

15 Years: Our Land, Our Children, Our Vision



Gwich'in Tribal Council
2006 ~ 2007 Annual Report
Gwich'in Land, Culture & Economy for a better future.

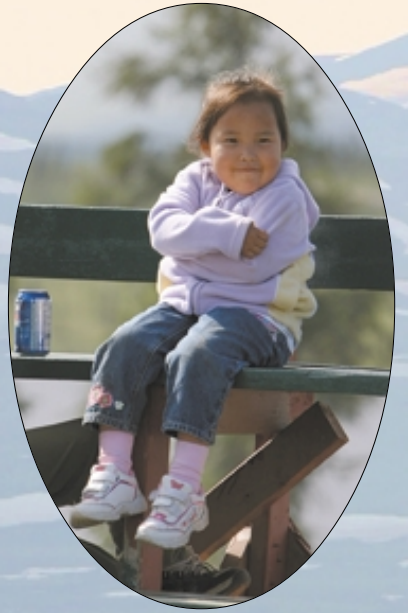


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Drinn Gwiinzii, my friends and fellow Beneficiaries,

Once again we are coming together as a people, to discuss our shared concerns and plan for our future. Originally, I did not expect to attend this Assembly as your President. But late in 2006 a number of Beneficiaries circulated a petition suggesting that in the interests of continuity, the terms of the current Executive should be extended for one more year. The end of the Federal transfer payments and the transition to a new financial situation were approaching; we were discussing devolution and resource revenue sharing with the GNWT and other Aboriginal organizations; this was a crucial time for the proposed Mackenzie Valley pipeline, including the arrangements for SEIF; and important developments were underway in the negotiation of self-government. At such a time, they said, it made sense to keep the present leadership in place for a further year.

I was not prepared to remain in office for another year, unless it was the will of my people. If they wished, I was willing to stay on in order to complete what I regard as my “mission” on your behalf. The petition was brought to the GTC Board of Directors, which agreed to call a Special Assembly in Inuvik early in 2007. After discussion and debate, the Delegates voted to postpone the June 2007 election for a year, and to leave the current Executive in place. I appreciate this show of confidence in the present leadership and will do my best to justify it.

I was elected as your President in 2000 on a promise to bring unity to the GTC. I have worked hard to do this, including the formation of the GTC Executive Council. This group brings the Chiefs in the GSA communities together with the Executive, to make many of the day-to-day decisions needed to make our organization work smoothly and effectively in response to your concerns.

Like you, the rest of our leadership and I saw the need to do more to improve the social and educational conditions of our people. We have allocated \$4 million for education and training, and \$1,000,000 for culture and language programming, with \$500,000 for each community to spend in accordance with its own needs. We also formed a new tax-exempt Education Foundation, which allows funds to be invested in our people’s education and training.

To help Beneficiaries in difficulty, we created the new position of Regional Wellness Manager to help Gwich’in navigate the social service bureaucracy and act as their advocate when dealing with government. Our Social Emergency Assistance Program provides help to Beneficiaries who face unexpected financial hardships as the result of illness or other misfortune. And most recently, we opened a new wellness facility in Inuvik that will help Beneficiaries dealing with addictions and similar problems find their way back to health.



I thought it important that all Gwich'in receive tangible benefits from the Claim. As a result, we formed the Beneficiary Distribution Policy. For the first time in our history, Beneficiaries received a payout, and this now takes place every year. Payouts for Beneficiaries younger than 19 are deposited in the Gwich'in Children's Trust. The accumulated payouts and interest are turned over to Beneficiaries when they turn 19.

In response to grassroots concerns that the self-government process had become too remote from people in their communities, we took back management and administration of Gwich'in self-government initiatives in 2004. Karen Snowshoe, the first Gwich'in to earn a law degree, joined us as Gwich'in Community Development Manager. She and the rest of our self-government staff worked with the Self-Government Committees in each GSA community to develop community constitutions, which have now been completed. We also stepped back from the Beaufort Delta Regional Council until the completion of our internal constitutional development. The GTC Board formally rejected the past Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) on self-government for the Beaufort Delta region and resumed negotiations at a separate Gwich'in negotiating table. Where the old AIP assumed public government structures, we are conducting negotiations on the basis of Aboriginal government at both the community and regional levels.

In 2006, the Board approved a new negotiating mandate and appointed Chief Charles Furlong as Chief Negotiator, with Karen Snowshoe as Assistant Negotiator. We hope to have an agreement in principle within a year.

It has always been my view that true self-sufficiency for our people required a strong economic foundation. I have worked with our CFO, Greg Cayen, to ensure that the GTC and GDC finances are on a sound foundation. We continue to run annual surpluses, and as of this writing are on track to reach our target of \$132 million in the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation. Greg also developed the policy document, "Framing our Fiscal Future." This amended our investment by-law and outlined an investment policy to protect the Gwich'in Settlement Fund principal, as well as a formula for the predictable and sustained funding of Gwich'in organizations after transfer payments end.

We restructured the GDC as a lean and efficient holding company, reducing overhead and focusing on solid long-term investments. The GDC now has well over \$30 million in assets. We have formed strong partnerships, including Inuvik Commercial Properties, which gives us a strong portfolio in commercial real estate, and Inuvik Capital Suites. Gwich'in Helicopters, based at our refurbished hangar in Inuvik, now has its own helicopter.



Our partnership with five major construction firms, allows us to prepare to work as the principal contractor when work commences on the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, with subcontracting opportunities available for Gwich'in firms.

The prospect of a pipeline was a major issue throughout my term as your President. As the Assembly directed, we formed an Access and Benefits negotiating team, which included the four Chiefs and an additional representative from each community. This team negotiated an Access and Benefits agreement, which was executed in November 2005 and accepted by last year's Assembly. We will use the monies from access fees to help implement this agreement.

I was also privileged, as Chairman of the Aboriginal Pipeline Group (APG), to play a leadership role in obtaining one-third Aboriginal ownership of a pipeline, and thus to benefit directly for the lifetime of the project. The GTC also took part, with other Aboriginal groups and the GNWT, in negotiation of a Socio-Economic Impact Fund (SEIF) to mitigate the potential impacts of a pipeline, tied to various project benchmarks. Our share is estimated at \$82 million over ten years, if the project goes ahead, which would allow us to greatly improve social and economic conditions in the GSA.

We are also developing an Education Strategy to help Beneficiaries prepare for the employment opportunities that development brings, as well as a Business Development Strategy to help Gwich'in entrepreneurs take advantage of the business opportunities that will soon be available in the region.

In closing, I want to thank my fellow leaders on the GTC Board and Executive and in the GSA communities, and the hard-working staff of the GTC for their support and assistance over the years. The accomplishments of the last seven years are not mine alone or those of any one individual. Credit belongs to many talented people working together on behalf of future generations. I also wish to thank you, my fellow Beneficiaries, for your unfailing support and your wise advice. The honour of leading you, my people, over this challenging time is an honour which I will remember for the rest of my life.

Mahsi Cho and God bless,



Fred Carmichael
President





Drinn Gwiinzii, my friends.

It is always rewarding for me to have the opportunity to report to you on another year's work as your Vice-President. This year, I want to begin by thanking you for voting, at the February Special Assembly in Inuvik, to extend the terms of Fred Carmichael and me for another year. We appreciate your confidence, and intend to continue working hard on your behalf.

As you may recall, a few years ago the GTC Executive concluded that we could provide better service to Beneficiaries by assigning particular portfolios to individual Executive members. My portfolios include:

- the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI);
- Education and Training;
- Self-Government;
- the Gwich'in Harvesters' Assistance Program (GHAP);
- Lands, Resources, and Implementation;
- the Gwich'in Children's Trust;
- the Gwich'in Council International.

GWICH'IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTE

This year we were happy to welcome back GSCI Research Director Ingrid Kritsch, after a long medical leave. We also went ahead with extensive community consultations on the relocation and consolidation of GSCI operations, as well a new five-year Strategic Plan to set future directions for the organization.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Our Education and Training staff continue to administer the established AHRDA program, as well as the more recent ASEP program, which was formed under a 2004 proposal by the GTC and other Mackenzie Valley Aboriginal groups to fund education, training, and capacity building in anticipation of the proposed Mackenzie Valley natural gas pipeline. I serve as President of Aboriginal Futures, the entity that was formed to coordinate ASEP, and chair its board, on which the GNWT, HRDC, industry, and Aboriginal groups are represented.

The relocation of the Education and Training office to Inuvik in 2005 allowed for more efficient administration of our programs, and the recent formation of the expanded Beneficiary Services division will enable us to provide you with still better service. In 2006, the GTC Board also approved new post-secondary funding criteria to direct assistance where it is most needed, while setting out procedures for the repayment of all student debt.

Education and Training Program Coordinator Andrée Jove spent much of the last year in wide-ranging consultations with GSA communities to develop an Education Strategy that will set future priorities for our education and training programs, and directions for working with others so as to ensure that all Beneficiaries are well-positioned to take advantage of the opportunities available to them.



The Strategy will come before the GTC Board for its approval this summer.

GWICH'IN HARVESTERS' ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Following our most recent survey of GHAP applicants, we had extensive discussions of GHAP at the Regional RRC meeting in Tsiigehtchic this January. The meeting endorsed ongoing reviews of the program every five years. It also supported the provision of the \$12,500 in Community Initiatives funding to each RRC at the beginning of the Fiscal Year, replacing the previous arrangement where RRCs were required to prepare proposals for each project that would use the funds, and submit them to the GTC. This will save time that RRCs now spend writing proposals, while leaving the existing accountabilities in place (example, the RRCs already submit audited financial statements and the minutes of the meetings at which funding decisions are made).

At a meeting later in January, the GTC Board approved this change as a further step in our efforts to build capacity at the community level and transfer program responsibilities to the RRCs. Other recent changes to GHAP remain popular, notably the exemption of Elders from the required 25% down-payment. This exemption makes it easier for our elders to continue practicing traditional harvesting.

SELF-GOVERNMENT

Over the last year, Karen Snowshoe and the rest of our self-government staff worked hard with Beneficiaries in their communities on the development of community constitutions. These are now complete, with ratification to follow. Following the approval by the GTC Board of a new negotiating mandate, and his appointment as our Chief Negotiator, Chief Charlie Furlong has led our negotiating team at the separate Gwich'in negotiation table. He has tabled a proposal for Gwich'in governing structures at the regional level, as a basis for further discussion. The concept Charlie developed was discussed at a day-long workshop on self-government in Inuvik in April, and he and his colleagues will visit the GSA communities for further discussion and feedback in the weeks ahead. We hope to conclude an Agreement-in-Principle on self-government this year.

LANDS, RESOURCES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Following the departure of Deb Bisson in 2005, Norman Snowshoe took over responsibilities as Director of Lands, Resources and Implementation on an interim basis. He has now assumed that position permanently and continues to serve us well in dealing with the many issues that arise in this area. Every second month, all LRI personnel meet to review their Task List, and ensure that progress continues on all files.



GWICH'IN CHILDREN'S TRUST

The money from each GTC payout plus accrued interest accumulates in this Trust for all Beneficiaries younger than nineteen. When Beneficiaries reach that age, the money becomes available to them to help finance further education, start a business, purchase a house, or begin another major life undertaking. The Trust is one vehicle for ensuring that some of the fruits of our success go to help future generations, and that every Gwich'in gets something tangible from the Land Claim.

GWICH'IN COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL

The Gwich'in Council International represents the interests of the 9,000 Gwich'in people who live in the NWT, Yukon, and Alaska. In 2004, I became the organization's chair and the GTC agreed to take on responsibility for the organization's day-to-day operations. We made office space available first in the Jim Koe Building and then in the Mack Travel Building (after its addition to our commercial real estate portfolio). This year, chairmanship will pass to Craig Fleeson of Arctic Village, Alaska, while I carry on as co-chair. In February, Bridgette Larocque, a Beneficiary originally from Inuvik who has lived and worked for many years in Yellowknife, took over from Terry Peterson as GCI Executive Director. This year, Bridgette and I visited with representatives of various funding agencies in Ottawa and Toronto.

The importance of climate change issues is increasingly recognized and we, in the North, are the first to feel the effects. As a result, educational and other activities related to climate change are now an important part of the GCI's mandate, one to which we plan to devote more time and resources in the next year.

Of course, the most enjoyable moments in my job come when I am able to spend time with you, my fellow Beneficiaries, in your homes and communities. It is of service to listen to your concerns and draw strength from your wisdom and support. I would like to thank you for your many kindnesses over the past year, as well as my own family, and the staff and my fellow leaders at the GTC for their hard work. I particularly wish to thank Fred Carmichael. It is an honour to work alongside and learn from a leader of such wisdom, who has done so much for his people.

Mahsi Cho,



Mary Ann Ross
Vice-President





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Drinn Gwiinzii, my friends,

I am pleased to report to you following another busy and productive year at the GTC.

As you may recall, in 2005 the GTC negotiated Access and Benefits agreements with the Mackenzie Gas Project. These agreements respect the Guiding Principles set out by the Assembly plus the *GCLCA*, and are based on modified Gwich'in Land Management and Control Guidelines. They were ratified by the GTC Board on November 23, 2005, and executed on December 23. Since then, we have directed much of our time and energy to their implementation.

The National Energy Board and Joint Review Panel hearings have now concluded, and within the next year a decision is likely on whether the project will go ahead. In the meantime, we are taking the necessary steps to ensure that Gwich'in Beneficiaries and businesses are prepared for the training, employment and business opportunities that it will bring.

Monies we have received under the Access and Benefits agreements enabled us to form an Education Fund and Business Capacity Fund, as well as to increase our investment in education, training and wellness. In 2006-2007, Gwich'in Business Development Manager Jake Heron and I have met several times with the Joint Advisory Committee, the principal committee for implementing the agreements.

It deals with all employment and contracting issues relating to the pipeline and is involved in communicating information on business opportunities to:

- Beneficiaries who either have businesses and want to build up their capacity;
- Those who are interested in establishing new businesses to take advantage of the opportunities available under the agreements.

The GTC, through President Fred Carmichael along with other Aboriginal groups and the GNWT, were involved in the lobbying for funds to mitigate the social and economic impacts of the pipeline. Our joint efforts led to the formation of the Socio-Economic Impacts Fund (SEIF), which provides for up to \$500 million (tied to project benchmarks) over a ten-year period. The funding is intended to not only address direct impacts of development activity, but to deal with existing problems which the project might make worse.

The Gwich'in share of the \$500 million is \$82 million. The GTC will be involved in the development of a regional investment plan which will set community and regional priorities. We will also have a role in the development of regional administrative structures, with a five-member committee of three GTC and two GNWT representatives to review and approve proposals for eligible projects. We will also be represented on the Review Committee that will develop policies and terms of reference for the Corporation for the Mitigation of Mackenzie Gas Project Impacts, the territorial legal entity through which SEIF funding will flow from the Federal Government.



The 2005 Assembly approved the GTC Strategic Plan, and we are now well into the implementation phase. This year the GTC hired Genesis Group to conduct Human Resource assessments of all Gwich'in organizations, looking at both their present capacities and anticipated future needs. As we proceed toward self-government and greater self-sufficiency following the end of Federal transfer payments, ensuring we meet our capacity-building requirements regionally and within the GSA communities becomes more important than ever. Prior to further discussions of capacity-building needs, the GTC held a one-day workshop in Inuvik this April, chaired by Director, Self-Government, Karen Snowshoe, to assess progress to date and discuss "next steps."

The GTC is no longer working through the Aboriginal Summit on matters related to devolution and resource revenue sharing. Instead, we are working directly with the GNWT and other Aboriginal organizations to establish a process for negotiating these matters with Ottawa. These arrangements will be crucial to the ability of Aboriginals and other Northerners to benefit from the development of resources on our own lands. Devolution and resource revenue sharing are among the issues we discuss at the leadership meetings with the GNWT which we now hold on a regular basis. We held meetings in November 2006 and March 2007, at which we had the opportunity to raise our concerns with the Premier and members of his Cabinet.

Our MOU on government contracting within the GSA obligates the GNWT to meet with us at least annually to review its implementation. While we continue to meet the overall target of 50% of contracts by value in the GSA, we do have concerns about the way the MOU works and have long believed that it could be improved. As we approached the fifth and final year of the current MOU and with renewal on the agenda, we conducted a joint evaluation through the consulting firm KiSquared. At our March meeting with the GNWT, we held a separate and public session on the MOU at which we discussed options for improving the MOU and listened to the concerns and suggestions of Beneficiaries in business for themselves.

Forming strong partnerships with the GNWT and others is an essential part of the GTC's work and we have become very good at accessing third-party funding. Our record of competence and accountability has earned the confidence of government and other granting agencies.

As part of our ongoing efforts to serve Gwich'in better, we recently brought the Education and Training and Human Resource department under one organizational roof within the new Beneficiary Services division. With increased funding, this division will provide even better service to Beneficiaries in areas such as financial training and post-secondary education, career counseling, and finding employment through registration with our Human Resources Database.



The GTC itself continues to promote capacity building through employment of Beneficiaries. A clear majority of our employees, including most of our managerial personnel, are Gwich'in. We also remain an active corporate citizen, supporting a wide range of charitable, cultural, and recreational groups.

I wish to thank all GTC staff, and the members of the Board and Executive, for their hard work over the year. It is only as a result of all their efforts that we are able to do so much on behalf of all Beneficiaries.

Mahsi Cho,



Tom R. Williams
Chief Operating Officer



In September 2006 the GTC Executive approved a reorganization of our previous departments of Human Resources, Education and Training and Communications to a new Department called Beneficiary Services.

Below is a brief description of our staff and their functions.

Director – Tammy Rogers. Tammy oversees the department and reports to the executive on the activities of the department. She is also responsible for providing the Human Resource function to the staff of the Gwich'in Tribal Council, and the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. She maintains all employee files, all staffing of positions as well as sits on various committees in the community regarding capacity development. Over the past few months, Tammy has been working closely with a contractor on conducting Human Resource Assessments in the communities, as well as sitting on the Education Strategy Committee and the Capacity Building Committee.

Manager Education and Training – Debra English. Debbie is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Education and Training Staff. Debbie has two staff in Fort McPherson who report to her and provide services to beneficiaries accessing education and training programs. Under Debbie's responsibility are the following programs: ASEP – Aboriginal Skills to Employment Partnership and AHRDA- Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement. Debbie works closely with our funders as well as groups and individuals that we fund.

Debbie supervises Diane Koe **AHRDA Coordinator** and Margaret Thompson **ASEP Coordinator**. Both of Debbie's staff are responsible for administering their program areas and providing day-to-day assistance and support to their clients under these programs. Both Diane and Margaret work out of our Fort McPherson Office.

Career Development Officer – formerly Employment Liaison Officer. The position is currently vacant as Connie Stewart has moved back to Fort McPherson after completing her Management Studies Diploma. We are in the process of hiring a Career Development Officer. Over the past year our Department staff have talked about re-describing the Employment Liaison Officer position with more of a Career Development focus, so we have changed the title and some of the responsibilities and are currently in the process of hiring for this position. This position is very key to our department as it is the first contact that our Beneficiaries have with us when accessing programs that we offer. The position assists beneficiaries in the following areas: resume writing, job searching, career development, and applications for funding. The position is part of a career development team that involves the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation in delivering career fairs and career week activities, just to name a few. Over the next year our Career Development Officer will be traveling to the communities to meet with the students in the schools and to deliver resume writing workshops to community members.



Office Manager – Cheryl Wright . Cheryl provides many vital services to our Beneficiaries and reports on them to the Director of Beneficiary Services. Our Education Foundation programs, Bursaries, Scholarships, Grad Gifts and Tutoring are processed through Cheryl. She also keeps track of all enrolment of beneficiaries entering and leaving our Claim.

Administrative Assistant – Gina Firth. Gina joined our Department on November 14, 2006. She moved to Inuvik from Fort McPherson. Gina's responsibilities include keeping us organized as a department. She issues enrolment cards to beneficiaries, assisting where needed and keeping our Human Resource Data Base up to date. All of you who have not submitted your resume to our data base and would like to or would like to just update your file, please feel free to contact Gina, she will be happy to assist you.

Communications Advisor – Lawrence Norbert. Last but certainly not least is Lawrence. He does an excellent job in keeping you informed on all our activities. Lawrence has been very instrumental in increasing the profile of the Gwich'in Tribal Council. He has been designated as our Photographer and is doing a tremendous job. He also produces our newsletters and provided the photos for this year's Annual Report. The GTC website is also one of Lawrence's responsibilities. He has also completed the first draft of the GTC Communications Policy which will be going to the Executive for approval soon.

2006/2007 Major Projects

Human Resource Strategy

In 2005 the GTC Board of Directors worked on the GTC Strategic Plan and presented it at the Assembly that summer. It was approved as the direction that the Tribal Council would take for the next few years. The plan identified many areas that needing to be addressed, including the need to do a Human Resource Assessment for our community organizations. In following this direction, the GTC was able to secure funding to complete this project.

The Genesis Group (GG) was contracted to do phase one of the Human Resource Assessment, including assessments for the GTC, DGOs, RRCs and Bands. Deb Simpson and Susan LeDrew (GG) traveled to each of the communities and conducted interviews with all the staff and leadership that were available. Staff were surveyed on what skills they felt they currently had and what areas they felt they needed training in. Leadership was asked about what they felt their communities needed in regards to capacity. The final report from this assessment is complete and will be presented to the Board of Directors on July 27th for their approval. The GTC Capacity Building Committee will then be working on implementing parts of the report.



Education Strategy

In 2006 the Gwich'in Tribal Council hired Andrée Jove as **Program Coordinator for Education and Training** to develop an Education Strategic Plan. The reason for hiring this position was because the Executive wanted to address the following concerns:

1. The GTC has the people, access to funding and programs, but not enough Gwich'in Participants are navigating their way through the system to secure fulfilling careers.
2. A number of students are dropping out of school, or they have been "inclusively schooled" (also referred to social passing). Consequently, they do not possess the skills or knowledge to continue with their education and/or seek meaningful employment.
3. The Education and Training Department needs to be reviewed to ensure that program and service delivery meets the GTC's mandate.

Over the course of the year Andrée has been very busy doing research which was conducted through community surveys in Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Inuvik, Tsiigehtchic, Whitehorse and Yellowknife. Gwich'in Participants were invited to express their views regarding the barriers to education and also possible solutions to address these concerns. Past and present students were asked about some of the challenges and successes they experienced while attending school (or a training course). Leadership, employers and educators were solicited for their opinions on what supports, programming or services could be put in place to ensure that staff, or students, are qualified and prepared for the workforce.

The final report from this assessment is completed and was presented to the GTC Board of Directors on May 15, 2007. It was approved and it has already been presented to interested community groups. It will be presented again at the Annual Gwich'in Assembly in August.

Our next year will be quite busy implementing the HR Assessment and the Education Strategy.



Education Foundation

In December 2006, the GTC Board of Directors approved some changes to the policy. Below is a short outline of the changes.

1. **Format change** - The policy has been revised to reflect the following format changes;
 - a. Change of name to Education Foundation, which is the legal entity name of the fund.
 - b. Applications are reviewed by the Education and Training Committee for approval.
 - c. Format each area to look the same as the others, this makes it easier to find information if it all looks the same.

2. Prioritization

As a result of the increased number of applicants accessing our funding we have had to set criteria and guidelines to work within our budget constraints. The following are the proposed changes to the Education Foundation Policy concerning priority; previously funding was allocated on a first-come, first-served basis:

Bursaries

Priority consideration will be established as follows.

- a. Master/Doctorate Programs.
- b. Degree Programs (4th year, 3rd year, 2nd year, 1st year).
- c. Diploma Programs (2nd year, 1st year).
- d. Certification/Trades Programs, (4th year, 3rd year, 2nd year, 1st year).
- e. Certificate Programs.
- f. University College Access Program and Developmental Studies.
- g. Students continuing existing programs.
- h. New Applicants.

Scholarships

Priority consideration will be established as follows and all applicants will receive \$1,000.

- a. Master/Doctorate Programs.
- b. Degree Programs (4th year, 3rd year, 2nd year, 1st year).
- c. Diploma Programs (2nd year, 1st year).
- d. Certificate Programs.



Graduate Gifts

Priority consideration will be established as follows, and the limits have been changed from \$250 per program to the following.

- a. Master/Doctorate Programs (\$250)
- b. Degree Programs (\$250)
- c. Diploma Programs (\$250)
- d. Trade Certification (\$250)
- e. Certificate Programs (\$250)
- f. High school Graduation (\$100)

Note: High school graduates will have to show proof that they have met the requirements to graduate before they receive a gift. Proof will be a copy of their diploma or certificate of graduation.

I would like to stress that applicants have not been denied due to lack of funding; they have however been denied due to not being eligible for the program

3. Criteria for Payback of Training Funds and Ineligibility

The recommended change is to remove the three years that a person is suspended for if they choose not to pay back their debt. The way the policy used to read, after three years the debt is written off.

We would like to change it to show that the debt is never written off, and that the GTC make every effort to collect the funds that are in default without having a time limit for write-offs. At our recent Education and Training Committee meeting in November, it became apparent that there is a need for a strong policy to collect debt owed to the GTC. The Committee was presented with a list of students on the default list. The list at the time contained \$150,000 worth of funds that were owed back to the Education and Training Department, of which approximately 30-40% were from the Education Foundation.

2006/2007 Funding Education Foundation, Imperial Fund, Kodiak Fund Bursaries

169 Applications — 130 Assisted;
48 were returning students;
39 were either denied or chose not to attend school;
\$170,650 given out to students;
\$128,550 from the Education Fund;
\$42,100 from the Imperial Fund;
Training Allowances and Tutoring — \$28,870;
— 12 students were assisted;
\$23,959 Education Fund;
\$4,911 Imperial Fund;
Approximately \$3,000 was spent on tutoring for 3 students.



BENEFICIARY SERVICES REPORT

Scholarships

19 Scholarships totaling \$19,000;
\$12,000 from the Education Foundation;
\$7,000 from the Imperial Fund.

Graduate Gifts

\$18,000 was given out;
34 Post Secondary Graduates;
41 High School Graduates.

Kodiak Fund

The Kodiak fund has been used to provide training opportunities to Gwich'in in the work place who requiring professional development.
3 Beneficiaries were assisted totaling \$4,784.

242 Beneficiaries accessed our programs in 2006/2007 totaling \$241,304.



STATS

Graduation Statistics

34 Gwich'in Post Secondary Graduates in 2006

3 Degree Graduates:

– 1 Nursing, 1 Education, 1 Social Work

14 Diploma Graduates – 2 yr programs:

3 - NRTP	3 - Mgmt. Studies
1- Social Work	1 - Fashion Design
1- Business Admin	1- Nursing
1- Computers	1- Auto mechanics
1- Social Work	1- Theology

17 Certificate Graduates – 1 yr programs:

1 - Criminal Justice	10 - Office Admin
3- Traditional Arts	3 - Leadership Cert.

High School Graduates

Aklavik	3
Fort McPherson	18
Inuvik	7
Tsiigehtchic	2
Out of GSA	11

The past year has proven to be a very busy one for our staff. We have accomplished a lot and continue to work towards implementing the goals that have been set by our Executive and Board of Directors.



The Gwich'in Enrolment Board has operated since March 1993 and is responsible for enrolling all suitable individuals of Gwich'in ancestry under the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (GCLCA)*.

Enrolment under the *GCLCA* is necessary to vote or run in GTC elections, participate in the activities of the GTC and its affiliated bodies, or receive benefits such as payouts and Christmas hampers. The first Gwich'in Enrolment Registry was published in 1994 and listed 1,245 Beneficiaries. We now have 3,208 beneficiaries and continue to receive new applications.

On February 22, 1998, the Gwich'in Acceptance Process ("community acceptance") ended, and enrolment is now solely by application to the Enrolment Board. The Enrolment Coordinator distributes and receives applications under Section 4.2.1 of the *GCLCA*. The Enrolment Board meets three times a year to review completed applications. Each application the Board accepts is then processed by the Enrolment Coordinator who prepares a Certificate of Enrolment for each Beneficiary. On Enrolment, each Beneficiary also receives a Gwich'in Enrolment Card bearing the logo of the Gwich'in Nation and the Beneficiary's four-digit enrolment number and associated community.

Enrolment under the *GCLCA* is not identical with membership in a Gwich'in Band. To change Band affiliation, you must contact both your local Band and the Enrolment Board. You must enrol under the *GCLCA* itself to receive its benefits, and membership is not automatic even if you already belong to a Band. To apply, you must request and complete an application form. Enrolment is open to all who qualify regardless of age, so eligible Gwich'in can enrol themselves and their children simultaneously.

Since 2002, the Enrolment Board has been located permanently in Inuvik. Enrolment Coordinator Cheryl Wright frequently visits the GSA communities, and other communities with sizeable Gwich'in populations, to distribute and collect applications. As a result of the Enrolment Registry's continuous updating since late 2001, Christmas hampers and payout cheques have been successfully delivered to Beneficiaries, and many Gwich'in living outside the GSA have been enrolled.

Keeping the Registry up-to-date as people move, marry, have children, and die is an important part of the Enrolment Coordinator's work. Beneficiaries continue to receive all the benefits to which they are entitled only as long as we have current and accurate information. It is important to ensure that we have up-to-date addresses and other information on you and your family. We also urge you to contact us if you know someone who may be eligible but has not yet enrolled. It is easier than ever to stay in touch, through our toll-free telephone number, email, and the GTC website.



Enrolment Board:

Mary Ann Ross, Chair-Inuvik
Anna May McLeod-Tsiigehtchic
Leanne Nerysoo-Aklavik
Robert Alexie, Sr.-Fort McPherson

Box 1509, Inuvik, NT., X0E 0T0
Tel. 867-777-7916; Fax. 867-777-7919;
Toll-Free: 1-866-414-4670
Email: cherylw@gwichin.nt.ca
Web Site: www.gwichin.nt.ca



The GSCI mandate is “to document, promote and preserve the practice of Gwich'in culture, language, traditional knowledge and values”.

“Our Elders...are the sources of traditional knowledge and can give guidance in terms of cultural matters and values. We encourage our Elders and our youth to work together, so that communication and respect are fostered and maintained. In this way, we hope that our traditions, cultural values, and the social well-being of our people will be carried out into the next millennium.”

(from *GTC Annual Report 1995/96*; p. 21)

In 2006/07, the GSCI's 5-Year Plan 2006-2010 entitled *Iindo Khelok Tr'eedah (Moving Forward as One)* continues to guide our language, cultural and heritage work. The research projects and activities are listed under Heritage and Cultural Research, Gwich'in Language Plan, Gwich'in Language Centre; and Administration.

HERITAGE AND CULTURAL RESEARCH

Arctic Red River Headwaters Project

Phase 1 of this project carried out for the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board identified gaps in our knowledge for this area related to traditional use and heritage resources. Phase II involved carrying out oral history interviews in Tsiigehtchic and Fort Good Hope and the final report describes the traditional use of the Arctic Red River Headwaters area by the Gwich'in and Slavey people from the late 1800s to the present.



Maps in the report were digitized by Kristi Benson and show the location of trails, cabins and camp sites, named places, burial sites, and habitat areas in this area. Phase III work in the summer of 2007 will include traditional ecological knowledge interviews and a preliminary archaeological survey and will build upon the first and second phases.

Gwich'in Traditional Caribou Skin Clothing Exhibit, Unveiling Ceremony, Inuvik

The exhibit of the 19th century Gwich'in Caribou Skin Clothing replica made by Inuvik seamstresses was formally unveiled in Inuvik in late July 2006 at the Capital Suites in a new case that was installed. The unveiling ceremony took place during the Gwich'in Gathering that was held in Inuvik.

Gwich'in Traditional Caribou Skin Clothing Exhibits and Book

The Research Director worked with Judy Thompson (CMC) and Joanne Bird (PWNHC) on exhibits about the Gwich'in traditional Caribou Skin Clothing Project. The exhibit for the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is currently on display and the exhibit at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull Quebec, is scheduled for 2007. Smaller versions of the exhibit will be designed for the four Gwich'in communities. A book published in December 2005 called *Yeenoo dai'k'e tr'ijikat' ganagwaandau: Long Ago Sewing We Will Remember* will accompany the exhibits.

Ingrid worked with PWNHC staff to finalize the plaque text that will be installed in each of the four Gwich'in community clothing display cases. There will be two small plaques in each case describing the project – one in English and one in Gwich'in. The English text still needs to be translated into Gwich'in. Once done, the community exhibits will be complete.

Ehdiitat Gwich'in Place Names Verification Project

The first project undertaken in Aklavik this year was to complete the Ehdiitat Gwich'in place names previously recorded by Sheila Greer with Aklavik Elders in 1999. Some of the original Elders who worked with Sheila – Alfred Semple, Catherine Semple, and Annie B. Gordon along with George Edwards and Alan Koe verified the place names. The Gwich'in Integrated GIS Manager, Tracy Creighton, updated the verified place names and William G. Firth, Language Centre Manager, assisted with the phonetic spelling of the Gwich'in place names that were recorded at the meeting by Annie B. Gordon. The information from the 2-day verification session was later used in the Ehdiitat Gwich'in Territorial Historic Site Nomination Project.

Ehdiitat Gwich'in Territorial Historic Site Nomination Project

The second project undertaken in Aklavik this year involved Knut Lang's Place. The GNWT provides funds to assist communities and organizations to nominate places of significance to the NWT Historic Places Registry.

In 2004/2005, GSCI worked with the community of Fort McPherson to nominate two sites within their traditional land use area: Nataiinlaii and the Mouth of the Peel Village. This year GSCI worked with a steering committee in Aklavik to select possible sites, and at a meeting in November selected two areas for nomination to the Territorial Historic Sites register – Pokiak and Knut Lang's Place. There is not enough recorded information about Pokiak to go ahead with the nomination this year. The committee then nominated Knut Lang's Place, located on the Peel Channel, because the trader Knut Lang was held in high regard by the people of the area and he was well remembered for his caring and generosity. Commemorating the site itself as well as the good relationship between Gwich'in and Knut Lang was considered important to the steering committee. Nomination forms for Knut Lang's Place were reviewed and revised by the committee before being submitted to the GNWT Cultural Places Office at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. The steering committee members are: George Edwards, Mildred Edwards, Annie B. Gordon, Danny Greenland, Richard Ross, and Catherine Semple.

Ehdiitat Gwich'in Heritage Sites: Potential Heritage Conservation Zones

The third project undertaken in Aklavik this year involved the selection of potential Heritage Conservation Zones. The GSCI was contracted by the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board to conduct preliminary interviews about important heritage areas for the Ehdiitat Gwich'in of Aklavik.



This work is being carried out to supplement the 5-year review of the Gwich'in Land Use Plan (2003). Interviews with select Aklavik Elders and Elders originally from Aklavik were conducted and transcribed, and special places on the cultural and historical landscape were identified as follows: (1) Pokiak, (2) Knut Lang's Place, (3) Jim Firth's Place, (4) Fish Hole, (5) Fish Hole on Big Fish Creek, (6) Fish Point, (7) Big Eddy, (8) Black Mountain, (9) Red Mountain, (10) Historic dog-team trails, (11) the Delta. Recommendations for further interviews and research were also gathered from the Elders.

Geographic Information System (GIS)

Oral history and traditional knowledge information, such as traditional trails, burial sites, camp sites, and historical sites, has been recorded on paper maps and in taped transcripts by the GSCI since 1992. This information is now stored and has been updated within a computerized mapping system, or GIS. Kristi Benson, Researcher, inputted GSCI traditional knowledge and land use data into the GIS so that we can respond to land use permits more efficiently, create maps with heritage information for the communities, and work towards creating a Gwich'in Atlas. GSCI will be looking into how we can support our own GIS or partner with another organization to do so.

GTC Mapping (Dene Nation Mapping Project)

This year's project is a continuation of work carried out by GSCI last year by Randy Freeman. Randy has worked at the Resource Centre of the Dene Nation in Yellowknife, the NWT Archives at the PWHNC, and has catalogued the maps and tapes recorded by Gwich'in interviewees in the 1970s and 1980s for the Dene Nation Mapping Project. He created a database to store this information. This year the GSCI conducted the following tasks: preserved some of the original Dene Nation maps in storage at the Territorial Archives; purchased the materials required for preservation, such as file folders and tissue paper; photocopied project paperwork onto stable paper; digitized the degrading cassettes into computer files; and started work on the computerized mapping files. Additional funds in February allowed for the purchase of all the required preservation materials for next year and for the computerized mapping work. This year the cassette tapes were digitized and paperwork photocopied by Nadira Begg. The preservation and the computerized mapping is on going. The preservation of the maps and the update to the computerized mapping will be completed over the next several years.

Gwichya Gwich'in Googwandak book (2nd edition)

The community history book that describes the stories of Gwichya Gwich'in life on the land from pre-contact times to the present is being revised before a 2nd edition is printed; a good opportunity to not only correct the errors in the first edition but also to add new information and photographs.



Land Use Permits, Development and License Applications

GSCI continues to review and provide comments on land use permit applications from the Gwich'in Land and Water Board and the GTC Lands Administration in terms of possible impacts on heritage resources. Each application can take between two hours to one day to complete. Letters are drafted detailing concerns that the GSCI has, if any, about the research or development being planned. It does appear that the GSCI's contribution is not overlooked, as one permafrost project moved a monitoring station away from a concentration of traditional trails at the request of the GSCI. Having traditional knowledge and oral history information in the GIS has made the license reviews much quicker and more detailed. We can easily see if there are trails, cabins, fish lakes, etc, near a proposed development. GSCI anticipates that the number of permit applications may increase significantly in the next few years and we need to ensure that we have funding to continue the input of data into the GIS. It will become critical in our being able to respond in a meaningful way. We also need to ensure that a better process of consultation is in place, that our GIS system is fully functional, and that staff is well trained to handle this responsibility.

Mackenzie River Canadian Heritage River Nomination

The GSCI continued to provide direction and oversaw the work needed to nominate the Mackenzie River as a Canadian Heritage River on behalf of the Gwich'in Tribal Council. The Steering Committee members include Albert Lafferty (chair – Metis), Martina Norwegian (Dehcho), Henry Tobac (Sahtu), Ingrid Kritsch (Gwich'in), plus representatives from GNWT (Gerry LePrieur, Tom Andrews) and the Federal government (Brian Grimsey). The Gwich'in Cultural Chapter is the only chapter finished to date and the process GSCI used is being used as a model for the rest. The Inuvialuit are not part of the committee at this time due to other priorities. For now the other partners will put forward their nomination. In working with this steering committee, it has become clear that other regions would benefit greatly from having an institute like GSCI dedicated to pursue heritage matters like this. Lack of funding has also slowed the process.

Repatriating Traditional Gwich'in Skills and Knowledge

Natasha Lyons, Ph.D. student, University of Calgary, who completed an artifact project with Inuvialuit Elders in Aklavik and Inuvik, met with six Elders from Fort McPherson on March 22, 2007 in Fort McPherson in a workshop for the pilot project of repatriating traditional skills and knowledge.



The first objective was to have the Elders focus on certain objects and their associated skill set that they would be interested in re-producing. At the end of the workshop the Elders decided upon repatriating the skills and knowledge associated with caribou leg skins (a rectangle of caribou hide with short, sturdy hair that is removed from the lower leg of the caribou, generally the lower hind legs). The next phase of the project will be to develop a research design to produce a caribou leg skin bag and sled under the direction of Gwich'in Elders and to teach involved Gwich'in youth in the process of re-learning the skills associated with their manufacture.

Teetl'it Gwich'in Googwandak

GSCI in partnership with Michael Heine began work on Teetl'it Gwich'in Googwandak community history book. This will be a multi-year project that will produce a published book describing the history, stories, legends, archaeology, and much more of the Teetl'it Gwich'in, similar to the Gwichya Gwich'in Googwandak, and will require archival research, oral history interviews, and using information from previous studies such as ethno-archaeology. Last April, a steering committee meeting was held with members Walter Alexie, Robert Alexie Sr., Jane Charlie, Bertha Francis, Doris Itsi, William Koe, Eunice Mitchell, Rachel Stewart, Mary Teya, Fred Koe and Sharon Snowshoe.

A newsletter was later distributed in Fort McPherson explaining the work to come. Eleanor Mitchell-Firth began re-translating COPE tapes that will be used in this project and so far she has retranslated stories told by Andrew Kunnizzi, William Nerysoo, Christie Thompson, and Lucy Vaneltsi.

Vik'ooyendik (Church Hill) Territorial Historic Site Nomination Project

Like the Knut Lang's Place nomination described above, the GNWT provided funds to GSCI to assist Tsiigehtchic to nominate places of significance to the NWT Historic Places Register. GSCI worked with a steering committee to nominate important sites to the NWT Historic Sites Register. The Vik'ooyendik (or Church Hill) site was nominated for its cultural and historic values; as the site of the famous Raven story, as a peaceful place to sit and relax, and for the many named places and attached stories that can be viewed from this vantage point. Nomination forms for the Vik'ooyendik site were reviewed, revised by the committee and forwarded to the GNWT Cultural Places Office at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre for their consideration. The steering committee members are: Cecil Andre, Noel Andre, Ruby Lennie, John Norbert and Chief Peter Ross.



GWICH'IN LANGUAGE PLAN

Gwich'in Language Dictionary - Sixth Edition

Over the last few months, fluent Elders and a few well-chosen youth began working on the Gwich'in Language Dictionary with verification of terms and phrases. We had anticipated publishing another version this year, however, we find that the format and structure of the Dictionary was more of a concern to many and so this was placed to the forefront of our workplan. We therefore hired a Linguist Consultant from the Indigenous Language Institute, by the name of Chris Harvey, who has worked in the area of native languages and publishing of educational material. With his assistance, we have reformatted the Gwich'in Language Dictionary and so all data is now entered at a faster and more economical pace than previously. We have worked at entering all information as before and new information that was worked on in this fiscal year to the degree that everything looks and feels of professionalism.

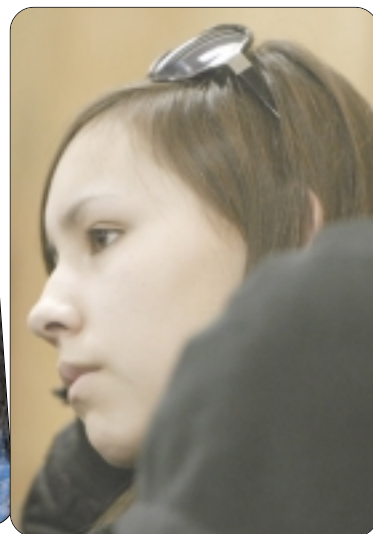
Gwich'in Elders' Biographies 2006/2007

We have worked at interviewing prominent elders within our communities of Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Inuvik and Tsiigehtchic. The matters that we speak with them on are tailored towards Lifetime Memoirs and areas of personal importance, such as place of birth, names of parents, place names, education both in Residential School and on the land, years of marriage, number of children and grandchildren, their educational background, and words of encouragement to the youth of today, just to name a few.

These elders are very encouraged to see that we are interested in their life stories and have expressed that through involving themselves in our interviews. We had anticipated publishing a yearly calendar this year, however, because of time constraints and situations beyond our control, we were unable to do so. We anticipate to be working on another calendar within the next few months. The information that we receive is currently going into a database to be utilized for educational materials within the four Gwich'in communities and their schools.

Gwich'in Community Language Classes

In trying desperately to get the ball rolling on this project, we found that much of the work can only be done through careful consideration and backup plans if things don't go as anticipated. This project was a great example of that rule. We were hoping to bring in someone from the University of California, Berkeley, by the name of Leanne Hinton, a Linguist Professor known for her work in this area. However, her commitments and our deliberations with her did not go as planned. Dates, timing, as well as locations, did not connect and so two thirds way through the year we changed our route. This did little to assist us in this matter. We found that people were willing to learn, however, we did not have people in place to teach them. This has left us with a few dollars in the bank, where if we had had a backup plan then we may have been able to see it through.



GWICH'IN LANGUAGE CENTRE

The Gwich'in Language Centre is funded by the Beaufort Delta Education Council to produce resource materials for teaching and training purposes. Additional funding was received from the GTC/Dene Nation to develop additional resource materials and Literacy funding, and from the GNWT for preparation of second language curriculum.

Second Language Curriculum

The Gwich'in Language Centre participated in the translation of a second language curriculum that is being used in schools to teach Gwich'in. The curriculum, developed through the Beaufort Delta Education Council, was piloted in the schools.

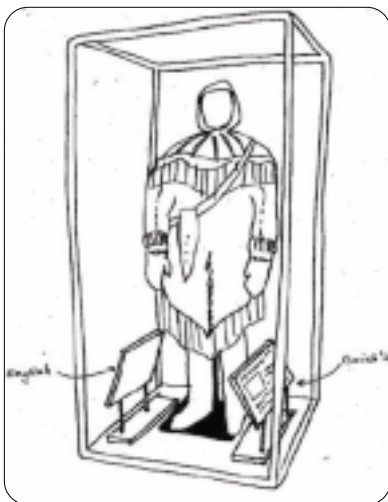
Sharon Snowshoe and William Firth participated in an in-service session held on the second language curriculum with the aboriginal instructors as part of the Beaufort Delta Regional Educators' Conference on October 11-13, 2006 in Inuvik. On March 22-24, 2007, there was a 3-day Language Instructors workshop held in Inuvik which was facilitated by Gladys Norwegian and Romane Leberge from GNWT Education, Culture and Employment in Yellowknife. The Gwich'in instructors met to deal with any issues related to the curriculum. The Instructors are implementing the curriculum and piloting it with a system in place to gauge the success and progress of the program.

Edward Wright participated in the Subject Advisory Committee meeting held in Yellowknife on October 4 and 5, 2006 on the second language curriculum where a workplan and timeline was developed for further work to be completed based on the review of the curriculum.

Edward Wright participated in a museum workshop in February on preservation of cultural documents and artifacts as well as preserving audio and video products. Edward participated in a Teaching & Learning Centre meeting in Hay River from February 20-22, 2007 on production of publications for language groups and funding shortages. The South Slave language group developed a picture story booklet and offered the use of these booklets to other language groups. We were able to publish four booklets and have them translated into our language at no cost.

Eleanor Mitchell worked on re-translating the COPE tapes that were not previously completely translated. The content of these tapes are required in their entirety to be incorporated into the Teetl'it Gwich'in Googwandak that is presently getting underway.

Edward focused on funding proposal development to other agencies for projects on a broader scale that will further enhance the tools at our disposal for the promotion and preservation of the Gwich'in Language, such as drumming, interactive alphabetic chart and a web site.



Local Radio Programming/CKLB-FM Language Lessons

The Gwich'in Language Centre continues to do its weekly Gwich'in Language Radio Programs and will continue to do so as this has proven realistic in terms of keeping the people informed of the productivity within the Centre itself. This is a great way to keep the language and culture flourishing within our community. Gwich'in language lessons are provided on CKLB-FM radio to Gwich'in audiences so that they can learn the language and have daily exposure to the speaking of the language.

Videotaping Community Events

The staff at the GLC continues to videotape community events. These videos are very popular and have proven to be a great mechanism for teaching students and teachers of the Gwich'in Culture and traditions. Each year we have educators requesting this type of material for teaching. The community is always welcome to sign out the videos upon availability.

Recording Elders Hymn in Teetl'it Gwich'in

The GSCI will apply for funding to assist the elders in Fort McPherson to record hymns in the Teetl'it Gwich'in language.

ADMINISTRATION

First of all “*Welcome Back*” to Ingrid Kritsch, Research Director, who was away on medical leave for most of this year. “*Farewells*” to Mavis Clark, Administrative Assistant, who moved to Inuvik to work with the GTC office, to Peter Loovers, Ph.D. student, who returned to Aberdeen University after living 18 months amongst the Teetl'it Gwich'in, and also to Shawna Nerysoo, research assistant trainee working with Peter. “*Congratulations*” to Alestine Andre, Heritage Researcher, who on June 6, 2006 graduated from the University of Victoria with a Master's Degree in Ethnobotany (the study and use of plants for medicine). GSCI would like to welcome new staff members at the Gwich'in Language Centre in Fort McPherson – Mary Clark, Linguist Trainee, and Edward Wright, Resource Coordinator. Sharon Snowshoe, Executive Director of the GSCI, moved to Fort McPherson and works out of the band office. Her new phone number is 952-2524 and fax is 952-2238.

GSCI Five Year Plan

A strategic planning meeting was held in Tsiigehtchic in late June with RT Associates to update the GSCI Five Year Plan. This plan will direct the research activities of the GSCI for the next five years and will determine the location of the GSCI offices. The Five Year Plan will be presented to, and has to be reviewed and approved by, the GTC Board of Directors.

Sharon Snowshoe
Executive Director



The Lands, Resources, and Implementation (LRI) department is responsible for coordinating and facilitating various activities and programs related to the implementation of the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (GCLCA) including but not limited to:

- the management and administration of Gwich'in-owned lands within the NWT and Yukon;
- issues, policies, and regulations relating to the management of harvesting, wildlife, and the environment; and
- other GCLCA-related issues.

Lands Administration

Lands Administration processed the following authorizations of leases for access to Gwich'in owned land.

Total Authorizations issued in 2006:	16
Access	0
Research	9
Quarry	5
Camp (Non-Gwich'in)	1
Educational	1

Authorizations issued in the first half of 2007:	6
Access and Research	2
Research	0
Quarry	3
Camp (Non-Gwich'in)	1
Leases	0

Significant Projects

Signage in the GSA: The GTC has ordered and will be installing additional signs along the Dempster Highway. The additional signs will identify the special harvesting area near the NWT/Yukon border and the secondary use area within the Yukon. The GTC will also install signs at Deep Water Lake indicating it to be the potable water source for the community of Fort McPherson.

Harvester and Cabin Database: The GTC continues to register Beneficiary cabins and harvesting areas within the GSA. This information is required to ensure development programs do not affect traditional and cultural use by participants. Beneficiaries who register their cabins receive a full-size Gwich'in Nation flag. GTC has finalized a residential leases authorization for all non-Gwich'in camps within the GSA. The GTC will be sending letters to all non-Gwich'in cabin owners requiring them to enter into a lease.

Environmental Monitor Program: For each land access or research authorization issued, the authorization holder is required to hire a Gwich'in Environmental Monitor. Environmental Monitor Standards have been developed by the GNWT Education, Culture and Employment.



Aurora College has developed a standard Environmental Monitor Training Program and Gwich'in participants are becoming certified through this training program. All the GTC Environmental Monitors will be required to have recognized certification from an Environmental Monitor Training Program prior to going into the field.

Lands Management Control Guidelines and Fee Schedule: The GTC land access fees have been updated for the 2007-2008 season. An automatic annual multiplier was added and will continue to increase on an annual basis beginning each April 1. The Guidelines were updated to accommodate some new GTC policies and several new categories of land use activities.

James Creek Hydrocarbon Land Farm: An annual sampling program of the James Creek water source is conducted by the GNWT, including soil, ground-water sampling and water. To date, the program has shown no indication of any contamination to the James Creek water source from the land farm. The GNWT will continue to keep the community members of Fort McPherson informed about the sampling and results on an annual basis.

Deep Water Lake Management Plan Implementation: There is a management plan in place for this drinking water source for Fort McPherson. The community has been advised that in accordance with the plan it should not authorize any further cabins to be constructed in the lake.

The GTC has ordered signs and will be putting them up at access points to the lake indicating that the lake is the community potable water supply and asking users to refrain from activities that might cause contamination.

Other programs and projects

- Gwich'in Land and Water Board permit application reviews;
- Yukon Environmental and Socio Economic Assessment Reviews;
- Establishment of Subsurface Development Policy;
- Updates and final completion of the Inuvialuit and Sahtu Overlap Agreements.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Dempster Highway Hunting Regulations (NWT and Yukon): The GTC Resource Manager continues to work with the GNWT, YTG, RRCs and PCMB to implement changes to the *Dempster Highway Hunting Regulations*. The GTC is monitoring a legal challenge to the DHR in the Yukon. The outcome of the legal challenge will determine the next steps the GTC will take on this issue.



Dall Sheep: The GTC, GNWT, YTG, Vuntut Gwich'in, North Yukon Renewable Resource Council and the GRRB are developing a Transboundary Management Plan for the North Richardson Dall Sheep. The Working Group Terms of Reference (TOR) have been established. A facilitator has been hired to develop the Management Plan in cooperation with the Working Group. The management plan target for completion is October 2007.

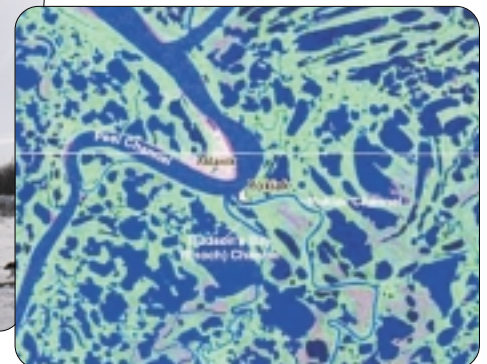
Sumps in the Yukon: Due to the concerns from community members of Fort McPherson, the GTC, Tetlit Gwich'in Council and the YTG continue to assess the abandoned well sites in the Peel River Watershed. An assessment program has been carried out and YTG has developed a report which has been circulated to the communities. The GTC will continue to participate with the working group to assess all existing sites and remediate if necessary.

Protected Area Strategy: The Government of the NWT has established a Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) along with a Five-Year Action Plan for its implementation. The GTC is a member of the PAS working group and continues to express their view with regard to this initiative. The GTC is monitoring the Gwich'in Land Use Plan to determine if adequate protection is provided within the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Porcupine Caribou Management Board and Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement: The GTC supported an amendment to the Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement to change "Dene Metis" to "Gwich'in" and allow for more than one Gwich'in representative. These amendments haven't occurred yet. Meanwhile the GTC appointed Frederick "Sonny" Blake Jr. as its representative on the Porcupine Caribou Management Board. The GTC has been participating in the following during this reporting period: the ongoing review of the Dempster Highway Regulations and the development of the Harvest Management Strategy Protocol.

Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act (YESSA) Implementation: GTC staff members have been participating in the implementation of the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act*. The GTC will continue to coordinate activities associated within the YESSA Designated Office in Dawson and Mayo, YT. The YESAA is undergoing a Five-Year Review and the GTC will be participating in the review process.

Peel River Watershed Planning Commission (PRWPC): The GTC has been participating along with the Vuntut Gwich'in, Na Cho Nyak Dun, Trondek Hwechin and Tetlit Gwich'in in the implementation of the Peel River Watershed Land Use Planning Process. The GTC continues to participate in the Peel River Watershed Land Use Planning Process by assisting the PRWPC in information gathering activities.



The GTC representative on the PRWPC is Peter J. Kaye from Fort McPherson, who is very familiar with the Planning Area, having travelled the area extensively.

GTC Membership in Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN): The GTC has finalized membership in the CYFN. It is expected that membership will allow the GTC to participate more fully in the Yukon land and resource management regulatory regime.

Gwich'in Harvesters' Assistance Program (GHAP): GHAP is a GTC program assisting part-time and full-time Gwich'in harvesters with the purchase of equipment and supplies for harvesting. Over the past reporting period, the GTC approved 117 applications for assistance and issued approximately \$141,000 in funding.

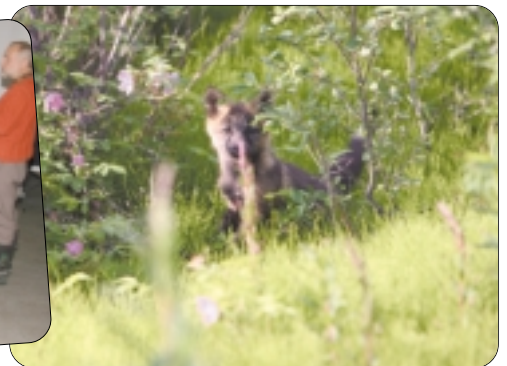
Cumulative Impacts Monitoring Program (CIMP) and Audit and Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management (CEAM): CIMP and CEAM are both initiatives of the regional office of DIAND. CIMP is a requirement of the GCLA and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. CIMP requires an environmental audit every five years to identify changes in Government. The first audit was completed. The GTC is participating in prioritizing and implementing the audit recommendations. The GTC continues to lobby the Government of Canada for long-term funding for these initiatives to provide for better environmental stewardship in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

IMPLEMENTATION

Amendments to the GCLCA: Over the past year, the GTC and DIAND have been working on an amendment to the GCLCA to allow more than the 15-year specified period of time for the distribution of funds to Participants (Beneficiaries). The amendment has been finalized and is in the Government of Canada approval process.

Economic Measures: In the past, the GTC has often expressed the opinion that the Economic Measures chapter of the GCLCA was not being properly implemented to address the objective of economic self-sufficiency. The land claim agreement requires that government meet with the GTC at least once every three years to review the effectiveness of programs in relation to the objectives of the GCLCA. Past reviews have been inadequate because they were merely an overview of programs and did not "review the effectiveness of the programs relating to the objectives," as required by the land claim. The GTC continues to work with the Government of Canada to improve the effectiveness of federal programs for economic development in the GSA.

Communications CD-ROM: The GTC has nearly completed work on a CD-ROM that can be used to communicate the GCLCA in classrooms. It will focus on the relevance and importance of the Agreement by highlighting life before the Agreement and changes that result from the Agreement. It will raise awareness of what lies ahead in terms of self-government and other implementation challenges.



The CD-ROM was near completion but had to go to further review due to changes in the self-government file. The changes will be included and the CD-ROM finalized in the near future.

Land Claims Advisory Coalition (LCAC): As a result of the November 2003 conference to explore common issues among those with settled land claims, a coalition of settled land claim groups was formed. The purpose is to work together to address issues of land claim agreement implementation. The GTC is participating in the coalition and is supportive of its initiatives. Over the past reporting period, the focus of the coalition was to urge the federal government to work with it to develop a more effective land claims implementation policy which addresses the objectives of land claims and improves conflict resolution.

Wildlife and Species at Risk Legislation: The NWT *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) has been drafted and the GTC is involved in the review process. The NWT Wildlife Claim Group's concern about inclusion in the drafting of the SARA has been addressed by the GNWT. The GTC is now an active participant in the develop of the SARA.

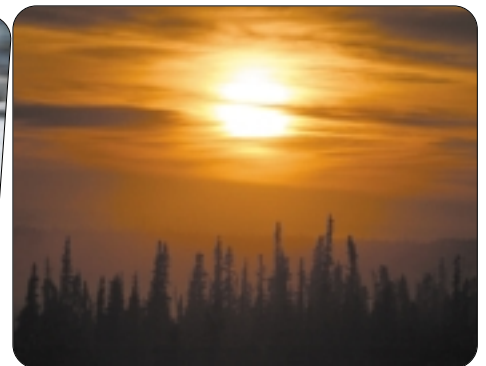
Mackenzie Gas Project – Regulatory Review: The GTC has been participating in the regulatory review currently underway for the Mackenzie Gas Project. The project proponents, led by Imperial, filed their regulatory applications and Environmental Impact Statement with the National Energy Board (NEB) and the Joint Review Panel (JRP), respectively, in October 2004. The NEB and JRP conducted a technical review of the application material in 2005 and commenced the public hearing process in early 2006. The NEB is considering the project's technical aspects, safety and economic issues while the JRP is considering evidence on environmental, socio-economic and cultural issues. The GTC has participated in the JRP hearing as an intervenor. The hearings are still ongoing and the GTC will continue to monitor and participate as required.

Norman Snowshoe

Director, Lands, Resources & Implementation

Mardy Semmler

Lands Manager



The Regional Wellness Office has had a busy year advocating for and supporting our Gwich'in beneficiaries in medical concerns, family emergencies, housing, residential school and other concerns. Over the year the Manager has visited each community for various meetings and sessions. During these times, there is always the attempt to visit with Elders and meet with any Beneficiaries who are seeking assistance.

A delegation of ladies and representatives from each community attended the *Healing Our Spirit Worldwide* conference in August 2006. It was an opportunity to learn how other Indigenous groups are working towards overcoming their health issues, which seem to be similar all over the world. A strong message was that people need to take responsibility for their health.

The Regional Wellness Office received funding to hire half-time Diabetes and FASD Coordinators this year. The Diabetes Coordinator, Shandel Furlong, held educational workshops and community kitchens in each community to pass on ideas for preparing nutritional foods. She also did the weekly radio show to pass on ideas and recipes. The FASD Coordinator, Tena Blake, worked hard to educate the people of the region on FASD through parenting workshops. You will notice the beautiful posters all around that were developed with this project. We look forward to both programs returning.

The Wellness Office was also involved with Health and Social Services and IRC in planning and coordinating an Addictions conference in Inuvik in March.

The conference targeted community wellness workers, mental health and addictions counselors, social workers, and other front line workers. There were several recommendations that came from this conference and we are looking forward to hosting a follow-up in collaboration with the other agencies. There are also plans to hold a workshop on parenting, where we will again partner with other agencies and organizations.

The Chief Operating Officer and Wellness Manager presented their report on Social Impacts to the Joint Review Panel in February. The Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund planning stage is in the works. We will be consulting with every community on what the priorities are and where it should be spent. Your participation is encouraged as we proceed with community consultations. We have also been a participant of the Indigenous Wellness and Addictions Prevention Program with Aurora College. This is a new and exciting program that will train local people in the area of Wellness.

We have continued with our participation and involvement with Inuvik Interagency, Department of Health and Social Services, Aurora College, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Dene Nation and other agencies and committees to promote health and wellness.



Residential school compensation began with the Elders' advance payment last year. There were several difficult cases in that government records were not located. We are still working with a few Elders who have not received their payment. It is anticipated that the Common Experience Payout will be moving forward this fall. We anticipate there will be many inquiries and need for assistance regarding the Residential School compensation package in the fall.

In keeping up with the demands of the office, I would like to thank Victor Stewart, the Youth/Elder Coordinator who has assisted in many of the issues that have come forth this year. He also did a great job putting together the Regional Youth Conference in Fort McPherson. It was exciting to see that our youth are gaining exposure and education on many of the current issues.

The statistics below quantify the various Beneficiary concerns brought to the Regional Wellness Office between September 1, 2006 and April 30, 2007.

Housing/Homelessness	23	
Personal/Family Issues	31	
Medical Assistance	31	
Child Welfare	8	<i>(foster children, child apprehensions, grandparent's rights)</i>
Treatment Programs	6	
Special Needs/Disabilities	7	
Miscellaneous	51	<i>(victim services, family search, inmates, pensions, letter and proposal writing)</i>
Residential Schools	51	<i>(Inuvik Office)</i>
	63	<i>(Fort McPherson)</i>

Denise Kurszewski
Regional Wellness Manager



Over the past year, the Gwich'in Tribal Council's ("GTC") self-government department has completed the following major activities:

Negotiations

- ✓ Developed a new negotiations mandate;
- ✓ Started a Gwich'in only negotiation process;
- ✓ Signed a new Process and Schedule Agreement;
- ✓ Expanded negotiation team to include elder and community representatives;

Building a Gwich'in Government

- ✓ Completed consultations and legal review of Gwich'in community constitutions;
- ✓ Developed a Draft Regional Gwich'in Government Framework;
- ✓ Began development of a Draft Charter of Gwich'in Rights;

Consultations

- ✓ Conducted three sets of home visits in Akavik, Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic;
- ✓ Held three regional leadership meetings;

Communications

- ✓ Produced a one-hour video on traditional governance;
- ✓ Distributed four issues of 'Self-Government News' to all GCLCA participants

In addition to these activities, the self-government department has continued to support the self-government programs in Aklavik, Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic and to conduct information sessions in Whitehorse and Yellowknife.

Self-Government Negotiations

In January 2006, the GTC Board of Directors officially rejected the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit Self-Government Agreement-in-Principle. This decision was based on:

- 1) the Board's desire to move away from negotiating a public style of government and instead focus on negotiating an aboriginal style of governance; and
- 2) the desire to protect Treaty 11 rights stemming from the bands.

As of April 2006, the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit started holding separate negotiating sessions. We hired a new Chief Negotiator and the three parties (Canada, GNWT, and Gwich'in) signed a new Process and Schedule Agreement. The three parties continue to meet every 4-6 weeks at various locations in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Subject matters for discussion for this fiscal year will include governance structures, jurisdictions, whether or not to include provisions in a final agreement concerning the *Indian Act* and the four Gwich'in *Indian Act* Bands, general provisions and the exercise of jurisdictions.



In addition, the Gwich'in negotiation main-table will undertake a thorough review of the AIP. The purpose of this review is to assess what provisions can be brought forth into a final agreement.

The final change to negotiations this year is that each Designated Gwich'in Organization (DGO) delegated a community member and an elder to sit on the self-government negotiation team. The negotiation team will thus be comprised of a Chief Negotiator, an Assistant Negotiator, four community delegates, four elders and a member of the GTC Executive.

Self-Government Consultations

Between December 2006 and July 2007, fieldworkers have been conducting home visits in Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Inuvik and Tsiigehtchic. The purpose of the home visits is to receive feedback on the development of Gwich'in community constitutions and a regional Gwich'in government framework.

In addition to home visits, each community Self-Government Coordinator has been working with their Designated Gwich'in Organization and self-government committee to review the development of the community constitutions and regional government framework. To date, the community constitutions of Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Inuvik and Tsiigehtchic are complete in draft form.

Self-Government Communications

GTC's Self-Government department strives to keep all GCLCA participants involved in self-government activities.

Over the past year, the self-government team has undertaken the following communications activities:

- ✓ Provided radio updates with CBC North;
- ✓ Provided self-government updates in the GTC newsletters;
- ✓ Developed and mailed out self-government newsletters to all land claim participants;
- ✓ Updated the self-government portion of the GTC website;
- ✓ Developed a one-hour video on traditional governance;
- ✓ Conducted home visit programs in Inuvik, Aklavik, Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic; and
- ✓ Held self-government information sessions in Whitehorse and Yellowknife.

In addition, the self-government programs of Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Inuvik and Tsiigehtchic conduct their own communications through the use of local radio and newsletters. Where possible, radio programming is also provided in Loucheux.



Capacity Building

As part of GTC’s strategic plan, a regional capacity building assessment was completed in March 2006. In order to ensure that the assessments move to the implementation stage, GTC’s self-government department organized two follow-up Regional Capacity Building meetings in May and July of 2007. The purpose of the regional meetings is to ensure that plans are made to implement the recommendations provided in the assessment report.

Your Self-Government Staff

Chief Charlie Furlong, Chief Negotiator.
Karen Snowshoe, Director and Assistant Negotiator.
Margaret Gordon, Regional Self-Government Coordinator (Aklavik and Inuvik).
Mavis Clark, Regional Self-Government Coordinator (Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic).
Andrée Jove, Senior Policy Advisor.

Mildred Edwards, Self-Government Coordinator (Aklavik).
Shawna Nersyoo, Self-Government Coordinator (Fort McPherson).
Ruth Elanik, Self-Government Coordinator (Inuvik).
Patricia VanLoon, Self-Government Coordinator (Tsiigehtchic).

Your Community Negotiation Representatives

Liza Greenland, Aklavik.
Renie Stewart, Aklavik.
Liz Wright, Fort McPherson.
Annie Jane Modeste, Fort McPherson.
Ruth “Cookie” Elanik, Inuvik.
William Francis, Inuvik.
Mavis Clark, Tsiigehtchic.
Noel Andre, Tsiigehtchic.



The fiscal year of 2006/2007 proved to be another year full of challenges; however, we're happy to report that our DGO/Band/Municipal organization is becoming more organized and that we've retained competent management staff to assist us in becoming more efficient with our administration to improve our financial status.

We are pleased to have Northmart's presence in the community. We welcome Robert Nicholson, the manager of Northmart, which opened up in April of this year. Tsiigehtchic has been without a fully operational grocery store since March 2006. We successfully negotiated with the Northwest Company to lease its retail space, and postal outlet, for the Northmart to operate.

The Charter Community Council finalized its five year Capital Plan and funding for the Capacity Building Fund was recently received. Projects planned for those funds are being implemented on an on-going basis.

Welcome to Danny Lennie, our new Senior Administrative Officer/Band Manager. Danny brings a wealth of municipal, financial and business expertise to our organization. We also welcome Brian Alexie (our new Ghostbuster) of Fort McPherson who accepted the Lands Officer/Project Coordinator position in Tsiigehtchic. A new Finance Manager and Finance Clerk will be on stream in June 2007. Best wishes to Charlie McQuaid, who will be leaving us to retire in June 2007 (No, we didn't force him into retirement!).

Charlie joined us a year ago as Finance Manager and it was no piece of cake to be the 'money man' when things got tough. We extend our appreciation to Charlie and we hope he has an enjoyable retirement.

We also welcome Jamie Norris to the community. Jamie began working in March for the Department of Health and Social Services as Tsiigehtchic's Wellness Worker.

The Charter has secured Paul Teoh and his team to do the financial audit for 2006/2007 and this task will begin in June.

This year, the Tsiigehtchic Charter/Gwichya Gwich'in Band-DGO began holding separate meetings to avoid confusion over the different issues each party is responsible for. Management will be implementing a new accounting system for the Gwichya Gwich'in/Municipal organization in June 2007. The new system will better accommodate the multitude of financial records currently being maintained in our Finance office.

We wish to extend best wishes to all those post-secondary students from the community who successfully completed their programs this year. For those of you who will continue your education, we wish you continued success and hope you will consider applying your knowledge and expertise by eventually coming to work for your community.



Tsiigehtchic had its first recipient of a national Aboriginal Achievement Award this year. The community congratulates Alestine Andre who was recognized for her contribution to the ongoing cultural, heritage and spirituality betterment of the Gwich'in people. We are proud of Alestine; her continued efforts and dedication to the Gwich'in is certainly appreciated.

The community has been without a Recreation Coordinator and By-Law Officer since the fall of 2006. We anticipate these two positions will be filled by summer 2007. As a result of several factors, Tsiigehtchic was unable to hold its annual MacKenzie Jamboree this spring. A new non-profit society was recently formed to plan and organize community events such as the jamboree, canoe days, etc. Thank you to those volunteers who are participating in fundraising and we look forward to future planned events.

Elections for the Chief and Council for the Gwichya Gwich'in Band/Tsiigehtchic Charter were held in June 2007. DEA elections and elections for the RRC will also take place this year.

Although much remains to be done in the next year, we are confident of overcoming the difficulties we continue to experience by ensuring we have qualified staff and proper administrative/management procedures and policies in place. Our number one priority will be Financial Administration. Once our financial affairs are in order, we can begin planning for economic and community development initiatives.

In closing, I wish to thank the Municipal/GG Band-DGO staff, who despite all the uncertainties over the past two years, continue to work and make efforts for this organization to continue offering the services necessary for our community. We experienced a high turnover, however, key positions have stabilized and we see ourselves moving forward and becoming more accountable and organized.

Renewable Resources Council

The Gwich'in Tribal Council Lands & Resource Officer, Glen Alexie, is working closely with the RRC and is a very informative person to work with. The Gwich'in Harvesters' Assistance Program is working out more smoothly. The harvesters are beginning to better understand the program when filling out their forms. The Community Harvesters' Assistance Program is changing and harvesters are finding that it doesn't help them much with their supplies and gas, but a plan is in the works to change the program next season by increasing the funding, and they will have more categories to choose from.

The Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and Department of Fisheries and Oceans are working closely with the RRC on projects for fish studies of the inconnu, loche, whitefish and crooked backs and they include the youth with each program.



The Mackenzie Gas Project has meetings with the Band and radio programming and is still consulting with us on the winter works program. The Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council is very proud to say that we fully support our youth and Elder councillors.

The Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board is reviewing the five year plan and we are very encouraged by the future plans.

The Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute is conducting a geology study up the Arctic Red River at the headwaters. The RRC feels that this is a very important historical and cultural site.

The Porcupine Caribou Management Board is seriously looking at the caribou issues with councils. Our RRC is in support of respecting the cultural and traditional ways. We must pass these ways on to the younger generations for us to have caribou in the future.

Ducks Unlimited is conducting a very intense study this summer at the Cardinal Lake area. There will be a report handed out when the project is complete.

The Gwich'in Monitor Course will be in Tsiigehtchic in October 2007 and the surrounding communities will be invited to attend the five week program.

The Trapper Training program, in partnership with Fort McPherson, has been a success for two years. The community is very thankful for this program; it continues to teach the youth to work together.

The RRC election will be this year and it will be geared to active harvesters, trappers and the youth.

The forestry project will be looking at a second barrier around the community for fire breaks, and to have more intensive training for the fire crew members.

In conjunction with the Gwichya Gwich'in Band, the RRC, through the Brighter Futures program, conducted two on-the-land cultural trips from Tsiigehtchic to Fishing Bear Lake, In and Out Lake and Bathing Lake. Participants, with the assistance of an Elder, were shown the traditional harvesting areas of the Gwichya Gwich'in. By familiarizing them with this area, it is hoped they will become more inclined to travel the old trails and teach the younger children the skills they have learned.

I thank everyone for their support, particularly the Council members of Tsiigehtchic, who held their positions despite having had no remuneration since September 2005. Thanks also to the Chiefs of the Delta communities and to the Board of Directors of the Gwich'in Tribal Council for the support you have provided to me and to the community of Tsiigehtchic over the years.

Chief Peter Ross
Gwichya Gwich'in Council



Drinn Gwiinzii Shalak Kat!

On behalf of my Council I would like to extend greetings to each of you. I hope that this report finds you all in good health and happiness. This past year has given us unexpected tragedies in our community; however, with your support we have pulled through and are continuing to move forward.

Our people are unique, we have been taught to be grateful for everything that we are surrounded by: we have fresh water, beautiful Gwich'in Lands, traditional food and most importantly we have our families.

It's been the practice of all Chiefs to enhance the traditional values of their community; to instill the cultural values within our children; and to educate them on our customs and our Gwich'in way of life.

Our Self-Government Constitution was presented at the GTC Assembly and was accepted: this means that Fort McPherson is in the final stages of implementing our constitution. There are a lot of issues to deal with regarding Self-Government and our staff will continue to work side-by-side with the staff in Inuvik to ensure that Fort McPherson is ready to take on this challenge.

Last fall, the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation General Assembly was held from September 21– 23 in Old Crow, Yukon. The Tetlit Gwich'in Council was invited to attend and with secured funding we were able to send nine delegates. It was an honor to represent the Tetlit Gwich'in and I look forward to meeting with Chief Joe Linklater and his councilors in the very near future. The Tetlit and Vuntut Councils have strong traditional values; we have close family ties and our culture goes back generations, including our traditional hunting and trapping areas.

The Tetlit Gwich'in Council and Designated Gwich'in Organization work to resolve outstanding issues to ensure that our Band Membership and Gwich'in Beneficiaries receive all the benefits to which they are entitled.

Over the course of the year, we ran several employment projects for our community. The majority of the work was brush cutting, we continued with our woodmizer project last summer and we plan to run several more projects that will help improve our community in the coming year.

We continue to work closely with the Council of Yukon First Nations. Their organization has been keeping us informed on issues regarding the Peel River Watershed and particularly issues relating to lands and resources.



The Rat River Development Corporation, our business arm, maintains a strong portfolio of commercial and real estate holdings in the community, creating employment and generating rental revenues. The RRDC seeks new investment opportunities and has laid a solid promising foundation for future growth.

Tetlit Gwich'in Council and the Tl'ooondih Healing Society have offered justice, healing and educational programs since 2003. Our professional staff continue to secure funding from various agencies in order for these programs to be deemed successful. Our counseling services have also been available during our difficult times throughout the year: a job well done.

Our Head Start program continues to be one of our highlights in Fort McPherson. This is where your child will be introduced to the New World with Kathy, Julie and Emily — the joys of being taught in a fun and lovable environment.

We also have a Child Care Center just down the road from the Charles Koe Building. Through its programs, the staff encourages and supports young mothers to either continue with schooling or to enter into the work force.

Our DGO staff consists of our Community Coordinator, Liz Wright, our Financial Comptroller, Georgina Neyando and our Renewable Resources Coordinator, Georgina Vaneltsi. Our TGC staff includes our Band Manager, Susan Blake, our Financial Comptroller, Annie Rose, our Employment Officer, Ruby Koe and our Secretary, Roberta Alexie.

Proposals that are administered through our offices are done effectively and efficiently. We continue to offer daily services and will always work to build a prosperous future for our people. Our staff are dedicated employees who are willing to help in any way they can, and I can assure you: "Great Team Work!"

The unfortunate news of the disappearance of my father-in-law William Teya came suddenly and unexpectedly. On behalf of my wife, Annie, my children and my mother-in-law, Mary, I want to say "Thank You" from the bottom of our hearts for all those that were there for us while we continued to search. To our extended families in Old Crow, your support was greatly appreciated; your kind gestures and your words of encouragement are not forgotten. To each of you in the NWT, all your messages were received, your financial assistance was appreciated and we will remember each of you, thank you again.



The Tetlit Gwich'in People are very fortunate to have neighbors who sympathize with us during our traumatic events. Take care of each other and say kind words to your neighbor; too many tragedies are happening for us to dwell on being sorry.

There are so many people that will experience sadness in their lives, so many people that will think of loved ones that have passed on. Offer words of encouragement and visit with each other. Sometimes your company is all one needs. At times like these we all pull together and give support to families that are grieving, our community has strong values that are important to us. This is when we put our differences aside and start to work together to help the families.

As Chief of the Tetlit Gwich'in, I consider it an honour to have served my people for the past three years. I am very proud of all the accomplishments to date and wish to convey my gratitude to my council and especially to my staff. I've always encouraged everyone to have an open mind and to voice their concerns and comments. With your support, advice and wisdom, you have changed my outlook on life and as a result have made me the stronger, more powerful person that I am today.

Mussi Cho.

Johnny Kay
Chief



Drinn Gwiinzii Shalak Kat.

Another year has gone by and the offices at the Alex Moses Greenland Building remain busy with the activities of the Inuvik Native Band, the Nihtat Gwich'in Council, the Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and the Nihtat Corporation (our development corporation) together with its subsidiaries.

Challenges and Recognition: The Nihtat Gwich'in are in a very unique situation. We live in the larger community of Inuvik which is the hub of the Beaufort Delta Region. As such, there is continuous migration of Gwich'in, Inuvialuit and other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to our community. This in-migration provides additional challenges that are not faced by all other Gwich'in communities.

Often we are seen as a small group within a larger community and the rights and interests of Gwich'in are often lost in the discussions of those who are in positions of leadership or authority in Inuvik. Additionally, we are faced with growth of the Nihtat Gwich'in community through the choice by some to move to Inuvik and called Inuvik their home. This is both a positive and challenging position. The growth in the Gwich'in population helps to strengthen the Gwich'in presence, but causes increased demand on the Gwich'in government in Inuvik. We are further challenged by the presence of the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation.

They are often seen as representing all Gwich'in and Inuvialuit, which leaves the Aboriginal Government in the community in a position where they are not considered as relevant when dealing with issues related to the Nihtat Gwich'in. The Nihtat Gwich'in Council has been working hard to ensure that the Nihtat Gwich'in interests and rights are respected and protected in all matters. However, this will continue to be a challenge for future Councils. The Nihtat Gwich'in Council has adopted an approach of working with organizations and governments that will respect and promote the rights and interests of the Gwich'in. The Nihtat Gwich'in Council continues to build on its commitment of cooperation and collaboration with the Gwich'in Tribal Council and other organizations within Inuvik and in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. We are particularly pleased with the efforts of the Gwich'in Tribal Council to respect, promote and support the authority and responsibility of the Nihtat Gwich'in community government in Inuvik.

Strategic Planning and Direction: Our mandate is clearly articulated in the 2006-2009 Strategic Plan which was adopted in 2006 and sets out clear goals and objectives for the next three years. Many of the objectives have already been achieved, and the timeline for achieving all the objectives has been set out for the next three years. The Nihtat Gwich'in Strategic Plan has many similarities with the Gwich'in Tribal Council Strategic Plan regarding wellness, education, culture and community capacity building.



As such, we believe it is necessary to work in partnership with the Gwich'in Tribal Council, other Gwich'in communities and other community organizations to improve programs and services to the Gwich'in and to the Inuvik Band Members. The Inuvik Native Band/Nihtat Gwich'in Council Strategic Plan sets out the following:

Goal: The Inuvik Native Band/Nihtat Gwich'in Council will work with other partners to encourage a self-reliant membership by providing programs and services that will address the social, political, economic and cultural interests of the people it represents in Inuvik.

Community Development and Wellness: In responding to the demand for more community and on-the-land initiatives to address personal development and wellness, the Nihtat Gwich'in Council and the Gwich'in Tribal Council have developed a partnership to construct a Wellness Centre at the Rachel Reindeer Camp. This project is an effort to respond to the demand for a facility that will help the Gwich'in deal with personal development, community wellness, on-the-land training, and a facility that can lend itself to providing services and programs to all people in Inuvik and, where necessary, the Beaufort Delta Region. The Nihtat Gwich'in intend to work with other communities and facilities, including the TI'oondih Healing Society, to ensure that we are complementing each other while responding to our community needs.

Homeless Shelter: The Nihtat Gwich'in Council undertook to administer and manage this project in 2003 to ensure that we did not abandon those individuals who do not have access to housing or are unable to qualify for housing. The Staff at the Homeless Shelter have been instrumental in developing a successful project.

These services include some meals, laundry facilities, showering facilities and some limited counseling services. This past year, we were fortunate in receiving funding for a three-day on-the-land program. This was very successful and helped residents begin their return to their roots and to the land. We are anticipating that our programs will be expanded to provide some of these individuals the skills they require to "get back on their feet". Many businesses have helped in supporting the Homeless Shelter through donations of goods, services and financial contributions. The Nihtat Gwich'in Council and Shelter staff wish to thank all who so kindly provided their support.

Community Events and Festivities: The Nihtat Gwich'in Council, Inuvik Native Band and Nihtat Gwich'in Recreation Committee continue to participate in and support community events and festivities. This support includes our participation in community events, dances, jointly hosting community events such as Gwich'in Day, Aboriginal Day and July 1st events, supporting the Muskrat Jamboree by sponsoring events, sponsoring school projects and sport teams.



As well, in August of 2006, the Nihtat Gwich'in hosted the bi-annual Gwich'in Gathering. This three-day event saw Gwich'in from Alaska, the Yukon, other parts of the NWT and from other areas of Canada and the United States coming together for a time of fun and fellowship. This is also a forum to discuss important issues that affect all Gwich'in, such as the Porcupine Caribou Herd. This was a very successful event – perhaps, the “best Gathering ever” – and was appreciated by those who attended.

Working with Other Community Organizations:

The Inuvik Native Band and Nihtat Gwich'in Council continue to work with the following:

1. Ingamo Hall, through support to funding;
2. SAMS with our annual March project to take children out on the land. In 2007, we had the opportunity to use the Fred Carmichael Camp due to construction activity at the Rachel Reindeer Camp. It is our expectation that the new facilities will be available for the 2008 project.

Renewable Resource Council: The Council consists of Elizabeth M. Hansen (Chair), Ricky Firth, Allen Firth, Lorraine Lokos and Tommy Wright. Jozef Carnogursky served on the Council until he left in September, 2006. Neil Firth continues to serve as the Coordinator of the Renewable Resource Council.

The Nihtat Gwich'in Council relies on the Renewable Resource Council to provide direction and advice on all matters relating to land and resources, including the matter of how the Nihtat Gwich'in Council distributes its funding for harvesting activities.

In 2006-2007, one of the biggest challenges has been the decline in the population counts of caribou herds and this has required the Renewable Resource Council to provide direction in how the Nihtat Gwich'in Council provides funding for or conducts harvesting practices in the community.

Secondly, the objective of the Nihtat Gwich'in Council is to encourage community members to take more personal responsibility for harvesting for their families and to provide caribou to the Council so that we can distribute it to those in need; this includes elders, single mothers or those who do not have anyone to hunt for them. Thirdly, the following agreements and direction by the RRC provide counsel to the NGC:

1. The agreement that established the Porcupine Caribou Management Committee and the Gwich'in Land Claim Agreement confirms that no one can buy and sell caribou harvested from the Porcupine Caribou Herd. However, there is a provision that allows for “bartering”, which may include the exchange of goods for caribou meat.



2. The Renewable Resource Council adopted a motion related to the buying of caribou meat. This motion reads as follows:

“The Nithat Gwich’in Renewable Resource Council will not support the buying of caribou meat.”

This motion was adopted February 14, 2006.

3. Public concern and the requested reduction in harvesting of caribou in all herds in the NWT by Environment and Natural Resources and the Gwich’in Renewable Resource Board has caused the Nihtat Gwich’in Council to rethink the manner in which we support harvesting of caribou.

TePee Housing Association: The Board has taken full responsibility for the overall management of the TePee Housing Association as set out in their by-laws. Since appointment, they have met on a regular basis and have begun the process of developing board policies, procedures and have been working on a plan of action to improve housing standards and tenant responsibilities and accountabilities. The Board is also dealing more effectively with applicants and tenant-related issues. It should be noted that TePee Housing Association is a provider of public housing, and is guided by the policies and guidelines of the NWT Housing Corporation and previously by CMHC. This includes the protection of clients’ information, which is confidential. The Board includes: Mabel Brown, Ricky Firth, Ruth Goose, Mary Jane MacDonald, Tammy Rogers and Wayne Smith.

Nihtat Corporation: Nihtat Corporation remains a going concern despite a significant restructuring of the Corporation, including a name change. A further decline in economic activity and a re-focused approach to business development, together with an effort by the Nihtat Gwich’in Council to support a successful and viable private business sector, have required the Nihtat Corporation to review its business structure. This review required that the Nihtat Corporation reduce the number of businesses that we participate in and also limits the types of businesses. The Nihtat Corporation is focused on long-term and successful investments which result in financial success. The Nihtat Corporation has evaluated all of its businesses by looking at the financial situation of each company, the financial burden on the parent company, financial return of investment, long-term employment, training and lasting success.

We also want to encourage successful private Gwich’in businesses, which can reduce the burden on the Nihtat Corporation to be involved in make-work projects. The view of the Corporation is that successful business will create work, provide positive return on investment and will create wealth. The Nihtat Corporation has the following business and business partnerships:

Grizzly Marine Services Ltd.: This company was established to operate and manage the MV Louis Cardinal Ferry. Grizzly Marine was successful in negotiating a two year contract with the Government of the Northwest Territories and is a company that has been certified as a union company.



A Collective Agreement guides the relationship between Grizzly Marine and its employees.

Chii Construction Ltd.: This company continues to provide short-term construction services and is a vehicle that carries out contracts for the Mackenzie Gas Project, the Department of Transportation and Canada Post.

Zheh Gwziuu Partnership: This is a real estate partnership with the Gwich'in Development Corporation and Northern Property Real Estate Investment Trust which continues to be a good source of income for us. This partnership gives us an ownership interest in Capital Suites and certain commercial real estate in Inuvik, such as, Jim Koe Building, Alex Moses Greenland Building, Mack Travel Building, Professional Building and the RWED Building.

I wish to thank all the Councils and staff for their efforts and hard work accomplished over the year, as well as those who provide ongoing support and guidance – the elders, youth and other members. Without your help, the work could not be accomplished.

Mahsi Cho
Richard Nerysoo
President

Inuvik Native Band Council:

Chief Richard Nerysoo
Sub-Chief Ruth Goose
Herbert Blake, Jr.
Duane DeBastien
Elizabeth Hansen
Linda McLeod-Lennie

Nihtat Gwich'in Council:

Richard Nerysoo, President
Herbert Blake, Jr.
Duane DeBastien
Ruth Goose
Elizabeth Hansen
Linda McLeod-Lennie
Tom Wright

Nihtat Renewable Resource Council:

Elizabeth Hansen, President
Tom Wright, Vice-President
Allen Firth
Lorraine Lokos
Richard Firth



The Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council had a successful year with many projects on the go. I am pleased to report that the 4-Plex project with the NWT Housing Corporation, despite some initial setbacks, is completed and occupied by elders. The location, on the banks of the Peel River, is ideal as it faces the Mountains. This project was also very successful as we hired many Gwich'in and local residents, so the money stayed in our community. We ran an apprenticeship program during this project so members were able to get some hours towards their certification. As this was our first large project, I am happy to report that it was successfully completed.

EGG was able to access funding through the Community Capacity Building Fund to build an extension to the Chief Andrew Stewart Building. The extension will increase the size of the boardroom, build a commercial kitchen and add on a couple of offices. We also accessed funding to upgrade the small log building adjacent to the Band Office, to install proper heating, water and sewer and to generally bring the building up to year round usage. This building can be used for meetings and gatherings by community groups who deliver counselling and similar services.

EGG has ended another successful year financially. Our senior management makes every effort to access third party funding for projects that will benefit our membership. We continue to make every effort to provide services to our membership, especially the youth and elders.

In addition to this, we ran a number of cultural, “on-the-land programs” to use our elders to teach youth traditional bush and survival skills. Tied into these programs is the harvesting of traditional foods, which is shared with the community and given to elders and those who cannot harvest for themselves.

We continue to assist those members who have to travel on medical leave by providing financial support, especially for those who require an escort. We raise money locally for this initiative and this service is truly appreciated by those who have to travel for extended periods of time.

I look forward to another successful year.

Mahsi and God bless you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Furlong
President, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council



Our Mandate

The mandate of the Gwich'in Development Corporation ("GDC") is to pursue commercial opportunities that will earn our shareholder (the Gwich'in Tribal Council) an acceptable rate of return on its investment. In addition, the GDC promotes the training and employment of the membership in the operation of these businesses. All businesses are operated in an environmentally-friendly manner.

Our Investment Portfolio

Over the last fiscal year, GDC has continued to increase its holdings. The net investment portfolio (valued at approximately \$22.9 million as of December 31, 2006) has increased in size over the previous year by 39%. During the year, GDC has invested in Discovery Air Inc., as part of an overall strategy to participate in the growing Northern aviation business.

The investment portfolio is diversified by industry, including holdings in construction (28%), energy development (3%), real estate (46%) and transportation (23%).

Overall Results

On a consolidated basis, GDC reports the following results for the year ended December 31, 2006:

- assets have increased from \$30.3 million in 2005 to \$31.8-million in 2006;
- shareholder equity has decreased from \$11.9 million in 2005 to \$10.8-million in 2006;
- revenue has decreased from \$10.4 million in 2005 to \$7.6-million in 2006;
- net earnings (loss) for the year ended December 31, 2006 was a loss of \$1,149,094 (2005 earnings of \$57,724).

The performance of the GDC was significantly impacted by the continuing delays in the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Project. Winter work in the Beaufort Delta Region was at an all time low for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006. GDC continues to maintain its administrative and overhead costs at a sustainable level and will continue to diversify its holdings by investing outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area to manage risk.

Performance of Investments

1. Construction

Mackenzie Valley Construction Ltd. (51%)

MVCL, our civil construction company, reported a loss of (\$1,420,474) (2005 – (\$816,852)) on revenues of \$7.6-million (2005 - \$14.6 million). Amortization expense of \$1,000,741 in 2006 (2005 - \$1,259,464) contributed significantly to the operating losses. This is as a result of significant investment in property and equipment that is underutilized.

Decreases in revenues and operating losses are due to significant reduction in spending by oil and gas companies in the Beaufort Delta Region. Company revenues consisted primarily of road contracts with the GNWT and contract work in Inuvik. MVCL is currently looking at diversifying its operations outside of the Gwich'in Settlement Area and cost reductions until oil and gas work resumes.

Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation (34%)

GDC established the Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation on June 11, 2004 to ensure Gwich'in participation in the construction of the proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipeline. This joint venture, which includes five prominent contractors selected for their international experience, will position GDC to bid on work associated with the Mackenzie Valley Project. Total costs incurred during the year total \$256,717. During the year, Denendeh Investments Limited Partnership became a shareholder. Negotiations are ongoing to include other Aboriginal groups in joining the MAC.

2. Energy Development

Aadrii Ltd. (50%)

Aadrii Ltd. was established to recover and distribute residual heat from the diesel generating plant in Fort McPherson. The system returned to service on November 18, 2005. Currently, one customer has been reconnected to the heat distribution system while work continues to connect the others. Revenues for 2006 amounted to \$151,951 (2005 - \$31,249) and net income for the year totaled \$108,140 (2005 - \$13,837).

Gwich'in Ensign Oilfield Services Inc. (51%)

Gwich'in Ensign has been inactive in the last year as there has been no drilling on Gwich'in lands. Future revenues from drilling and well servicing programs will depend on oil and gas exploration in the Gwich'in Settlement Region. Net loss for the year amounted to (\$1,252).

Mackenzie Valley Aboriginal Pipeline Corporation (33.3%)

MVAPC has been established to act as General Partner for the Mackenzie Valley Aboriginal Pipeline Limited Partnership. The company has entered into a series of agreements with the Mackenzie Gas Project to participate as a one-third owner of the proposed pipeline. MVAPC will ensure that GTC secures substantial ongoing financial benefits after the pipeline is constructed.

3. Real Estate

Camp MGK Ltd. (50%)

Camp MGK, which provides camp accommodation and catering services, incurred a loss of (\$187,327) on revenues of \$27,013. Amortization expense for the year amounted to \$83,288. During the year, the Gwich'in Development Corporation acquired an additional 25% interest in the corporation. In the years ahead when oil and gas exploration in the region increase, Camp MGK is expected to improve its performance.

Larga Ltd. (37.5%)

Larga, which provides accommodation for northern residents receiving medical treatment in Edmonton, Alberta, earned \$291,080 on sales of \$1,921,541. A dividend payment of \$61,155 was made to GDC in 2006 (\$64,519 in 2005).

Inuvik Capital Suites Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership (35%)

ICS, a partnership with the Nihtat Corporation and the Northern Property Real Estate Investment Trust, opened its hotel in Inuvik in October, 2004. ICS earned \$366,286 on revenues of \$2.5 million. Total partner distributions for 2006 amounted to \$540,000.

Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership (35%)

ICP, a partnership with the Nihtat Corporation and the Northern Property Real Estate Investment Trust, was created on April 1, 2005. It currently owns 10 office buildings in Inuvik and one office building in Yellowknife. The partnership earned \$957,098 on revenues of \$3.7 million. Total partner distributions for 2006 amounted to \$360,000.

GDC-NNP Limited Partnership (50%)

GDC-NNP Limited Partnership was created on October 14, 2005, and is a partnership between GDC and New North Projects Ltd. This partnership will identify potential residential, commercial and industrial projects for development in the NWT. Total contributions from partners for 2006 amount to \$150,000. Loss for the year amounted to (\$160,000). Development exploration costs of \$112,000 that have been expensed during 2006 will be recovered in future years upon completion of development projects.

In addition, the Gwich'in Development Corporation acquired approximately 9.9% of the common shares of New North Projects Ltd., a real estate development corporation with headquarters in Calgary, Alberta. Current real estate projects in Calgary and Fort McMurray are being developed. New North Projects earned \$874,000 on revenues of \$15.3 million.

4. Transportation

Gwich'in Helicopters Ltd. (51%)

GHL was incorporated in September, 2004 to provide helicopter services in the Gwich'in Settlement Region. GHL has purchased a hangar in Inuvik and in April, 2006 purchased a new Eurocopter AS 350 B2. Our partner, Great Slave Helicopters Ltd., provides technical and management expertise. The company earned a profit of \$270,747 on revenues of \$795,787. During the year the GDC acquired shares in Discovery Air Inc. to be able to participate in the Northern Aviation market. Discovery Air Inc. currently owns all the common shares of Air Tindi Ltd., Great Slave Helicopters Ltd., and Hicks and Lawrence Ltd.

Strategic Development and Outlook

In the current year, GDC will concentrate on the following strategic initiatives:

- GDC will continue to manage risk by investing outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area;
- companies that have experienced operating losses during the year will be closely monitored during the next fiscal year;
- ongoing attention will be applied to enhance Gwich'in employment and training in all GDC businesses;
- management costs and administrative overheads will be maintained at a sustainable level; and
- new investment opportunities include other Gwich'in organizations as partners.

In the year ahead, GDC will be looking for new opportunities, new partners and new employees to build a prosperous future for our membership.

Gwich'in Settlement Corporation

Annual Report

June 2007





GWICH'IN SETTLEMENT CORPORATION REPORT

History

The Gwich'in Settlement Corporation ("GSC"), the investment arm of the Gwich'in Tribal Council, was established in 1992 as a "settlement corporation" pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (the "Agreement").

The GSC is responsible for receiving and investing the majority of the capital transfer payments payable to the Gwich'in, pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Agreement, so that future generations of the Gwich'in can use the funds for "permitted activities" as described in Schedule 1 to Chapter 11 of the Agreement.

At inception in 1992, the fund was conservatively invested in a portfolio of short term guaranteed investment certificates. In 1995, this strategy was modified to include investment in a Canadian bond portfolio managed by Wood Gundy.

In 1996, there were a number of significant milestones for the fund. The first was the appointment of TAL Global Asset Management¹ as the external investment manager to the fund, replacing Wood Gundy. The appointment of TAL provided the GSC with access to a professional investment management firm with the ability to invest a portion of the fund assets in Canadian and foreign equities, in addition to Canadian bonds.

Another important development in 1996 was the adoption of By-Law #18 (now By-Law #3) by the Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC), which formalized the amount of the capital transfer to be allocated to the fund from 1997 to 2007. The By-Law also improved the governance of the fund through the establishment of an Investment Committee, the retention of an external investment advisor and the establishment of an investment policy that governs how the fund is to be invested and managed.

In April 2002, the Investment Committee appointed RBC Dominion Securities to manage a portion of the Canadian equity portfolio of the fund to provide additional diversification by investment style.

In 2004, the Investment Committee conducted a review of the asset mix and investment management of the fund. As a result of this review, modifications were made to the Statement of Investment Policy for the fund to permit investments in a global equity portfolio, which includes both US and international stocks.

In April 2004, UBS Global Asset Management (Canada) Co. was appointed to manage the global equity portfolio. As a result of this appointment, TAL's mandate, which had included management of Canadian and US equities and fixed income, was amended to exclude management of US equities.

In late 2006, the Investment Committee undertook a review of the asset mix of the fund as well as a detailed review of CIBC Asset Management and UBS. The reviews are ongoing and decisions and potential implementation of changes is expected to occur in late 2007.

¹ TAL Global Asset Management was renamed to CIBC Asset Management effective January 1, 2006



By-Law #3 was revised in 2006 to provide for maximum annual disbursements for administration expenses, capital distributions to participants and transfers to Designated Gwich'in Organizations. These annual maximums as a percentage of the Fund balance are 1.0%, 1.0% and 3.5%, respectively. In addition, the Investment Committee has some discretion in determining the annual disbursements, subject to an overall maximum of 5.5% of the Fund balance. The goal over the long term is for the Fund balance to exceed the Gwich'in Legacy Capital adjusted for inflation. The Gwich'in Legacy Capital is the Fund balance at April 22, 2007 after the final capital transfer is made.

Fund Management

At March 31, 2007, the following professional organizations were involved with the investment management, administration and oversight of the fund:

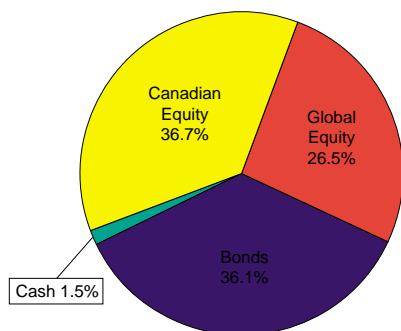
- CIBC Asset Management is an investment manager, responsible for a domestic balanced mandate which includes Canadian equities and fixed income, as well as managing the asset mix of the portfolio for which they are responsible.
- RBC Dominion Securities is an investment manager, responsible for managing a Canadian equity portfolio.
- UBS is an investment manager, responsible for managing a global equity portfolio.
- CIBC Mellon is the custodian of the fund assets, responsible for safekeeping, administration, and financial reporting of the fund assets.
- Towers Perrin is the investment advisor to the GSC, responsible for monitoring investment performance and compliance with the terms of the investment policy, and advising the GSC with respect to the investment management of the fund.

Investments at March 31, 2007

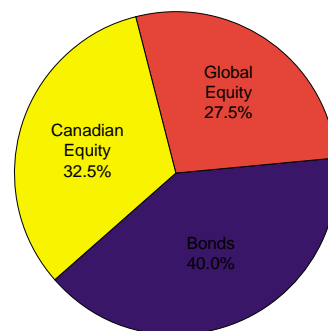
At March 31, 2007, the total market value of the fund was \$134,383,090¹ compared with \$121,971,854¹ at March 31, 2006 and was invested as follows:

¹ The amount at March 31, 2007 includes a note receivable of \$450,000 and a Gwich'in Development Corporation receivable of \$6,500,000. The amount at March 31, 2006 includes a note receivable of \$450,000 and a Gwich'in Development Corporation receivable of \$5,000,000. These receivables have not been reflected in the asset allocation charts below.

Total Fund at March 31, 2007

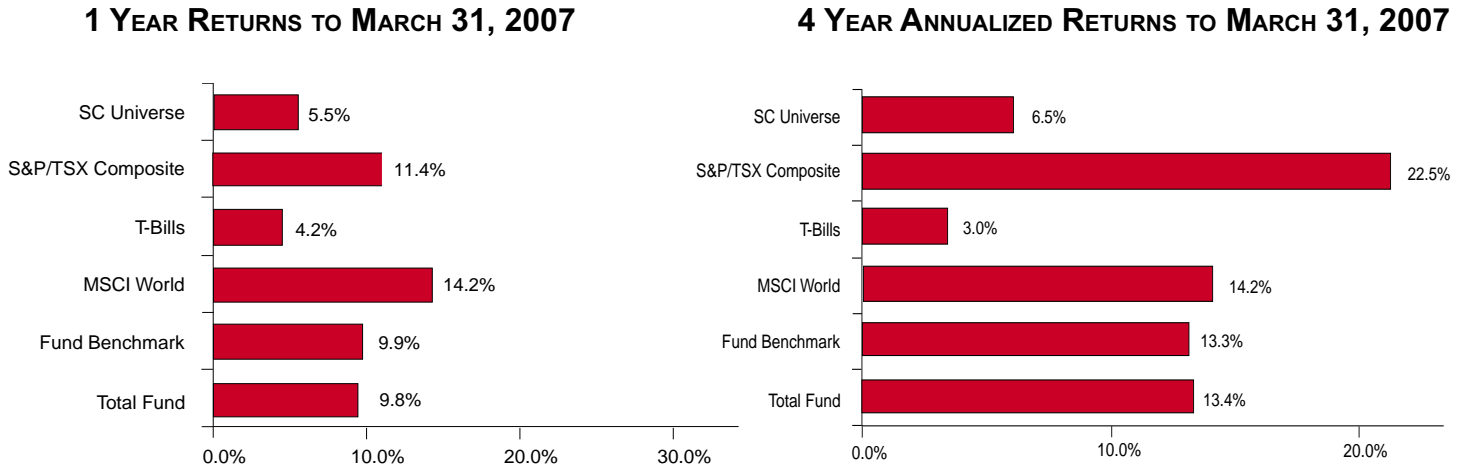


Policy Benchmark at March 31, 2007





The following chart shows the fund benchmark and asset class returns for the one year and four year periods ended March 31, 2007:



Over the one year period ended March 31, 2007 the top performing asset class was global equities (in Canadian dollar terms) with a return of 14.2%, followed by Canadian equities at 11.4% . Bonds returned 5.5% while cash returned 4.2%.

The total fund returned 9.8% for the year ended March 31, 2007 which trailed the total fund benchmark return slightly while ranking just below the average fund when compared to a universe of balanced funds with similar asset allocations. Underperformance within global equities was the primary determinant of relative underperformance during this period.

Over four years, the total fund has returned 13.4% per annum, slightly outperforming the total fund benchmark return of 13.3% per annum, ranking in the bottom quarter of a universe of other balanced funds. Relative underperformance during this period is primarily attributable to poor performance in U.S. equities and global equities.

Since the inception of external investment management in 1996, the fund has had an annual average return of approximately 8.5% per annum, compared to the benchmark return of 8.1% per year.



Future Contributions and Tax Status

In April 2007, the final capital transfer of \$1.0 million was transferred into the fund.

Until April 22, 2007, income earned by the GSC is exempt from income tax providing it meets all the requirements relative to settlement corporations, as contained in Chapter 11 of the Agreement, and to public charitable foundations as contained in the Income Tax Act (Canada).

To maintain its tax exempt status after April 22, 2007, the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation must spend annually a minimum amount, referred to as the "disbursement quota", on permitted activities as contained in Schedule 1 to Chapter 11 of the Agreement. For transfers to Designated Gwich'in Organizations, the disbursement quota is set at a maximum 3.5% of the capital. In addition, a maximum of 1% of the capital may be disbursed annually for each of administration expenses and capital distributions to participants.

Progress of the Fund

- At March 31, 2007 the actual fund market value was \$134.4 million. The Gwich'in Legacy Capital is the March 31, 2007 fund value plus the final capital transfer of \$1 million for a total of \$135.4 million. The Gwich'in Legacy Capital of \$135.4 million exceeds the target market value of \$132 million.
- Based on a 3.5% annual payout, a fund market value of \$135.4 million would support an initial annual disbursement to Designated Gwich'in Organizations of \$4.7 million.

Future Initiatives

During the latter part of 2007, any changes as a result of the asset mix and manager reviews will be implemented.

Prepared by: Keith J. Tomchuk, CFA





**Chief Financial Officer's Report
March 31, 2007**

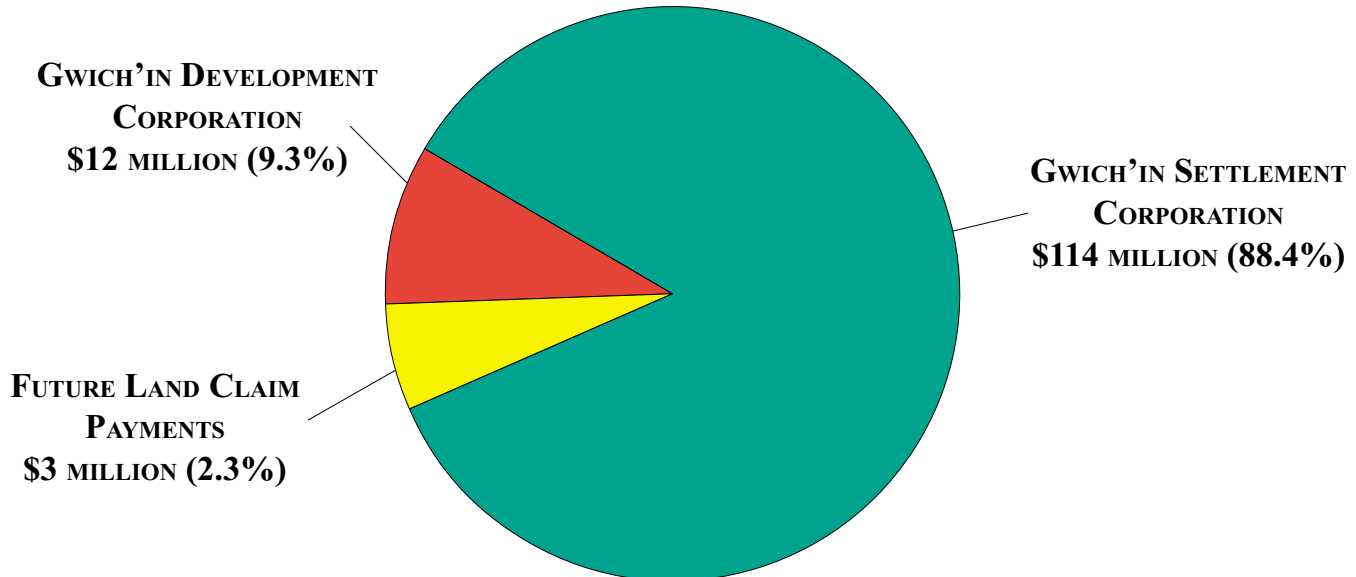
A. Our Mandate

The Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) is committed to the economic, social and cultural development of its membership. We manage your long-term investments in the Land Claim Settlement Fund and we deliver programs and services to you through Operations. Separate financial statements for each activity are prepared in addition to the overall consolidated financial statements which are included in the Annual Report.

B. Land Claim Settlement Fund

Land Claim Settlement investments of approximately \$129 million include investments held primarily within the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation (\$114 million), net future financial compensation payments receivable from the Government of Canada under the Land Claim Agreement (\$3 million) and equity in business activities and real estate investments held primarily within the Gwich'in Development Corporation (\$12 million).

Land Claim Settlement Fund, March 31, 2007

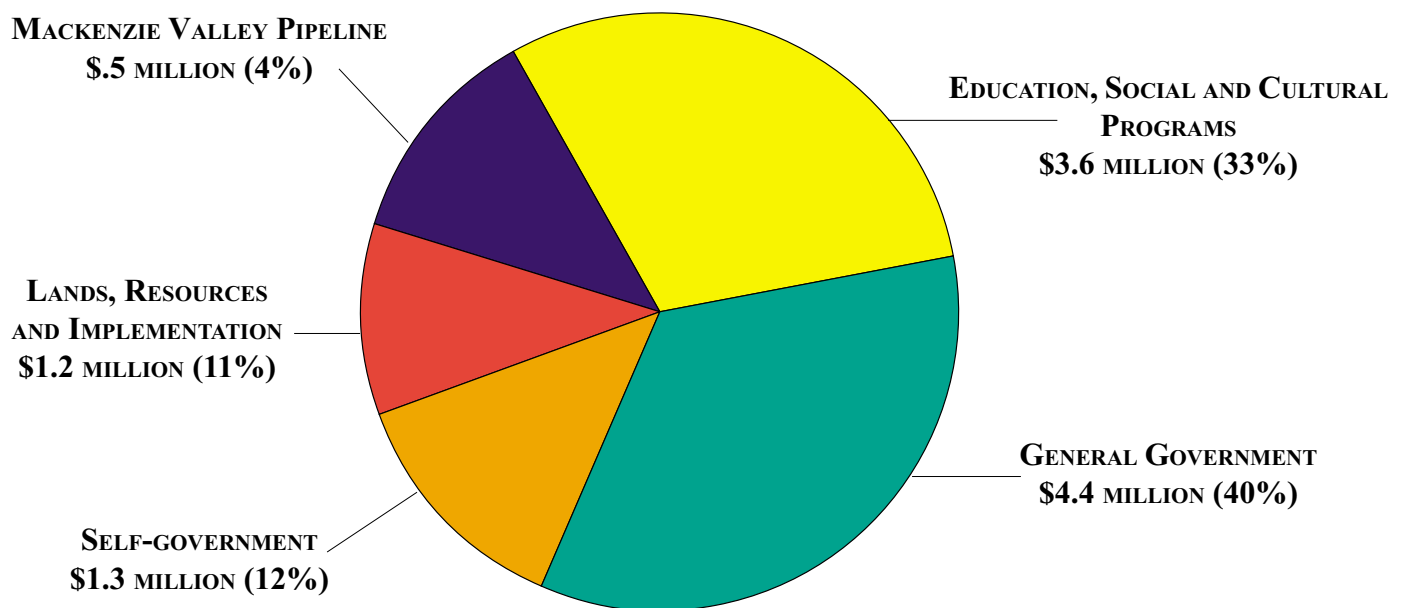


The Gwich'in Settlement Corporation earned an annual rate of return of 9.8% for the year ended March 31, 2007, (2006 – 14.2%). Net assets in the Corporation, at March 31, 2007, totalled approximately \$114 million (2006 – \$106 million). The market value of our investments at March 31, 2007 totalled approximately \$134.4 million (2006 - \$121.9 million). Since the investment management of the Corporation was outsourced to external investment managers in 1996, the Corporation has earned a return of approximately 8.5% per annum. This return reflects the impact of positive equity markets over the past four years.

Overall the income on Land Claim Settlement investments was \$1.9 million for the year (2006 – \$4.8 million). Net income reported by the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation of \$5.0 million (\$2006 – \$5.0 million), produced positive returns for the GTC.

C. Gwich'in Tribal Council - Operations

Total expenditures on programs amounted to approximately \$11.0 million for the year as follows:



General government expenditures (\$4.4 million) include approximately \$3.4 million for Council operating expenses and \$1.0 million for contributions for band support and Designated Gwich'in Organization funding.

Funding for self-government (\$1.3 million) is for main table negotiations and community Gwich'in constitution work.

Expenditures for lands, resources and implementation (\$1.2 million) include Claim Implementation, Gwich'in Land Administration and resource initiatives.

Mackenzie Valley Pipeline (\$0.5 million) expenditures are incurred to fund access and benefit implementation, environmental impact assessments, and other pipeline related activities.

Education, social and cultural programs (\$3.6 million) include activities of the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (\$1.0 million), various Aboriginal Human Resource Development Initiatives (\$1.5 million), Gwich'in Wellness Initiative (\$0.1 million) and other programs (\$1.0 million).

The Gwich'in Tribal Council will be continuing the practice of reviewing the performance of all our programs to ensure continuous improvements in the quality of service to our beneficiaries in a financially efficient manner.

D. Overall Results

The Council had a consolidated operating surplus for the year ended March 31, 2007 of approximately \$1.4 million (2006 - \$7.3 million). Total consolidated beneficiaries' equity amounts to approximately \$134 million (2006 - \$132 million).

We are pleased to report that the market value of the Gwich'in Settlement Fund as at March 31, 2007 amounts to \$134.4 million. On April 22, 2007 the final capital transfer of \$1 million was made. The Gwich'in Legacy Capital as at April 22, 2007 totalled \$135.4 million. We have now exceeded our investment target of \$132 million set to be achieved by April 22, 2007.

E. Strategic Development and Outlook

The Gwich'in Tribal Council will continue to focus its efforts to maximize the returns that are earned on the Gwich'in Land Claim Settlement Fund investments. The minimum benchmark return required for all our investments commencing on April 1, 2007 is 7.5%. In the coming year we will continue to monitor and evaluate our overall investment strategies and asset allocations to ensure we realize our investment objectives.

With respect to the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation, we annually review our asset mix and the performance of our fund managers to ensure that our investment objectives are achieved.

The financial performance of the Gwich'in Development Corporation has been significantly impacted this year as a result of the decision by Imperial Oil to put a hold on pre-construction work for the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline. In the current year, GDC will manage this risk by looking for work and opportunities for our impacted subsidiary companies in other markets, by maintaining management and administrative overhead both in GDC and in subsidiaries companies at sustainable levels and finally by diversifying our investments outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

We are currently preparing a Corporate Policy Manual for the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation. This manual will establish policies and procedures for the Corporation that will go into effect once the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation becomes a Foundation on April 22, 2008.



Gregory D. Cayen, C.A.
Chief Financial Officer

Consolidated Financial Statements of

GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Year ended March 31, 2007

GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2007

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MANAGEMENT'S REPORT

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of Gwich'in Tribal Council are the responsibility of management. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Financial statements are not precise since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgments. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances, in order to ensure that the consolidated financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

To assist in meeting its responsibility, management maintains accounting, budget and other internal controls. These controls provide reasonable assurance that transactions are appropriately authorized and accurately recorded, that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded, in order that the integrity of financial records is maintained.

The financial statements have been audited by the independent firm, KPMG LLP. Their report to the beneficiaries of the Gwich'in Tribal Council, stating the scope of their examination and opinion on the consolidated financial statements, follows.

President

Chief Financial Officer

Inuvik, Canada
May 30, 2007



KPMG LLP
Chartered Accountants
10125 - 102 Street
Edmonton AB T5J 3V8
Canada

Telephone (780) 429-7300
Fax (780) 429-7379
Internet www.kpmg.ca

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BENEFICIARIES

We have audited the consolidated statement of financial position of the Gwich'in Tribal Council as at March 31, 2007 and the consolidated statements of financial activities and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2007 and the results of its financial activities and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Accountants

Edmonton, Canada
May 30, 2007



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2007, with comparative figures for 2006

	2007	2006
Assets		
Financial assets:		
Cash	\$ 1,338,209	\$ 3,585,836
Accounts receivable	3,820,090	2,430,588
Prepaid expenses	33,864	29,826
Land claim settlement investments (note 2)	128,661,606	126,723,701
	<u>133,853,769</u>	<u>132,769,951</u>
Physical assets (note 3)	968,418	531,480
	<u>\$ 134,822,187</u>	<u>\$ 133,301,431</u>

Liabilities and Beneficiaries' Equity

Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 721,620	\$ 1,096,129
Contributions repayable	5,269	19,156
Deferred revenue	77,670	51,868
Current portion of long-term debt (note 4)	53,666	10,772
	<u>858,225</u>	<u>1,177,925</u>
Long-term debt (note 4)	29,556	34,426
Beneficiaries' equity:		
Operating fund:		
Unrestricted	3,934,738	4,585,535
Internally restricted (note 7)	452,866	293,562
	<u>4,387,604</u>	<u>4,879,097</u>
Land claim settlement fund	128,661,606	126,723,701
	<u>133,049,210</u>	<u>131,602,798</u>
Equity in physical assets	885,196	486,282
	<u>133,934,406</u>	<u>132,089,080</u>
Commitments and guarantees (note 10)		
	<u>\$ 134,822,187</u>	<u>\$ 133,301,431</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Council:




Director
Director

**GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended March 31, 2007, with comparative figures for 2006

	Budget	2007	2006
	(Unaudited)		
Revenues:			
Contributions:			
DIAND	\$ 2,345,125	\$ 2,345,125	\$ 2,714,947
Government of Canada	965,743	1,980,901	1,852,414
Government of NWT	943,991	1,059,836	578,030
Other	942,540	743,440	1,068,636
	5,197,399	6,129,302	6,214,027
Royalties	1,300,000	558,704	1,461,610
User fees	1,065,148	640,133	205,160
Interest	15,000	224,125	130,165
Administration fees	180,000	106,735	91,556
Access and benefits (notes 5 and 6)	–	9,335	4,635,400
Other	–	60,482	241,835
Earnings of land claim settlement investments (note 2)	1,950,000	4,777,905	5,898,503
	9,707,547	12,506,721	18,878,256
Expenditures (notes 8 and 9):			
General government	4,685,276	4,421,437	3,955,670
Self-government	1,289,500	1,299,500	1,443,147
Land claim implementation	776,677	830,270	650,068
Land administration	285,033	306,450	255,352
Resource management	44,000	38,913	341,542
Education, social and cultural	2,309,987	3,655,527	3,501,975
Mackenzie Valley Pipeline	–	546,236	1,437,959
	9,390,473	11,098,333	11,585,713
Excess of revenues over expenditures before the undernoted	317,074	1,408,388	7,292,543
Contribution repayments and transfers during the year	–	–	(49,346)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	317,074	1,408,388	7,243,197
Proceeds from long-term debt	–	58,285	54,909
Repayments of long term debt	–	(20,261)	(9,711)
Change in fund balances	317,074	1,446,412	7,288,395
Fund balances, beginning of year	131,662,798	131,602,798	124,314,403
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 131,979,872	\$ 133,049,210	\$ 131,602,798

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Financial Position

Year ended March 31, 2007, with comparative figures for 2006

	2007	2006
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 1,408,388	\$ 7,243,197
Change in non-cash items:		
Accounts receivable	(1,389,502)	480,047
Prepaid expenses	(4,038)	(8,533)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(374,509)	(607,299)
Contributions repayable	(13,887)	-
Deferred revenue	25,802	(225,236)
	(347,746)	6,882,176
Financing:		
Proceeds from long-term debt	58,285	54,909
Repayments of long-term debt	(20,261)	(9,711)
	38,024	45,198
Investments:		
Increase in land claim settlement investments	(1,937,905)	(4,536,003)
Increase in cash	(2,247,627)	2,391,371
Cash, beginning of year	3,585,836	1,194,465
Cash, end of year	\$ 1,338,209	\$ 3,585,836

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2007

Gwich'in Tribal Council (the "Council") is an aboriginal organization that represents Gwich'in beneficiaries in the Mackenzie Delta of the Northwest Territories. The Council was established in 1983 by the Band Councils and Metis Locals of the four communities of Aklavik, Tsiigehtchic, Fort McPherson and Inuvik. The Council is incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act and is not subject to any federal, territorial or local government taxes or similar charges.

The objectives of the Council include the following:

- to protect and preserve the rights, interest and benefits of the Gwich'in in reference to their use, ownership and management of lands, waters and resources in the Gwich'in settlement area;
- to retain, preserve and enhance the traditional and cultural values, customs and language of the Gwich'in in a changing society;
- to develop and promote economic, social, educational and cultural programs that will enable the Gwich'in to become self-sufficient and full participating members in a global society;
- to uphold the rights, interest and benefits of the Gwich'in in reference to the Constitution Act, Treaty 11 and the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement; and
- to receive, preserve and enhance the capital and the lands and other benefits transferred to the Gwich'in pursuant to the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement signed on April 22, 1992.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

1. Significant accounting policies:

The consolidated financial statements of the Council have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for local government entities established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. Significant aspects of the accounting policies adopted by the Council are as follows:

(a) Reporting entity:

The consolidated financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenditures and changes in beneficiaries' equity of the reporting entity, which comprises all the organizations, entities and funds that are accountable for the administration of their financial affairs and resources to the Council and are owned or controlled by the Council. They include the following:

Entity	Year end
Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute	March 31, 2007
Gwich'in Enrolment Board	March 31, 2007
Council of Gwich'in Chiefs	March 31, 2007
Gwich'in Education Foundation	March 31, 2007
GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund	March 31, 2007
GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund	March 31, 2007

Land claim settlement investments include the land claim settlement accounts of the Council, and the net assets of the following entities:

Entity	Year end
Gwich'in Development Corporation	December 31, 2006
Gwich'in Settlement Corporation	March 31, 2007
Zheh Gwizuh (G.P.) Limited	December 31, 2006

(b) Land claim settlement investments:

Land claim settlement investments are accounted for on a modified equity basis. Under the modified equity basis, the business enterprise's accounting principles are not adjusted to conform to those of the Council, and inter-entity transactions and balances are not eliminated.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(c) Physical assets:

Physical assets are reported as expenditures in the year they are acquired. Physical assets are reported at cost. Physical assets are amortized annually with a corresponding reduction in Equity in Physical Assets. Physical assets are amortized over their expected useful lives using the following methods and annual rates:

Asset	Basis	Rate
Equipment	Declining balance	20%
Furniture and fixtures	Declining balance	20%
Vehicles	Declining balance	30%
Computer hardware and software	Declining balance	30%
Building	Declining balance	4%
Leasehold improvements	Straight line	Lease term

(d) Revenue recognition:

Restricted funding is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted funding is recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the collection of the amount to be received is reasonably assured.

(e) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that effect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

2. Land claim settlement investments:

Land claim settlement investments comprise the settlement proceeds received pursuant to the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement signed April 22, 1992 and accumulated excess of revenues over expenditures of the Gwich'in Tribal Council Land Claim Settlement accounts.

	2007	2006
Land claim settlement fund investments, beginning of year	\$ 126,723,701	\$ 122,187,698
Earnings of land claim settlement investments	4,777,905	5,898,503
Transfers to operating fund during the year	(2,840,000)	(1,362,500)
Land claim settlement investments, end of year	\$ 128,661,606	\$ 126,723,701

Financial information relating to land claim settlement investments is as follows:

	2007	2006
Assets:		
Cash and other current assets	\$ 7,199,435	\$ 11,110,986
Notes, loans and mortgages receivable	2,922,312	2,165,015
Future settlement proceeds receivable	3,831,268	9,257,963
Investments in fixed term securities and equities	112,361,781	101,748,240
Capital and intangible assets	18,345,492	16,481,084
Goodwill	544,636	483,480
	145,204,924	141,246,768
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,453,858	2,700,305
Loans payable and capital lease obligations	13,217,012	10,507,476
Claims loan agreement	427,500	1,044,547
Non-controlling interest	444,948	270,739
	16,543,318	14,523,067
Net assets	\$ 128,661,606	\$ 126,723,701
Revenues:		
Investment income	\$ 8,504,433	\$ 7,597,476
Sales and other	7,094,554	10,294,481
	15,598,987	17,891,957
Expenditures net of recoveries	(10,821,082)	(11,993,454)
Earnings of land claim settlement investments	\$ 4,777,905	\$ 5,898,503



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

2. Land claim settlement investments (continued):

In addition, the land claim settlement investments include various settlement lands in the Gwich'in Settlement Region. No value has been assigned to these lands for financial statement purposes.

The investments in fixed term securities and equities are as follows:

	2007		2006	
	Carrying value	Market value	Carrying value	Market value
Cash	\$ 81,997	\$ 81,997	\$ 92,970	\$ 92,968
Fixed term	45,839,814	46,708,562	44,159,610	44,817,234
Equities	60,071,501	80,494,565	55,119,486	71,443,006
Other	6,368,469	6,368,459	2,376,174	2,376,174
	\$ 112,361,781	\$ 133,653,583	\$ 101,748,240	\$ 118,729,382

3. Physical assets:

	2007		2006	
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
Equipment	\$ 145,105	\$ 94,379	\$ 50,726	\$ 40,915
Furniture and fixtures	183,185	148,042	35,143	43,330
Vehicles	90,240	51,768	38,472	49,608
Computer hardware and software	718,559	595,195	123,364	111,072
Building	336,757	13,470	323,287	-
Leasehold improvements	510,130	112,704	397,426	286,555
	\$ 1,983,976	\$ 1,015,558	\$ 968,418	\$ 531,480



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

4. Long-term debt:

	2007	2006
Bearing interest at 1.75%, repayable in monthly installments of \$956, due April 22, 2010	\$ 34,426	\$ 45,198
Bearing interest at 1.90%, repayable in monthly installments of \$1,667, due September 26, 2009, secured by a vehicle with a carrying amount of \$38,472	48,796	-
	83,222	45,198
Current portion of long-term debt	53,666	10,772
	\$ 29,556	\$ 34,426

The 1.75% loan was fully repaid subsequent to year end with proceeds from an insurance settlement. Principal repayments years are due as follows:

2008	\$ 53,666
2009	19,611
2010	9,945
	\$ 83,222

5. Mackenzie Gas Project Agreement:

On November 30, 2005, Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited ("IORVL") entered into a Mackenzie Gas Project Access Agreement with the Council to secure access rights to a portion of Gwich'in Lands as part of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project ("the Project"). In the prior year, a reservation payment in the amount of \$4,210,400 was received by the Council under the terms of the Agreement. If construction of the Project has not commenced on or before December 31, 2011, then additional annual reservation payments will be required subject to certain termination provisions if the Project does not proceed. In addition, the agreement provides for annual surface compensation payments to be provided to the Council once the Project has commenced.

In addition to the above, IORVL provided \$150,000 funding for the access and benefit negotiations related to the Project in the prior year.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

6. Mackenzie Gas Project Benefits Agreement:

On November 30, 2005, Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited (“IORVL”) entered into a Mackenzie Gas Project Benefits Agreement with the Council to secure access rights to a portion of Gwich’in Lands as part of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project (the “Project”). As part of the Agreement, IORVL provided contributions in the prior year of \$100,000 to the Council to establish the GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund and \$175,000 to establish GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund (see note 7).

7. Internally restricted:

The Board of Directors of the Council has approved the following internally restricted amounts:

	Balance March 31, 2006	Contributions and other earnings	Disbursements and transfers	Balance March 31, 2007
GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,576	\$ 54,228	\$ 48,348
GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund	175,000	179,576	104	354,472
Gwich'in Education Foundation	18,562	222,666	191,182	50,046
	\$ 293,562	\$ 404,818	\$ 245,514	\$ 452,866

The purposes of the internally restricted funds are as follows:

- a) GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund - to encourage the higher education of participants by providing financial assistance to those seeking vocational and technical skills training and formal post-secondary education.
- b) GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund - to assist Gwich'in businesses to build their capacity to participate in business opportunities including specifically their capacity to participate in business opportunities relating to the Project.
- c) Gwich'in Education Foundation – to encourage the higher education of participants by providing financial assistance to those seeking vocational and technical skills training and formal post-secondary education through the Gwich'in Education Foundation.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

8. Expenditures by object:

	2007	2006
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 4,257,726	\$ 3,723,238
Honoraria	272,828	266,576
Travel	888,843	713,205
Office and administration	966,237	850,114
Rent and utilities	445,959	522,237
Professional fees	669,829	1,440,763
Community assistance and donations	125,304	193,740
Education and training	1,187,682	1,700,189
Annual general assembly	91,663	75,930
Physical asset acquisitions	604,462	287,954
	<u>9,510,533</u>	<u>9,773,946</u>
Contributions to other organizations:		
Renewable Resource Councils	294,970	292,488
Designated Gwich'in Organizations	573,200	588,200
Band Support Services	493,303	483,159
Self-government community negotiation assistance	-	312,174
Other	226,327	135,746
	<u>1,587,800</u>	<u>1,811,767</u>
Total expenditures by object	<u>\$ 11,098,333</u>	<u>\$ 11,585,713</u>

**GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

9. Expenditures by function:

	2007	2006
General government:		
Council operations	\$ 3,139,833	\$ 2,660,090
Band support services	630,381	630,381
Designated Gwich'in Organizations	573,200	588,200
Other programs	58,023	76,999
	<u>4,401,437</u>	<u>3,955,670</u>
Self-government:		
Beaufort-Delta Self-Government Office	–	105,938
Aboriginal summit	50,000	218,252
Core self-government	1,249,500	1,118,957
	<u>1,299,500</u>	<u>1,443,147</u>
Land claim implementation:		
Claim implementation	502,459	597,656
Enrolment	49,625	52,412
	<u>552,084</u>	<u>650,068</u>
Land administration	306,450	255,352
Resource management:		
Renewable Resource Councils	278,186	292,488
Other projects	38,913	49,054
	<u>317,099</u>	<u>341,542</u>
Education, social and cultural:		
Aboriginal Human Resource Development	947,328	971,737
ASEP	570,038	741,692
Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute	967,357	1,103,946
Education and Training	191,182	231,385
Employment Liaison	100,785	83,136
Culture and Language	–	844
Gwich'in Wellness	76,621	228,160
Other programs	767,988	141,075
	<u>3,621,299</u>	<u>3,501,975</u>
Mackenzie Valley Pipeline	600,464	1,437,959
Total expenditures by function	\$ 11,098,333	\$ 11,585,713



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

10. Commitments and guarantees:

The Council leases its premises under operating leases which expire in 2011. Under the current leases, the Council has the option to renew the leases upon expiry. Minimum annual rental payments to the end of the lease terms are as follows

2008	\$	305,263
2009		305,263
2010		305,263
2011		427
	\$	916,216

The Council has provided the following guarantees at March 31, 2007:

- (a) An unsecured guarantee for \$60,191 of its investment, Camp MGK Ltd., as part of a credit agreement dated June 29, 2006;
- (b) An unsecured guarantee of the debts of Larga Ltd. limited to the principal sum of \$675,000;
- (c) An unsecured guarantee for \$500,000 of the indebtedness of Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership;
- (d) An unsecured guarantee of the debts of Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership, limited to a maximum of \$800,000;
- (e) An unsecured guarantee of the indebtedness of Inuvik Capital Suites Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership, limited to a maximum of \$7,500,000;
- (f) An unsecured guarantee for \$1,500,000 of the indebtedness of its investment, Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership;
- (g) An unlimited guarantee of the indebtedness of Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership; and
- (h) A guarantee of the indebtedness of Gwich'in Helicopters Ltd. for a Eurocopter AS 350 B2 helicopter acquired in April, 2006.

**GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

11. Trust assets and liabilities:

The Gwich'in Tribal Council administers the following trusts on behalf of its beneficiaries. Transactions within the trusts during the current year are summarized below.

	Opening balance	Distributions	Net investment earnings and contributions	Closing balance
Gwich'in Harvesters Assistance Trust for the year ended December 31, 2006	\$ 4,614,850	\$ (167,078)	\$ 190,656	\$ 4,638,428
Gwich'in Children's Trust for the year ended December 31, 2006	841,558	(60,600)	368,107	1,149,065
	\$ 5,456,408	\$ (227,678)	\$ 558,763	\$ 5,787,493

	2007		2006	
	Carrying value	Market value	Carrying value	Market value
Cash and cash equivalents, earning interest at 2.4%	\$ 1,387,041	\$ 1,387,041	\$ 768,154	\$ 768,154
Fixed term investments:				
Pooled money market funds	541,090	534,012	105,177	105,177
Province of British Columbia bond, effective interest rate of 3.2%, maturing January 4, 2006	—	—	2,970,805	2,970,805
Government, government-guaranteed and corporate bonds, with effective interest rates of 4.5% to 5.7%, maturing from June 5, 2008 to May 19, 2010	2,129,395	2,096,411	—	—
Common stocks:				
Canadian	1,351,561	1,910,204	1,221,417	1,693,078
International	461,676	514,962	451,946	428,936
	1,813,237	2,425,166	1,673,363	2,122,014
Accrued interest receivable	21,328	21,328	4,512	4,512
Accounts payable	(104,598)	(104,598)	(65,603)	(65,603)
	\$ 5,787,493	\$ 6,359,360	\$ 5,456,408	\$ 5,905,059



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2007

12. Public entities and boards:

The Council has the ability to appoint a portion of the members of the Board of Directors of the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board, Gwich'in Land and Water Board, Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and the Gwich'in Wildlife Studies Fund. These entities and boards have not been included in the Council's consolidated financial statements.

13. Financial instruments:

It is management's opinion that the Council is not exposed to significant credit risks arising from its financial instruments. Given the significance of the Council's long term debt and investments included in Land claim settlement investments, it has significant exposure to market risks arising from changes in interest rates, market prices and currency changes. The Council does not use derivative instruments to mitigate these risks.

Unless otherwise noted, all financial assets and liabilities are recorded at amounts which approximate their fair market values. Fair value of investments is market value which represents the last bid price quoted for the investments.

The carrying value of long-term debt approximates its fair value as the terms and conditions of the arrangement are comparable to current market terms and conditions.

14. Salaries, honoraria, travel and other remuneration:

	Base salaries and honoraria	Travel, benefits and allowances	2007 Total
President	\$ 120,000	\$ 48,050	\$ 168,050
Vice President	100,000	51,246	151,246
Council members (9)	76,030	43,996	120,026
Chief Operating Officer	132,000	53,473	185,473
Chief Financial Officer	180,000	45,755	225,755
	\$ 608,030	\$ 242,520	\$ 850,550



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