# Implementation Update

#### **Implementation Committee Meetings**

The most recent trilateral Implementation Committee meetings were held on April 13 (Inuvialuit), April 23 (Tłpcho) May 12 (Gwich'in) and May 26 (Sahtu). The agendas and resulting minutes from all of the Implementation Committees continue to reflect that the GNWT has no outstanding implementation obligations. The GNWT is working collaboratively with the other parties on several ongoing joint implementation initiatives such as board appointments, board funding, amendments and communications.

#### **Consultation Obligations**

DAAIR's Implementation Division completed a comprehensive review of the Inuvialuit, Gwich'in, Sahtu and Tłįchǫ Agreements, documenting all situations where the GNWT has an obligation to consult with the other parties. This information is included in the GNWT's Consultation Resource Guide, an internal guide for use of GNWT departments with consultation obligations pursuant to Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

#### Déline Transitional Activities

With the text of the Déline Self-government Agreement virtually complete, the parties are now focusing on the completion of the financial and implementation documents that will accompany the final agreement. The parties are also working collaboratively to identify transition activities that will need to be completed prior to effective date such as ratification and preparation for first elections. The parties are also exploring options for building capacity in the community in the area of kindergarten to grade 12 education.

# Intergovernmental Services Agreements (Post Self-government)

In legislative areas where the GNWT and Aboriginal governments will have concurrent jurisdiction, there are a number of possible models and options for aligning the delivery of programs and services in our communities. Intergovernmental Services Agreements may set out how the GNWT and Aboriginal governments will work together to deliver those

programs and services. DAAIR has engaged a consulting firm to develop a framework for assessing different models of intergovernmental program and service delivery. This work will inform our forthcoming discussions with Aboriginal governments on how to develop workable and affordable models for program and service delivery throughout the NWT, once self-government agreements are being implemented.

#### Salt River First Nation Treaty Settlement Agreement – Programs and Services

The Salt River First Nation (SRFN) Treaty Settlement Agreement was signed in March 2002 and the SRFN reserve was created by federal Orderin-Council in September 2008. Pursuant to the Agreement, Canada, GNWT and SRFN have entered into trilateral discussions on improving the administration, delivery and financing of programs and services to SRFN members living on reserve. SRFN's priority is housing so current discussions are focussed on NWT Housing Corporation programs and the availability of those programs to SRFN members residing on reserve.

# Annual General Assemblies 2010

June 1-3	Akaitcho Territory Government	Fort Smith
June 21-25	Dehcho First Nations	Hay River Reserve
July 6-8	Tłįcho Government	Gamètì
July 12 -16	Dene Nation National Assembly	Fort Good Hope
August 9-14	Gwich'in Tribal Council	Aklavik
August 23	Sahtu Dene Council	Délįnę
November (Date TBD)	Northwest Territory Métis Nation	Hay River

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# Aboriginal Affairs & Intergovernmental Relations

Negotiations and Implementation Report

Summer 2010

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# Negotiations Update

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#### Inuvialuit

Regional Self-government AIP Negotiations

The Parties continue to actively work towards completing an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) - now scheduled for March 2011.

Negotiations show progress in several areas, namely: standards and the use of NWT core principles and objectives, Culture and language and fiscal arrangements.

The Parties continue to work on completing how the Inuvialuit Government will be structured and whether the self-government agreement will address local governance matters in relation to municipal services.

#### Gwich'in

Regional Self-government AIP Negotiations

The Parties are at the formative stage of negotiations—exploring how to approach a Gwich'in self-government agreement and exchanging views on the fundamental interests of each party.

The Gwich'in, after consulting with their communities, are looking at an approach to self- government that borrows elements from the approach to self government negotiated by the Yukon First Nations. Negotiations over the coming months will concentrate on these issues.

### **Norman Wells Land Corporation**

**Negotiations Update** 

Community-based Self-government AIP Negotiations

The Parties continue their work on negotiating an AIP.

Implementing the inherent right to self-government in a way that is affordable and workable for the small number of Norman Wells Land Corporation members presents unique challenges.

On March 18, 2010, the negotiating teams held a public information session to brief the residents of Norman Wells on the progress of negotiations. The Parties will continue to share information with Town Council throughout these negotiations.

#### **Fort Good Hope**

Community-based Self-government Framework Agreement Negotiations

The parties are close to concluding a Framework Agreement (FWA). The goal is to conclude negotiations on the FWA in summer 2010. After a FWA is signed, the Parties expect to begin self-government AIP negotiations.

#### **Colville Lake**

Community-based Self-government Framework Agreement Negotiations

In October 2009, Canada received a letter from the Behdzi Ahda First Nation stating



A Framework

Agreement, or

reached by the

Parties at the

beginning of

negotiations.

The FWA sets

out the

process for

including

objectives,

lines and

other issues.

negotiations,

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FWA, is an

agreement

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# Negotiations Update continued...

Colville Lake's desire to begin self-government negotiations. Canada, the GNWT and the Behdzi Ahda First Nation met in January and May of 2010.

The next meeting will be in Colville Lake on July 26th and 27th. The parties will begin negotiations towards concluding a FWA.

#### Tulita

Community-based Self-government AIP Negotiations

Tulita self-government negotiations continue to make progress toward completing an AIP. The parties are presently working on the structure of the Tulita government and the details involved in several areas of law making authority for the Tulita Government.

#### Déljne

Community-based Self-government Final Agreement Negotiations

The negotiation of the text of the Déline Self-government Agreement is virtually complete—except for some outstanding wording that is primarily technical in nature. The Parties' efforts are focussed on financial and implementation negotiations and pre-ratification communications

On April 19-20, 2010, communications teams from each party hosted a productive workshop in Déline. Elders, along with Chief Negotiators, Implemention Negotiators and Communications staff discussed ways to communicate subject matters of the Agreement in plain language.

A Deline Self-government Open House was also held on June 9-10, 2010 in Déline. The intent of the Open House was to encourage residents to come out and ask questions about the Final Self-government Agreement (FSGA). Déline 's Chief Negotiator, along with the GNWT and Federal Chief Negotiators, fielded questions from residents about the benefits of the Déline FSGA.

Chief Negotiators also held a FSGA question and answer session with high school students and elders. Communications teams also met with the high school students and assisted with setting up a Délinę Self-government Facebook page. Each of these sessions resulted in positive feedback from the participants and the community.

#### **Dehcho First Nations**

Regional Land, Resources and Selfgovernment AIP Negotiations

The GNWT remains committed to negotiating and reaching an AIP with the Dehcho First Nations through the Dehcho Process negotiations. Negotiations towards an AIP are continuing.

There is also a commitment to complete an Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan in parallel with the conclusion of an AIP. It is expected that the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee will bring its draft Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan to the main table for its consideration in October 2010.

#### **Acho Dene Koe First Nation**

Community-based Land, Resources and Selfgovernment AIP Negotiations

The Acho Dene Koe First Nation (ADKFN), which for the purposes of negotiations also include the Fort Liard Métis, the GNWT and Canada have made significant progress towards completing an AIP.

This progress has the negotiators targeting October 2010 for completing the AIP.

On November 24 and 25, 2009, the Parties hosted two sessions that provided information about negotiations. There has been active and positive engagement between the ADKFN main table negotiators, community members, elders and students.

#### Kátlodééche First Nation

Negotiators for the Kátlodééche First Nation (KFN) and Canada invited the GNWT to

attend a meeting in April 2010 to discuss KFN pursuing a community-based comprehensive land claim agreement. A workplan for the balance of the year and a negotiating schedule has been developed to complete a FWA.

#### **Akaitcho Dene First Nations**

Regional Land, Resources and Self-government AIP Negotiations

In March 2010, the Akaitcho Dene First Nations (ADFN) tabled an ADFN draft of an AIP. The parties will be meeting over the coming months to review the ADFN draft AIP to confirm where the parties are in generally in agreement and where they differ.

#### **Northwest Territory Métis Nation**

Regional Land and Resources AIP Negotiations

The parties continue to make progress towards completing an AIP. Negotiations in the coming

months will begin to address certain land matters that will be covered in an AIP.

#### Athabasca and Manitoba Denesuline

Transboundary Land and Resources AIP Negotiations

Active negotiations between all parties are expected to resume over the coming months.

The parties will be focusing on the fundamental elements of what is possible in the AIPs.

#### First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun

Transboundary Land and Resource Framework Agreement Negotiations

The parties appear to be very close to finalizing a FWA. Further meetings will work on confirming how the Sahtu and Gwich'in will be kept informed about these negotiations and how any concerns will be brought to the attention of the parties and addressed at negotiations.

Transboundary interests, which are sometimes called overlap issues, deal with parties whose traditional lands, or territory, overlap with one another.

# Negotiations Schedule

June to August 2010

July 2010		Aug. 23-27	Nacho Nyak Dun Trans- boundary Negotiations
July 6-9	Inuvialuit Self-government Negotiations— <i>Ulukhaktok</i>		Yellowknife
July 6-9	Northwest Territory Métis Nation Negotiations Fort Smith	Aug. 24-27	Inuvialuit Self-government Negotiations—Inuvik
		September 2010	
July 12-16	Akaitcho First Nation Negotiations—Ottawa	Aug. 31-Sept. 2	Northwest Territory Métis Nation Negotiations
July 20-22	Acho Dene Koe First Nation /		Edmonton
	Fort Liard Métis Negotiations Fort Liard	Sept. 7-9	Acho Dene Koe First Nation / Fort Liard Métis
July 19-20	Tulita Self-government Negotiations Calgary		Negotiations—Edmonton
		Sept. 13-14	Colville Lake Self-Government Negotiations—Colville Lake
July 21-22	Norman Wells Land Corporation Negotiations Vancouver	Sept. 13-17	Gwich'in Self-government Negotiations—Tsiigehtchic
July 26-30	Nacho Nyak Dun Trans- boundary Negotiations—Mayo	Sept. 13-17	Akaitcho First Nations Negotiations—Hay River
<u>August 2010</u>		Sept. 14-16	<b>Dehcho Process Negotiations</b> <i>Fort Simpson</i>
Aug 18-19	Norman Wells Land Corporation Negotiations Ottawa	Sept. 20-23	Tulita Self-government Negotiations— Tulita
	Ottowa	Sept. 21-23	Nacho Nyak Dun Trans- boundary Negotiations Whitehorse

Transboundary discussions are a common element in negotiating a selfgovernment agreement.