

Services expanded through increased occupational therapy services, while collaboration with the Martin Family Initiative led to the development of parenting resources. Aurora College and De Beers support helped deliver early learning distance courses. Ongoing research projects like Celebrating Families which document childhood and family life continue with support from university partners.

Programs such as Aboriginal Head Start provided parent-child activities and healthy cultural programming, while staff professional development took place monthly. New play groups, crafts, and sensory activities served to enhance child development across all communities.

7 Department of Healing and Community Wellness

Through its four divisions, the Department of Healing and Community Wellness (DHCW) focuses on the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being of Tłıchq citizens. The department's presence and programs encompass all four Tłıchq communities and are grounded in culturally relevant, community-driven approaches to healing and wellness.



Strategic Initiatives and Collaboration

The Tłıchq Healing Path, an addictions-to-wellness strategy approved by the Chief's Executive Council, led to the formation of a joint working group with the Tłıchq Community Services Agency. Planning has begun for a regional treatment facility feasibility study—an important step toward establishing sustainable, local options for healing. This facility is envisioned to offer a full spectrum of supports, grounded in Tłıchq values and practices.



Programs and Education

Key initiatives included trauma and grief training for staff and community members, suicide prevention workshops in schools, recovery coach certification for twenty participants, and elder abuse “train the trainer” sessions. DHCW also launched the first Detox On-the-Land program in February 2025, an eight-day land-based healing camp that gained regional recognition for its culturally grounded approach to addiction recovery. In addition to detox programming, the department provided support for citizens attending residential treatment programs in other regions, including travel coordination, wellness check-ins, and culturally based pre-treatment preparation. After returning, clients were offered after-care services such as counselling, land-based healing camps, and connections to peer support networks to help sustain recovery. The department continued to strengthen staff capacity through national forums, leadership development, and specialized training in pharmacology and lateral kindness.



Stakeholder Engagements and Services

DHCW conducted in-person engagements in all four communities and provided services such as mental health counselling to over 200 citizens, sober living supports, and aftercare. Two new Community Counsellors were hired, increasing access to both in-person and virtual mental health support. The Behchokò Warming Shelter served as a vital resource, operating nightly to offer meals, hygiene facilities, life skills training, and to connect clients with housing and healthcare. Renovations to the shelter's interior have been completed, and planning is underway for outdoor improvements to support clients' well-being. Staff also worked directly with clients who had completed residential treatment to build individualized after-care plans that included counselling, cultural activities, and continued medical or therapeutic support.



Community Wellness and Events

More than 115 youth and adults participated in nine land-based healing camps, including Arctic Indigenous Wellness programs, youth and adult wellness journeys, and detox-specific camps. Health promotion efforts were broad: distribution of Naloxone kits and harm reduction training, suicide awareness events, foot care for Elders, mental health first aid, and support for youth through conferences and motivational speakers.



Youth and Elder Engagement

The department's youth programs combined cultural learning with recreation vest- and parka-making workshops, cooking classes, motivational events, and organized sports leagues. Elder programs included home visits, storytelling, sweat lodges, food hampers, board games, cultural trips, and sewing circles. A highlight was the Youth-Elder Mentorship program and the Elder participation in the D  l  n   Spiritual Gathering.



Jordan's Principle and Food Support

The Jordan's Principle program assisted over 1,500 children with seasonal food aid and organized family-friendly activities like movie nights and cultural events. Throughout the T  ch   region, food hampers were handed out to over 900 households, helping to improve food security and wellness.

As the department grows, its steadfast dedication to culturally grounded, community-led healing and care continues to be central to its mission.

8 Department of Infrastructure

In addition to the collaborative projects undertaken with other departments highlighted throughout this report, the Department of Infrastructure continued to advance a wide range of initiatives that reflect community priorities, promote long-term sustainability, and enhance the quality of life across the Tłıchq region. Guided by the 2024 Tłıchq Regional Infrastructure Plan, the department focused on strategic development that supports community well-being, service delivery, and economic growth.



Housing

In close partnership with the Executive, the department is taking significant action to address some of the most critical housing challenges in Canada. With over \$86 million in federal funding secured through a Gap-Closing Housing Action Plan, a range of initiatives to improve housing conditions for Tłıchq citizens are being implemented. These include new lot development in Behchokò, construction of modular homes for staff, and working with the GNWT to strengthen regional housing coordination and policy alignment.

In addition to supporting the construction of approximately ninety new homes and rental units, there were large investments in

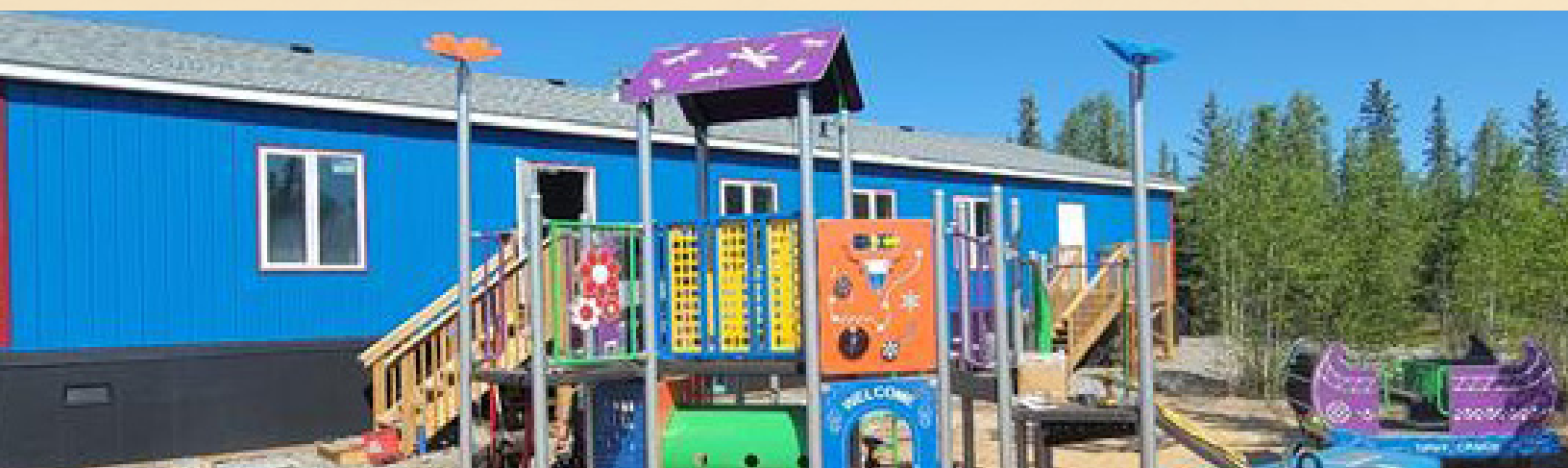
renovating private homes. In 2023, technical assessments were completed on 408 homes, prioritizing those in urgent need of repair. As of March 31, 2025, emergency repairs were completed on 210 of 381 Priority #1 homes. Repairs have included furnace and roof work, electrical upgrades, plumbing improvements, and structural stabilization.

The Tłıchq Ndek'àowo's efforts are also helping income earners transition from social housing into private homeownership. While housing remains a jurisdictional challenge, the Government is making meaningful progress toward its goal of safe, secure, and affordable housing for all Tłıchq citizens.



Whatì Presence Office

One of the department's current undertakings is the renovation of the Whatì Presence Office. This project aims to expand office capacity and improve functionality to better serve staff and citizens. The renovation work reflects the Government's ongoing commitment to create welcoming, efficient spaces for public service and community engagement.



Home Construction Project

The construction of stick-built homes in Behchokò is also underway. In partnership with Tłıchq Property Management (TPM), the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo is building four new permanent housing units as part of a broader strategy to increase housing availability and promote home ownership. This project emphasizes the use of regionally appropriate construction methods that are durable, sustainable, and suitable for northern living conditions.





Public Safety

To strengthen wildfire prevention efforts, the Tłıchq Ndek'òowo has deployed mobile sprinkler systems in each community, improving local capacity to respond to fire emergencies. Additionally, a review of street lighting infrastructure is underway in Behchokò to enhance public safety and visibility during nighttime hours.



Future Projects

Several high-priority projects remain under review as part of long-term infrastructure planning. These include the proposed Gamètì and Wekweètì All-Season Roads, which would provide year-round access to communities currently served by winter roads, supporting mobility, supply chains, and economic development. Additionally, plans for the Behchokò Family Centre and expanded Tłıchq Ndek'òowo offices in Behchokò and Yellowknife are being evaluated to meet the growing needs of families, program delivery, and administrative staff.



Together, these projects reflect the Tłıchq Ndek'òowo's commitment to responsive, community-driven infrastructure development. As work continues, the department will remain guided by regional priorities and input from community leadership to ensure that infrastructure investments support the long-term goals of the Nation and the well-being of its citizens.

9 Department of Planning and Partnerships

The Department of Planning and Partnerships (DPP) is responsible for providing leadership and direction for the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo related to establishing and documenting Government priorities, and fostering relationships with and influencing other orders of government and external stakeholders. DPP communicates the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo's position on key policy issues, articulates priorities, and ensures understanding of the Government's vision



The department tracked implementation of the 2021–2025 Strategic Framework, developed a government planning model for the next Tłıchq Assembly, and established Interim Emergency Management Protocols for Tłıchq Ndek'àowo.

Negotiations completed by DPP included: 10-year Tłıchq Financing Agreement, Giant Mine Remediation Project Economic Benefits Agreement, and Our Land for the Future Agreement.



Negotiations are ongoing with Canada and GNWT for the Intergovernmental Service Agreement, which was extended to August 2027, as well as to implement Tłıchq jurisdiction over education and early childhood. The Tłıchq Ndek'àowo is also negotiating with Diavik for a Closure Agreement, as the mine is set to end operations by April of 2026.

DPP led coordination and participation in several intergovernmental forums to advance Tłıchq priorities and interests, including the Intergovernmental Council, Chief's Executive Council-Cabinet Bilateral Forum, NWT Council of Leaders, Land Claims Agreement Coalition, Intergovernmental Leaders' Forum, and Arctic and Northern Policy Framework Committee.

DPP also leads the Government's participation in the Tłıchq Implementation Committee and Tłıchq Financing Committee. A Tłıchq Traditional Economy Study was completed, as well as an Effectiveness Review of Chapter 26 on Economic Measures.

Masi`cho

Annual Report Summary 2025

This year's accomplishments reflect the deep commitment of the Tłıchq Ndek'àowo to self-governance, citizen well-being, and cultural preservation. As we look to the future, we remain grounded in the wisdom of our Elders, strengthened by our youth, and united in our shared purpose: to protect, sustain, and uplift the Tłıchq way of life.







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