

# Deninu Kue First Nation

Presentation to Mackenzie  
Valley Environmental Impact  
Review Board for  
Consolidated Goldwin  
Ventures and Sidon  
International Resources

- Introduction
- Culture and Tradition
- Cumulative Impacts
- Applications Issues
- Conclusions

# Introduction

- Akaitcho Territory consist of Yellowknives (Dettah and Ndilo), Lutsel ke and Deninu Kue First Nation.
- Ancestors of Akaitcho Dene First Nation entered into Treaty making 1900 with the understanding that it was for;

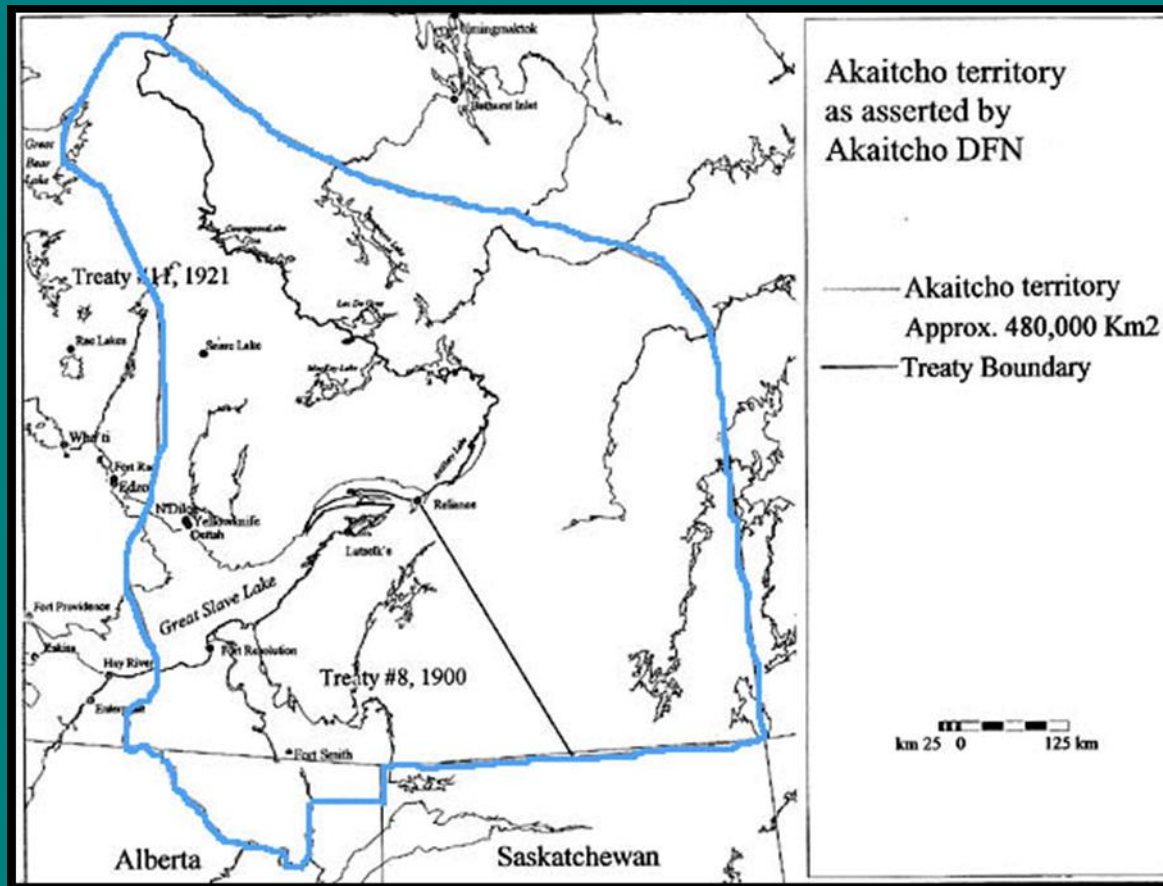
- *As long as the sun shines, grass grows and rivers flow...*

# On the Shores of Great Slave Lake at Deninu Kue, Treaty Day 1900



- Akaitcho Dene First Nation (AKDFN) Territory refers to the traditional and current land use of the AKDFN which sustain their society, economy, distinct way of life and distinct culture. Section 35 (1) of the Constitution Act, 1982 states “ the existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed”, including the right to a meaningful consultation process and accommodation.

- On July 25, 2000 a Framework Agreement was signed by the Crown and AKDFN to guide the negotiations of the Akaitcho Agreement and the parties recognize that certain lands within the Akaitcho DFN traditional territory are of environmental, cultural, economic and spiritual importance to the Akaitcho DFN. With that the parties also recognized that appropriate Interim Measures are necessary in order to advance negotiations.





- Recent Supreme Court decisions have raised the obligation in terms of consultation and accommodation. The present system in place now does not meet the obligation set by the court. Government regulatory agencies must change the way they consult and accommodate.

- Deninu Kue First Nation (DKFN) has an obligation to its membership to ensure that development does not come before the preservation of the eco-system. This project may be just an exploration project however DKFN, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board have to consider the cumulative impacts all mineral activity in the Northwest Territories may have on the eco-system before considering approval for any land use permit for mineral exploration.

- Deninu Kue First Nation encompass concerns that need to be addressed to guarantee that Industry and Development of the diamond industry within the Akaitcho Territory is not or has minimal infringement or affect our Aboriginal and Treaty Rights

# Great Slave Lake



# Culture and Tradition

- Since time immemorial the Akaitcho Dene of Deninu Kue First Nation (DKFN) have used the land, water and wildlife to sustain their way of life.
- Fish, caribou, bison and moose and migratory birds have been the main source of food Akaitcho Dene of DKFN.
- Akaitcho Dene of DKFN have used caribou, moose and bison for clothing, shelter, tools and other useful items.



- Today Akaitcho Dene of DKFN travel to north shores of Great Slave Lake to hunt for caribou, geese, moose, ducks etc.
- These land users see the ever increasing need to travel further to reach the caribou, with a decreasing population from ever increasing human activities.
- To see a decline in caribou and moose, is to see a decline in a way of life for the Dene.







- The Drybones Bay and Hearne Lake area is and always will be traditional water ways and traditional trails of the Akaitcho Dene of Deninu Kue First Nation
- Historically, it is a documented fact that Dry Bones Bay and Hearne Lake area is within the Traditional Territory of Deninu Kue First Nation and Akaitcho Dene.



- Heritage assessments must include all Akaitcho Dene First Nation communities and membership.
- Archeological studies needs to be done within this area or *support and work* with the assessments currently underway through the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.
- Any baseline studies done in this area must include traditional knowledge from all Akaitcho Dene First Nation communities and membership including DKFN.

- *Deninu Kue First Nation*  
*demands Industry recognize*  
*our Inherit and Treaty rights in*  
*the Traditional Territory of the*  
*Akaitcho Dene.*

# Cumulative Impacts

- For the Akaitcho Dene of Akaitcho Territory the Great Slave Lake is like a heart and all the stream, rivers, channels and watersheds are just like the veins and arteries in the human body. Once you contaminate the hearts veins/ arteries or cause damage, the heart will eventually be unable to pump blood (water) and your body (Great Slave Lake) will die.

# The Heart of Akaitcho



- Deninu Kue First Nation strongly feels that with the accumulated amount of exploration activity, there is a cumulative effect on water, air, wildlife, fish, and land.
- How effective is the research on cumulative impacts and effects to both human health and the environment?
- More comprehensive cumulative effects assessments must occur before allowing more mineral exploration to be permitted.

# Application Issues

- What is the full description for the exploration reclamation plan? And what is the time line?
- What is the full description of the water monitoring mechanism and what is the timeline of this monitoring? There should be a Surveillance Network Program and Aquatics Effects Monitoring Program to encompass the living organism in this area.



- What is the full description of the Wildlife Effects Monitoring program and what is the timeline of this monitoring? What kind of community input (monitoring) are you considering for the duration of this project?

- In the application you provide location maps, DKFN requires the footprint of both the camp area, containment area and drilling area as well as lake bottom composition of drill sites and immediate area.
- DKFN require a 3D model to include physical details of the drill contact within the water column.
- DKFN require cross section diagram of the underground activities in relation to the hydrology of the area.

- DKFN require better chemistry profile on all materials used during this project for waste water disposal, drill water disposal and there must be a containment plan.
- There must be a spill contingency plan.
- What is the report card on diamond core drilling systems in current operations? And what is the safety record?

- What are future intentions of Sidon and CGW if you do find diamonds? Are you prepared to open dialogue with the Akaitcho Territory Government, before intentions come to the table?
- Will this area become a mine?

- A long term human health and environment impact agreement must be reached before any mining activities should commence on Akaitcho Territory.

- *Deninu Kue First Nation*  
*demands Sidon International*  
*and Consolidated Gold Win*  
*Ventures sign a Exploration*  
*Agreement with Deninu Kue*  
*First Nation and Akaitcho*  
*Territory Government.*

# Conclusion

- DKFN strongly feels that no further development along the lakeshore of the Great Slave Lake until Akaitcho completes its conservation and land-use planning.
- DKFN strongly feels no further development in the Drybones Bay and Hearne Lake Area

- Crown has never disposed of its obligation to consult and accommodate Akaitcho with respect to the infringement of Treaty and Aboriginal rights in Drybones Bay and Hearne Lake area- This must happen...



- Deninu Kue First Nation would like to express appreciation to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board and Yellowknives Dene First Nation for hosting this hearing.
- Marsi Cho!