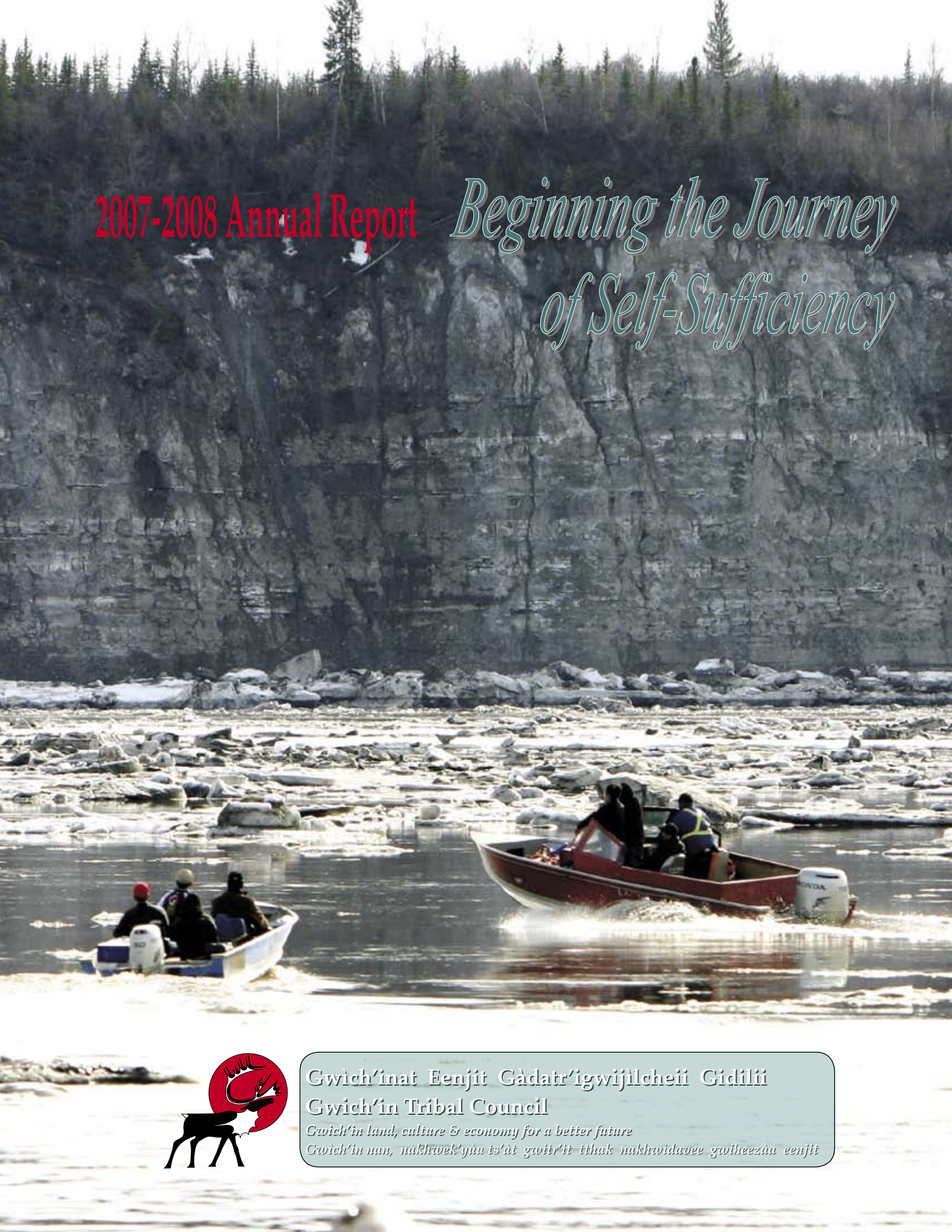


2007-2008 Annual Report

Beginning the Journey of Self-Sufficiency



Gwich'inat Eenjit Gàdatr'igwijiłcheii Gidilii
Gwich'in Tribal Council

Gwich'in land, culture & economy for a better future

Gwich'in nan, nakhvek'yuu ts'at gwitr'it tthak nakhwidavee gwiheezàa eenjit

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE

President.....	2
Vice-President.....	5
Chief Operating Officer.....	8

DESIGNATED GWICH'IN ORGANIZATIONS

Gwichya Gwich'in Council.....	11
Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council	12
Tetlit Gwich'in Council	14
Tetlit Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council.....	15
Ehdiitat Gwich'in Council	17
Nihtat Gwich'in Council	20

TRIBAL OPERATIONS

Beneficiary Services	22
Lands, Resources & Implementation	31
Business Development	36
Regional Wellness	39
Self-Government	42

GWICH'IN ORGANIZATIONS

Gwich'in Enrolment Board	44
Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute	45
Gwich'in Development Corporation.....	50
Gwich'in Settlement Corporation.....	53

FINANCIAL

Chief Financial Officer.....	61
Consolidated Financial Statements	63
Management Report	65
Auditors' Report to Beneficiaries.....	66
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position	67
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities.....	68
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Fund Balances	69
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Financial Position	70
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.....	71



EXECUTIVE - President Fred Carmichael



Drin Gwinzii, dear Friends and fellow Gwich'in, First of all, I would like to congratulate President Richard Nerysoo and Vice-President Maryann Ross as your GTC leaders for the next four years. This is my last opportunity to address you as your outgoing President, and I wish to take the opportunity to thank you for your trust and support over the past eight years as well as to reflect upon what we have been able to achieve together.

The Gwich'in Tribal Council is a relatively young organization, and it is not surprising that we have experienced "growing pains" along the way. Yet in the last few years we have managed to ensure that we stand on a solid foundation, both financially and politically. No leader can work alone, and the creation of the GTC's Executive Council brought the Chiefs and DGO's in the GSA communities to the table to form a strong leadership team that listens to community concerns.

Building our own capacity has always been a high priority for the GTC, and one sign of the progress we have made is that the majority of our managers are Gwich'in Beneficiaries. They

do a fine job on behalf of our people, and serve as inspiring examples to our young people of what they can become and how far they can go.

Before my election as President, I spent most of my life in the business world. Those years convinced me that a sound economic base was essential for us as a people, both politically and financially. It is necessary to ensure that we have the money to fund the many programs and services that are so important to our people. Politically, it ensures we are heard when we sit down at the bargaining table with industry and government.

Our team, particularly our dedicated CFO for most of the last eight years, Greg Cayen, worked hard to strengthen our financial position. We have run surpluses several years running, and met our investment targets for the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation. We also put in place the policies outlined in the document "*Framing Our Fiscal Future*." This outlined a new investment policy to protect the Gwich'in Settlement Fund now that government land claim payments to GTC have ended. GTC has put in place a formula for generous, sustainable, and predictable funding for Gwich'in organizations.

We have also restructured our business arm, the Gwich'in Development Corporation, reducing its overhead and focusing on sound, long-term investments. As a result, the GDC has grown from \$5 million to well over \$30 million in assets, and generates investment income for Beneficiaries as well as employment and business opportunities. Partnerships such as Gwich'in Helicopters and the Inuvik Capital Suites are a source of pride among our people.

In addition, the Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation, our joint venture with five major pipeline construction firms across Canada, positions us as principal contractors when work begins on the Mackenzie Valley natural gas pipeline, on the Mackenzie highway extension, and other major construction project.



EXECUTIVE - President Fred Carmichael

The conclusion of access and benefits agreements with the Mackenzie Gas Project and Kogiak Energy demonstrated our ability, as landowners, to ensure that economic development in the GSA takes place on terms that respect our land and environment, and that the Gwich'in receive a fair share of the benefits. Our agreements with the MGP in particular have served as a model for other Aboriginal organizations negotiating their own access and benefits agreements. I would like to thank President Richard Nerysoo (who was then the Chief Access & Benefits Negotiator) and his assistant, Tom Williams, and their team, made up of the four Chiefs, for an excellent job. At the same time, our involvement in the formation of the Aboriginal Pipeline Group brings us an ownership stake, and guarantees that the Gwich'in will continue to benefit from a pipeline throughout the life of the project.

While the opportunities that economic development brings to our people have been a focus of the GTC's activity, we have devoted as much time and concern to ensuring that all Gwich'in are in the best possible position to take advantage of them. We have made major investments in education and training, including an allocation of \$4-million (along with a further \$1-million for culture and language programming), with \$500,000 available in each community.

And in response to your wishes, we also created a new Wellness Department, headed by Denise Kurszewski, and established a wellness camp outside Inuvik, at which healing and other valuable programs will be offered. Funding from industry will ensure that Gwich'in become healthier and better prepared to fill the jobs and take advantage of the business opportunities that increased economic activity brings.

Gwich'in - young and old - benefit already from our hard work, and will continue to do so. It filled me with pride to see the first-ever payout to Participants of our land claim agreement, and our Beneficiary Distribution Policy now allows



for annual cash payouts to Beneficiaries 19 or older. We also created the Gwich'in Children's Trust, where payouts for Gwich'in under 19 are deposited in the bank for them, earning interest until they turn 19, at which time they will receive their money.

In another area of concern - the negotiation of self-government - we responded to the widespread feeling that the process had become too distant from people in their communities. As a result, we took management and administration of self-government initiatives back from the Beaufort-Delta Self-Government Office and re-directed the work so that it is closer to the "grassroots". With the help of Community Development Manager Karen Snowshoe and the rest of our self-government team, the Self-Government Committees in all four GSA communities began the process of developing community constitutions, to feed into a broader Gwich'in constitution outlining our regional governing arrangements. Negotiations for self-government now take place at a separate Gwich'in negotiating table, lead by Charlie Furlong as Chief Negotiator and his team. The Treaty issue of dissolving the Indian Bands was a big concern for our people. We now have convinced the Government of Canada to work with the Chiefs on a side-table in order to progress with settling the issues.



EXECUTIVE - President Fred Carmichael



It is true that leaders do not achieve things alone, and just as true that organizations often have to work together to get important work done. Much of the progress we have made in the past eight years has come from working with others, and I am proud to say that the GTC - along with our partners in the Beaufort-Delta - often took the "lead role."

We worked with other Aboriginal groups and the GNWT in negotiating the \$500-million Socio-Economic Impact Fund (SEIF) to address the consequences of large-scale development activity. The Gwich'in portion of \$82 million will help us to address many of the pressing needs in our communities over a ten-year period. We also played a major role in negotiating the Aboriginal Skills to Employment (ASEP) program, which brought \$12-million of funding for pipeline-related education, training, and capacity-building into the NWT, with a Gwich'in share of approximately \$2-million.

The GTC also joined the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) and Alberta Treaty 8 First Nations, which will enable us to work more closely with other Aboriginal groups on matters of common concern. Aboriginal organizations in the North and elsewhere face many of the same challenges, and we are stronger in dealing with other levels of government when we are united and choose to speak with one clear voice.

We also joined forces with the GNWT in pressing Ottawa on devolution and resource revenue sharing. Important work remains to be done in

areas where we must work with other levels of government, particularly regarding effective implementation of the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*, but we continue to move ahead.

And while our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the GNWT for acquiring contracts within the GSA may not be perfect, it has helped our businesses. We have been working to improve this MOU.

Now that my term has come to its close, I wish to thank the other Aboriginal leaders with whom I worked, as well as the representatives of the Federal and Territorial governments. While we did not always agree, we did succeed in building respectful and productive working relationships that I believe will continue to serve the GTC well.

I am also grateful to the Executive, the Board, the Chiefs and communities and the employees of the GTC for their unfailing dedication and support over eight challenging but deeply rewarding years. My gratitude also goes out to all my fellow Beneficiaries, for their kindness, their help, and their concern - in good times and in bad. Looking back, we can rightly say that together we have accomplished a great deal for our people.

In closing, let me express my best wishes to President Richard Nerysoo, Vice-President Maryann Ross and the new GTC Executive as they lead the GTC into the future, and my thanks to you - my people - for the honour of having chosen me as your leader. I will carry fond memories of these years with me, and your health and happiness will always be close to my heart.

Mahsi Cho and God bless,

Fred Carmichael
President



EXECUTIVE - Vice-President Mary Ann Ross



Drin Gwiinzii, my friends,

I would like to thank you for showing your confidence in me by re-electing me as your Vice-President this June. I am also happy to have this opportunity to report on the work I have done on your behalf over the past year.

Portfolios

As a member of the GTC Executive, my portfolios include:

- Gwich'in Education and Training;
- Health and Wellness Programs (day-to-day);
- Lands, Resources and Implementation;
- Self-Government Executive Committee (member/Chair);
- Finance Committee member; and
- Executive Committee member (general governance)

Executive member responsible for Boards:

- Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI); and
- Gwich'in Enrolment Board

Executive member responsible for Trusts:

- Gwich'in Harvesters' Assistance Program (GHAP);
- Gwich'in Children's Trust; Gwich'in Education Trust

Gwich'in Council International

Education and Training

The Aboriginal Skills to Employment (ASEP) program in which we took part ended on March 31. This program was successful in funding education, training, and capacity-building for employment on the anticipated pipeline. ASEP lifted many burdens from the more established Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement (AHRDA) program. We will soon conclude our audit of ASEP, in order to report on its success and support a proposal for a second stage of the program which we have submitted to HRDC.

As President of Aboriginal Futures, the society created to administer ASEP funding. I worked with our past Executive Directors Brian Penney and Brenda McDonald at the beginning and middle of the program. Liz Cayen was hired shortly after Brenda moved to Alberta in September 2007. Liz Cayen has worked hard to ensure this project was funded and ran in an efficient, accountable manner. Aboriginal Futures', Executive Director worked closely with the four regional partners the Gwich'in, Inuvialuit, Sahtu and the Deh Cho to follow through with their annual education and training plans.

All the work could not have been done without the support of Industry, GNWT and HRSDC. This is truly a unique partnership that is a model for other entities to follow.



EXECUTIVE - Vice-President Mary Ann Ross

Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute

This year the GSCI reviewed its five-year strategic plan, and worked on governance training with its Board of Directors, in addition to continuing various ongoing projects. With the coming of the GSCI's fifteenth anniversary this year, it is appropriate that we pause to recognize the foresight of those who saw the need for a new organization that would document, promote, and preserve the practice of the Gwich'in culture, language, traditional knowledge and values. We should recognize and appreciate the 1992 Assembly for presenting a resolution to put in place a Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute.

Gwich'in Harvesters' Assistance Program

We have revised GHAP to take account of the suggestions many Participants made in our survey of the program, and to encourage more community involvement. The RRCs in each community reviews all applications, approve or deny funding, and contact both successful and unsuccessful applicants. The Program Management Committee (PMC) approves the overall policy, ensures it is followed, and contacts the RRCs when questions arise. Appeals are now conducted in the appellant's own community, by a PMC member and community representatives, carefully chosen to avoid any conflict of interest, and the decisions are final. The greater role for the RRCs helps them build their own capacity as well as deal with issues closer to the people affected. One recent concern is the rise in gas prices, which impacts many harvesters, but this is a reality to which we must all adjust in an age of finite resources and environmental awareness.

Gwich'in Enrolment Board

Enrolment numbers continue to grow, but most adult Participants are now enrolled, with growth resulting from the birth of new children. Nonetheless, there are still Gwich'in who were "adopted out" or taken from their homes by the

social welfare system. Some of them have yet to "find their way home", and we have an obligation to ensure that they are welcomed and encouraged to find and develop their identity as Gwich'in.

Gwich'in Self-Government

This remains a priority despite the slow pace of negotiations. Chief Charlie Furlong has served as Interim-Chief Negotiator, and I hope we will soon see another Participant as Junior Negotiator and, over time, become familiar with this file and ensure continuity in a field where progress tends to be slow. We can also learn from the experiences of other Aboriginal groups that have negotiated self-government (the Nisg'a, Sahtu, and Tli Cho) as we work to develop a strong self-government team. In important ways, of course, we are already self-governing. Over the past five years I have seen us reach a Gwich'in-majority staff. Their dedication is reflected in their hard work, and while the GTC does not have the resources available like the Federal and Territorial governments, we serve our people well and within our capacity and means. In the year ahead, I hope to focus on youth leadership programming, and see our young people get more involved in regional and community affairs as well as take advantage of opportunities for travel and study.



EXECUTIVE - Vice-President Mary Ann Ross



Wellness Centre at the site of the Rachel Reindeer Camp 15 k. East of Inuvik is a true milestone. Many children received their first “on-the-land” schooling at this spot, and the values that come from our closeness to nature will now support healing and wellness programs at the new facility. Not only Gwich’in, but all people, will benefit from the services that will become available in this peaceful setting.

I have also had the privilege of serving as Director and Co-Chair of the Inuvik Inter-Agency Committee, which brings together various community groups and social service agencies to address shared concerns. Our initiatives have included the creation of a food bank, alternate

school, and preparation of a report on the growing problem of homelessness.

A particularly promising initiative is the new Youth Sub-Committee, of which I am Co-Chair. After Inuvik experienced a rash of break-ins and vandalism, there was a clear need for a committee where all who are involved in youth issues could work together. I worked with representatives of the Inuvik Youth Centre, Ingamo Hall, SHSS, SAMS, Health Promotions-BDHSSA, Probation Services-Justice, Mayor-TOI, INB/NGC, RCMP and other stakeholders to form a committee. The Student Council at Samuel Hearne High School and Ingamo Hall’s young people are represented, and we have a Youth Co-Chair, Richard Phillips. Monthly lunch-hour meetings in the high school library ensure that our youth have opportunities to come forward with what they see as the most pressing issues. We are currently looking at options for a “safe house” or other facility to address the needs of youth who find themselves homeless, as well as a facility to help young mothers in difficult circumstances.

Another priority for the near future is getting a guidance counsellor for our young people, a position that could be shared between youth organizations, and would give young people someone to talk to in hard times. The work we have done and continue to do is an example that I hope other communities will find helpful in creating a youth sub-committee group in their own community.

In closing, let me thank the GTC’s dedicated staff, and the many Participants who have shown me their support and come forward with their own ideas on how we can make life better for all Gwich’in. I am deeply grateful for your help and look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

Mahsi Cho and God bless,

Mary Ann Ross, Vice-President



EXECUTIVE - Tom Williams, Chief Operating Officer



Driin Gwinzii, my friends.

It is my pleasure to report to you on another busy and productive year in the operations of the GTC.

As in other recent years, I spent a good deal of my time on matters related to the Mackenzie Gas Project and the natural gas pipeline. The Joint Advisory Committee (JAC), the main committee dealing with the implementation of our Access and Benefits Agreements with Imperial Oil, now meets on a quarterly basis. The JAC handles all employment and contracting issues related to the project. Over the past year it devoted time and attention to building capacity among existing Gwich'in businesses and Beneficiaries interested in taking advantage of the employment and contracting opportunities the GTC successfully negotiated in the agreements.

The Gwich'in also benefit from the operations undertaken by Kodiak Energy in and around the Gwich'in Settlement Area. In the winter of 2007-2008, Kodiak conducted a seismic program that generated 5,280 man-hours of employment for Beneficiaries. In addition, seven contracts, with an approximate value of \$815,000, were awarded to registered Gwich'in businesses. Kodiak recently committed to a \$20 million drilling program, the largest ever undertaken in the Mackenzie-Delta region, beginning

this winter. Drilling will be primarily in the "Little Chicago" area, with access to the site routed through Tsiigehtchic. New Access and Benefits Agreements between Kodiak and the GTC will guarantee Gwich'in employment and business for Gwich'in firms.

Many Beneficiaries have found themselves better prepared to take advantage of the opportunities that come with new economic activity because of the important work done under the Aboriginal Skills to Employment Partnership (ASEP). This initiative, supported by Aboriginal organizations, government, and industry, promotes Aboriginal training and employment. Phase two of the program, soon to commence, will focus on capacity-building among our businesses and on increasing the supply of employable Beneficiaries.

The GTC continues to assist the growth of a healthy Gwich'in business sector, not least through partnerships with other Aboriginal groups, such as the Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation, which brings together groups along the pipeline route to pursue business opportunities as sub-contractors. We have sought out new joint ventures, including with the Sahtu and Deh Cho. Over the last year, I attended events such as the Far North Oil and Gas Conference in Calgary, and the Deh Cho Business Conference, to increase awareness of what we can offer to potential partners in the business world.



EXECUTIVE - Tom Williams, Chief Operating Officer

Dealing with the social and economic impacts of oil and gas and other development activity is an ongoing effort and remains one of the Tribal Council's highest priorities. It was effective lobbying by President Fred Carmichael, working with other regional Aboriginal leaders and the GNWT, that led to the creation of the \$500 million Socio-Economic Impacts Fund, to mitigate impacts of the proposed pipeline. The Gwich'in share is \$82 million over ten years, with funds released in installments tied to various "milestones" in the pipeline project. The first two phases have been completed, and we anticipate the release of phase three funding in the winter of 2009. Gwich'in representatives, along with representatives of the GNWT, sit on a committee to oversee funding of eligible projects.

The need to deal with social and economic impacts also led to the creation of the GTC's Wellness Department, headed by Denise Kurszewski, and the construction of our new wellness camp, outside of Inuvik. We expect the camp to be fully operational by this fall, and are currently searching for an Executive Director. This project is a fine example of creative partnership, with industry putting some of the money earned from economic development into much-needed GTC social programming. Locating additional funding for healing and wellness programs will be an ongoing task for the GTC once the camp is completely up and running.

The GTC continues to work hard to develop and maintain effective working relationships with other levels of government. In November of 2007, we held a preliminary meeting at the leadership level with the new NWT government, headed by Premier Floyd Roland. The leadership of the GTC and Gwich'in communities met with Premier Roland and his Cabinet, taking the opportunity to outline our strategy and priorities for the years ahead. In April we held a follow-up meeting at the Wellness Camp and look forward to future cooperation with the GNWT.

One of the most significant projects on which we have worked with the GNWT is the Gwich'in Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on government contracting. The MOU expired this April, but has been extended for six months. During this extension, we will continue to work to renegotiate the MOU in ways that improve its effectiveness. We believe the MOU could work better, but recognize that it has given Gwich'in businesses a "window" on the GNWT contracting process and helped them secure their fair share of contracts in the GSA.

Along with other NWT Aboriginal groups, we worked with the government of former Premier Joe Handley to pursue fair and workable arrangements with the Federal Government on resource revenue sharing, arrangements that will ensure every level of government has the resources to deliver programs and services that meet the needs of the people it serves. Over the last year I provided technical support to the GNWT on this file, representing the GTC in the process. The transition from Premier Handley's government to that of Premier Roland did lead to some unavoidable delays, but I am confident that we will resume progress soon.

One of the GTC's major concerns in dealing with the Federal Government, a concern shared by many other Aboriginal governments, is the lack of sufficient funding for implementation of our Land Claim. An encouraging recommendation in the recent report on claims implementation by the Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples was the development of a comprehensive implementation policy that would ensure land claim organizations received funding that reflected their actual responsibilities. We are hopeful that this initiative will lead to a narrowing of the gap between what we receive in funds and what we need to provide high-quality services and programs for all Gwich'in. As things stand, we must work hard to secure third-party funding each year to maintain the levels of service we now deliver to you.



EXECUTIVE - Tom Williams, Chief Operating Officer

This year our new Fiscal Policy will go into effect, increasing the funds each DGO receives from the GTC. There will be new accountabilities along with the additional money, and we will see new staff in each community to help meet them.

Creating a bright and prosperous future for the coming generation of Gwich'in Beneficiaries is at the very heart of what the GTC does. This is reflected in the increased attention and funds we have directed to education and training in recent years, so that our young people are well-prepared to take advantage of the opportunities open to them. The GTC also keeps youth in mind in our efforts to act as a good corporate citizen. This was the seventh year of the Gwich'in Cup in minor hockey, and it was a pleasure to see more than 250 young people from inside and outside the GSA compete. In addition, this summer the famous Outward Bound organization will offer its first program to young people of the GSA. Ten Gwich'in youth will be selected to take part in a mountain-climbing program in Banff, Alberta. A further program, to be offered next year, will actually be held here in the GSA.

Of course, the people who work for the GTC, its staff and its political leaders, are the soul of the organization. Without their dedication and hard work, much of it unrecognized, we would not be able to serve you as well as we do. I want to take this opportunity to thank them all, new and old, for their support. Among new staff, Wanda McDonald has taken over from Jake Heron as Manager, Gwich'in Business Development, a position that becomes more important than ever in this time of stepped-up economic activity. And it is a pleasure to welcome Jozef Carnogurski back to Gwich'in Lands and Resources. Our long-time Chief Financial Officer, Greg Cayen, has moved on in pursuit of fresh challenges, and leaves behind an organization that is far stronger financially than it was a few years ago. We wish Greg well, and are confident that the GTC's fi-

nances are in safe hands with his successor, former Controller Charlene Ross.

On a personal note, I cannot end this report without expressing my deep gratitude to Fred Carmichael. Fred recruited me as Chief Operating Officer not long after his own election as President of the Tribal Council, and it has been a privilege to work with him. He has provided the GTC with leadership that was visionary in its ambitions for the future of the Gwich'in people but practical and hard-headed in its approach to the "bottom line." It is largely because of Fred's inspiring and effective leadership that the GTC is on a strong financial footing; that we have an ownership stake in the Mackenzie Gas Pipeline; that we have built strong partnerships with industry and government; and that we have devoted new monies to meeting the social and educational needs of the Gwich'in people. In the history of the Gwich'in Nation, the years of Fred Carmichael's leadership will form a vital and impressive chapter, and I ask you to join me in thanking Fred for a job very well done and in wishing him a long and happy retirement.



Mahsi Cho,

Tom R. Williams
Chief Operating Officer



GWICHYA GWICH'IN COUNCIL

Although the Gwichya Gwich'in Council was incorporated under the *Canada Corporations Act* in 1992, it has not been operating as an independent organization, but rather through the Gwichya Gwich'in Band Council. The Tsiigehtchic Charter Community Council (municipal) administers the Gwichya Gwich'in Band which makes the situation all the more confusing. Prior annual reports for the Gwich'in Tribal Council included activities occurring at the Band and Municipal levels.

As a result, elections will take place in July 2008 for a President and Board of Directors at their general community assembly. Currently, one community coordinator is employed by the DGO. However, no President or Board members are in place.

At this assembly, the new Board will - with direction from the members - set its goals and priorities. It is recommended that they hire an Executive Director shortly after the annual general assembly to assist them in this work.

GGC Directors

- Phillip Blake, GGC President
- Mickey Andre
- Jenny Andre
- John Norbert
- Virginia Cardinal
- Albert Ross



GWICHYA GWICH'IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL

The Gwichya Gwich'in RRC Councillors are:

- President - James Cardinal Sr.
- Vice-President – Peter Ross
- Elder Advisor – George Niditchie Sr.
- Members – Philip Blake, Alestine Andre, John Norbert
- Youth Representative – Jason McLeod.

Contact information: PH: (867) 953.3608 Fax: (867) 953.3603 Email: tgrrrc@hotmail.com

The new Council was motioned in January 2008 by the DGO and the GRRRC new office location is in the GSCI building.

Worked with the following ongoing projects that was made by community members:

1. The RRC with DFO on fish studies in and around the Mackenzie and Arctic Red River for the herring, whitefish, coney, crooked back and salmon. These studies are being done because the people wanted to know the population and the health of the fish in the rivers.
2. ENR – Forestry project for Tsiigehtchic is that the fire crew is no longer available and only fires near the community will be fought in the future therefore the community Councils will be coming up with a plan and give training to the community members in case of an emergency.
3. GRRB projects on loche study is ongoing and results will be in soon regarding the health, Travaillant fish is no longer continued, Dall sheep management plan will be finalized in September sometime, grizzly bear tags are still available to the hunters regarding if they would like to take samples for the ENR biologist, GPS project on the beaver/muskrat is no longer available, sports fishing to make changes that no char is to be taken and caribou tags are given to hunters to collect sample regarding health issues on the barren ground and porcupine caribou.
4. Ducks Unlimited program is going for one month this year at the cardinal lakes area and the issue came up because of the decreasing of duck, geese and swans every year and that the Beaufort Delta is one of the world most concentrated places for these species to migrate and breed.
5. Aurora Research Institute applications are running on track and the RRC concerns are as follow for each application regarding Research in the GSA:
 - i) the following research must follow the Gwich'in land use plan – GTC policy and guidelines procedures,
 - ii) the following research person (s) must conduct a community presentation when project is done on a yearly basis and before projects start,
 - iii) the research project must take two Gwich'in land monitors for wildlife and environmental purposes from Tsiigehtchic,
 - iv) The research person (s) must give the RRC a full detailed report when project is finished, and
 - v) the research person (s) must contact the Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute on heritage and history information on area (s) being researched.
6. CHAP program has increased this year from \$3,500.00 to \$10,000 and the funds go towards two community hunts for the fall and spring and gas and oil to active harvesters to hunt, fish and trap.
7. Kodiak project has started in the GSA back of Tsiigehtchic and they are taking GPS reading to further investigate their program and already they went on the land without a Gwich'in monitor and this is a big concern with our RRC.
8. GHAP program is running good and most harvesters are starting to not apply to program because of the taxes each year that they have to pay into.
9. Gwich'in Cabin applications are started to be noticed and people are happy there is a process to document your campsite in case of fire, floods or any other kind of emergencies that might come up in the future.



GWICHYA GWICH'IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL

10. RRO1 was hired in September and the lucky candidate is Jennifer Andre she has conducted a fur workshop and trapper training program this year and she is still in training for the rest of the year.
11. GLUP review has been done and the RRC supports and plan in place and included a few other items under forestry, conservation zones and prospecting in the GSA.
12. GLWB is sending in application to be approved and they don't seem to want to come to the community and conduct a community consultation meeting on applications or to do a presentation to the GGRRRC.
13. GGRRRC/Band Finances are going smoothly and we have our own bank account and set up separate in the computer for our reporting statement.
14. MGP met with us on the changes to the route again to give information which is going to be the cheapest way to move forward with the operation when it starts. Environment monitors' training was held in Tsiigehtchic this fall and five participants competed with certification and the course included the FAC training and other Safety trainings everyone is happy for the individuals because this was the longest training course for train monitors.

Concerns:

- A. The ENR/ITI, GRRB and PCMB, ABL, PRWSPB board meetings has made comments to the RRC's that they should be sending members to their board meetings but with the GGRRRC there is no funds in the budget to attend meetings other than the RRC Regional and monthly meetings. There needs to be more funding put into the RRC budgets with these boards if they want the RRC members to attend their meetings in the future..
- B. The GHAP Survey is a good way to find out what people are feeling and thinking about the program and to let the RRC's know if they want things to change in the program but it is not working for a harvester that makes to much money or has a spouse that makes to much money as well. The prospectors are not informing the RRC if they are going into the land claim areas and what they are doing. Who should be working on this with the RRC's?
- C. The Gwich'in cabin applications re: fees for Gwich'in is not fair and no Gwich'in should be paying to stay on the own land, with a land claim in place and there is no rules or guidelines to build camps or cut down forestry on private lands.
- D. The RRC needs a presentation on the traditional knowledge study that GTC did for the MGP.
- E. The RRC needs a presentation on the traditional knowledge study that GTC did for the MGP.



TETLIT GWICH'IN COUNCIL

The Designated Gwich'in Organization this fiscal year will receive 633,000.00 on a quarterly basis. The Tetlit Gwich'in Council and the DGO staff identified areas where we can give better services to our participants.

We started meals on wheels for the elders, hosted Elder's fun days, and we will start home visits to the elders who can't get out much. For the seniors citizens week we coordinated open house with other organization in our community and we had a traditional food cook out and combined with the Aboriginal Day Celebration. The Elder's Council meets every two months and is getting active within the community. It is really great to see the Council on good standards. The Elder's Council fundraisers consist of daily raffles and monthly bingo with the funds; it is used towards donations towards community events and bereavement.

Our plan for the elders is to provide more services such as assisting in their homes on a weekly basis, meals on wheels, more information on elders, more fun days at the Senior Citizens Home, and get the youth involved with the elders by doing traditional teachings.

There is no active Youth Council but we set aside a budget for the Youth. We try to work closely with the Hamlet's Recreation Department with youth concerns. During the Dene Nation Assembly the youth volunteered and participated in evening events. It was so wonderful

to see the youth taking part in the Drum Dances and Old Time Dances. The DGO proudly sponsored many youth programs in the past months. During the Dene Assembly we hosted a game day and Jam session which was a lot of them. The DGO also assist in the Youth Appreciation Old Time Dance. This year the DGO hired two students to assist the staff. On Aboriginal Day we had an afternoon of games for children of all ages. All events had good attendance.

Our plan for the future is to host many activities for the youth. Midway Lake Music Festival is a time for the youth and the children this year we are bringing in a youth band from Northern Alberta and these youth will be talking to our youth participant at Midway Lake and also having a Jam Session at one of the camp site. We are looking into providing musical instruments for the youth and a sound system. We will sponsor a driver's education program for the youth.

The DGO staff will start a monthly newsletter and website for our participants where more information can be presented. We also plan to visit our participants and give them information concerning the land, upcoming events and gathering concerns. One of the programs we are planning to do is under heritage resources is harvesting traditional foods for the participants in our community.



TETLIT GWICH'IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL

Tetlit Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council (TGRRC) members appointed by the Tetlit Gwich'in Council (TGC) in October 2007 for two-year terms include:

- Wanda Pascal – RRC President
- Peter J. Kay Jr. – Vice-President
- Abe Wilson – Councillor
- Eileen M.Koe – Councillor
- Georgie Blake – Councillor
- Elizabeth Vittrekwa – Councillor
- TGC President Wilbert Firth – Ex Officio

Funding from Gwich'in Tribal Council goes towards administration of the office and issues related to the Peel River Watershed. A Peel River Watershed three-day workshop was held in Mayo and attended by the TGRRC, former Chief Johnny Kay and other community members. The TGRRC and TGC continue to attend workshops and work with Council of Yukon First Nations on issues that affect both territories. One of the main issues of concern is the Peel Watershed area and the quality of the water. Our ancestors preserved this land for us: in return we have to take care of the land for our future generation.

The TGRRC helped sponsor Three Rivers Expedition Trip through the Peel Watershed recently completed by Chief Julius School, exchange students from Germany students, plus guides and supervisors. Their main purposes of this trip were to:

1. build leadership and decision making capabilities in local Gwich'in youth;
2. bring awareness to and achieve a conservation status in Canada's most pristine yet unprotected area in the traditional territory of the Gwich'in; and
3. have the Gwich'in Youth of today travel through their ancestral lands with Elders to experience and learn important lessons of the past to help guide them in the future.

The TGRRC receives Community Harvesting Assistance Program (CHAP) funding from GNWT Industry, Tourism & Investment. There

was a funding increase from \$6,750.00 to \$10,665.00 which assisted more people to go out on the land to hunt, trap or fish or just to spend a weekend there with family members or friends. Last year, over 69 harvesters were successful in obtaining gas, oil or groceries through this program. The TGRRC will provide a financial report to the GNWT on how the funding was disbursed.

The Gwich'in Harvesters Assistance Program was successfully delivered for the Spring & Winter also Fall & Winter. I have assisted participants with the application process and explained to them what kind of information they need to provide such as house hold receipts, income verification and quotes. Before each GHAP season starts, I phone around to different businesses for quotes on out-door equipment and anything else I think may be helpful to me when I am assisting applicants with the application. I work with GTC staff to get the funds out to the harvesters so they can get their equipment or supplies to get out on the land before break-up or freeze-up. Fort McPherson receives the most applications and the TGRRC tries to accommodate each harvester whether they are new, part-time or full-time. This year a lot of harvesters were happy with what they received.

The TGRRC received funding from the Gwich'in Harvesters Assistance Trust to be used for projects that involve the youth. The TGRRC used some funding for a Firearms Certificate Course, because Gwich'in Beneficiaries were finding it hard to get their F.A.C. There were twelve seats available which was filled the same day and we have a waiting list for future F.A.C. course. The course was instructed by Steve Donely and was held for 2 days at the Aurora College Learning Centre.

The TGRRC funded a Community Caribou Hunt in April which was successful. All caribou was skinned, cleaned and cut-up and given to the Elders. They were happy to receive fresh caribou meat because that is their main food.



TETLIT GWICH'IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE COUNCIL

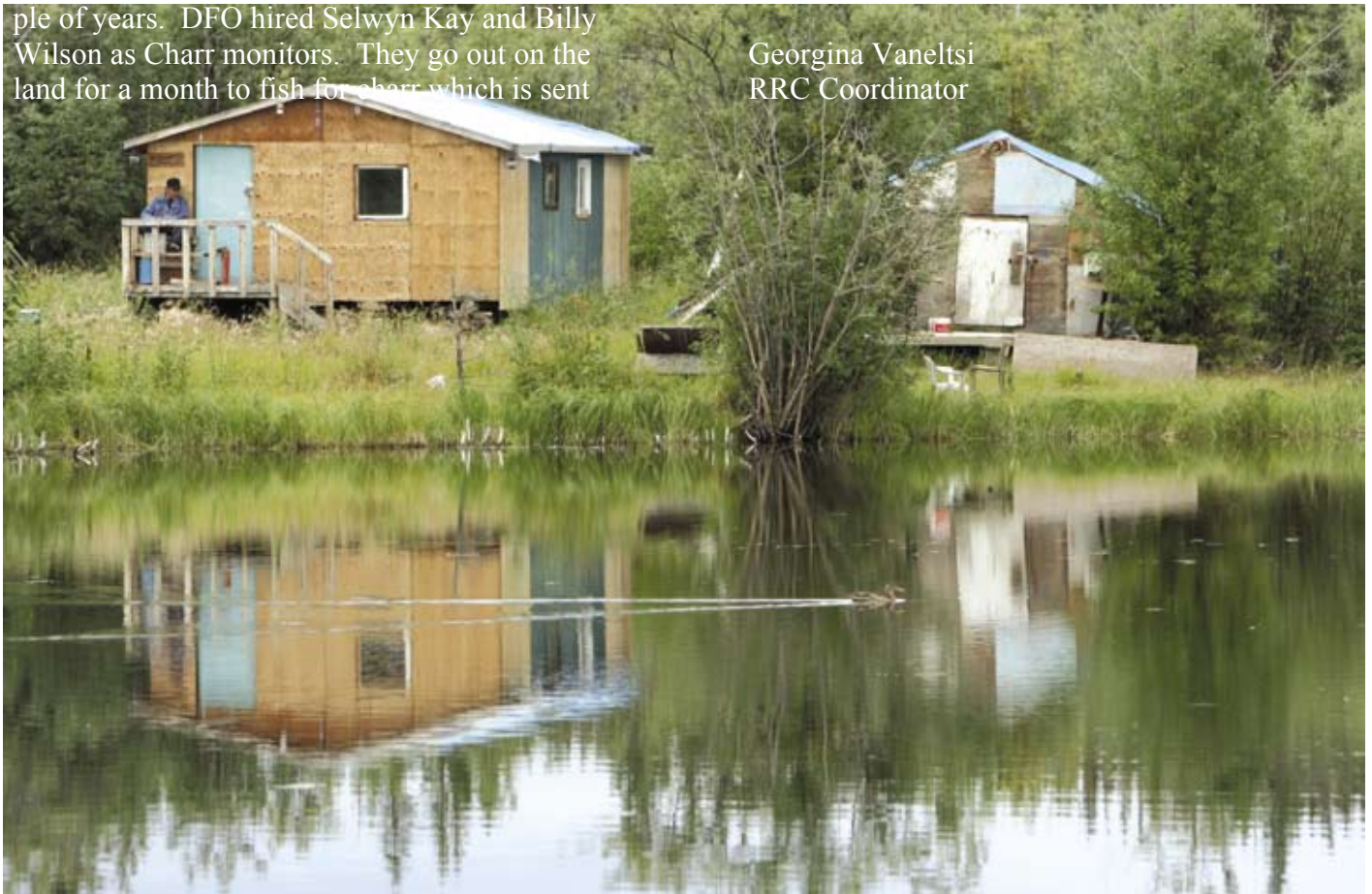
Funding was allocated to clear and cut out the banks of traditional trails that were destroyed by climate change and ice break-up. It is difficult to safely navigate these banks and trails when you are operating a skidoo with a heavy load. These traditional trails are traveled by Gwich'in Beneficiaries and therefore passed on to the youth.

Chief Julius School students also went out on fall caribou hunt. Hunters successfully harvested moose and caribou, and showed the youth how to skin, butcher and store the meat. Elders and guides told stories about how life was long ago and how the Gwich'in people rely on the caribou for food. It was stressed to the youth "Take only what you need, don't throw any caribou meat away".

The TGRRC has been administering funds for Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) for the Charr Monitoring Program for the past couple of years. DFO hired Selwyn Kay and Billy Wilson as Charr monitors. They go out on the land for a month to fish for charr which is sent

to DFO for study. Results from the charr study is given to the Rat River Working Group which in turn goes to the communities for consultations and recommendations that is put into a work plan.

This year the TGRRC received an increase in funding that would benefit the Gwich'in participants. Funding has been allocated for on the land programs, such as berry harvesting, Summit Lake hiking trip, Black Mountain and Delta boat trip and Mayo Ski-doo trip. Fort McPherson will be hosting the RRC's regional meeting in January 2009. The TGRRC plans to have workshops for Trapper Training, caribou and fishing just to name a few. Funding has also been set aside for Peel Watershed Issues. This is an important issue for the Gwich'in people as this is where our ancestors lived years ago. They looked after the land and water for us, where as we have to protect our land for the future generation. The TGRRC looks forward to a great year.



Georgina Vaneltsi
RRC Coordinator



EHDIITAT GWICH'IN COUNCIL

The Aklavik Gwich'in Office had a very busy year as we initiated various projects that provided jobs and training for our staff to change. As a Leader I was constantly out there looking for money to make our ideas a reality.

Our community of Aklavik, although we are in the Gwich'in Settlement Area, does not receive the same attention or benefits as the other Gwich'in Communities. The economic and administration benefits are quite visible in the other communities through highway and ferry maintenance and program and service delivery. This places a greater challenge for Leadership in Aklavik to access from various agencies. I wish to thank the GTC, GNWT, Canada and Industry for believing in our ideas and providing the assistance.

I am very concerned about the social problems that are affecting our people and impacting our children and youth. The problem of drugs and alcohol will only get worse if we don't recognize it as personal responsibility and begin supporting each other. The personal addictions and habits of our people also have to be addressed if we are ever going to make the long journey to a healthy society.

Enclosed are some projects that we have initiated over the past year which I hope will provide alternatives to alcohol and drug abuse.

Chief Andrew Stewart Building

We have completed renovations to the building and have increased the boardroom to include kitchen and more space for community activities. We have also equipped the boardroom with modern technology to accommodate meeting needs.

On-Going Lunch

We have also started a lunch service for anyone who can come to our office and help themselves to a cup of soup, tea or coffee during office

hours. We started this program last winter but all the residential school money in town it was not used.

Guitars and Fiddles

We have been successful in finding the money to purchase 10 guitars and fiddles to hopefully be evening music lessons for anyone beginning this fall. I know from experience that music can be very relaxing and a good way to express your inner feelings. I believe that this could be one way of providing alternatives to battle drug and alcohol abuse. As a young person I remember all the good musicians and dancers that Aklavik was so well known for and I would like to see us bring this tradition back and we will need volunteers and community to support this.

Old Crow Trail

We received some money to mark out a trail from Aklavik to Old Crow and this year we marked out a trail from Aklavik to the half way mark to Old Crow. We had a meeting with Old Crow people in March and they are supporting this project and hopefully they will mark their trail from Old Crow to the half way mark and we can open this trail for inter-community visits by next Christmas. I strongly believe that the stories and history of the area can provide the traditional knowledge of our Culture to make us all proud to be Gwich'in.



EHDIITAT GWICH'IN COUNCIL

Aklavik Gwich'in History Project

This project will be of great benefits to the Gwich'in in Aklavik and also a valuable contribution to our schools. The cross-cultural settlement of Gwich'in, Inuvialuit and Europeans created a very diverse atmosphere in Aklavik. The inter-marriage also produced some very successful people such as Freddie Carmichael, Nellie Cournoyea and David Krutko who was born in Aklavik to name a few. This project will focus on family history and their contributions to the growth and development of Aklavik.

Knute Lang Camp

We were successful to receive some money from the infrastructure fund, the GTC and our own donation of the Café and to put together a facility at Knute Lang's for community and regional use. The purpose of this camp is to provide cross-cultural, traditional and on the land activities, again as an alternative to battle drug and alcohol abuse. I believe this will be an excellent opportunity for those agencies and family groups to work with the Youth and build their self esteem and confidence for a brighter future.

We have completed most of the outside of the building and hopefully by fall time we should



have much of the inside work completed. We will continue to lobby for more resources towards the project and we will begin developing a working relationship with Government and Aboriginal groups to develop programs.

Community Gazebo

Again through the infrastructure fund our ability to raise funds we built this gazebo as a place for Aklavik residents to gather for family gatherings, jam sessions or even an outdoor workshop and we welcome any interest from Aklavik groups, agencies or residents.

Aklavik Community Infrastructure Fund

Through a partnership between the Hamlet of Aklavik, Aklavik Community Corporation and the Aklavik Gwich'in we were able to administer monies to complement the existing infrastructure and delivery services in Aklavik. This joint effort allowed us as Community Governments to provide contributions to the School, Hamlet Recreation which upgraded a new PA system for the school, playground and gym equipment, skis, subsidized wages for personnel help with community projects. I would like to thank the hamlet of Aklavik and the Aklavik Community Corporation for their co-operative contribution to try and meet all the needs for our community.

Road to the Mountains

This has been an on-going project to our community to build a road from Aklavik to the foothills and to develop our gravel supply. We believe that the gravel potential in the area could supply not only Aklavik but the whole of Beaufort Delta for a long time. It now seems that we have captured the attention of Government and we have a scheduled meeting with government in Aklavik July 18th to determine the feasibility of the project. This road will open the door to economic opportunities and of course mean jobs and training for our members and youth.



EHDIITAT GWICH'IN COUNCIL

Anglican Mission Staff House

I have watched the Church volunteers, vestry group and Ministers over the year's battle with the cold and conditions of the Mission house in Aklavik. They tried every way to raise funds to improve the condition of the house but it was too old and repairs just needed more repairs. About a year ago I approached the Government which has houses on Gwich'in land and asked them to contribute on unit to the Aklavik Gwich'in. They agreed to the request and as a result our office donated the house to the Anglican Bishop and the Minister now has a comfortable house to live in. I believe this will give the ministry more time to work with people and prove that spiritual guidance we all need in our decisions.

Community Compassionate Needs

It is through the projects that we lobby and negotiate for that we are able to help that in need whether it is a death in the family, a loved one in hospital or the need for travel assistance. We have helped many families over the years and even though this is not a budget item we continue to try and help and raise funds for those in need. Our communities in the North have been hit hard this year with death related to accidents and sickness and my heart goes out to all who suffered and I know that must all commit and support each other to deal with all the grief and hurt that now exist in our communities.

Charles Furlong
President, EGC



NIHTAT GWICH'IN COUNCIL



It is good to have the opportunity to report to you on yet another busy, productive year for the Nihtat Gwich'in Council and the Inuvik Native Band. While the two Councils are concerned with many of the same issues, they meet separately and have different responsibilities. As a Designated Gwich'in Organization (DGO), the Nihtat Gwich'in Council advances and represents the interests of Inuvik Participants in the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (GCLCA). The Inuvik Native Band deals with the social, political, educational, economic, and educational interests of Inuvik Aboriginals and plays an important role in the delivery of programs to meet community needs. In 2007-2008, Richard Nerysoo and Tom Wright represented Inuvik on the GTC's Board of Directors. The Nihtat Renewable Resource Council also meets regularly to address the many renewable resource issues that affect our community.

Our office in the Alex Moses-Greenland building remained busy in 2007-2008, given our many administrative responsibilities. This year the Nihtat Gwich'in Council continued the implementation of a restructuring plan which we adopted in 2006. One aspect of the plan was the determination that many of the programs and initiatives undertaken in previous years could not be sustained, for reasons of finances and organizational capacity. The plan required us to abide by a tight budget, endorsed by Nihtat Gwich'in Councilors, and to maintain a reduced level of programs and services. As a result of our following the plan and prudent management of operations, I am happy to report that the Ni-

htat Gwich'in Council can boast an improving financial position.

We cooperated with the Gwich'in Tribal Council on areas of common concern, especially community projects such as the annual Gwich'in Day and National Aboriginal Day celebrations, community feasts, and other important community events. We also worked together on vital social undertakings, such as the completion of the new wellness camp outside Inuvik. I am confident this facility will prove valuable to Gwich'in and others in the years ahead. Our other priorities included developing stronger political and business relations with the GTC, as well as strengthening our existing joint initiatives. Among the most important of these is our real estate partnership; the Inuvik Capital Suites, in which we and the GTC are partners, is a recognized feature of Inuvik's skyline, and reason for pride in all Gwich'in. Progress toward Gwich'in self-government, at both the community and the tribal levels, was another focus of our efforts.

Yukon trans-boundary issues were an ongoing concern of the Nihtat Gwich'in Council, in light of the attachment our people have to their traditional lands, and the importance we place on seeing that they are used wisely and with respect for Gwich'in rights and the safety of the environment. And while the Council is involved in several businesses of its own, we recognize that long-term prosperity depends on a thriving private sector. We work hard to promote a healthy business environment in which Participants who own or want to start their own companies are in a position to take advantage of the opportunities around them.



NIHTAT GWICH'IN COUNCIL

This year the Nihtat Gwich'in Council also directed much time and energy to addressing the need for community programs and services to deal with the many challenges facing our membership and Inuvik as a whole. One of the most vital was our support for the operation of the homeless shelter, which is a necessary part of our response to the growing problem of homelessness in this community. We also worked with other community-based organizations on shared concerns, successfully partnering with Ingamo Hall and the Inuvik Community Corporation on various initiatives. The Nihtat Gwich'in Council and the Inuvik Native Band worked together on developing and maintaining our project at Sir Alexander Mackenzie School, and we continued our support for the Brighter Futures program.

Our Recreation Committee once again provided financial support for individuals and communities involved in various events. We sponsored such events as the Mary Firth Women's Dog Race, and celebrations to mark Gwich'in Day and National Aboriginal Day, and we contributed to this year's Muskrat Jamboree.

The Nihtat Gwich'in Council and the Inuvik Native Band saw significant staff changes, affecting a number of key positions, particularly in the important area of finance. We bid a fond farewell to Band Administrator Terry Peterson, Senior Finance Officer Sharon Dahl, and Finance Officers Darlene and Donna Firth. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours. New staff members include Finance Officer Diane Kay, and we also welcome Mary Beckett, who was hired to manage the finances of Grizzly Marine Services, and Dave Jorstead, who was brought in to address the restructuring of Chii Construction, another one of our business interests.

In closing, I want to thank all Councillors, staff, and our membership for their support in 2007-2008, and wish them continued good fortune in the years ahead.

Richard Nerysoo
President, NGC



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES



The Department Beneficiary Services is made up of 6 key areas including, Communications, Human Resources – GTC, Employment and Career Development, Education and Training, Education Foundation and Gwich'in Harvesters Assistance Program. Each of these program areas are managed by one or more of our staff:

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 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. Tammy oversees the Education Foundation, and the Gwich'in Harvesters Assistance Program.

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, which has finished as of March 31, 2008, and files will be finalized by June 30, 2008, 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 administer there program areas and providing day to day assistance and support to their clients under these programs. Both Diane and Margaret work from our Fort McPherson Office. Currently Diane administers the community organization funds and Margaret administers the Student funds.

Career Development Officer – Ruth Elanik

This position is very key to our department as it is the first contact that our Participants have with us when accessing programs that we offer. It assists participants in the following areas, resume writing, job searching, career development, applications for funding, as well as sitting as part of a career development team that involves the Department of Education Culture and Employment and Inuvialuit Regional Corporation in delivering career fairs, and career week activities, just to name a few. Over the next year Ruth our Career Development Officer will be traveling to the communities to meet with the students in the schools and deliver resume writing workshops to community members.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES

Cheryl Wright **Office Manager**, Cheryl is not really a part of our department yet she provides many vital services to our Participants and reports on them to the Director of Beneficiary Services. Our Education Foundation programs, Bursaries, Scholarships, Grad Gifts and Tutoring, Professional Development and Top Up Bursary are processed through Cheryl. She also keeps track of all enrolment of participants entering and leaving our claim. Cheryl provided program support to the GHAP.

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

Communications Advisor - Lawrence Norbert does an excellent job in keeping you informed on all our activities. He has been very instrumental in increasing the profile of the Gwich'in Tribal Council. Lawrence has been designated as our Photographer and is doing a tremendous job, he also produces our newsletters and is assisting in the lay out and design of this 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. Lawrence would like to acknowledge Sue MacKenzie from the Land Use Planning Board for so graciously printing our posters and large photos on the GLUP plotter. Many thanks, Sue.

2007/2008 Summary Funding

Education Foundation

Bursaries

159 Applications 141 Assisted
26 were returning students
18 were either denied or chose not to attend school
\$ 170,435.00 given out to students
\$118,135 from the Education Fund
\$ 52,300 from the Imperial Fund

Training Allowances \$40,320, 21 students were assisted
\$ 30,943 Education Fund
\$9,377 Imperial Fund
Tutoring, \$3,565 was spent on tutoring for 6 students

Scholarships

Total given out 8 Scholarships totalling \$8,000.00
\$3,000 from the Education Foundation
\$5,000 from the Imperial Fund

Grad Gifts

\$12,275 was given out, all paid from the Education Foundation.
post Secondary Grads
high School Grads

Professional Development

A fund has been established to provide training opportunities to Gwich'in in the work place who requiring professional development.
\$20,325.00 was paid from the Imperial Fund and \$16,998.00 was paid from the Education Foundation.

24 Participants were assisted totaling \$37,323.00

Kodiak Fund

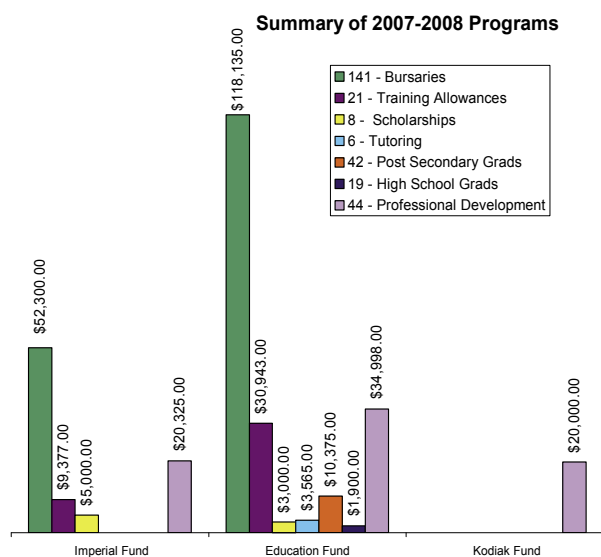
The Kodiak fund has also been used to provide training opportunities to Gwich'in in the work place who requiring professional development.

20 Participants were assisted totaling \$20,000.00

281 Participants accessed our programs in 2006/2007 totaling \$294,853.00.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES



STATISTICS

Graduation

41 Gwich'in Post Secondary Grads 2007

- 1-Masters of Social Work
- 4-Degree Grad – Bach Arts,
- 2-Education, Business/Education

9 Diploma Grads – 2 yr program

- 2 –Business
- 1- Design and Digital Media
- 1- Marketing and Management
- 4- Management Studies
- 1- Nursing

20 Certificate Grads – 1 yr program

- 1 – Pre Employment Mechanics
- 1 – Office Admin
- 6- Traditional Arts
- 9- Leadership Cert.
- 2- Culinary Arts
- 1- Aboriginal Language Instruction
- 7 Access Programs
- 1- Developmental Studies
- 2 – Health and Human Services
- 1- Nursing Access
- 2- Trades Access
- 1- UCAP

19 High School Grads

Aklavik	2
Fort McPherson	4
Inuvik	5
Tsiigehtchic	0
Out of GSA	8

CONCLUSION

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. For this next year we will be working closely with the community on a Capacity Building Plan for the Region. Our Human Resource Assessment and Education Strategy will be the guiding documents that we will following in working on this plan. GTC has committed to setting aside \$60,000.00 from the Education Foundation to establish a working committee to tackle these two documents and see that their recommendations are carried out.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff for all their hard work this past year. They have as always given their all to this department and continue to provide a high level of service to all participants. Good work!

Tammy Rogers
Director, Beneficiary Services



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES

EDUCATION & TRAINING

The Education and Training Department consists of

- Regional Manager Debra English (Inuvik office);
- ASEP Coordinator Margaret Thompson;
- AHRDP Coordinator Diane Koe; and
- Senior Finance Officer Norma Blake (all three at the Fort McPherson office).

The department currently administers the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Partnership Agreement (AHRDP) and Aboriginal Skills to Employment (ASEP) programs. On March 31, 2008 the ASEP contract was completed and Aboriginal Futures Society is waiting to hear about the new agreement.

The mandate of the Training Committee is to provide support to the Education and Training Department with regard to the program delivery of the Aboriginal Human Resource and Skills Development Partnership Strategy and the Aboriginal Skills for Employment program. The Education and Training Committee has been established to ensure effective planning and resource management of these programs, through planning, implementation and evaluation. The Education and Training Committee also enhances the image of the Education and Training Department to the Community.

The department takes direction from the Education and Training Committee, which includes members from all Gwich'in Settlement Area communities. The Education and Training Committee members consist of:

- Ann May McLeod (Tsiigehtchic);
- Elizabeth Wright (Fort McPherson);
- Herbert Blake (Inuvik); and
- Leanne Nerysoo (Aklavik).

Mary Ann Ross, Vice President, has the Education and Training portfolio within the GTC Executive. The Education and Training Committee meets and makes decisions on funding propos-

als, student requests and the development of the AHRDP and ASEP training plan.

Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement (AHRDP):

The AHRDA is a four-year agreement with Service Canada (formerly Human Resources and Skills Development Canada), from on April 1, 2005 to on March 31, 2009. It provides training and educational opportunities for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people living in the GSA. This year GTC will be renegotiating a new AHRDP agreement and which will begin by April 1, 2009.

There are five programs under AHRDP.

1. Labour Market Initiatives

The Education and Training Department supplied partial funding for the following programs:

- Traditional Arts
- Natural Resource Technology Program
- Caribou Outreach

These were delivered in partnership with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Aurora College and GNWT Education, Culture and Employment.

Capacity-building remains a high priority for the Education and Training Department and this year we helped various organizations provide unemployed individuals with training on the job and funds for these trainees to participate in courses to enhance their abilities and better prepare for the changing work environment. Organizations in the GSA receiving funds for wage subsidies included:

- Edhiitat Gwich'in Council
 - Community Employment Officer
 - Finance Clerk Trainee
- Tetlit Gwich'in Council
 - Community Employment Officer
 - Executive Assistant Trainee



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES

- Rat River Development Corporation
 - Administrative Assistant Trainee
- Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute
 - Research Assistant Trainee
- Hamlet of Fort McPherson
 - Youth and Elder Coordinator
- Inuvik District Education Authority
 - Career Development Liaison
- Inuvik Native Band
 - Administrative Assistant Trainee
- Gwich'in Tribal Council
 - Regional Wellness Manager Trainee
 - Administrative Assistant Trainee
- Gwichya Gwich'in Council
 - Community Employment Officer
 - Finance Administration Clerk Trainee
 - Administrative Assistant Trainee

The Labour Market Program administers child care subsidy for working and training parents and provided eight (8) individuals with funding under this initiative.

The Labour Market Programs administers funds to individuals to attend one year program (certificate/diploma) and this year we assisted thirty-three (33) students with tuition, books, travel and living allowance.

2. Youth Programs

Our youth programming emphasized employment for individuals aged 15 – 29. The following organizations/person received funding this year under the program:

- Tl'oondih Healing Society - Peer Mentoring Program
- Hamlet of Aklavik - Summer Student Employment
- Tetlit Gwich'in Council - Summer Student Employment; Student Educational trip to New Zealand
- Gwich'in Tribal Council (Wellness Dept) - Gathering our Voices Youth Conference

3. First Nations Child Care

First Nations Child Care funding is used to enhance existing child care programming by providing salaries and benefits for daycare staff; support training; staff development; and the development of child care standards to meet the needs of the Aboriginal population. The following organizations received funding this year:

- Aklavik Child Development Center salaries, training and supplies
- Inuvik Child Development Center salaries and supplies
- Tsiigehtchic Child Development Center salaries and supplies
- Fort McPherson Child Development Center salaries and supplies

4. Persons with Disabilities

The Education and Training Department funded the Aklavik Indian Band Wood Cutting project to enhance and develop transferable and employability skills to low skilled individuals.

- Two individuals receive training allowance, tuition, books and travel costs to attend Pre-employment training programs.

5. Urban Initiatives

The Education and Training Department funded the Inuvik Youth Society to offer Skill Link program to provide youth at-risk with career counselling, work experience which encourages youth to return to school, or enhance their employability skills. In addition three (3) students were provided funds (tuition, books, travel and training allowance) were provided to attend a one year program in an educational institution.

Throughout the year the GTC staff provides Career Development services in way of a Fort McPherson information radio show program, Student Orientation workshops, Guiding Circles presentations and general information sessions also participating and assisting to organize GTC community events.

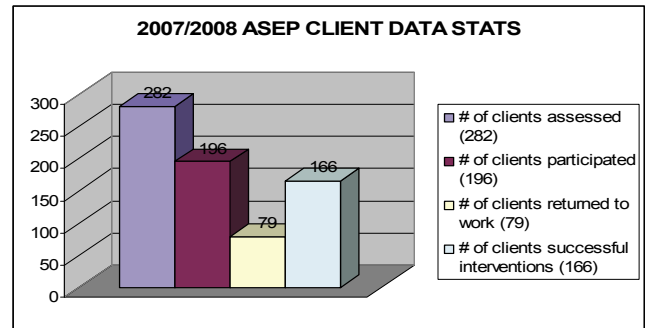


TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES

This year the staff has attended many courses from Guiding Circles 2, Microsoft Excel level 1 and 2 and Publisher, Verbal Judo, Leadership courses and AFOA information sessions. We continue to build capacity within the organization and staff has acted in Regional Manager's capacity, when on annual or duty travel, by attending workshops and information sessions.

At this time I would like to acknowledge the GTC staff and Education and Training Committee for their dedication and support to providing quality and equitable programming inside and outside the GSA communities and look forward to working towards another productive and successful year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW	2007/2008 Allocation	2007/2008 Expenditures	Remaining Balance
Administration	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 71,727.09	\$-21,727.09
Basic Skills & Pre-employment	\$206,440.00	\$201,403.18	\$ 5,036.82
Industrial Skills Employment & Support	\$268,604.00	\$260,833.78	\$ 7,770.22
	<u>\$ 43,396.00</u>	<u>\$ 43,396.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Costs	\$ 568,440.00	\$ 573,591.17	\$ 12,807.04



PROGRAM REVIEW	Cost	Student Participants	Program Delivery Contracts
<u>Project</u>			
Bridging Employment Skills	\$ 10,000.00	10	2
UCAP	\$ 66,000.00	7	1
Trades Access	\$ 51,000.00	9	1
Development Studies	\$ 44,399.39	22	
Student Support	\$ 30,003.79	23	
Heavy Equipment Operation	\$101,346.46	36	2
Safety Training	\$ 52,000.00	69	6
Trades	\$ 40,000.00	9	
Drill Rig Training	\$ 2,487.32	1	
Environmental Monitoring	\$ 43,396.00	5	1
Camp Cook	\$ 65,000.00	5	1
Total Cost	\$ 505,632.96	196	14

The statistics were based on our community based projects activity and students' participation in Education and Training programs for the past year.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES

Aboriginal Skills to Employment Partnership

The ASEP training projects are delivered at the community level in order to adhere to the ASEP principle of community-focused training. Under a contribution agreement with Aboriginal Futures (the organization created to administer ASEP funding for the region), the GTC has received almost \$2 million over the last three years which began January 2005 and concluded March 31, 2008. Each fiscal year, Aboriginal Futures has contributed \$568,440 to the GTC ASEP training plan to offer Oil and Gas training.

PROGRAM SUCCESS

In the last three year we have seen many success stories with our participants:

- Richard Francis Jr. – Stratford Chef School in Ontario
Richard has been training for two years. He participated in a competition and won the opportunity to work in a famous restaurant in New York City. Later, he selected to partici-

pate in a feature cooking show on up-and-coming chefs and received top marks in his first year.

- Phillip Kaye – Housing Maintainer Program
Phillip finished his Housing Maintainer Program in Fort Smith with highest marks in this program and received recognition for Government of Northwest Territories ECE Apprenticeship program.
- Tsiigehtchic Environmental Monitoring Program graduated six (6) graduates from a one month program. First College graduation for this community which was a very proud day for the whole community and graduates.
- In Partnership with Aurora College, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and McDonald Bros Electric Ltd. (Camp MGK) the Camp Cook program was successfully completed with four graduates.
- In Partnership with Aurora College, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and Inuvik Golf Association a Heavy Equipment Operators program was administrated with three graduates.



Photo: Debbie English, GTC

Photos (top right and bottom right): Aurora College



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a list of recommendations that could be considered to overcome the challenges with the new agreement:

- Proper training about data entry of client information into Contact IV system
- Proper training to do client assessment so to offer meaningful client training
- Provide adequate funds to cover the administrative costs.

CONCLUSION

The ASEP program presented a great training opportunity for our participants to enhance and develop their skills to be better prepared them for work now and in the future. We look forward to a new agreement and continuing to build capacity within the Gwich'in Nation.

At this time I would like to acknowledge the GTC staff and Education and Training Committee for their dedication and support to providing quality and equitable programming in the GSA communities and look forward to working towards another productive and successful year.

Debra English
Regional Manager



GWICH'IN HARVESTERS' ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Background

In February 2008 the GTC Board of Directors approved changes to the Gwichin Harvesters Assistance Program Policy. At this time changes were introduced to give more responsibility to the Community RRC's for hearing appeals as well as administering the program.

Over the years the program administration has moved from LRI to Beneficiary services two times. A decision was made to leave it permanently with Beneficiary Services. Gina Firth is the main contact for this file and does all the administration. Cheryl Wright coordinates the meetings and Tammy Rogers answers any technical questions regarding the program. Mary Ann Ross is the Executive Member who is responsible for this file.

Program Management Committee Members

- John Norbert – Tsiigehtchic
- James Andre – Fort McPherson
- Danny Greenland – Aklavik
- Neil Firth – Inuvik
- Mary Ann Ross – Chairperson

The committee members do not have fixed terms and are appointed at the recommendation of their respective DGO.

Status

The annual budget for this program is \$250,000.00 per year, earned from interest on the Trust. The budget break down is as follows \$175,000.00 is allocated to harvesters, \$50,000.00 to community programs, and \$16,000.00 back to the RRC's for their administration fee. A total of 135 participants were assisted in 2007 under this program.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BENEFICIARY SERVICES (GHAP)

The fiscal year for GHAP ends December 31st. There are two allocations for this program, one in the spring and one in the fall. The spring program for this year is closed, and the fall program will start in August.

In addition to the funds received by the harvesters each Community Renewable Resources Council as Received \$4,000.00 administration fee and \$12,500.00 for community based initiative programs.

Spring 2007	Allocation	Applicants
Aklavik	\$16,800.00	12
Fort McPherson	\$29,200.00	32
Inuvik	\$16,800.00	10
Tsiigehtchic	\$17,200.00	11
Out of Region	\$5,000.00	
Totals	\$85,000.00	65

Fall 2007	Allocation	Applicants
Aklavik	\$16,800.00	21
Fort McPherson	\$29,200.00	55
Inuvik	\$16,800.00	9
Tsiigehtchic	\$17,200.00	9
Out of Region	\$5,000.00	1
Totals	\$85,000.00	95

2007 Summary	Funds Spent	Harvesters Assisted
Aklavik	\$31,460.26	23
Fort McPherson	\$58,479.83	71
Inuvik	\$23,858.13	12
Tsiigehtchic	\$34,083.38	20
Out of Region	\$1,250.00	1
Totals	\$149,131.60	127

Action

The budget for the next year will have to be watched closely as we are not earning as much interest on our investments as in previous years, this may have an impact on the budget as we don't want to spend any of the principle from the Trust.

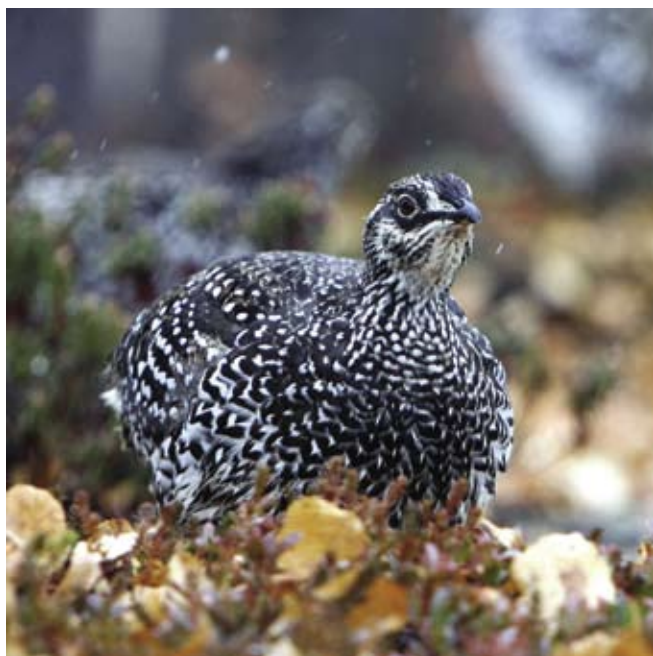
Prepared by:
 Tammy Rogers,
 Director, Beneficiary Services

Spring 2007	Funds Spent	Harvesters Assisted
Aklavik	\$8,790.34	8
Fort McPherson	\$27,394.08	36
Inuvik	\$12,886.13	5
Tsiigehtchic	\$15,831.00	10
Out of Region	0	0
Totals	\$64,901.55	59

Fall 2007	Funds Spent	Harvesters Assisted
Aklavik	\$22,669.92	15
Fort McPherson	\$31,085.75	35
Inuvik	\$10,972.00	7
Tsiigehtchic	\$18,252.38	8
Out of Region	\$1,250.00	1
Totals	\$64,901.55	66



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION



Authorizations issued in first half of 2008	8
Access and Research	0
Research	3
Quarry	5
Camp (Non-Gwich'in)	0
Leases	0

Significant Projects

Signage in the GSA: The GTC has completed the signage project along the Dempster Highway. The additional signs identify the special harvesting area near the NWT/Yukon border and the secondary use area within the Yukon. The GTC has also installed 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 continue 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 requires all non-Gwich'in cabin owners 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 GTC Environmental Monitors will be required to have recognized certification from an Environmental Monitor Training Program prior to going into the field.

The Lands, Resources, and Implementation (LRI) department is responsible for coordinating and facilitating various activities and programs related to 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 or leases for access to Gwich'in owned land.

Authorizations issued in 2007	7
Access	1
Research	1
Quarry	4
Camp – (Non-Gwich'in)	1



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION

Land Management Control Guidelines and Fee Schedule: The GTC land access fees have been updated for the 2008-2009 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. The Land Management and Control Guidelines is a working document and will be updated as required over time and approved by the GTC Board of Directors to ensure all aspects of land use and policy are covered off within the Guidelines.

James Creek Hydrocarbon Land Farm: An annual sampling program of the James Creek water source is conducted by the GNWT including soil, groundwater 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 on the lake. The GTC has signs put 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 (YESAA) Application 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 GNWT, YTG, GRRB, RRC's, 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 Dempster Highway regulations are not being enforced by YTG because of a legal challenge. The GTC will continue to monitor this file.

Dall Sheep Management Plan: The GTC, GNWT, YTG, Vuntut Gwitchin, 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) has been established. A facilitator was hired to develop a Management Plan in cooperation with the Working Group. The Management Plan was developed and will be sent to partners for public consultation. The completion date for public consultation is Sept. 15, 2008.

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.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION

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 *GCLCA* and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. CIMP requires an environmental audit every five years to identify changes in environmental quality and effectiveness of current environmental management and monitoring by the Federal Government and communities. The first audit was completed in 2006. The GTC is participating in prioritizing and implementing the audit recommendations. The GTC continues to lobby the Government of Canada Treasury Board for long-term funding for these initiatives to provide for better environmental stewardship in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Forest Management in the GSA: The GTC continues to work on the development of a Forest Management Plan for the Gwich'in Settlement Region with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the GRRB.

Regional RRC Meeting: The GTC assisted with the Regional RRC meeting in January of 2008 in Inuvik. A mid term meeting with RRC coordinators is scheduled for June to discuss outstanding issues from the annual meeting.

Peel River Water Quality Program: The GTC met with INAC to discuss the results of the Peel River Water Quality Program. A public meeting will be held in Fort McPherson on July 3, 2008 to discuss the results. Andrea Czarnecki (INAC) and Dr. Andre Corriveau (GNWT) will be in attendance to explain the results and to answer questions.

Yukon Species at Risk: The YTG is drafting legislation with regard to Yukon Species At Risk. The GTC has requested that YTG provide funding for the GTC's participation and legal counsel due to the technical nature of the legislation and the implementation of the *GCLCA*.

Yukon Wildlife Act Amendments: The GTC has requested the YTG to provide funding for the GTC's participation and legal counsel due to the technical nature of the Yukon Wildlife Act amendments and the implementation of the *GCLCA*.

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.

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. The latest review was held November 2007 and minutes will be distributed upon completion.

Communications CD-ROM: The GTC has nearly completed work on a CD-Rom that can be used to communicate the *GCLCA* in class rooms. 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 is in final draft and will be completed shortly.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION

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 claims agreement implementation and to encourage DIAND to take new, more effective approaches to 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. This was done through participation in the Senate Committee hearings and DIAND Land Claim Implementation Consultations.

Senate Committee Hearings on Land Claim Implementation

The Senate Committee coordinated hearings to develop a report on Land Claim Implementation. The Senate Report identified key challenges faced by the Land Claim Groups across Canada in achieving Land Claim Implementation. Most of the challenges are a direct result of DIAND's inability to implement the Land Claims Agreements.

DIAND Land Claim Implementation Consultations

The Government of Canada met with Land Claim Groups across Canada to discuss Land Claim Implementation. The Land Claim Agreement Coalition (LCAC) developed a coordinated response among all Land Claim Groups. Similar messages were delivered across Canada. In December 2007 the Land Claim Groups met in Ottawa and were presented with the results of the consultations. The presentation was not a formal report but a powerpoint presentation. The Land Claim Groups voiced their disapproval of the process and the lack of a report from Canada on the whole consultation process.

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 process to develop the NWT Wildlife Act will not be started until the NWT SARA has been completed. The GTC and other Land Claim Groups 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. The Draft SARA is completed and will be presented to the legislature for review. This draft also has to be approved by the GTC Board of Directors.

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 intervener. The hearings are still ongoing and the GTC will continue to monitor and participate as required.

Sumps in the Yukon: Due to 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.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - LANDS, RESOURCES & IMPLEMENTATION

Protected Areas 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 continue to express their views 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 and will continue to use the Land Use Plan as the main instrument for Protected Areas within the GSA.

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; the development of the Harvest Management Strategy Protocol and a Harvest Management Plan (HMP) for the Porcupine Caribou Herd in Canada.

Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act (YESAA) 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 with the YESAA Designated Offices in Dawson and Mayo, YT. The YESAA is undergoing a Five-Year Review and the GTC has been participating in the review process which should be completed by April 2009.

Peel River Watershed Planning Commission (PRWPC): The GTC has been participating along with the Vuntut Gwitchin, Na Cho Nyak Dun, Trondek Hwechin, and Tetlit Gwich'in in the implementation of the Peel River 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 Mr. Peter J. Kaye from Fort McPherson who is very familiar with the Planning Area, having traveled the area extensively.

GTC Membership in Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN): The GTC have 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.

Norman Snowshoe, Director
Mardy Semmler, Lands Manager
Jozef Carnogursky, Lands and Resources Advisor



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The intent of the MOU is to “*establish a process toward improving the participation of Gwich’in businesses in GNWT contracting, within the Gwich’in Settlement Area.*” The original term of the MOU was over a 5-year period which recently expired on March 31, 2008. In my opinion, the MOU has been successful in working towards the original objective. Historical results from a cumulative report prepared by the GNWT Contract Registry indicate the following statistics: “All communities are exceeding MOU targets, except Inuvik, which is achieving only 12% out of an 18% target. A total of 219 contracts worth \$30.4-million were awarded in the GSA during the 2006/07 fiscal year. A total of 36 contracts worth \$8.4-million awarded to Gwich’in Approved Businesses during the 2006/07 fiscal year. On a percentage basis 33% of GTC approved businesses are “*competitive*” compared to 67% of GTC approved business “*non-competitive*”. There is always room for improvement, and we definitely need to continue to improve our end results in the GNWT contracting opportunities to be “*competitive*”. The GTC has requested an extension on the ex-

piry date in order to establish a negotiation team to re-negotiate the MOU.

Mackenzie Gas Project

This fiscal year there were no planned contracting opportunities available for this project. Although there is no confirmation on a proposed date to commence construction on Mackenzie Gas Pipeline, the Gwich’in Access and Benefits agreement is still in effect and commitments/obligations need to be fulfilled. The Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) continues to meet on a quarterly basis. The main function of JAC is to monitor and oversee the implementation of the benefits agreement. Current JAC members consist of:

- Dave Meads, Consultation Manager;
- Grace Blake, Regional Liaison, Imperial Oil;
- Tom Williams, Chief Operating Officer; and
- Wanda McDonald, Business Development Manager, GTC.

Currently, the JAC is working on an Integrated Business Development Plan which incorporates the GTC Access and Benefits agreement commitments. The plan is a prescription on a joint approach to commence planned construction activities which include the roles and responsibilities of Imperial Oil, the GTC and Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation during the construction of the pipeline. In addition to the on-going planning process, the Mackenzie Gas Project is working on developing a set of training sessions for offer to interested Gwich’in Businesses based on demand. The overall objective with this initiative is to maximize Gwich’in participation in this project by targeting specific business needs for Gwich’in business to help prepare for the pre-qualification process which is defined by Oil & Gas industry standards.

Building Gwich’in Business Capacity

This is a very broad category and encompasses a number of initiatives based on demand and availability of resources. To date, some of the initiatives undertaken consist of:



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- Gwich'in Business Conference held on February 25 & 26 in Inuvik. The objectives of the conference was to develop networking relationships with Gwich'in and non-Gwich'in businesses; information sharing, promoting and marketing your business – locally, regionally and beyond; provide information on commercial financing; explore business-related risks and opportunities and finally diversifying your business. The conference was open to Gwich'in registered business or participants interested in business. We covered the costs of accommodations, travel and food for Gwich'in business owners outside of Inuvik.
- Gwich'in Business Workshop held April 8 & 9, 2008 in Inuvik. This workshop focused on four sessions: Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation; Western Arctic Business Development Services; Mackenzie Gas Project and GNWT Procurement training session. We also invited a Guest Speaker Mr. Doug Golosky, Golosky Group of Companies, Fort McMurray to share his unique success story on growing and diversifying his business to a point where he employs up to 1000 employees. The key to his success “*hard work and a vision*”. This workshop was intended to be hands on approach for the business community. Again, we covered the costs of accommodations, travel and food for Gwich'in business owners outside of Inuvik.
- In January 2008, Chris Ballard and I traveled to the each community to meet with Gwich'in businesses interested in setting up individual mini website to be included on our existing Gwich'in Business Development website. The scheduled completion date is July 31, 2008.
- In January 2008, Chris Ballard, CBS Communications, Treefrog Communications and I have been working on upgrading our existing Gwich'in Business Development website. The end result will be a user-friendly and interactive website, with the ability to disseminate large volumes of time sensitive information to our Gwich'in businesses. External users include: GNWT; Federal Government and Industry clientele. Internal users include: Registered Gwich'in Businesses and the Gwich'in Development Corporation business entities. It is important that all Gwich'in Business be registered with our office because the Registered Gwich'in Business list is negotiated into all A & B agreements with Industry and the GNWT MOU. More than likely, if you are not on the list you do not get contacted.
- The Inuvik Petroleum Show was held on June 11 & 12, 2008 in Inuvik. My office was responsible for the coordination of the GTC booths. This is an annual event for the GTC. I participated in the IPS planning committee which meets on a monthly basis approximately 6 months before the show is held.
- Currently underway is the strategic planning process for the Business Development department. Bill Davidson, RT Associates and I traveled to the four communities the 1st week of June to meet with the Gwich'in businesses to obtain input into our strategic plan. A draft copy will be circulated for feedback and the final report will be made available at the assembly in August.
- Safety Related Training Courses – We research and identify upcoming Safety courses related to the Mackenzie Gas Project Pre-qualification process. We provide written notice to Gwich'in Businesses and make available funding for travel costs, registration fees and accommodations as an incentive for Gwich'in businesses to participate. To date, our approach has not been successful in the recruitment of Gwich'in businesses.

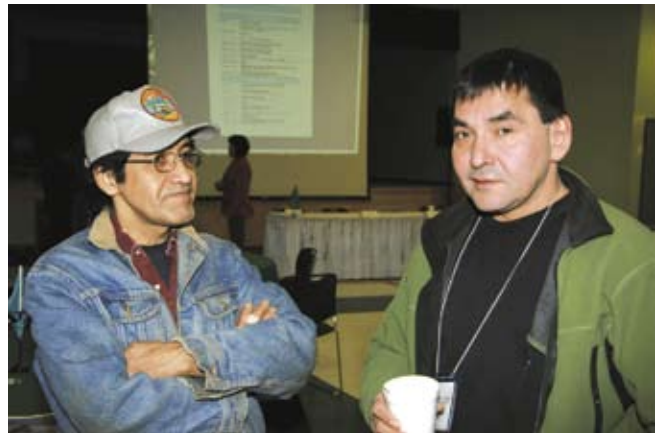


TRIBAL OPERATIONS - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- Although there is not tentative date set, our office would like to offer a conference/mini trade show specifically focused on developing “Partnerships” to help build our internal business capacity and fill the void where there are *no existing* business/services offered by Gwich’in.
- Other related responsibilities include: working with Mackenzie Aboriginal Corporation and Kodiak Petroleum; issues resolution when requested by Gwich’in businesses; liaison with industry and government; on-going dialogue with Gwich’in business.

To conclude, I would like to say thank you to those individuals who participated in our activities. Our continued success “*Gwich’in Businesses*” will be determined by your participation and input into our business initiatives which will help develop our approach to long term future economic success within the GSA and beyond globally. Communication is a dual process.

I encourage you to send any comments or ideas to my office via email at [wmcDonald @gwichin.nt.ca](mailto:wmcDonald@gwichin.nt.ca) or visit our website at www.gwichin.biz.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - REGIONAL WELLNESS



The Regional Wellness Office has once again had a busy year advocating for and supporting our Gwich'in participants within the region and other parts of Canada and the US in many areas including; housing, medical inquiries, personal and family issues, special needs, disabilities, residential school inquiries, child welfare and adoptions. The staff has also assisted individuals in writing letters or short proposals. It is also the responsibility of the department to correspond with local, regional and national health authorities in which the issues may be affecting the Gwich'in.

More recently, the Special Projects Manager has worked primarily on the Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund Regional Investment Plan while Victor Stewart has assumed the position of Acting Wellness Manager. This year, there were visits to each community, whether it was for residential school issues, Mackenzie Gas Project or other general issues.

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

Social Emergency and Bereavement Assistance Programs

The Wellness Office manages the Social Emergency and Bereavement Assistance Programs. The Social Emergency Assistance is designed for individuals or families whose income is limited and who may be experiencing extreme hardship due to unmanageable circumstances. Application forms are available, the limit for individuals is \$400 and for families \$500. The Bereavement Assistance Program offers \$1000 to families who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The family coordinator (with approval from other family members) will receive the funds and it may be used for funeral, travel or feast costs. All applications are reviewed by the Wellness Manager.

Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund (MGPIF)

The GTC team consists of:

- Mary Ann Ross, Vice President;
- Tom Williams, Chief Operating Officer;
- Denise Kurszewski, Special Projects Manager; and
- Jennifer Carey, Consultant.

Phase 1 and 2 of the very intensive project has been completed; the priority project areas of the joint Beaufort Delta MGPIF planning group includes; Health and Social Services, Education, Culture and Language and Justice.

A steering committee has been established with representatives from each community:

- Leanne Nerysoo, Aklavik;
- Eileen Koe, Fort McPherson;
- Elaine Blake, Tsiigehtchic; and
- Herbert Blake, Inuvik.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - REGIONAL WELLNESS

The group met to establish priorities of GTC, these include: Social Wellness (alcohol and drugs & family and social dynamics), Education and Skills Training, Culture and Language and Community and Social Infrastructure. The projects have all been worked out in detail with projected budgets included. There have been challenges throughout the project, such as creating/enhancing positions, policy, pay and union barriers as well as program and service information and inventory not easily accessible. Phase 3 will include finalizing priority projects with joint planning group, more community consultation and identifying a monitoring, reporting and accountability structure for the projects.

Regional Wellness Camp

In response to the many social wellness issues in the region over the years the GTC leadership has established the Wellness Camp which is situated approximately 15 km from Inuvik on the East Branch of the Mackenzie River. The leadership recognized that the issues are complex and inter-related. Although it is understood that solutions and answers will only come about if there is integrated efforts among all partners determined to address the root causes of the issues. The Elders and community members stressed the importance of having a place specifically for wellness, learning skills and celebrations and that the place must be on-the-land.

GDC provided the two buildings (formerly warehouses), and the Nihtat Gwich'in Council provided the site. GTC then provided the funding to reassemble and insulate the buildings and complete all outside and inside work. The building is constructed to the latest national building code requirements with its own power generation, water and sewer facilities.

A temporary Advisory Committee has worked on a plan for programming. The Advisory Committee is comprised of community members who have experience in the social and wellness field as well as personnel from Beaufort Delta Health

and Social Services Authority. With assistance from GTC wellness department staff, the committee will direct all programming and services. The GTC stresses the importance of local people directing and taking responsibility for the programs. Taking ownership ensures that there is a more personal sense of responsibility for all involved.

Jennifer Johnson has been hired as the Executive Director of the Camp, her main responsibility will be to locate funding and set up programs as directed in the Strategic Plan. Short term programs will include residential school and healing, grieving, life skills, anger and stress management, and programs specific to youth, women, men, elders. In the long term, the programs will be focused on addictions and family treatment. The facility is also available for rent to outside agencies. This summer/fall it will be used by the foster parents program, the legislative assembly and T'loondih. Currently the first program is running, which is a residential school healing programs with approx 24 clients, 4 facilitators and elder support people.

Residential Schools

This was a busy year for forms and payments. Acting Manager, Victor Stewart, has managed the file very effectively. There was a coordinated financial management seminar with CIBC and a follow up one as well. Information sessions on financial management for survivors were delivered over a 2 day period by a team of volunteers from Edmonton. 50 people attended the workshops. The seminars were delivered in Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic. Aklavik coordinated their own workshops.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - REGIONAL WELLNESS

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program

Funding was secured from the Department of Health and Social Services to rehire Tena Blake as the regional FASD Coordinator for the region. Tena was employed from November 2007 to March 2008 to provide information, education and support on FASD programs and services to individuals and families. In March a traditional parenting workshop was held in Fort McPherson and all communities were invited.

Youth Conference

As Victor was the past youth/elder coordinator he again hosted a youth conference in March with approximately 80 youth, chaperones and

visitors from the Beaufort Delta participating. It was well attended, there were keynote and motivational speakers from the north and the south. The theme this year was *Healthy Choices – Easy Choices*.

Again, this has been a busy year. We are sad to see Victor return to Fort McPherson, however we wish him all the best and know that he will do great things over there. Welcome to our Wellness Camp Executive Director, Jennifer. We look forward to good things happening out at the camp. Congratulations and welcome to Richard Nerysoo our new President and a big *Masi Cho* to our out going President, Fred: we are pleased that you have brought social wellness to the forefront of the GTC agenda.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - SELF-GOVERNMENT



Former Chief Peter Ross and former Coordinator Ruth Elanik at a negotiation session in Yellowknife, April 2007

Photo: Margaret Gordon, GTC

This past year, the Gwich'in Tribal Council's Self Government department completed the following activities:

Negotiations

Negotiations continue with the Federal Government of Canada and the Government of the NWT. Talks have slowed down at the table due to Treaty 11 and *Indian Act* issues. The Chiefs want to make sure that when we have our own government we don't give up our treaty rights and not to dissolve the bands as stated in the last AIP.

The Chiefs have stayed firm on their views about the Treaty and Band issue. In order for us to better understand why this is important we brought in Lawyer Richard Hardy and Robert Groves from the "Aboriginal Affairs Group Inc, (TAAG). Mr. Hardy has worked with the Gwich'in in the past and is quite familiar with our issues. He's been working with our Chief Negotiator, Charlie Furlong on making sure that we don't give up our treaty rights. Mr. Hardy worked with the Self Government team for three days on explaining the Treaty and the *Indian Act*.

Mr. Groves works with the Aboriginal, Federal and Provincial/Territorial leaders and officials on a variety of issues relating mainly to the comprehensive, treaty and specific land claims, Aboriginal Governance, social policy and land and resource management issues.

Mr. Groves is quite knowledgeable about the way the government works. He knows where to find the status of a letter for an example. He was quite helpful in explaining what needs to be

done when dealing with the governments. He says that if we forget vital information in our funding reports, letters to the Minister, and other issues it will delay the process.

It was decided at this meeting to write a letter to Minister Strahl and ask for a side table to deal with the Band issues, so that negotiations can continue on the programs and services. We are looking at the old AIP and taking out what is going to work for the Gwich'in.

Consultations

Consultation on the draft Gwich'in Charter of Rights and Freedoms were taken door to door in the communities. The fieldworkers visited the homes and explained the draft Gwich'in Charter to participants for their feedback. Participants are getting confused when it comes to understanding the constitution and the charter as they see similarities and want to know why we are duplicating.

Our explanation to them is that we want to make sure that we get a document that is suitable to all Gwich'in and that they feel the documents are their own. Our mandate is to work as close to the communities as possible. It is important that we hear from as many participants as possible on the Charter as this is where we can preserve our culture, heritage, language, traditions and our relation to the land, water and animals.

Working closely with the communities is giving the self government team a better understanding of what the people would like to see in a Gwich'in Government. The most important issue to them is leadership and how it needs to start here. The leaders who make decisions for the Gwich'in should be more accountable and visible to the participants. Participants want to be more involved with what is happening around them. They want to make sure that what we put in place is going to be good for the future generation.



TRIBAL OPERATIONS - SELF-GOVERNMENT

Communications

- Self Government Traditional Governance Video
- Contributed updates to GTC Newsletter
- Updated the website on the Self Government page.
- Update constitutional process for the Gwich'in communities
- Update Gwich'in Charter process for each community
- Visited Whitehorse and Yellowknife to provide updates to participants.

The Self Government Traditional Governance video is completed and was shown on Gwich'in Day, April 22nd. Each participant was given a copy of the video for their own. The comments that we received that day were quite positive and they were happy that we did this. It is so important that we capture the stories of our elders. A copy of the video has also been given to the schools for the Northern Studies program. Our hope is that the Youth will get something out of this video. They will see that our ancestors were able to look after themselves a long time ago, making decisions as a group, choosing a good leader, and making sure that everyone had respect for each other. These are qualities they would like to see in our Gwich'in Government.

The GTC newsletter is put out every four months and we contribute to it. We provide updates to the participants and also let them know what is coming up next.

The Self Government page on the website has an update on what we've been doing, pictures and our video on Traditional Governance.

A power point presentation has been developed on the process of the draft Gwich'in Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the community constitution. Each community has visited homes to explain the charter and found out that it was a lot of information to pass on. More time is needed in each community so that they better understand why a Gwich'in Charter is needed.

The process on the community constitution is put on the back burner until we have coordinators in the communities to get this document finalized. The Constitutions for each community just needs to be approved by the Council.

GTC Self-Government Team

- Charlie Furlong – Chief Negotiator
- Karen Snowshoe – Director /Assistant Negotiator
- Margaret Gordon – Regional Coordinator (Aklavik and Inuvik)
- Mavis Clark – Regional Coordinator (Tsiigehtchic and Fort McPherson)

Community Representatives

- Liza Greenland, Aklavik
- Frank Firth, Fort McPherson
- Ruth Elanik, Inuvik
- Mavis Clark, Tsiigehtchic

Elders Representatives

- Peter Ross, Tsiigehtchic
- Mary Teya, Fort McPherson
- Tommy Wright, Inuvik
- Renie Stewart, Aklavik

Chiefs

- Community Coordinators



L-R: Shawn Nerysoo, Marion Greenland, Vincent Firth, Gladys Stewart, Patricia Van Loon, Mildred Edwards and Ruth "Cookie" Elanik.

Photo: Margaret Gordon, GTC



GWICH'IN ENROLMENT BOARD

The Gwich'in Enrolment Board has operated since March 1993, and is responsible for enrolling all suitable persons of Gwich'in ancestry in the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement* (GCLCA). Only those enrolled under the Claim are entitled to vote and run in GTC elections, participate in the activities of the GTC and its affiliated bodies, or receive benefits such as Christmas hampers or money from payouts.

The Enrolment Card also meets the requirement for photo-identification necessary for airline travel. The first Gwich'in Enrolment Registry was issued in April 1994 and listed 1,245 Beneficiaries. By March 2006, we had more than 3,126 and continue to receive applications. In June 2008, there was approximately 3,255 enrolled Participants (beneficiaries.)

On Enrolment, each Beneficiary 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 in the Claim is not identical with membership in a Gwich'in Band: your ten-digit Treaty Status Card Number (the first three digits of which indicate your community Band) reflects Band membership. To change Band affiliation, you must contact both your local Band and the Enrolment Board. But you must enroll

under the *GCLCA* itself to enjoy 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 enroll their children and themselves.

Keeping the Registry up-to-date as people move, marry, have children, and die is a major part of the Enrolment Board's work. Beneficiaries continue to receive all the benefits to which they are entitled under the Claim only as long as we have current, accurate information. We urge you to ensure that we have up-to-date information on you and your family, and 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, or the GTC web site.

You can reach us at:

Box 1509 Inuvik NT X0E 0T0
Tel. 867-777-7916 Fax. 867-777-7955
Toll-Free: 1-866-414-4670
Email: cherylw@gwichin.nt.ca
Web site: www.gwichin.nt.ca



GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE



MANDATE

The Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute is the cultural arm of the Gwich'in Tribal Council that also includes the Gwich'in Language Centre that is responsible for the Gwich'in Language Plan and the development of language resource material for Gwich'in language teachers.

CULTURE & HERITAGE PROJECTS

Since the GSCI was established in 1993 with the mandate "to document, preserve, and promote the practice of Gwich'in culture, language, traditional knowledge and values". GSCI has interviewed our Gwich'in elders in our communities for various projects every year about their life and experience on the land. Using the GSCI 5-year plan (2006-2010) and direction from the GSCI Board as a guide, GSCI staff identified 11 projects to work with throughout the year at the start of 2007/08. At the end of 2007/08, GSCI completed 21 projects with the following results:

Aklavik Place Names Project - finalize the transcripts, digitize the cassette tapes into computer files, and print the transcripts: (1) the 25 tapes were digitized in Yellowknife, (2) the 25 transcripts with no computer file were retyped from the paper copies, (3) copies of the tapes were used to finalize the transcripts, (4) a summary of the project was prepared, (5) the finalized transcripts with updated English and translated Gwich'in were printed, and (6) all research materials submitted to the NWT Archives in the GSCI area for safe-keeping.

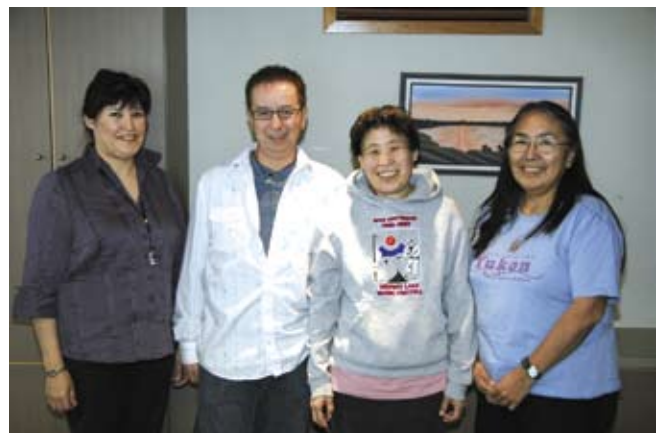
Arctic Red River Headwaters Ethno-Archaeology Project - an archaeological survey carried out in the headwaters of the Arctic Red River, using TK recorded from elders in Tsiigehtchic and Fort Good Hope, resulted in several sites being recorded.

Dene Nation Tapes - nine CDs were made from interviews recorded in the 1970s with Jim Edwards, Julienne Andre, Amos Niditchie, Roddy Peters, Jimmy Thompson and Neil Colin.

Ehdiitat Gwich'in Heritage Sites: Potential Heritage Conservation Zones – special places on the cultural and historical landscape were identified by Aklavik Elders and Elders originally from Aklavik to supplement the 5-year review of the *Nahn' Geenjit Gwitr'it Tigwaa'in: Working for the Land – Gwich'in Land Use Plan (2003)*.

Fort McPherson National Historic Site - the revised Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) plaque with text in Gwich'in, English and French was finalized and delivered to the Parks Canada Western Field Unit in Inuvik. This project initiated in 2005 will be completed with a proposed unveiling ceremony of the revised plaque in Fort McPherson in 2008.

Grave Site Signage along Dempster Highway – signage finalized and ready to be erected at Teetl'it Gwich'in burial sites along the Dempster Highway.



GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Gwich'in Traditional Caribou Skin Clothing Project (community displays) – plaque text in Gwich'in and English finalized and installed in each of the four Gwich'in community clothing display cases.

Gwich'in Self-Government – reviewed and provided input into the 'Culture & Language' and 'Heritage Resources' Chapters of the Gwich'in Self-Government Agreement document.

GSCI Board of Directors Training – board training included (1) the Role and Responsibilities of the Board of Directors (2) Relationship of Board and Staff (3) Effective Meetings and Board Motions (4) Corporate Governance and Board Committees (5) Strategic Planning and Principles. The Year-One document of the GSCI 5-year plan (2006-2010) was reviewed and revised. Translation by Bertha Francis provided clear understanding and meaning of board members' roles and responsibilities as board of directors.

Heritage and Cultural Places in the GSA – annotated list of heritage and cultural places in the GSA was prepared. The list was created as a Geodatabase with both location and tabular data and summarized and prioritized the heritage and cultural places listed. The geographic database was generated from the three Gwich'in Place Names databases (Gwichya Gwich'in, Teetl'it Gwich'in, and Ehdiitat Gwich'in places names) compiled over the last 15 years through extensive research carried out by GSCI.

Knut Lang HPI nomination – the nomination document drafted with Community Steering Committee in Aklavik and submitted for inclusion in the NWT Historic Sites Register. Knut Lang's Place is an important site for the Gwich'in of Aklavik.

Mindy Willet Children's Stories – reviewed drafts of two stories about the Gwich'in by Mindy Willet with photographs by Tessa Macin-

tosh (Tom McLeod's book 'The Delta Is My Home' and Julie-Ann Andre's book 'We Feel Good Out Here'). GSCI also wrote a short review for the back cover of Julie-Ann's story book.

National Trust Round Table – Ingrid Kritsch was one of 15 people invited by the Federal Government to provide input into the development of a National Trust for heritage across Canada. The goal of the Canadian National Trust would be to encourage Canadians to protect lands, buildings and national treasures.

Peel River Dinosaur Research – GSCI provided advice about how to proceed with obtaining support from the community of Fort McPherson and what land access, research licences or agreements that Grant Zazula (Yukon Paleontologist) and Dr. David Evans (Royal Ontario Museum) would have to negotiate before proceeding. The dinosaur research will be carried out in the Bonnetplume River area in the summer of 2008.

Peel Watershed Land Use Planning Commission – GSCI provided comments on the "*Preliminary Summary of Heritage Values in the Peel River Watershed Planning Area*" drafted for the Commission. Teetl'it Gwich'in heritage data recorded in 1996 and entered into the GSCI GIS provided the foundation for this review, along with heritage information recorded during the Blackstone Uplands and Peel River Ethno-Archaeology Projects carried out between 2000-2005.

Photo Digitization Project – about 4,000 images were digitized from the photo collection on file in the GSCI Research Office in Yellowknife. Photo albums were organized by projects, making images from our photo archives more readily accessible.



GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Exhibit - GSCI provided information and reviewed the text for a new exhibit being developed at the museum called 'Yamoria: The One Who Travels'. Yamoria is known throughout northern Alberta, the NWT, Yukon and Alaska and is called 'Atachu'ukajj' in Gwich'in. Mrs. Mary kendi from Aklavik is showcased as one of the six Dené storytellers and Gabe Andre's story about Atachu'ukajj is featured. The exhibit uses a variety of media including oral written stories, art work and animated video.

Pokiak and Nataiinlaih HPI projects – the draft nomination form for Pokiak was reviewed in February with the Aklavik Community Steering Committee who made several corrections and additions. The boundary of Nataiinlaih was finalized by the Teetl'it Gwich'in Steering Committee, as part of this same project, and maps with the boundary drawn on them. The maps with the updated boundary will be forwarded to the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board for their use in the five year review of the land use plan.

Tsiigehtchic Steppe Bison Fossil Find – GSCI acted as the community liaison for the Steppe Bison (*Bison priscus*) remains that was discovered by Shane van Loon in September 2007 in Tsiigehtchic. The partially mummified remains were found eroding out of the banks of the Arctic Red River by the cemetery. The bison remains are a very unique and important find as no such specimens (in a mummified form) have been found before in the NWT or Yukon.

Teetl'it Gwich'in Place Names Atlas Project – an IPY (International Polar Year) proposal was submitted in January 2008. The main goal of the project is to produce, over a 3 year period, both a print-based and web-based atlas for the place names and stories of the Teetl'it Gwich'in. This work will assist GSCI to produce the Teetl'it Gwich'in History book in future. The status of GSCI's submission will be known in mid-2008.

Teetl'it Gwich'in Place Names 2008 project – interviews were carried out with Elders from Fort McPherson who are knowledgeable about place names and traditional use of the Mackenzie Delta area (north of Fort McPherson into the Delta). GSCI staff and Bertha Francis interviewed 9 Elders and recorded the information on digital tape and maps.

GWICH'IN LANGUAGE CENTRE PROJECTS

Under the Gwich'in Language Plan, the language activities in 2007/08 include:

- Gwich'in Language Dictionary, 7th Edition;
- Gwich'in Elders' Biographies/Gwich'in Elders Calendar 2008; and
- Community Gwich'in Language Classes.

Under the Gwich'in Language Resource Materials, the development of resource materials to aid in Gwich'in language learning includes:

- Booklets/Readers Development;
- 2nd Language Curriculum/Gwich'in Teachers Workshop;
- Video-taping Community Events in Fort McPherson;
- CBQM Weekly Radio Program;
- Website Development; and
- Digitizing Video-tapes.

The objective of the Institute is to conduct research and provide programming for the benefit of Gwich'in beneficiaries. In 2007/08, research projects carried out included Aklavik and Teetl'it Gwich'in place names and traditional land use, ethno-archaeology, elder's biographies, a Gwich'in language dictionary, text for 19th century caribou skin clothing display cases, and the identification of Territorial Historic Sites in the Gwich'in Settlement Region. The language and education programs include language revitalization initiatives, and the development of curriculum materials.



GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

The strategic planning document of the Institute titled, "*Iindoo Khehlok Tr'eedah (Moving Forward As One) Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute 5-Year Plan 2006-2010*" guides the research work that we carry out within our communities each year.

Many times in the past, our Gwich'in Elders have told us that they want their knowledge recorded for future Gwich'in generation. For example, at the end of one of our meetings Robert Alexie Sr. of Fort McPherson said one Gwich'in phrase that translated as 'for our future generations'. Gwich'in Elders said they did not want their traditional knowledge and stories to be lost.

At the individual level, GSCI has publication of our research work available that provides information about our Gwich'in culture and language.

At the community level,:

- Gwich'in language classes were offered to interested Gwich'in and public in Fort McPherson, Inuvik and Tsiigehtchic,
- our staff's linguistic support provided Gwich'in words and phrases in two children's stories that are available in the schools in our area,
- the Gwich'in Traditional Caribou Skin Clothing display cases in the Gwich'in communities are complete with Gwich'in and English text with the names of the community's seamstresses and a description of the project,
- place names and traditional land use information were recorded from Aklavik, Fort McPherson, and Tsiigehtchic,
- Dene Nation tapes were digitized from interviews recorded in the 1970s with Julie Anne, Neil Colin, Jim Edwards, Amos Niditchie, Roddy Peters and Jimmy Thompson, and
- digitization of ca. 4,000 images from the photo collection of file in the GSCI Research Office in Yellowknife, making them accessible.

At the GSCI Board level, the board training offered this year provided board members and staff with a clearer understanding of their roles and responsibilities and operation as a non-profit organization. All agreed the board training enhanced their understanding of financial accountability, planning and implement projects and board meeting procedures required of a non-profit organization like the GSCI.

At the GTC level, GSCI provided input into the 'Culture & Language' and 'Heritage Resources' Chapters of the Gwich'in Self-Government Agreement document, as well as signage at Teetl'it Gwich'in burial sites along the Dempster Highway, and input into the development of a National Trust for heritage across Canada.

CHANGES

The GSCI Board Training created more meaningful working relationship between board members and the staff of the GSCI and Gwich'in Language Centre. The translation provided by Bertha Francis in the Gwich'in language about board governance is now more clearly understood by board members and staff.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GSCI Board Training

This workshop created awareness about board governance and was especially useful to have Bertha Francis translate the board training material into the Dinjii Zhuh language for all board members and staff.

Gwich'in language revitalization efforts

At the start of the March 2008 GSCI Board meeting, each board member and staff spoke a few words in the Dinjii Zhuh Ginjik. Board members want to continue this practice at their meetings and will also support all language initiatives to promote the use of our language so it is heard in our workplaces and communities.



GWICH'IN SOCIAL & CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Review of GSCI 5-Year Plan (2006-2010)

The board of directors reviewed and revised Year-1 of the 5-year plan document at the December 2007 regular meeting. The review emphasized to board members that GSCI staff must continue with 'research' work and revitalization work related to our Dinjii Zhuh Ginjik must be the focus for the Gwich'in Language Centre.

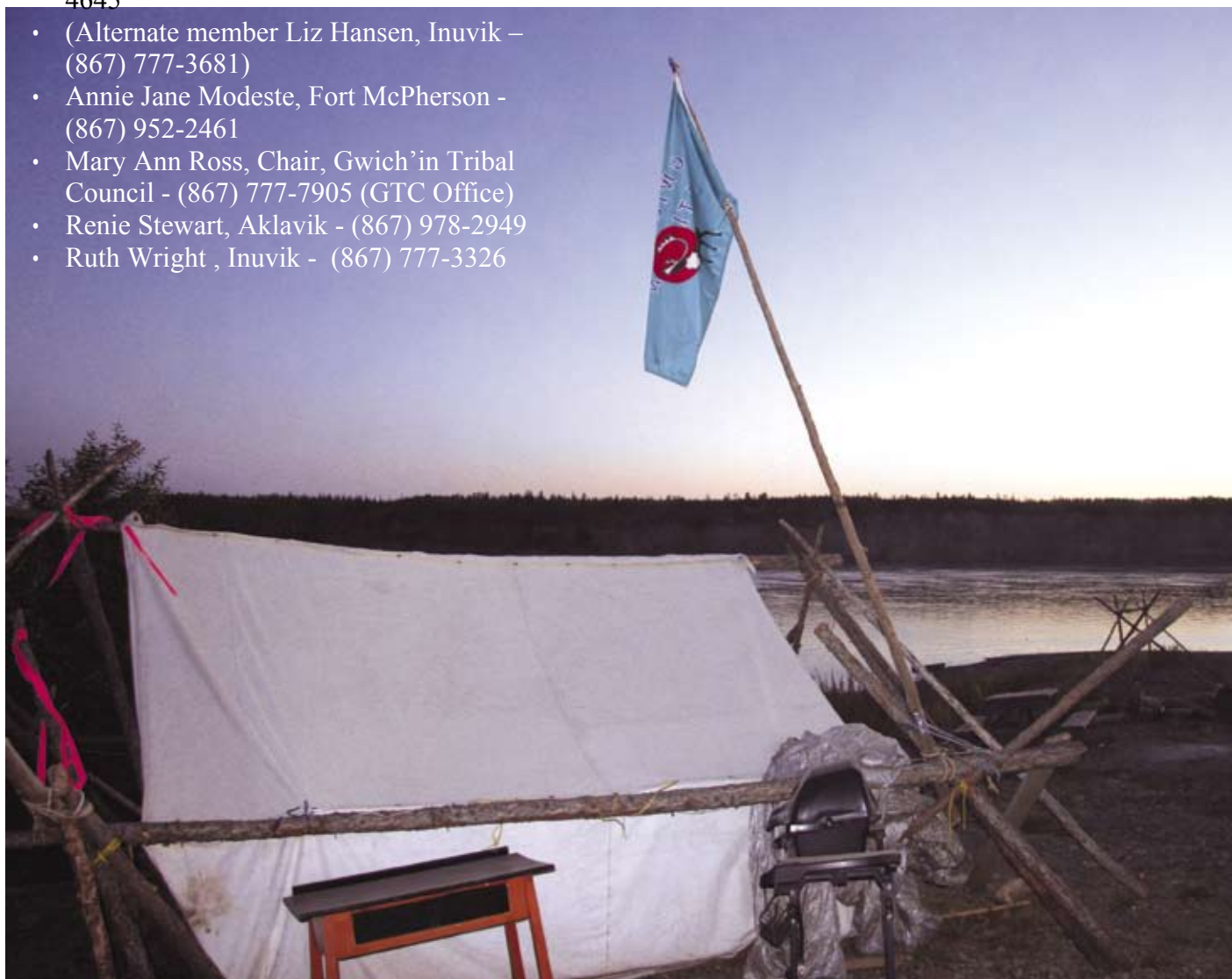
CONTACT INFORMATION

Board of Directors

- Gladys Alexie, Fort McPherson- (867) 952-2745
- Anna May MacLeod, Tsiigehtchic, (867) 952-3608 (TRRC Office)
- Sarah McLeod-Firth, Inuvik – (867) 777-4645
- (Alternate member Liz Hansen, Inuvik – (867) 777-3681)
- Annie Jane Modeste, Fort McPherson - (867) 952-2461
- Mary Ann Ross, Chair, Gwich'in Tribal Council - (867) 777-7905 (GTC Office)
- Renie Stewart, Aklavik - (867) 978-2949
- Ruth Wright , Inuvik - (867) 777-3326

GSCI staff

- Sharon Snowshoe, Executive Director - (867) 952-2524
- Ingrid Kritsch, Research Director - (867) 669-9743
- Alestine Andre, Heritage Researcher - (867) 953-3613
- William George Firth, Language Centre Manager (April – Dec. 2007) - (867) 952-2377
- Edward Wright, Resource Coordinator - (867) 952-2377
- Mary Clark, Linguist Trainee - (867) 952-2377
- Sherri Debastien, Research Assistant Trainee - (867) 952-237



GWICH'IN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



Our Mandate

The mandate of the Gwich'in Development Corporation (the "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 Corporation 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 has increased in size over the previous year by approximately 42%. During the year, GDC has invested in Discovery Air Inc. - debentures, as part of an overall strategy to invest outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

On December 31, 2007 GDC sold its investment in Mackenzie Valley Construction Ltd. to Gwich'in Investments Limited Partnership which is jointly owned by the four Gwich'in Communities. In addition GDC's investment in Aboriginal Contractors Corporation was transferred to the Gwich'in Tribal Council. GDC disposed of its investment in Gwich'in Geomatics on January 1, 2008 and is also considering disposing of its investments in GTM Enviro Ser-

vices Ltd. to better align the interests of the GDC with the interests of the Gwich'in Communities.

The investment portfolio is diversified by industry, including holdings in portfolio investments (64%), real estate (32%), energy development (2%) and transportation (2%).

Overall Results

On a consolidated basis, GDC reports the following results for the year ended December 31, 2007:

- Assets have increased from \$31.8 million in 2006 to \$43.1 million in 2007;
- Shareholder's equity has decreased from \$10.8 million to \$6.9 million, primarily as a result of a return of capital of \$2.5 million to Gwich'in Tribal Council and a \$1.2 million decline in the market value of certain portfolio investments;
- Revenue from continuing operations has increased from \$3.7 million in 2006 to \$4.6 million in 2007;
- Loss from discontinued operations (Mackenzie Valley Construction Ltd.) has decreased from \$892,903 in 2006 to \$102,711 in 2007;
- Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2007 was \$598,458, (2006 loss of \$1,149,094). This loss included a loss on disposal of Mackenzie Valley Construction Limited of \$739,087.

The performance of the GDC was significantly impacted again this year by the continuing delays in the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Project. 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.



GWICH'IN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Performance of Investments

1. Portfolio Investments

GDC has invested in Discovery Air Inc. (\$13.3 million), Pacific and Western Credit Corporation (\$0.8 million) and NewNorth Projects Ltd. (\$1.5 million). Discovery Air Inc. earned revenues of \$121 million and net income of \$7.5 million for the year ended January 31, 2008. Pacific & Western Credit Corporation earned revenues of \$71 million and net income of \$2.2 million for the year ended October 31, 2007. NewNorth Projects Limited earned revenues of \$16.6 million and net income of \$2.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

Our portfolio investments have provided GDC with an opportunity to invest in strategic business segments of aviation, banking and real estate development.

Due to the fluctuation in the capital markets and required changes in accounting policies in 2007, an unrealized loss was recorded relating to certain portfolio investments. We believe that the market value of these three portfolio investments will increase as financial markets stabilize over the medium term.

2. Construction

Gwich'in MAC Limited (100%)

GDC established the Gwich'in MAC Limited on January 31, 2007 to ensure Gwich'in participation in the construction of the proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipeline. This company will position GDC to bid on work associated with the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Project. Total costs incurred during the year total \$4,435.

3. Energy Development

Aadrii Ltd. (50%)

Aadrii Ltd. was established to recover and distribute residual heat from the diesel generating plant in Fort McPherson. Revenues for 2007 amounted to \$155,577 (2006 - \$151,951) and net income for the year totaled \$28,169 (2006 - \$108,140).

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 \$5,028 (2006 - \$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.

4. Real Estate

MG Lodging Inuvik Ltd. (33.3%)

MG Lodging Inuvik Ltd, which provides camp accommodation and catering services, incurred a loss of \$15,145 (2006 - \$187,327) on revenues of \$252,052. Amortization expense for the year amounted to \$74,845 (2006 - \$83,286). On December 31, 2007 Dowlands Contracting Ltd purchased a 33.33% ownership in the Company from GDC. In the years ahead when oil and gas exploration in the region increase, MG Lodging Inuvik Ltd. is expected to improve its financial performance.



GWICH'IN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Larga Ltd. (37.5%)

Larga, which provides accommodation for northern residents who are receiving medical treatment in Edmonton, Alberta, earned \$19,458 on sales of \$2,135,123. A management fee of \$168,750 was paid to the GDC in the current year.

Inuvik Capital Suites Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership (42%)

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 \$264,150 (2006 - \$366,286) on revenues of \$2.2 million (2006 - \$2.5 million). Total partner distributions for 2007 amounted to \$580,000 (2006 - \$540,000).

Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership (42%)

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 \$1.6 million (2006 - \$1.0 million) on revenues of \$4.0 million (2006 - \$3.7 million). Total partner distributions for 2007 amounted to \$570,000 (2006 - \$360,000).

GDC-NNP Limited Partnership (50%)

GDC-NNP Limited Partnership was created on October 14, 2005, and is a partnership between GDC and NewNorth Projects Ltd. This partnership will identify potential residential, commercial and industrial projects for development in the NWT. Loss for the year amounted to \$83,000 (2006 - \$160,000).

5. 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 \$293,944 (2006 - \$270,747) on revenues of \$929,789 (2006 - \$795,787).

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;
- 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

**Investment Consultant's Report
to General Assembly**

July 2008



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 Management 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 2008. 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 2008.

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. As of April 22, 2007 the fund balance was \$134.7 million.

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



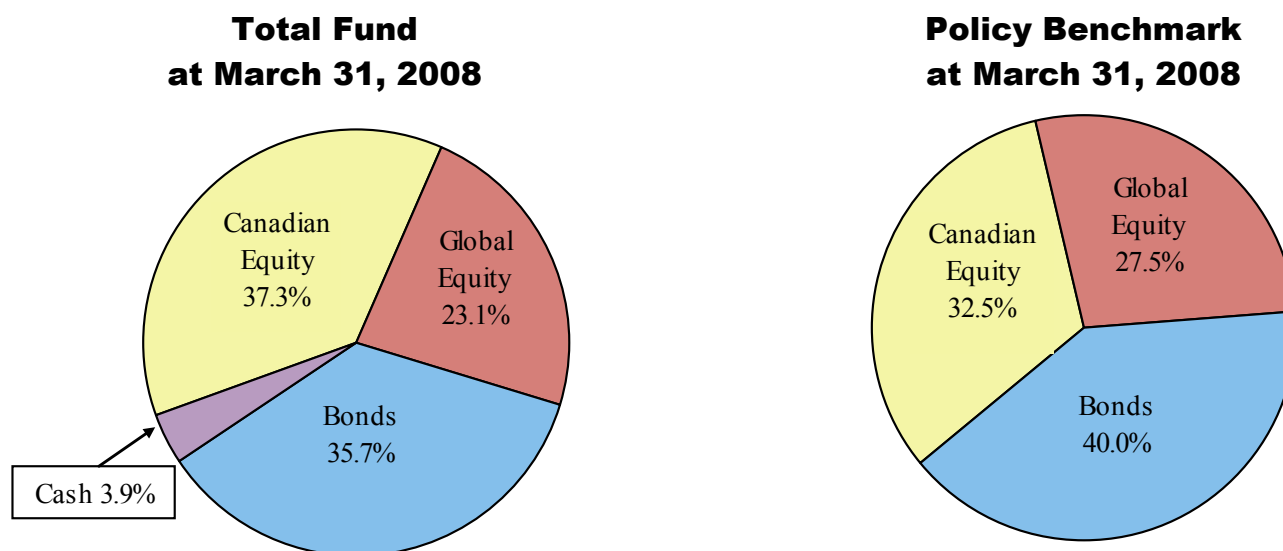
Fund Management

At March 31, 2008, 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, 2008

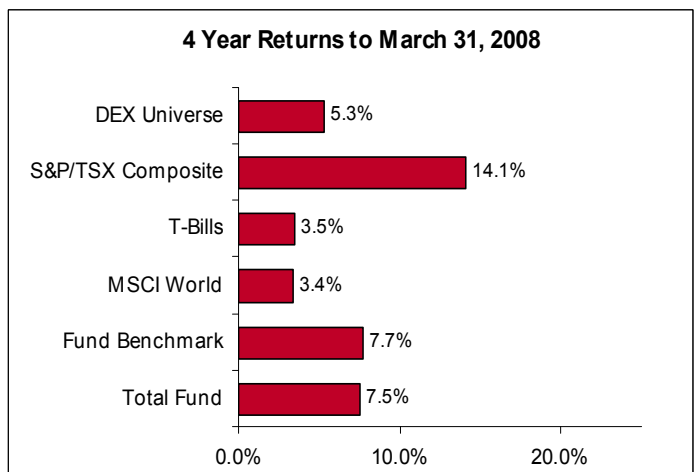
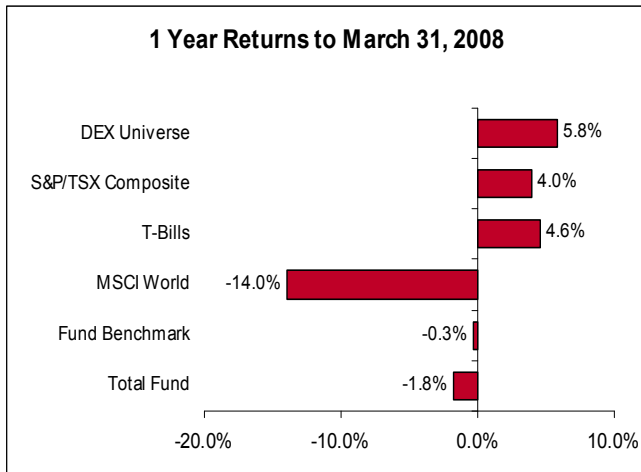
At March 31, 2008, the total market value of the fund was \$128,825,467¹ compared with \$134,383,090¹ at March 31, 2007 and was invested as follows:



The following chart shows the fund benchmark and asset class returns for the one year and four year periods ended March 31, 2008:

¹ The amount at March 31, 2008 includes a Gwich'in Development Corporation receivable of \$7,500,000. The amount at March 31, 2007 includes a note receivable of \$450,000 and a Gwich'in Development Corporation receivable of \$6,500,000. These receivables have not been reflected in the asset allocation charts below.





Over the one year period ended March 31, 2008 the top performing asset class was bonds with a return of 5.8%, followed by cash at 4.6% and Canadian equities at 4.0%. Global equities (in Canadian dollar terms) returned -14.0%.

The total fund returned -1.8% for the year ended March 31, 2008 which trailed the total fund benchmark return while ranking just below the average fund when compared to a universe of balanced funds with similar asset allocations. Underperformance within Canadian and global equities was the primary determinant of relative underperformance during this period.

Over four years, the total fund has returned 7.5% per annum, slightly underperforming the total fund benchmark return of 7.7% per annum, ranking third quartile in 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 7.6% per annum, compared to the benchmark return of 7.3% per year.

Tax Status

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, 2008 the actual fund market value was \$128.8 million. The inflation adjusted Gwich'in Legacy Capital at March 31, 2008 is \$135.9 million. In light of this shortfall, the Investment Committee should consider disbursing less than the maximum allowable amount in 2008/2009.

Future Initiatives

During the latter part of 2008, any changes as a result of the asset mix and manager reviews will be implemented.



INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

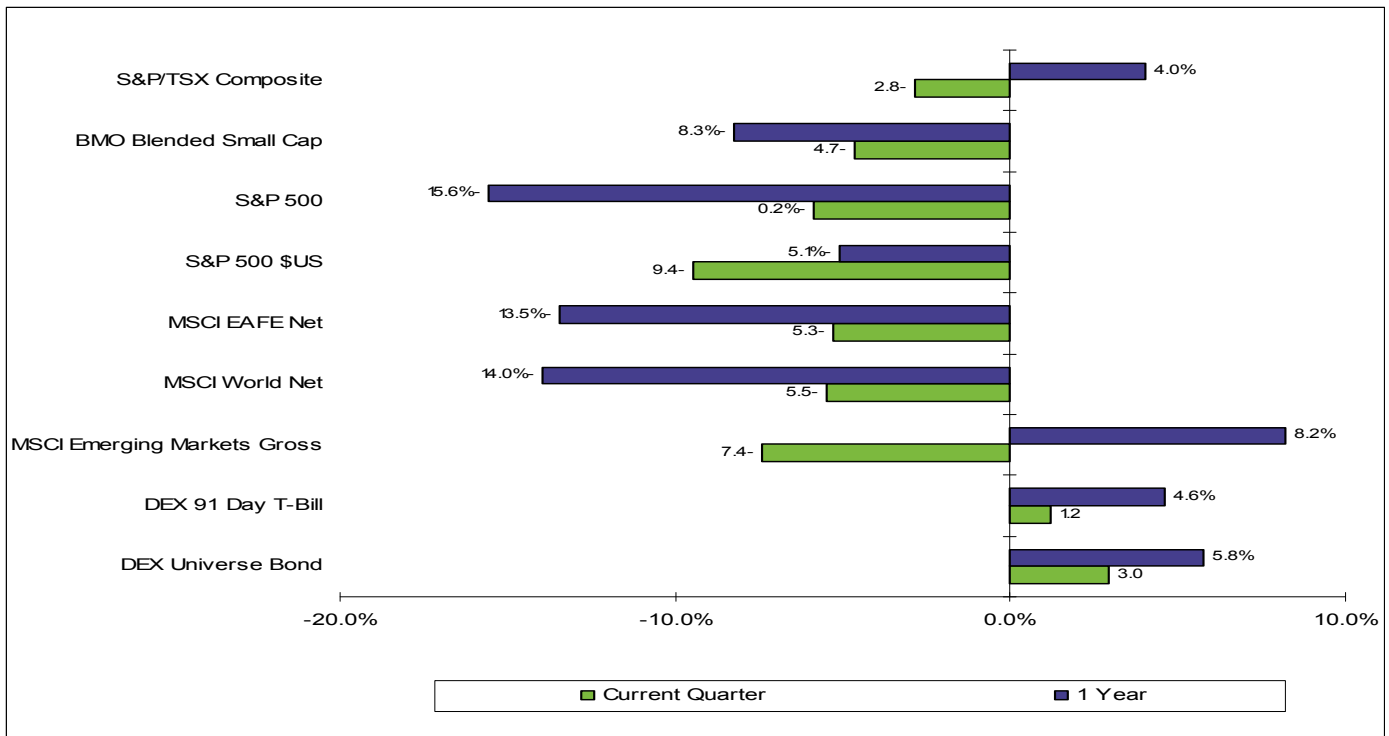
Objectives

Investment performance objectives for the total fund have been established and documented in the policy statement. Performance results are independently measured by Towers Perrin. The results are calculated and monitored on a monthly basis and formally reviewed every three months.

The total fund has two primary performance benchmarks. The first is to exceed the returns generated by a benchmark portfolio based upon the individual indices and the fund's normal policy asset mix. This benchmark at March 31, 2008 was 40% fixed income, 32.5% Canadian equities and 27.5% global equities. A second objective is to rank in the top 50% of balanced funds (i.e. rank above the median fund) evaluated by Towers Perrin over moving four year periods. A final objective is to earn a rate of return of at least 6.6% per annum over the long term.

The fund slightly underperformed the benchmark return over the four years ended March 31, 2008. Relative to a universe of balanced fund managers, the four year return ranked fourth quartile. Since 1996, when active management was first utilized in the fund, the fund has returned approximately 7.6%, exceeding the return of 7.3% earned by the benchmark policy mix.

Capital Markets Review at June 30, 2008



- The Canadian dollar weakened relative to the U.S. dollar (closing at 97.46 cents U.S.) and other major currencies during the first three months of 2008 and performed as follows:

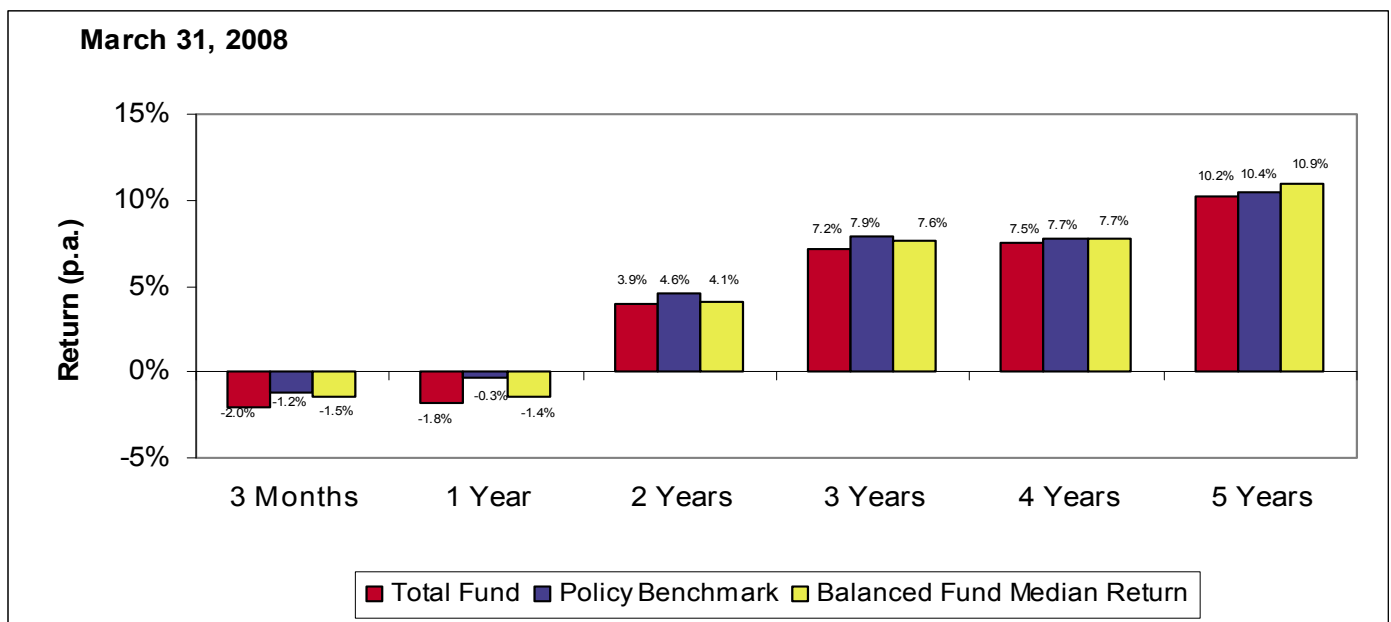
USD per CAD: -3.8%
 EUR per CAD: -11.3%
 JPY per CAD: -14.4%
 UKP per CAD: -3.7%



- Large and small cap Canadian equities posted negative returns, with large caps outperforming small caps in the first quarter. Canadian value stocks modestly outperformed growth stocks. Rising commodity prices helped the Canadian stock market during this difficult quarter as the energy and material stocks recorded gains. The largest contributors to the S&P/TSX Composite Index performance for the quarter were Encana (16.5%), Potash Corp. (11.2%) and Goldcorp (18.2%). Materials and Energy were the best performing and only sectors to post positive returns over the first quarter. Consumers Discretionary and Telecommunication Services were the worst performing sectors and recorded double digit negative returns.
- All segments of the bond market posted positive quarterly returns. Real return bonds were the top-performing segment of the Canadian bond market due to a decline of 33 basis points in real yields. The Bank of Canada reduced its overnight lending rate by 75 basis points to 3.50%.
- The top three performing stocks in the S&P 500 for the quarter were Big Lots (39.5%), Pulte Homes (38.5%) and EOG Resources (34.6%). The three worst performers were Bear Stearns (-88.1%), Ambac Financial Group (-77.5%) and MGIC Investment (-53.0%). All sectors recorded negative returns in the first quarter. Consumer Staples and Materials were the best performing sectors and Information Technology and Financials were the worst performing sectors over the last three months.
- European equity markets, as measured by the MSCI Europe index, declined 13.9% in local currency terms over the first quarter. This significant loss was attributed largely to declining exports due to the global economic slowdown led by U.S. and fears that rising food and energy prices might curb consumer spending in the Eurozone. In the Pacific Rim, Singapore was the best performer over the quarter and Hong Kong was the worst. In Japan, the market fell sharply, its largest quarterly loss since 1990, caused by investor's fears that the strong yen and weakening consumer spending might hamper exports.

Total Fund

The fund's return was -2.0% for the quarter, and -1.8% for the one year ending March 31, 2008. This performance trailed the policy benchmark for the year, and slightly underperformed the median fund. Over five years, the fund has slightly underperformed the benchmark, and ranked fourth quartile. Below median ranking over the longer term was primarily attributable to poor results in US equities and global equities.



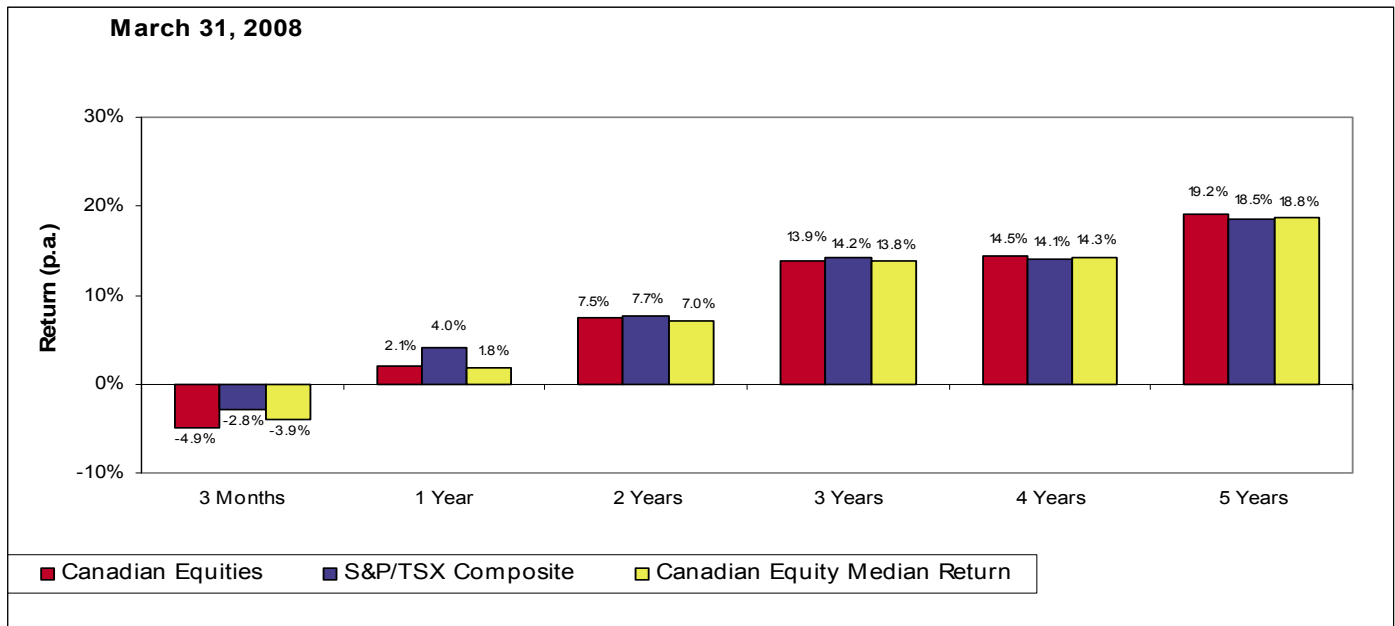
Canadian Equities

The Canadian equity component of the fund is invested in publicly traded securities listed on major exchanges, with an emphasis in the portfolio on quality and diversification. Approximately half of the Canadian equity portfolio is managed by CIBC Asset Management with the other half managed by RBC Dominion Securities.

The total Canadian equity component returned -4.9% for the three months ended March 31, 2008, lagging the S&P/TSX index return of -2.8%. Over one year, the fund's Canadian equity return was 2.1%, behind the index return of 4.0% for the same period. These results ranked third quartile for the three month period and second quartile for the one year period relative to a universe of Canadian equity managers. Over five years, the Canadian equity component has exceeded the returns earned by the benchmark and ranked second quartile.

CIBC Asset Management's portion of the Canadian equity component of the fund returned -4.6% and 1.2% respectively for the three months and one year period ended March 31, 2008. Relative ranking was third quartile for both periods.

RBC's Canadian equity portfolio returned -5.1% over the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2.8% over the one year period. Relative ranking was third quartile over the quarter and second quartile for the one year period.

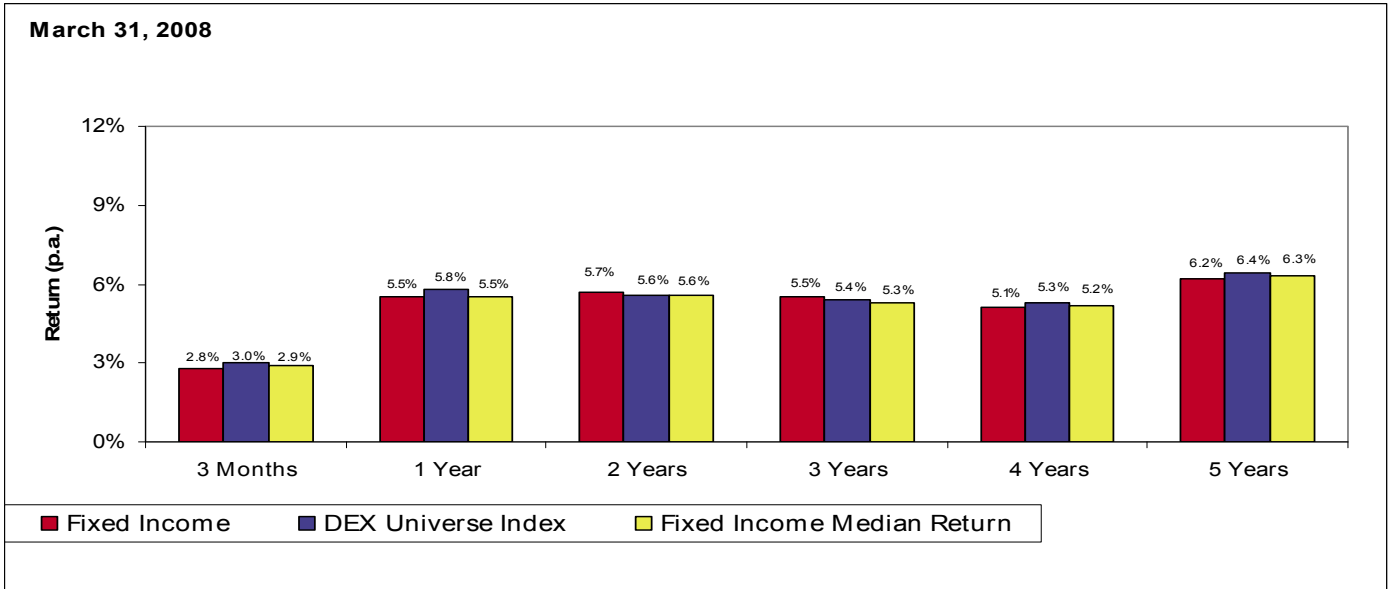


Fixed Income

This component of the fund, managed by CIBC Asset Management, is largely invested in publicly traded fixed income securities including federal government, provincial government, municipal government and corporate bonds. Fixed income securities are purchased for both their income and capital gain potential. They are actively managed to take advantage of changes in interest rates between the various sectors of the bond market.

The fund's bond return for the year ended March 31, 2008 was 5.5%, tailing the DEX Universe Index return of 5.8%, while ranking median relative to a universe of bond managers. Over five years, the bond component of the fund slightly tailed the index return of 6.4%, ranking third quartile.

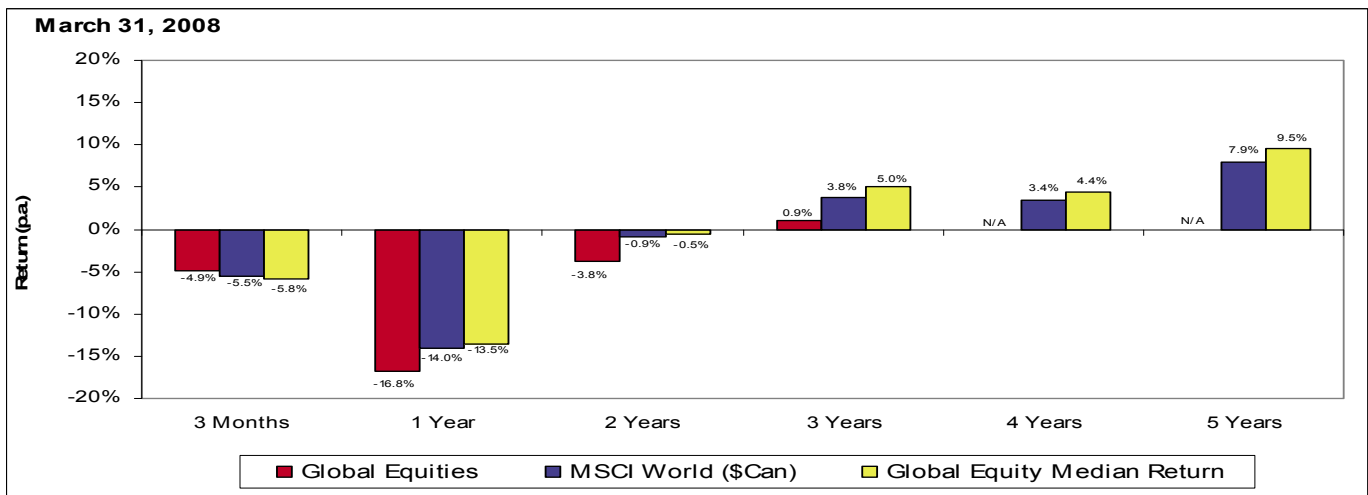




Global Equities

The global equity component, managed by UBS, is invested in U.S. and international securities listed on stock exchanges located in developed markets in America, Europe and Asia, including Australia and New Zealand. The inclusion of global investments offers diversification benefits to the fund as well as access to sectors that are under represented in Canada (e.g., Health Care and Consumer sectors).

The fund's global equity component has been managed by UBS since May 2004, and returned -16.8% over the one year ended March 31st, trailing the benchmark return of □ 14.0%, while ranking fourth quartile compared to a universe of global equity managers.



Future Initiatives

During the remainder of 2008, the Board plans to continue to the review of the asset mix policy and investment manager structure to ensure it best meets the long term objectives of the fund:

- Review the allocation of assets among the various asset classes to ensure the target level of annual distributions is supported in the long term.
- Review the investment manager structure to ensure the asset mix policy is optimally implemented.
- Review the performance of the investment managers to ensure returns are in line with expectations.
- Implement a formal asset mix rebalancing policy to keep fund asset mix in line with the policy benchmark.



EXECUTIVE - CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



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 net assets of approximately \$136 million include investments held primarily within the Gwich'in Settlement Corporation (\$129-million) and equity in business activities and real estate investments held primarily within the Gwich'in Development Corporation (\$7-million).

The Gwich'in Settlement Corporation had an annual loss of 1.8% for the year ended March 31, 2008, (2007 – earnings of 9.8%). The mar-

ket value of our investments at March 31, 2008 totalled approximately \$129-million (2007 - \$134-million). Since the investment management of the Corporation was outsourced to external investment managers in 1996, the Corporation has earned a return of approximately 7.6% per annum.

C. Gwich'in Tribal Council - Operations

Total expenditures on programs amounted to approximately \$10.4-million for the year as follows:

2008

- General Government	\$4.4-million
- Self-government	\$1.0-million
- Lands, resources and implementation	\$1.2-million
- Mackenzie Valley Pipeline	\$0.5-million
- Education, social and cultural programs	\$3.3-million

General government expenditures (\$4.4-million) include approximately \$3.2-million for Council operating expenses and \$1.2-million for contributions for band support and Designated Gwich'in Organization funding.

Funding for self-government (\$1.0-million) is for self-government 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.



EXECUTIVE - CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Education, social and cultural programs (\$3.3-million) include activities of the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (\$1.0-million), various Aboriginal Human Resource Development Initiatives (\$1.6-million), Gwich'in Wellness Initiative (\$0.2-million) and other programs (\$0.5-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, 2008 of approximately \$7.8-million (2007 - \$1.5-million). Total consolidated beneficiaries' equity as at March 31, 2008 is approximately \$142-million (2007 - \$134-million).

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 again this year as a result of regulatory delays in the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline approval process. 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 subsidiary companies at sustainable levels and finally by diversifying our investments outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Charlene Ross, CGA
Controller /Acting CFO



Consolidated Financial Statements of

GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Year ended March 31, 2008



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2008

Management's Report.....65

Auditors' Report to the Beneficiaries66

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position67

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities68

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Fund Balances69

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Financial Position.....70

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements71



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 19, 2008





KPMG LLP
Chartered Accountants
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Edmonton AB T5J 3V8
Canada

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AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BENEFICIARIES

We have audited the consolidated statement of financial position of the Gwich'in Tribal Council as at March 31, 2008 and the consolidated statements of financial activities, changes in fund balances 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.

Except as noted in the following paragraph, 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.

Two of the Council's subsidiaries, Gwich'in EllisDon Health Care Inc. and Gwich'in EllisDon LPF Hamilton Ltd., were established to finance and construct two hospital projects in Ontario. The financial position and operations of these subsidiaries are included as part of the land claim settlement investments. These subsidiaries were not audited and we were unable to satisfy ourselves about the financial position and results of operations of these subsidiaries by alternate means. Accordingly, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments to land claim settlement investments, earnings on land claim settlement investments, excess of revenues over expenditures and land claim settlement fund relating to the hospital projects might be necessary.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which might have been determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves with respect to the financial position and operations of the subsidiaries described in the preceding paragraph, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2008 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.

Chartered Accountants

Edmonton, Canada
May 19, 2008

KPMG LLP, is a Canadian limited liability partnership and a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International, a Swiss cooperative.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
Assets		
Financial assets:		
Cash	\$ 3,121,278	\$ 1,338,209
Accounts receivable	2,758,273	3,820,090
Prepaid expenses	44,497	33,864
Land claim settlement investments (note 2)	136,402,606	128,661,606
	<hr/> 142,326,654	<hr/> 133,853,769
Physical assets (note 3)	911,757	968,418
	<hr/> \$ 143,238,411	<hr/> \$ 134,822,187
Liabilities and Beneficiaries' Equity		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,065,779	\$ 721,620
Contributions repayable	345,875	5,269
Deferred revenue	98,262	77,670
Long-term debt (note 4)	29,556	83,222
	<hr/> 1,539,472	<hr/> 887,781
Beneficiaries' equity:		
Fund balances:		
Operating fund:		
Unrestricted	3,711,363	3,934,738
Internally restricted (note 5)	702,769	452,866
	<hr/> 4,414,132	<hr/> 4,387,604
Land claim settlement fund	136,402,606	128,661,606
	<hr/> 140,816,738	<hr/> 133,049,210
Equity in physical assets (note 3)	882,201	885,196
	<hr/> 141,698,939	<hr/> 133,934,406
Commitments and guarantees (note 10)		
	<hr/> \$ 143,238,411	<hr/> \$ 134,822,187

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, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	Budget	2008	2007
	(Unaudited)		
Revenues:			
Contributions:			
DIAND	\$ 1,729,154	\$1,991,655	\$2,345,125
Government of Canada	1,792,007	1,765,217	1,980,901
Government of NWT	685,389	935,442	1,059,836
Other	478,026	1,210,732	743,440
	4,684,576	5,903,046	6,129,302
Royalties	1,300,000	1,444,214	558,704
User fees	425,746	444,821	649,468
Interest	24,000	136,556	224,125
Administration fees	260,000	27,830	106,735
Other	-	67,914	129,159
Earnings of land claim settlement investments (note 2)	2,840,000	10,581,000	4,777,905
	9,534,322	18,605,381	12,575,398
Expenditures (notes 6 and 7):			
General government	4,783,624	4,393,308	4,421,437
Self-government	834,500	982,385	1,299,500
Land claim implementation	850,086	939,395	830,270
Land administration	212,430	208,195	306,450
Resource management	59,360	59,300	38,913
Education, social and cultural	1,441,280	3,427,306	3,724,204
Mackenzie Valley Pipeline	318,250	428,423	546,236
	8,499,530	10,438,312	11,167,010
Excess of revenues over expenditures before the undernoted	1,034,792	8,167,069	1,408,388
Contribution repayments	-	(345,875)	-
Excess of revenues over expenditures	1,034,792	7,821,194	1,408,388
Proceeds from long-term debt	-	-	58,285
Repayments of long term debt	-	(53,666)	(20,261)
Changes in fund balances	\$ 1,034,792	\$ 7,767,528	\$ 1,446,412

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	Operating fund - unrestricted	Operating fund - internally restricted	Land claim settlement investment fund	2008	2007
Fund balances, beginning of year	\$ 3,934,738	\$ 452,866	\$ 128,661,606	\$ 133,049,210	\$ 131,602,798
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(3,341,759)	528,287	10,581,000	7,767,528	1,446,412
Transfers	3,118,384	(278,384)	(2,840,000)	-	-
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 3,711,363	\$ 702,769	\$ 136,402,606	\$ 140,816,738	\$ 133,049,210

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Financial Position

Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 7,821,194	\$ 1,408,388
Change in non-cash items:		
Accounts receivable	1,061,817	(1,389,502)
Prepaid expenses	(10,633)	(4,038)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	344,159	(374,509)
Contributions repayable	340,606	(13,887)
Deferred revenue	20,592	25,802
	9,577,735	(347,746)
Financing:		
Proceeds from long-term debt	-	58,285
Repayments of long-term debt	(53,666)	(20,261)
	(53,666)	38,024
Investments:		
Increase in land claim settlement investments, net	(7,741,000)	(1,937,905)
Increase (decrease) in cash	1,783,068	(2,247,627)
Cash, beginning of year	1,338,209	3,585,836
Cash, end of year	\$ 3,121,278	\$ 1,338,209

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

The 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

Year ended March 31, 2008

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, 2008
Gwich'in Enrolment Board	March 31, 2008
Council of Gwich'in Chiefs	March 31, 2008
Gwich'in Education Foundation	March 31, 2008
GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund	March 31, 2008
GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund	March 31, 2008

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, 2007
Gwich'in Settlement Corporation	March 31, 2008
Zheh Gwizuh (G.P.) Limited	December 31, 2007
Aboriginal Contractors Corporation	December 31, 2007
Gwich'in EllisDon Healthcare Inc.	March 31, 2008
Gwich'in EllisDon LPF Hamilton Ltd.	March 31, 2008



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(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.

(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%
Condominium and improvements	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 expenditures 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

Year ended March 31, 2008

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.

	2008	2007
Land claim settlement fund investments, beginning of year	\$ 128,661,606	\$ 126,723,701
Earnings of land claim settlement investments	10,581,000	4,777,905
Transfers to operating fund during the year	(2,840,000)	(2,840,000)
Land claim settlement investments, end of year	\$ 136,402,606	\$ 128,661,606
Financial information relating to land claim settlement investments is as follows:		
	2008	2007
Assets:		
Cash and other current assets	\$ 32,398,213	\$ 9,910,965
Notes, debentures and advances receivable	12,359,960	2,922,312
Portfolio and long-term investments	129,379,489	112,361,771
Capital and intangible assets	23,101,948	14,163,480
Goodwill	-	61,156
Discontinued operations	-	5,785,240
	197,239,610	145,204,924
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	14,943,985	2,643,054
Loans payable	45,339,765	12,506,316
Non-controlling interest	387,783	444,948
Other non-current liabilities	165,471	223,964
Discontinued operations	-	725,036
	60,837,004	16,543,318
Net assets	\$ 136,402,606	\$ 128,661,606
Revenues:		
Investment and other income, net	\$ (978,240)	\$ 8,469,466
Sales and project revenues	26,883,229	3,203,565
	25,904,989	11,673,031
Expenditures net of recoveries	15,323,989	6,895,126
Earnings of land claim settlement investments	\$ 10,581,000	\$ 4,777,905



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

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 portfolio and long-term investments are comprised of the following:

	2008		2007
	Fair value	Carrying value	Market value
Cash	\$ 577,791	\$ 81,997	\$ 81,997
Settlements receivable	794,093	597,970	597,970
Fixed income:			
Government and government-guaranteed bonds with average effective yields of approximately 5.47% (2007 – 5.0%) to October 17, 2040	23,365,110	28,124,652	28,513,522
Corporate bonds with average effective yields of approximately 5.25% (2007 – 5.0%) and maturity dates from September 25, 2008 to December 31, 2056	19,375,874	16,614,247	17,094,102
Short-term notes and deposits with average effective yields of approximately 4% with maturity dates of less than one year	4,050,344	650,915	650,934
933336 NWT Ltd., 12% mortgage	-	450,000	450,000
	46,791,328	45,839,814	46,708,558
Common stocks:			
Canadian	49,426,937	34,311,069	51,279,633
International	28,928,761	30,373,719	33,828,223
	78,355,698	64,684,788	85,107,856
Other long-term investments	2,860,579	1,157,202	1,157,202
	\$ 129,379,489	\$ 112,361,771	\$ 133,653,583



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

3. Physical assets:

			2008		2007	
	Cost		Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value	
Equipment	\$ 163,670	\$ 107,415	\$ 56,255	\$ 50,726		
Furniture and fixtures	210,407		160,515	49,892	35,143	
Vehicles	54,959		28,029	26,930	38,472	
Computer hardware and software	773,187		646,372	126,815	123,364	
Condominium and improvements	336,758		26,402	310,356	323,287	
Leasehold improvements	511,196		169,687	341,509	397,426	
	\$ 2,050,177	\$ 1,138,420	\$ 911,757	\$ 968,418		

On April 1, 2007, the Council adopted PSAB Accounting Guideline 7 (PSG-7) which provides transitional guidance on the presentation of information related to tangible capital assets in its financial statements until January 1, 2009, when PSAB Section 3150 – Tangible Capital Assets is effective for local governments.

During 2008, the Council continued to work towards compliance with the new requirements for accounting for tangible capital assets. As of March 31, 2008, compilation of a listing of all tangible capital assets and their related values is underway and will be completed by March 31, 2010. As at March 31, 2008, management has not completed its assessment of any tangible capital asset classes.

The changes in equity in physical assets during the year includes the following:

	2008		2007	
Balances, beginning of year	\$ 885,196	\$ 486,282		
Purchase of physical assets	92,245	604,462		
Amortization of physical assets	(148,906)	(167,524)		
Proceeds from long-term debt	-	(58,285)		
Repayments of long-term debt	53,666	20,261		
Balance, end of year	\$ 882,201	\$ 885,196		



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

4. Long-term debt:

	2008	2007
Finance contract bearing interest at 1.90%, repayable in blended 2009, monthly installments of \$1,667, due September 26, 2009, secured by a vehicle with a carrying amount of \$38,472	\$ 29,556	\$ 48,796
Finance contract bearing interest at 1.75%	-	34,426
	\$ 29,556	\$ 83,222
Principal repayments years are due as follows:		
2009		\$ 19,611
2010		9,945
		\$ 29,556

5. Internally restricted:

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

	Opening balance	Contributions and other earnings	Disbursements and transfers	Closing balance
GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund	\$ 48,348	\$ 136,978	\$ (87,519)	\$ 97,807
GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund	354,472			
	186,922			
	(469)			
	540,925			
Gwich'in Education Foundation	50,046	204,387	(190,396)	64,037
	\$ 452,866	\$ 528,287	\$ (278,384)	\$ 702,769



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

5. Internally restricted (continued):

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.

6. Expenditures by object:

	2008	2007
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 4,018,378	\$ 4,257,726
Honoraria	223,775	272,828
Travel	700,185	888,843
Office and administration	1,525,166	966,237
Rent and utilities	513,968	445,959
Professional fees	685,201	669,829
Community assistance and donations	222,701	125,304
Education and training	658,504	1,187,682
In-kind	42,726	68,677
Annual general assembly	83,726	91,663
Physical asset acquisitions	92,245	604,462
	8,766,575	9,579,210
Contributions to other organizations:		
Renewable Resource Councils	292,488	294,970
Designated Gwich'in Organizations	617,757	573,200
Band Support Services	530,811	493,303
Other	230,681	226,327
	1,671,737	1,587,800
Total expenditures by object	\$ 10,438,312	\$ 11,167,010



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

7. Expenditures by function:

	2008	2007
General government:		
Council operations	\$ 2,969,896	\$ 3,139,833
Band support services	630,381	630,381
Designated Gwich'in Organizations	617,757	573,200
Other programs	175,274	58,023
	4,393,308	4,401,437
Self-government:		
Aboriginal summit	-	50,000
Core self-government	982,385	1,249,500
	982,385	1,299,500
Land claim implementation:		
Claim implementation	586,316	502,459
Enrolment	60,591	49,625
	646,907	552,084
Land administration	208,195	306,450
Resource management:		
Renewable Resource Councils	292,488	278,186
Other projects	59,300	38,913
	351,788	317,099
Education, social and cultural:		
Aboriginal Human Resource Development	936,268	974,459
ASEP	631,642	611,584
Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute	955,762	967,357
Education and Training	190,396	191,182
Employment Liaison	83,643	100,785
Gwich'in Wellness	195,742	76,621
Gathering Our Voices	101,658	-
MGP Impact	140,630	-
Other programs	103,577	767,988
	3,339,318	3,689,976
Mackenzie Valley Pipeline	516,411	600,464
Total expenditures by function	\$ 10,438,312	\$ 11,167,010



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

8. Mackenzie Gas Project Access 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 2006, a reservation payment 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.

9. 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 to the Council to establish the GTC – Imperial Oil Education Fund and \$175,000 to establish GTC – Imperial Oil Business Capacity Fund (see note 5).



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

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

2009	\$	305,263
2010		305,263
2011		427
		<hr/>
	\$	610,953

The Council has provided the following guarantees to subsidiaries, related entities and others at March 31, 2008:

- (a) An unsecured guarantee of the debts of Larga Ltd. limited to the principal sum of \$675,000 (total outstanding debts at September 30, 2007 - \$1,120,419);
- (b) An unsecured guarantee for \$500,000 of a demand loan of Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership (outstanding demand loan at December 31, 2007 - \$422,847);
- (c) An unsecured guarantee of a demand loan of Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership, limited to a maximum of \$800,000 (outstanding indebtedness at December 31, 2007 - \$916,417);
- (d) A joint and several 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 (outstanding indebtedness at December 31, 2007 - \$7,144,298);
- (e) An unsecured guarantee for \$1,500,000 of the indebtedness of its investment, Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$1,399,571);
- (f) An unlimited guarantee of the indebtedness of Inuvik Commercial Properties Zheh Gwizu' Limited Partnership, a partnership interest of Zheh Gwizuh Limited Partnership (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$5,286,128);
- (g) A guarantee of the indebtedness of Gwich'in Helicopters Ltd. for a Eurocopter AS 350 B2 helicopter acquired in April, 2006 (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$1,418,661); and
- (h) A guarantee of the indebtedness of GTM Enviro Services Ltd. limited to a principal sum of \$200,000 plus interest (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$340,144).



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

10. Commitments and guarantees (continued):

- (i) An unlimited guarantee on a demand investment loan provided to Gwich'in Development Corporation (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$4,291,667);
- (j) An unlimited guarantee of a demand loan from Pacific & Western Bank of Canada provided to Gwich'in Development Corporation (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$1,500,000);
- (k) A \$15,000,000 guarantee of a demand loan from Pacific & Western Bank of Canada provided to Gwich'in Development Corporation (outstanding loan balance at December 31, 2007 - \$10,000,000);
- (l) An unlimited guarantee of a loan from Pacific & Western Bank of Canada provided to Gwich'in EllisDon LPF Hamilton Ltd. (outstanding loan balance at March 31, 2008 - \$7,300,132); and
- (m) An unlimited guarantee of a loan from Pacific & Western Bank of Canada provided to Gwich'in EllisDon Healthcare Inc. (outstanding loan balance at March 31, 2008 - \$8,919,804).

Guarantees to related entities represent contractual commitments for which there is no market; accordingly, it is not practicable to determine their fair value.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

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, 2007	\$ 4,638,428	\$ (207,764)	\$ 725,794	\$ 5,156,458	
Gwich'in Children's Trust for the year ended December 31, 2007	1,149,065		(100,682)	657,239	1,705,622
	\$ 5,787,493	\$ (308,446)	\$ 1,383,033	\$ 6,862,080	

	2008 Fair value	2007 Carrying value	2007 Fair value
Cash and cash equivalents, earnings interest at 1.5%	\$ 2,268,246	\$ 1,387,041	\$ 1,387,041
Fixed term investments:			
Pooled money market funds	114,306	541,090	534,012
Government and government-guaranteed bonds, with interest rates of 4.5% to 5.7%, maturing from June 5, 2008 to May 19, 2010	2,106,248	2,129,395	2,096,411
Common stocks:			
Canadian	2,050,895	1,351,561	1,910,204
International	478,765	461,676	514,962
	2,529,660	1,813,237	2,425,166
Accrued interest and other receivables	19,148	21,328	21,328
Accounts payable	(175,528)	(104,598)	(104,598)
	\$ 6,862,080	\$ 5,787,493	\$ 6,359,360

Investments classified as available for sale or held for trading are recorded at fair value. Investments classified as held-to-maturity are recorded at amortized cost.



GWICH'IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2008

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		Travel, benefits and	2008
	and honoraria		allowances	Total
President	\$ 120,000	\$ 44,286	\$ 164,286	
Vice President	100,000		42,588	142,588
Council members (14)	54,025		42,818	96,843
Chief Operating Officer	145,200		48,674	193,874
Chief Financial Officer	180,000		49,416	229,416
	\$ 599,225	\$ 227,782	\$ 827,007	





Nihkäh Gidilii: Tsiigehshik - Teet'it Zeh - Aklavik - Inuvik
In Unity: Tsiigehshik - Fort McPherson - Aklavik - Inuvik



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