



DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS
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October 19, 2004

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As the Review Board is frequently conducting environmental assessments of development applications that directly or indirectly affect the environmental and cultural integrity of the Greater Nahanni Ecosystem, the Dehcho First Nations wish to ensure that the Review Board has the most recent, accurate, and up-to-date information regarding the Dehcho Process, and our activities pertaining to the South Nahanni Watershed, Nahanni National Park Reserve, and the Greater Nahanni Ecosystem. We request that you place the information enclosed herein on the Public Registry. We also request that the Review Board consider this information and accompanying Information Package in all Review Board environmental assessments and decisions for all development applications that pertain to the South Nahanni Watershed, the Nahanni National Park Reserve, and the Greater Nahanni Ecosystem.

The accompanying package contains a list of consultation with the Nahanni Butte Dene Band on the protection of the Nahanni watershed and the expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve, as well as a listing of related Dehcho First Nations Leadership Resolutions, Nahanni Butte Dene Band Resolutions, and a list of signed Agreements and Working Group arrangements involving the Dehcho First Nations and Parks Canada. The Nahanni National Park Reserve book contains our signed Agreements, which explain, in detail, the intent of the Parties to work towards the protection of the Nahanni Watershed, and the expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve.

Should yourself, or the Review Board, have any questions or require clarification on any matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mahsi Cho

Herb A. Norwegian
Grand Chief

CC: Chief Eric Betsaka, Nahanni Butte Dene Band

1. Dehcho First Nations Consultations in Nahanni Butte

The Dehcho First Nations, either separately, or in collaboration with Parks Canada, have conducted the following consultations with the community of Nahanni Butte, in relation to protecting the South Nahanni Watershed, and the expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve.

- March 4, 1999: Chief and Council, Traditional Land Use.
- December 7-10, 1999: Chief and Elders, Traditional Land Use.
- January 25-26, 2000: Negotiations Session, Nahanni Park Land Use Plan.
- July 24, 2000: Community meeting, Traditional Use and Nahanni Park Protection.
- November 22, 2000: Community Meeting, General issues.
- January 29, 2001: Chief and Community, Nahanni Park Protection.
- February 22, 2001: Community meeting, Sahtu delegates, Nahanni Park and Upper South Nahanni Protection.
- March 13, 2001: Community meeting, Nahanni Park plan and protection.
- June 15, 2001: Community meeting: Nahanni Park protection.
- September 17-19, 2002: Community meeting, Negotiations update, land withdrawals.
- October 23, 2002: Nahanni Butte: Dehcho First Nations and Parks Canada conducted a Door to door consultation in Nahanni Butte on Nahanni National Park expansion, followed by an evening Town meeting that resulted in a Leadership Resolution (#6, Oct. 29, 2002) of support for the protection of the entire South Nahanni watershed and an MOU with Parks Canada for the expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve.
- December 2002: Consensus team meeting with CEO of Parks Canada to draft the MOU on NNPR Park Expansion. Consensus Team: Nahanni Butte Dene Band representatives were George Betsaka and Jayne Konisenta of the Nahanni Butte Dene Band.
- December 10-14, 2002: Chief and community meeting, Land Withdrawal consultation.
- June 3, 2003: DFN Grand Chief Mike Nadli and Nahanni Butte Dene Band Chief Leon Konisenta sign the MOU for Nahanni National Park Expansion.

2. Dehcho First Nations: Leadership Resolutions

- Resolution #06: *South Nahanni Watershed*. Dehcho First Nations Leadership Meeting, Fort Providence. October 29-31, 2002.
- Resolution #04: *Nahanni National Park Reserve Interim Agreements*. Dehcho First Nations Leadership Meeting, Wrigley. February 17-21, 2003.
- Resolution #03: *Prairie Creek Road*. Dehcho First Nations Leadership Meeting, Hay River Reserve. May 4-6, 2004.

3. Nahanni Butte Dene Band: Letters and Band Council Resolutions

October 8, 2003: Request *for Environmental Assessment*, on the Type 'A' Land Use Permit for the CZN Winter Access Road development.

October 17, 2003: Letter *from Chief to CZN*. This letter terminated the Agreement between the Nahanni Butte Dene Band and the San Andreas Corporation.

4. Dehcho First Nations and Parks Canada Agreements

Dehcho First Nations Interim Measures Agreement:

S. 59: Canada and the Dehcho First Nations will negotiate for the purpose of reaching an interim management arrangement that takes into consideration models found in existing arrangements between Canada and Aboriginal people respecting the management of national parks.

Interim Park Management Arrangement:

Signed on June 24, 2003 by Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage, DFN Grand Chief Michael Nadli, and Nahanni Butte Dene Band Chief Leon Konisenta.

Memorandum of Understanding for Park Expansion:

Signed on June 24, 2003 by Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage, DFN Grand Chief Michael Nadli, and Nahanni Butte Dene Band Chief Leon Konisenta.

5. Dehcho First Nations and Parks Canada Working Groups

Nah?a Dehe Consensus Team:

Members: Doug Tate (Parks Canada), Sophie Borcoman (Parks Canada), Wesley Hardisty (representative of Canada), Jonas Antoine (DFN), George Tsetso (DFN), George Betsaka (Nahanni Butte Dene Band), Morris Vital (Nahanni Butte Dene Band), Chuck Blyth and Herb Norwegian (ex-officio members).

The Consensus Team holds monthly in-person meetings.

Nahanni Park Expansion Team:

Members: Steve Catto (Parks Canada), Petr Cizek (DFN), Jonas Antoine (DFN), and David Murray (Parks Canada).