



Tłchq Government

# Tłchq Government Annual Report 2011



# Lands & Environment

## Introduction

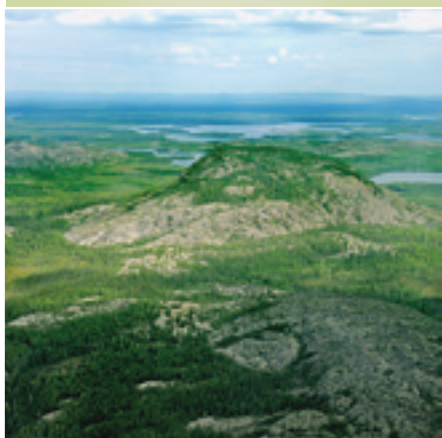
The Tłı̨chǫ Government owns, manages and controls Tłı̨chǫ Lands. They also have a responsibility to protect the land, animals, fish, water, plants, trees, resources and heritage sites on Tłı̨chǫ Lands. The Lands Protection Department was created to ensure that the lands and its resources are managed in a way that ensures it will be available for future generations and in a way that reflects Tłı̨chǫ culture and way of life of the past and present. The Department integrates Tłı̨chǫ traditional knowledge and contemporary science to develop sustainable policies and plans.

## Accomplishments

- Legal review of the land use plan has been completed.
- Implementation of the Bathurst Caribou Monitoring Plan.
- Marion Lake Fish Monitoring Project – participated with WRRB in a Cisco monitoring project.
- Creation of the Traditional Knowledge Research Project which is being set up and implemented in Whati and Gamèti.

## Work In Progress

- Completion and Implementation of the Tłı̨chǫ Land Use Plan.
- Work with Tłı̨chǫ Elders to collect locations of Burial sites and other important Heritage sites to be added to the Traditional Knowledge data base.
- Collaboration with the Traditional Knowledge Research project to incorporate all knowledge and information gathered into the Traditional Knowledge database in the Lands Protection Department.
- Working with the Center for Environmental Research on a project which researches the potential economic opportunities offered by the emerging carbon markets and prepares the Tłı̨chǫ Government to participate in this market.



# Tłı̨chǫ Knowledge Research and Monitoring Division

## Introduction

The programs and projects within Tłı̨chǫ Knowledge (TK) Research and Monitoring Division are designed to capture knowledge in a manner that is compatible with the Tłı̨chǫ cultural perspective and Tłı̨chǫ knowledge system. They are designed to acknowledge the continued importance of Tłı̨chǫ land based activities and oral narratives as the medium with which to share information and with which to learn, apply and promote Tłı̨chǫ knowledge.

## Accomplishments

Opening of head office in Gamèti and satellite office in Whati.

- Establishing Research Coordinators in Gamèti and Whati.
- Training for Research Coordinators.
- Creation of a Community Elders' Committee and a Regional Elders' Committee.
- Familiarizing staff with program structure and how TK research is key to Chapters 12, 13, 14 and 16 of the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement.
- Developing research guidelines.

- Establishing and testing of TK database.
- Completing a draft Tłı̨chǫ knowledge policy.

## Work In Progress

- The TK Research and Monitoring Division is working on contributing important information to a number of issues including:
- Monitoring caribou in the face of current concerns about the integrity and health of the herds across the circumpolar north.
- Managing environmental assessments as increased mining all weather roads and other development are proposed.
- Documenting cultural changes for areas proposed under the Protected Areas Strategy.
- Documentation of harvesters' and elders' knowledge by establishing a comprehensive database and digitizing and entering existing information into the database.
- Promoting the importance of monitoring through an outreach program.





# Kwe Beh Working Group



## Introduction

The Chief's Executive Council established the Kwe Beh Working Group to manage the implementation of Impact and Benefit Agreements in the Tłı̨chǫ region and manage the mining and roads files. The Kwe Beh Working Group:

- Builds strong relationships with workers in the mines, listens to the workers and provides support to them in their jobs;
- Builds the relationships to the companies and makes sure that the agreements are being implemented;
- Manages the Tłı̨chǫ Government involvement in the regulatory process of environmental assessments;
- Prepares for negotiations with mining companies;
- Ensures there is a strong relationship to the communities on these mining issues.

## Accomplishments

- Creation of a listening post position which is mandated to work with and listen to miners about their concerns and needs with the mines.
- Management of relationships with Diavik, Ekati and De Beers.

## Work In Progress

- Establish new IBA's with several companies.
- Develop a consultation policy so that there is clarity on how companies work with the Tłı̨chǫ Government.



# Administration

## Introduction

The Administration of the Tłı̨chǫ Government is lead by the Senior Director of Administration. The Senior Director of Administration assists the TEO in making sure that the Tłı̨chǫ Government departments are functioning well and meeting objectives. The Senior Director of Administration works closely with Department Directors to ensure that their departments are running effectively.

## Accomplishments

- Revamped the Tłı̨chǫ Government Policy and Procedures Manual. The Policy manual covers everything from leave applications to travel expenses. It assists staff in making decisions and informs them of the rules that Tłı̨chǫ Government employees must follow.
- Approval and implementation of a new Financial Contributions (Donations) Policy.
- Improvement to the Tłı̨chǫ Government Information Technology support desk.
- Regular meetings with Department Directors. These meetings ensure that there is information sharing between the various departments and Directors.

## Work In-progress

- A comprehensive review of the policy manual.
- Development of an IT Strategy which includes assessing the current and future IT needs of the Government resulting in multi year strategy that ensures we are on the cutting edge of technology and have the best resources and infrastructure possible for staff.
- A complete organizational review. This review is a necessary step as our organization evolves and responds to the changing needs of our citizens and the world around us. By reviewing the organizational structure and job descriptions we can better tailor our organization and the positions within to respond to these changes.



# Finance

## Introduction

The Finance Department provides a vital and important part of the success of the Tłı̨chǫ Government. Their mandate is to administer, manage and control the financial resources of the Tłı̨chǫ Government in an effective, efficient and economical manner. Aside from the responsibilities of the Finance Department at the executive level negotiations are undertaken that ensure that the government has adequate funding to operate.

## Accomplishments

- Implementation and review of finance policies.
- Organizational review of department and revision of job descriptions.

## Work in Progress

- Develop short and long term plan's to protect and invest compensation dollars as a perpetual endowment for the benefit of all Tłı̨chǫ as per section 2.2 of the Constitution.
- Complete a joint review of Tłı̨chǫ Government and its expenditure for the renewal and re-negotiation of the Tłı̨chǫ Financing Agreement.
- Participate in CCRA review of PIT tax payments received by Tłı̨chǫ Government.



# Language & Culture

## Introduction

The Department of Language, Culture and Communications strives to protect and promote Tłı̨chǫ language, culture and way of life. In order to strengthen these things the Department implemented programs and services in the four communities. The Tłı̨chǫ Culture Program Plan recognizes importance of sustainability and enhancement of cultural programs in the communities. Many worthwhile initiatives have been undertaken for the benefit of Tłı̨chǫ citizens.

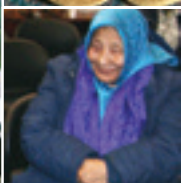
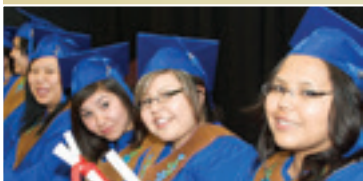
## Accomplishments

The Department of Language, Culture and Communications coordinated or participated in several activities including:

- Behchokò Addictions Awareness Workshop
- Men's Hand Game Tournament 2011
- Tłı̨chǫ Youth Handgame Program
- Behchokò Addictions Awareness Workshop
- Tłı̨chǫ Youth Workshop
- Trails of Our Ancestors Canoe Trip
- Tłı̨chǫ Skidoo Tour 2011
- Trust and Reconciliation Commission community visit
- Tłı̨chǫ Spiritual Gathering

## Work in Progress

- Community Fall Hunt
- Hunting and Trapping Assistance
- Imbe Summer Culture Program
- Community Culture Events/Workshops including:
  - Aboriginal Day Celebrations
  - Youth Workshop
  - Tłı̨chǫ Addictions Awareness Workshop
  - Youth on the Land Program



## Message From the Grand Chief

This years Annual Gathering is an opportunity for us to celebrate our accomplishments and hear from our citizens about what they would like to see their Government do in the coming years. This brief report highlights some of the great accomplishments of our young government. These accomplishments signify the strength, courage and hard work of our administration, our leadership and our citizens.

The report also outlines some of our future plans that we are just beginning to implement. The Administration and Leadership are always striving to improve government operations, to respond to the needs of our citizens and to build a Government we can be proud of. We get this direction for our future plan and goals from our citizens. I hope this week you will share with us what you think the Government can

do to improve the lives of our citizens, protect our cultural wealth and ensure our lands and resources are available for future generations.

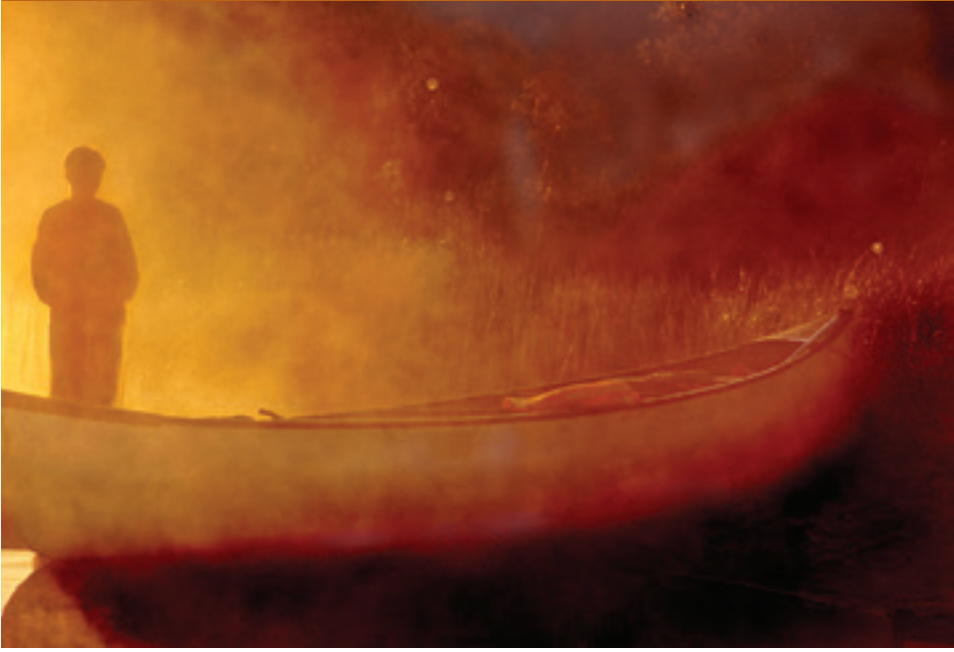
I am very proud of the work accomplished and of the future plans of our Government. The Annual Gathering is an opportunity for us to celebrate our Government and the progress we are making in self-government. The rest of Canada is watching the Tłı̨chǫ Government. We are leaders in the realization and implementation of the inherent right to self-government. Please share this Annual Report and be proud of all we have accomplished.

Mahsi-cho,

**Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus**







## Communities

The Tłı̨chǫ Government has a Tłı̨chǫ Community Presence Office in each of the four communities. The Community Presence Office is a place where community members can visit the Chief, find out about programs and services offered by the Tłı̨chǫ Government and learn about important decisions, plans and activities of the Government. Through the Community Presence Office the Government also organizes activities and runs special programs.

### Accomplishments

- New Church in Wekweëti
- Community Celebrations for various holidays and activities
- Attendance by community members at Deline Spiritual Gathering
- Youth Conference in Gamëti
- Assistance provided to community members for hunting and trapping

### Work in Progress

- Constructing Tłı̨chǫ Government Office in Whati



# Governance

The Tłı̨chǫ Government is comprised of three institutions: the Annual Gathering, the Tłı̨chǫ Assembly and the Chief's Executive Council. The Annual Gathering is the highest institution of the Tłı̨chǫ Government. The purpose of the Gathering is to give Tłı̨chǫ citizens an opportunity to ask questions and give direction. With direction from and accountability to the Annual Gathering, the Tłı̨chǫ Assembly has the responsibility and authority to implement the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement, to protect and ensure good government and to protect the rights, titles and interests of the Tłı̨chǫ. The Tłı̨chǫ Government does this by enacting laws in relation to all matters for which the Tłı̨chǫ Assembly has authority pursuant to the inherent right of self-government and the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement. The Chiefs Executive Council arranges for the implementation of Tłı̨chǫ Laws and oversees the management and administration of the affairs of the Tłı̨chǫ Assembly.

## Accomplishments

Tłı̨chǫ Assembly:

- Held a strategy session regarding transportation needs and roads in Whati in August 2010
- Held a priorities and planning workshop
- Passed a Grand Chief By-Election and nomination regulation
- Called for the nomination of the Grand Chief
- Developed a revised joint proposal with ENR on caribou management actions in Wek'èezhii
- Approved the terms of references for Proceedings Committee and Audit and Budget Committee
- Passed the Tłı̨chǫ Rules of Order Law which outlines the process for conducting meetings, for making decisions, and directs the conduct of Tłı̨chǫ Assembly Members, members
- Passed the Amendment of the Procedures Law

Chief's Executive Council:

- Developed an Implementation plan for joint proposal on caribou management actions in Wek'èezhii
- Created the Kwe Beh Working Group
- Oversaw the distribution of harvesting assistance
- Developed and approved a Financial Contributions Policy which directs the distribution of donations funded by the Tłı̨chǫ Government and Tłı̨chǫ Investment Corporation.

## Work in progress

Tłı̨chǫ Assembly:

- Development of a mandate and multi year strategic plan as a result of the priorities and planning workshop
- Development of plans for a new Whati Community Presence Office

Chief's Executive Council:

- Approval of the land use plan
- Developing a terms of reference and role of Oda?a council
- Investigation of Ezǫdziti issue
- Development of a Grand Chief election process
- Review and update of the Intergovernmental Services Agreement
- Revisions to the GNWT wildlife act
- Re-negotiating the Tłı̨chǫ Financing agreement



**Photo Credits**

**Cover:** front cover: Allice Legat; back cover: Jacqueline and Carly Gon.

**Page 1:** top left to bottom right: John B. Zoe; Lisa Mantla; Dahti Scott; Jacqueline and Carly Gon; Nora Jean Gerrior; *Oree and Dad James Wah-Shee*; Tessa Macintosh.

**Page 2:** *Maryrose Charlo*.

**Page 3:** *Tso Kwe, Gaméti*;

**Page 4:** top left to bottom right: Tessa Macintosh; Carole Rabesca; Jennifer Wetrade; *Aurora, Fort Rae*; Jacqueline Gon; *Baby of Freddy Tinqu*; Madeline Chocolate; Tessa Macintosh; *Tłichq Investment Corporation meeting*; Terry Garvin; *Bradley and new flag*; Tessa Macintosh; *Eagles nest*; Carly Gon.

**Page 5:** top left to bottom right: Mary Adele Football; Tessa Macintosh; Tessa Macintosh; Tessa Macintosh; bottom: *Rae drummers*.

**Page 6:** top left to bottom right: Tessa Macintosh; *Paul Rabesca drumming*; Lisa Mantla; Belinda Simpson; Jacqueline and Carly Gon; Nora Jean Gerrior; Tessa Macintosh.



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