



2018 REPORT



NWT On The Land Collaborative

The Collaborative is a collective of diverse partners including: Tides Canada; Government of the Northwest Territories; NWT Recreation and Parks Association; McConnell Foundation; Indigenous Leadership Initiative; Dominion Diamond Corporation; TNC Canada; Diavik Diamond Mine; The Gordon Foundation; and Community Advisors representing regional Indigenous governments from across the territory.

www.nwtontheland.ca

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WHO WE ARE.

The NWT On The Land Collaborative (the Collaborative) was created in 2015 to promote and support on the land initiatives in the Northwest Territories.

The Collaborative brings together government, charitable, corporate, and other partners to combine efforts and make it easier for communities to access money and other resources for on the land projects.

The Collaborative is comprised of Community Advisors, Funding Partners, and an Administrative Team.

Community Advisors are appointed by regional Indigenous governments to serve as representatives for the Collaborative in their region. They provide on-the-ground support to projects throughout the application

process, while also assisting in the selection of recipients. One of the priorities of the Collaborative is to reflect local priorities and ways of working. From the beginning, community representatives have been at the table, articulating the need for a collaborative approach to funding, but also what that approach should look like.

Funding Partners provide both monetary and in-kind support to successful applicants. They include governments, philanthropic organizations, industry, and non-profits. Each Funding Partner appoints a representative to attend meetings and be their voice at the table.

The Administrative Team includes representatives from: GNWT Departments of Health and Social Services and Environment and Natural Resources; Tides Canada; and the NWT Recreation and Parks Association. The Administrative Team oversees the management of the Collaborative's internal processes; communication with grant recipients; partner engagement; and communications.

HOW WE WORK.

Collaboration: We believe collaboration: increases available funding for land-based initiatives by drawing on diverse sectors; reduces the administrative burden for communities, which means more time for program delivery; and creates shared learning and evaluation opportunities. Our goal as a collaborative is to make the best use of financial, human, and other resources to better support the delivery of on the land programming in the NWT.

Consensus: Every member of the Collaborative, regardless of their position or how much they contribute to the funding pot, has an equal voice at the table and plays an important role in determining how we work.

Creativity: We intentionally place few limitations on proposals in order to encourage innovation, but also to allow communities to deliver programs that acknowledge the interconnection of social, cultural, economic, and environmental outcomes. Each year, we are inspired by the beautiful, creative, and diverse approaches that communities across the territory are using to revitalize connections to land, as well as local traditions and languages.

Community: Our open approach to project design is also meant to respect local needs. We believe strongly that communities are best positioned to determine what will work for them. We are committed to supporting local expertise and objectives. We value on the land projects that strengthen relationships within and between communities, and enhance community capacity.

Connection: One feature of the NWT On the Land Collaborative are learning trips - immersive and interactive experiences that connect Funding Partners and Community Advisors with grant recipients. Learning trips reflect the belief that successful collaboration depends on good relationships and good relationships are built through face-to-face interactions and shared experiences.

The NWT On the Land Collaborative is always looking to improve how we work. The Funding Partners, Community Advisors, and Administrative Team meet regularly to discuss prospective partners; explore new opportunities; review feedback from applicants; and prepare for the next grant cycle. We welcome suggestions for how we can enhance the Collaborative, grow the fund, and better support grant recipients.

THANK YOU, AND WELCOME...



The NWT On the Land Collaborative wishes to acknowledge the unique contributions of a very special person in the creation and success of the Collaborative. **Debbie DeLancey**, the former deputy minister of Health and Social Services, was a driving force behind the vision for more partnerships and enhanced coordination of resources in supporting on the land initiatives. Her commitment to bringing people together, and to recognizing that we achieve better health and wellness outcomes when people are able to be on the land on their own terms, laid the foundation for what the Collaborative has become. On behalf of the partners, we extend our deepest thanks to her for her vision and trust.



This year, two of the **Community Advisors** who have been with the Collaborative from the start will be moving on. The partners wish to recognize and thank **Kyle Napier** and **Meghan Etter** for their work over the last few years, for their commitment and diligence, for their appreciation of the land, and most of all for their dedication to supporting the people of the NWT. Kyle will be missed for his enthusiasm and passion, as will Meghan for her steady, confident leadership. We look forward to continued partnership with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the NWT Métis Nation, and to welcoming their new representatives.



New Partner – Education, Culture and Employment

Jackie Siegel and Angela Young

“Identity, language and culture are rooted on the land and the places we come from. The projects funded by the NWT On The Land Collaborative support students in connecting their physical, mental, spiritual and emotional selves through land-based learning.”



New Partner – Industry, Tourism and Investment

Brenda Dragon

“Being on the land allows for growth for the connectedness of our humanity to the natural world. By creating easier access and purpose by providing opportunity, the NWT On the Land Collaborative allows Northerners to more easily do what our ancestors have done since the beginning of time. Living in ways that use our cultural and traditional skills is authentic to who we are. People who spend time in nature learn to love and care - it has been shown they will then naturally protect and preserve the integrity of the land, water and animals for both themselves and for future generations.”



New Community Advisor – Inuvialuit Region

Jimmy Ruttan

“Being on the land is such a big part of who we are, who I am. Getting out on the land or spending time in the bush calms me. It also reminds me of the simpler things needed to be whole. The land helps to secure my identity; allows me to rest and relax; it challenges and teaches me.”



Featured Projects



HIDE TANNING CAMP Łútsēlk'é | Akaitcho

Objective: To keep the ancient art of hide tanning alive by bringing together community members and visitors to work together in a cultural camp setting.

Description: The Łútsēlk'é Women's Group hosted the fourth annual hide tanning camp on the shores of Tu Nedhe, a short ride from the Dēnesuḡné community of Łútsēlk'é, in June 2017. Approximately 50 people from across the North of all ages, genders, and cultural backgrounds attended the camp to work on hides or support the tanners. The camp is a wonderful opportunity for people of all abilities to learn how to tan a variety of hides using traditional methods. Elders on site act as instructors and advisors. In addition to hide tanning, the camp featured drum making and hand games.

Successes: There is a real sense of comradery amongst the hide tanners; the women really enjoy spending a week in such a supportive, positive, and encouraging environment. The camp has strengthened the practice of hide tanning in Łútsēlk'é (and beyond!), while also allowing community members living in urban settings to come home and reconnect with the land, people, and cultural teachings. Children are growing up around hide tanning again, a practice that was almost lost just a few years ago. Local carvers and tool makers are also starting to make bone tools again and are making them available through the camp.



GRADE 9 CANOE TRIP

Fort Smith | South Slave

Objective: To provide grade nine students with an opportunity to spend time on the land and to develop/strengthen canoeing and camping skills.

Description: In mid-June, nine students in grade nine at PWK High School in Fort Smith paddled the Hornaday and Slave Rivers, ending at Fort Fitzgerald. Over the course of the three-day trip, the students, with the help of a local guide and their teachers, learned different canoe strokes, communication signals, and wildlife safety. Perhaps most importantly, they learned how to travel safely in moving water and in a range of environmental conditions, encountering everything from calm water to stiff headwinds to small rapids to choppy waves. All of the students took part in camp tasks such as cooking and cleaning; gathering wood and maintaining the fire; and hauling water. Evenings were passed by the fire telling stories.

Successes: The canoe trip was resurrected this year to fill a gap in on the land programming for grade nine students at PWK. It builds on land-based skills learned in earlier grades, such as setting up camp and building fires, while also providing students with minimal paddling experience the opportunity to learn how to safely travel by canoe. Students were proud of their accomplishments on the river from paddling into a headwind to making delicious food. They were also grateful for the opportunity to spend time together as a family.

SAHDEH CAMP

Behchokò | Tłı̨chǫ

Objective: To transmit traditional knowledge from Tłı̨chǫ Elders to youth through land-based activities in a camp setting.

Description: Sahdeh was a three-week cultural immersion camp near Behchokò. Tłı̨chǫ youth aged 8-23 learned about all aspects of living on the land including setting up and maintaining camp, harvesting and processing fish and animals, and boat safety. In addition to learning survival skills like wildlife awareness and dryfish making, youth participated in cultural activities like sewing, traditional games, and storytelling. The camp also provided participants with opportunities to develop leadership skills and to work together.

Successes: Twenty-seven of the thirty-three participants attended all three weeks of the camp. Youth participants reported feeling more confident on the land when the program ended. Through discussions and workshops on topics such as grieving, youth developed a deeper understanding of themselves. They also learned how to better manage their emotions. The wide range of ages proved to be a benefit. Older participants took on leadership roles, teaching and mentoring the younger participants.





KAÁ'GEE TU YOUTH CAMP

Kakisa | Dehcho

Objective: To create an opportunity for youth to build relationships with each other, Elders, and the land.

Description: Though the week long camp was cut short by weather, youth participants still had lots of opportunities for learning. They learned from the Elders about where they are from and how to integrate themselves into the environment. They worked alongside the local AAROM Coordinator and university researchers to gather data and samples for a fish monitoring project. A geocaching activity was the perfect way to learn how to use GPS, while waste sorting activities familiarized them with the community's new waste management system.

Successes: The youth enjoyed their time with the Elders, learning more about their childhoods and families. Working alongside the researchers introduced the youth to some of the projects currently underway in the community and gave them an opportunity to engage with and ask questions about these initiatives. They also learned new skills. On top of all of this, they had fun!



BACK-TO-THE-LAND CULTURAL CAMP

Rádeyílkóé | Sahtú

Objective: To offer land-based culture camps that will support community members in leading healthy and resilient lives.

Description: Thirty-six community members participated in the program, which took place at a bush camp 130km from the community; 21 were full-time participants. The camp took place during the yearly spring hunt, so participants had an opportunity to learn more about harvesting animals from Elders and knowledge holders. Participants also worked on moose hides, processed beavers and ducks, and made dry geese. Part of the time was spent at a satellite camp. Morning prayers, nightly sharing circles, one-on-one time with Elders, and drumming were also important parts of camp life.

Successes: The community as a whole has made a commitment to being healthier; the camp has been important in working toward this goal. The camp gave participants an opportunity to abstain from drugs and alcohol. While that was very challenging for some, none of the participants quit. Some of the youth who participated in the camp have left the community to continue their healing journey through treatment programs. Since the camp, there are more students in school and more community members of all ages participating in sharing circles and support groups.



NITSO NANKAT TR'IQWANDAIH

Teet'it Zheh | Beaufort Delta

Objective: To provide opportunities for students of all ages to be immersed in traditional Gwich'in culture and land-based practices.

Description: Nitso Nankat Tr'iqwandaih (Land of the Midnight Sun Project) is a series of land-based activities tailored to students of different ages. In June 2017, a group of grade 7-12 students travelled up Teet'it Gwinjik (Peel River). They learned: about spring water travel; how to identify and gather medicinal plants; how the seasons and time of day dictate hunting and trapping practices; traditional place names; and survival skills. In September, day camps for the younger grades

gave students opportunities to: work with moose meat and hides; pick berries; gather medicines; and listen to stories from the Elders.

Successes: As they travelled Teet'it Gwinjik, the high school students gained a deeper understanding of the rhythms of the land, as well as learning the full process of trapping and harvesting animals in a land-based context. Younger students also deepened their understanding of the land through different hands-

on activities. Time with the Elders is important for all of the students' mental and emotional wellbeing. Nitso Nankat Tr'iqwandaih, which employs local land-users and Elders, strengthens the school's ties with the community. Being on the land also contributes to strong working relationships between the students and teachers.



Appendices

Appendix A - Partners

Appendix B - Funded Projects

Appendix C - The Numbers

COMMUNITY ADVISORS.

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation	Meghan Etter/Jimmy Ruttan
Gwich'in Tribal Council	Susan Ross
Sahtú	Vacant
Tłı̨chǫ Government	John B. Zoe
Akaįtcho Territory Government	Diane Giroux
Dehcho First Nations	Misty Ireland
NWT Métis Nation	Kyle Napier

FUNDING PARTNERS.

Tides Canada	Steve Ellis
GNWT – HSS	Kyla Kakfwi-Scott
	Sabrina Broadhead
	Kara Guzzo
GNWT – ENR	Erin Kelly
	Sarah True
NWT Recreation and Parks Association	Jess Dunkin
Indigenous Leadership Initiative	Steven Nitah
TNC Canada	Tracey Williams
Dominion Diamond Corporation	Rebecca Plotner
McConnell Foundation	Pamela Ouart-McNabb
Diavik Diamond Mine	Winter Haley
The Gordon Foundation	Carolyn DuBois
GNWT – ECE	Angela Young
	Jackie Siegel
GNWT – ITI	Brenda Dragon

FUNDED PROJECTS.

APPLICANT	PROJECT	TYPE
Community Government of Whatì	Ice Fishing	Indigenous Organization
K'àlemì Dene School	Beaver/Muskrat Camp	School
Foster Family Coalition of the NWT	Canoe Guide	NGO
Angik School	On the Land Gathering	School
Rainbow Sage Gay Straight Alliance	Rainbow River Retreat	NGO
Salvation Army Mental Health Support Services	Outdoor Recreation Programming	NGO
Hay River Métis Government Council	Bringing Youth and Elders Together	Indigenous Organization
Alexis Arrowmaker School	Christmas Camp	School
Children First Society	First Steps on the Land	NGO
ʔehtseo Ayha School	Engaging Students Through On the Land	School
Janelle Nitsiza	Gonaewo: Traditional Moosehide Camp	Individual
Elizabeth Mackenzie School	On the Land Trips	School
Chief Albert Wright School	On the Land at Clement Lake	School
YWCA NWT	Youth Leadership Cultural Day Trips	NGO
Ulukhaktok Community Corporation	Summer Language Camp	Indigenous Organization
Łútsělk'ė Women's Group	Łútsělk'ė Hide Tanning Camp	NGO
Princess Alexandra School	Improving Opportunities for On the Land Activities	School
East Three Secondary School	On the Land Programs	School
Chief Julius School	Trıncedłaiı Gwıts'al Kheetak Tragwatsii	School
Inuvik Youth Centre Society	Youth Land Leadership Series and Exploration Trips	NGO
Yellowknife District Education Number 1	Northern Excursion Club	School
Tułıt'a Dene Band	Re-Introduciung Traditional Culture	Indigenous Organization
Yamozha Kue Society	South Slavey Immersion Camp at Sandy Creek	Indigenous Organization
PWK High School	On the Land Programs	School
Behdzi Ahda First Nation	North End Spring Camp	Indigenous Organization

COMMUNITY	REGION	GRANT AMOUNT
Whatì	Tłıchq	1,000
N'dıłq	Akaiicho	4,300
	NWT	5,000
Paulatuk	Beaufort Delta	5,200
	South Slave	6,610
	NWT	7,000
Hay River	South Slave	8,000
Wekweèù	Tłıchq	8,750
Inuvik	Beaufort Delta	9,400
Déłıne	Sahtú	9,460
	Tłıchq	10,000
Behchokq	Tłıchq	10,000
Tułıt'a	Sahtú	11,900
Yellowknife	Akaiicho	12,600
Ulukhaktok	Beaufort Delta	12,825
Łútsělk'ė	Akaiicho	13,000
Hay River	South Slave	13,400
Inuvik	Beaufort Delta	13,500
Teet'ıt Zheh	Beaufort Delta	13,500
Inuvik	Beaufort Delta	13,708
Yellowknife	Akaiicho	15,000
Tułıt'a	Sahtú	15,000
	South Slave	15,000
Fort Smith	South Slave	15,400
Colville Lake	Sahtú	18,611

APPLICANT	PROJECT	TYPE
Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee	On the Land Learning Our Culture	Indigenous Organization
Inualthuyak School	On the Land Program	School
Judy and Michel Lafferty	Fish Camp for Families and Single Moms	Individual
Inuvik Community Corporation	Land Programs	Indigenous Organization
Chief Paul Niditchie	Rediscovering Traditional Paddling Routes on the Arctic Red River: Resilience & Capacity Building	School
Délnę Got'ine Government	Délnę On the Land Program	Indigenous Organization
West Point First Nation	Community Trip to Tathlina Lake	Indigenous Organization
Pehdzeh Ki First Nation	Youth On the Land	Indigenous Organization
Community Government of Gamèti	Youth On the Land Experience	Indigenous Organization
Dene Nahjo	Rites of Passage: Recognition of Being - Indigenous Women's Gathering	NGO
Deh Gáh Got'ine First Nation	Mentoring Youth On the Land (Year 2)	Indigenous Organization
Yellowknives Dene First Nation	Dechita Naowo: Environmental Monitoring and Traditional Knowledge Application in the Digital Age II	Indigenous Organization
Akaiicho Territory Government	Life as Akaiicho Dene	Indigenous Organization
Ṯchq Łeàgià Ts'ųł Kq	On the Land Healing for the Homeless in Behchokq	NGO
Łútsél K'é Dene School	Back on the Land Together	School
Colville Lake School	Spring Camp	School
Northern Youth Leadership	Summer Camps	NGO
Tuít'a Dene Band	Ṯo Teni'a Tue Ts'į Naihekenáhde (Walk with Us to Tate Lake)	Indigenous Organization
Yellowknife Women's Society	Trauma-Centred On the Land Healing Program	NGO
Dehcho First Nations	Dehcho K'ehodi Stewardship & Guardian Program: On the Land Capacity Building	Indigenous Organization
Deh Gáh School	Experiential Culture-Based Education On the Land	School

COMMUNITY	REGION	GRANT AMOUNT
Aklavik	Beaufort Delta	19,530
Sachs Harbour	Beaufort Delta	20,000
Fort Good Hope	Sahtú	20,000
Inuvik	Beaufort Delta	21,132
Tsiigehtchic	Beaufort Delta	21,500
Délnę	Sahtú	22,500
Hay River	South Slave	24,000
Wrigley	Dehcho	25,100
Gamèti	Ṯchq	25,400
	NWT	27,000
Fort Providence	Dehcho	28,590
Chief Drygeese Territory	Akaiicho	32,000
	Akaiicho	33,500
Behchokq	Ṯchq	33,650
Łútsélk'é	Akaiicho	35,000
Colville Lake	Sahtú	38,000
	NWT	45,000
Tuít'a	Sahtú	52,000
Yellowknife	Akaiicho	60,000
	Dehcho	60,000
Fort Providence	Dehcho	85,000

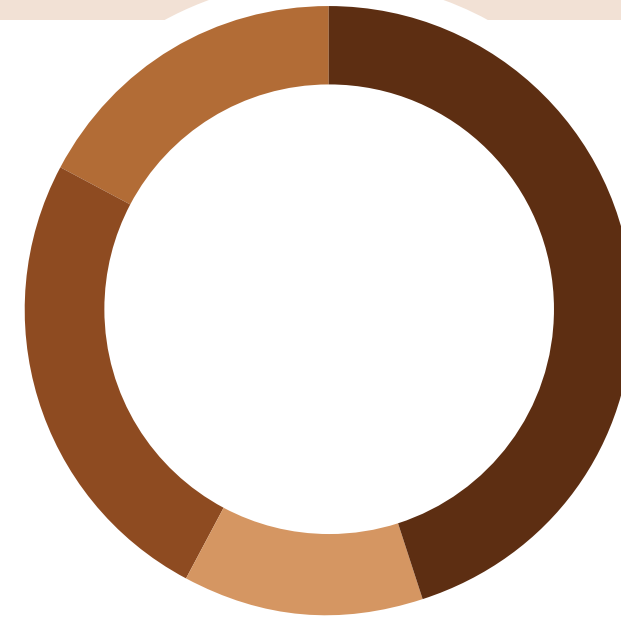
BY APPLICANT TYPE

	No. of Applications		Amount Requested		No. of Applications Approved		Amount Granted	
		%		%		%		%
Indigenous Organization	36	35%	\$1,656,071	45%	16	33%	\$394,658	39%
Individual	6	6%	\$479,260	13%	2	4%	\$30,000	3%
Municipal	1	1%	\$2,000	0%	0	0%		0%
NGO	32	31%	\$900,223	25%	12	25%	\$252,498	25%
School	29	28%	\$632,039	17%	18	38%	\$323,210	32%
TOTAL	104	100%	\$3,669,593	100%	48	100%	\$1,000,366	100%

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED



AMOUNT REQUESTED



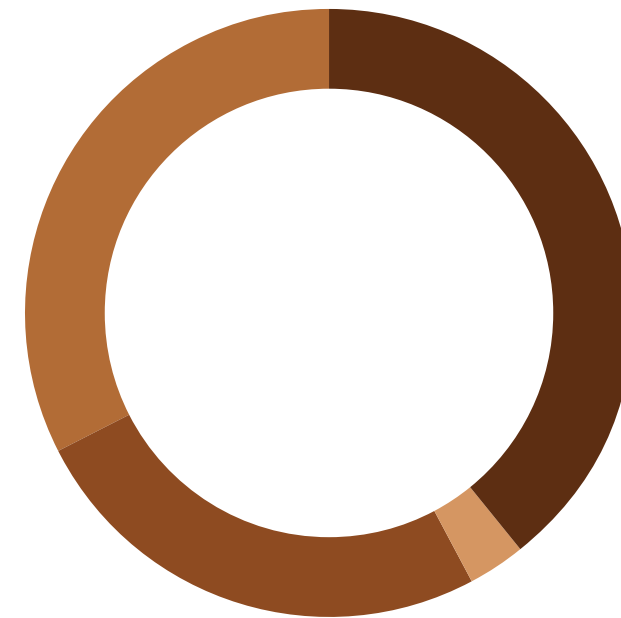
Indigenous Organization	45%
Individual	13%
NGO	25%
School	17%

APPLICATIONS APPROVED



Indigenous Organization	33%
Individual	4%
NGO	25%
School	38%

AMOUNT GRANTED

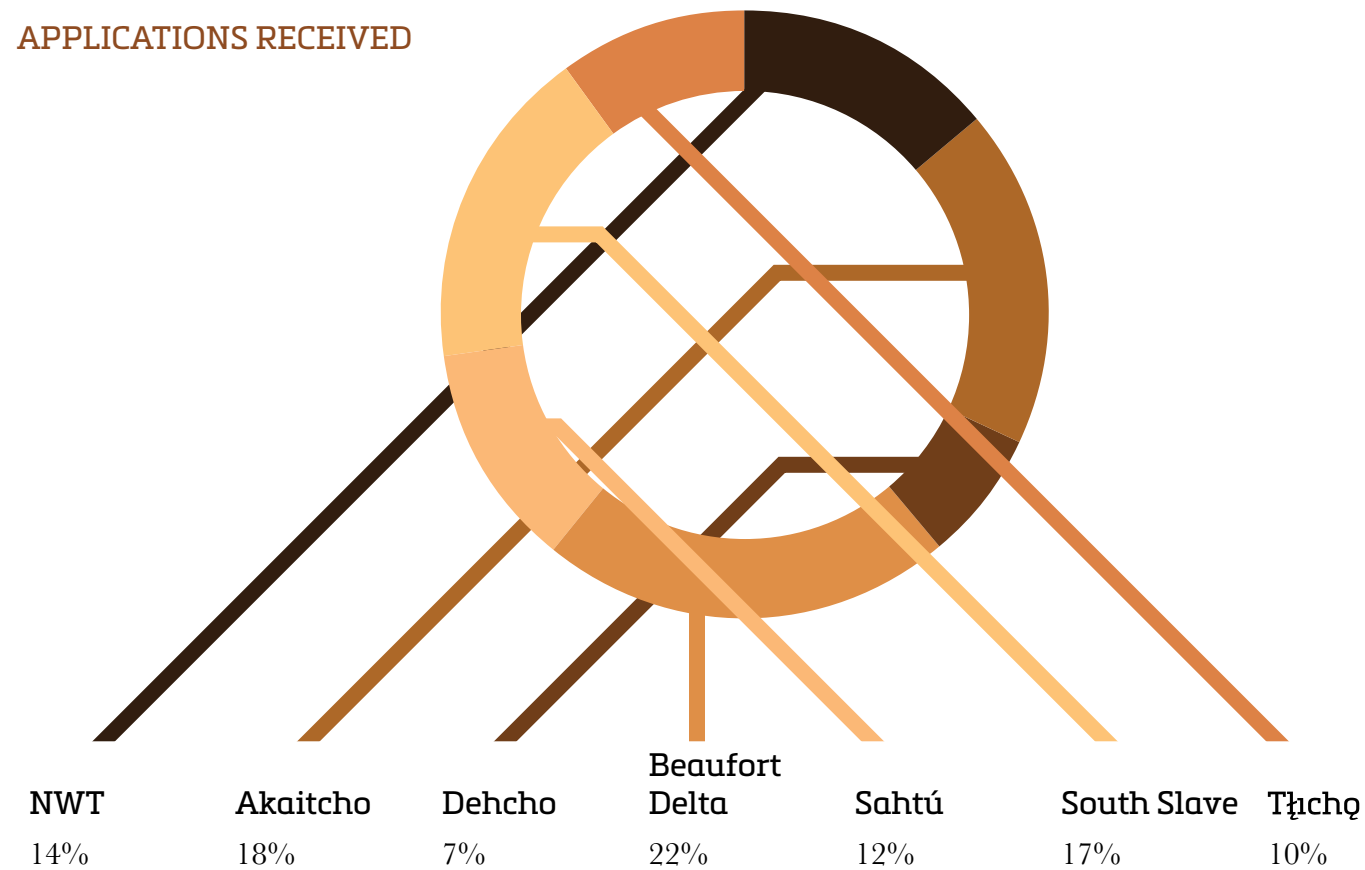


Indigenous Organization	40%
Individual	3%
NGO	25%
School	32%

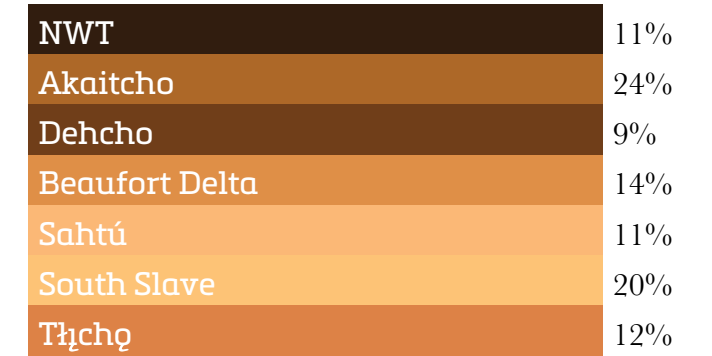
BY REGION.

	No. of Applications	%	Amount Requested	%	No. of Applications Approved	%	Amount Granted	%
NWT	15	14%	\$389,701	11%	4	8%	\$84,000	8%
Akaiicho	19	18%	\$880,375	24%	8	17%	\$205,400	21%
Dehcho	7	7%	\$329,738	9%	4	8%	\$198,690	20%
Beaufort Delta	23	22%	\$511,883	14%	11	23%	\$153,595	15%
Sahtú	12	12%	\$389,975	11%	8	17%	\$187,471	19%
South Slave	18	17%	\$722,870	20%	7	15%	\$82,410	8%
Tłıchq	10	10%	\$445,050	12%	6	13%	\$88,800	9%
TOTAL	104	100%	\$3,669,593	100%	48	100%	\$1,000,366	100%

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED



AMOUNT REQUESTED



APPLICATIONS APPROVED



AMOUNT GRANTED





INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

