



## Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee

---

May 19, 2006

To: Distribution List

### RE: Completion of Final Draft Dehcho Land Use Plan

Dear Planning Partners,

The Committee would like to thank you for your participation in our comprehensive planning process. **The Final Draft Dehcho Land Use Plan and Background Report were completed on May 15, 2006. The comment period is now closed.** As per section 9 of the Dehcho First Nations Interim Measures Agreement (IMA) the Plan was forwarded to the Dehcho First Nations (DFN) on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 for approval. Dehcho First Nations is currently reviewing the Plan. The Committee will meet with the DFN Leadership on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006 to formally present the Plan to them and answer any questions they may have. The Dehcho First Nations have stated that they will indicate their approval of the Plan through a Leadership Resolution at a regular leadership meeting or at the Annual DFN Assembly in Kakisa (June 27-29, 2006).

In a May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 letter (available on our website) DFN requested the Committee not publicly release the Plan until DFN has approved it. Section 10 of the IMA states: "Following approval by the Dehcho First Nations, the Plan will be forwarded to the GNWT Minister of [Environment and Natural Resources] for approval and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (DIAND) for consideration." DFN suggests their request is consistent with this section of the IMA. The Committee has reviewed this request and agrees with DFN; **the Plan will not be publicly released until DFN has approved it.** This will avoid any potential confusion between multiple "Final Drafts" should DFN request additional changes as a condition of their approval.

The Committee appreciates your patience in these final stages of our process. As soon as DFN has approved the Plan, we will post it to our website and alert our planning partners. Please note that hardcopies of the Final Draft Plan will only be distributed to DFN and the approving Ministers. We will keep you updated as we progress through the approval process. Once the Plan is approved by all three Parties, the Committee will broadly distribute the approved Plan.

Mahsi Cho for your contribution to our planning process! If you have any questions, please contact me at (867) 699-3164 or [hwiebe@dehcholands.org](mailto:hwiebe@dehcholands.org).

Sincerely,

Heidi Wiebe, Executive Director  
Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee