



Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee

DLUPC Report to Dehcho First Nations 2022 Assembly

Herb Norwegian (A/Chair)

This is a summary of the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee activities in 2021-22. The Committee focused on reviewing comments received from the internal review by the Parties to the *Dehcho First Nations Interim Measures Agreement* and an extensive review from K'atlodeeche First Nation.

The Committee also engaged with Indigenous Governments whose traditional territory may overlap with the Dehcho region as follows:

- In April 2021, the Committee received a copy of a review of the DLUP completed by K'atlodeeche First Nation. Throughout the summer and fall of 2021, the Committee considered and discussed comments from KFN's review. Further engagement between the Committee and Kát'odeechee First Nation is expected.
- In December 2021, the Committee received a response from the Northwest Territory Metis Nation indicating they are interested in an information session on the draft interim Dehcho Land Use Plan, and they have concerns regarding their lack of participation to-date. A meeting is being scheduled.
- On February 22, 2022, a one day Rebuilding Relationships meeting was held in Grande Prairie between the Dene Tha' First Nation and NWT First Nations who share traditional land use areas in the NWT. This was a nation to nation meeting in advance of having a meeting between the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee and Dene Tha' First Nation. The DFN members of the Committee facilitated and chaired the session. The Dene Tha' First Nation continue to request an information session with the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee on the Draft Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan. This meeting will likely be held in Fort Providence. No date has been set.
- On March 16, 2022, Acho Dene Koe First Nation provided their positions on two outstanding issues that the Committee had referred to the Dehcho Process Main Table. The positions on geographic scope of the plan and on Special Infrastructure Corridors are being forwarded to the Main Table to assist in their discussions on the five outstanding issues.

- On April 20, 2022, the Committee provided a detailed response to the review done by K'atlodeeche First Nation.

As you heard from Michael, on March 31, 2022, the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee met with the Dehcho Process Main Table on Mar 31, 2022 to discuss:

- a. a draft two year Road Map and 2022-23 work plan that appropriately reflects current challenges and timelines to complete the Interim Plan, and
- b. how the Committee can work with the Main Table and other parties as appropriate to resolve the outstanding issues preventing Interim Plan completion.

The Committee was encouraged by the response of the Dehcho Process Main Table to get a process underway to provide direction back to the Committee on the outstanding issues.

Your DFN members on the Committee, Herb Norwegian and Allen Bouvier, also assisted the DFN negotiating team to develop proposed DFN positions on the five outstanding issues and participated in a Virtual Town Hall session on June 16, 2022 to inform DFN members.

Due to NWT Covid-19 Health Orders, many other Committee activities were deferred.

I want to conclude with a summary of Committee activities in the 2022-23 workplan. The most important task is to complete revisions to the draft plan in order to release it for public review in 2023. This remains an ambitious target and will require a very focused approach by all Parties, both at the committee level and the Main Table. The draft plan will include the direction from the Main Table on the outstanding issues.

In addition, the Committee also plans to:

- hold a session with Dehcho resource managers to review revisions to the draft plan;
- continue engagement with Indigenous Government bordering the Dehcho region; and
- continue with updating the Dene place names map.

Looking to the future in the Committee's two year road map, 2023 will focus on initiating the public review and 2024 will focus on making revisions to the plan in order to submit to the Parties for approval. It is taking some time to develop the best plan possible and the Committee asks for a bit more patience from Dehcho members to get this important tool for Dehcho land management done.

Mahsi.

(Attachments = Two Year Road Map, 2022-23 Workplan)