



## OFFICE OF THE GRAND CHIEF

### DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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Minister Wally Shumann  
Industry Tourism and Investment  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.T.  
X1A 2L9

February 8, 2017

**RE: ATTENDANCE AT COLERDON MINING ROUNDUP**

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Dear Minister Schumann:

On behalf of the Dehcho First Nations member organizations and the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee, please accept this letter of appreciation for sponsoring our organization to attend the above noted conference and trade show.

I along with Chief Dolphus Jumbo attended the conference and trade show and found it to be very informative in addition to meetings we had with existing partners and business leaders. Additionally, one of our staff accompanied Leadership to host the Dehcho First Nations (DFN) trade show booth in conjunction with the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee.

The Trade Show booth alone received over 75 new contacts and potential partners, over 70 participant in two draws we held, 75 memory sticks were given out with Dehcho First Nations and Dehcho Land Use Planning information in addition to about 30 hard copies with the same information.

We also had follow up meetings with Canadian Zinc, Railex, Integrated Sustainability and Green Earth Energy Solutions. A number of new business contacts still need to be followed up with for potential future work with DFN.

Your departmental staff were also integral to our successful participation and their assistance with registrations and our trade show booth. This is very much appreciated and we thank you and your staff for their help.

Overall I feel our participation in this event was well worth the cost and future benefit for Dehcho First Nations and the Territory as a whole.

On behalf of our member governments, I would like to thank the Department of Industry Tourism and Investment for inviting us to this important event and look forward to future partnerships with the GNWT for our mutual benefit.

Sincerely,



Herb Norwegian  
Grand Chief

c.c. Dehcho First Nations Leadership  
Dehcho

Michael Nadli, MLA, Dehcho

Shane Thompson, MLA, Nahendeh



## THE SAHTU SECRETARIAT INCORPORATED

P.O. Box 155,  
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February 13, 2017

Minister Wally Shumann  
Industry Tourism and Investment  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
PO Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Shumann:

On behalf of the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated and the Sahtu Districts Land Corporations, please accept this letter of appreciation for sponsoring our organizations to attend the AME Mineral Exploration Roundup conference in Vancouver, BC which was held January 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

We appreciate your departmental staff for their assistance with coordinating our members to attend the conference and go to the tradeshow and to take part in the GNWT-ITI booth which has generated in receiving more information and contacts in this industry.

Overall, we feel that participation in this event was well worth the cost and future benefit for the Sahtu Region and the Northwest Territory as a whole.

On behalf of the Sahtu Region, we appreciate the continued government to government relationship and look forward to future partnerships with GNWT.

Should you require further information, please call Executive Director, David Little @ 867-589-4719, ext: 24 or contact by email @ [ssi\\_exec\\_director@gov.deline.ca](mailto:ssi_exec_director@gov.deline.ca)

Respectfully,

Ethel Blondin-Andrew  
Chairperson

cc. SSI Board of Directors



## Tłıchǫ Government

Box 412, Behchokǫ, NT X0E 0Y0 • Tel: (867) 392-6381 • Fax: (867) 392-6389 • [www.tlicho.ca](http://www.tlicho.ca)

February 8, 2017

Minister Wally Shumann  
Industry Tourism and Investment  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
PO Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Shumann:

On behalf of the Tłıchǫ Government I would like to thank you for the invitation and participation at the AME Roundup Conference held in Vancouver in late January. I would also like to thank your staff for their warm reception and assistance at our trade show booth.

We, the Tłıchǫ Government are very aware that in order to be self-sustaining and become more self-reliant we need to build connections and contacts with the global business world, and we can achieve this through participation at conferences like the Roundup.

Tłıchǫ Government staff participation at the trade show was very successful, many people came to talk to us about future business opportunities while others came by to hear about our culture and way of life.

Representing the Tłıchǫ Government was Henry Zoe, Sr. Community Director, Grace Mackenzie, Mines Liaison Coordinator and Tyanna Steinwand, Lands Regulator. Tyanna is new to the Tłıchǫ Government and we felt this conference was a good opportunity for us to mentor her as she is the future of Tłıchǫ Government.

As we move forward to growing our business more, it is important to reach out to the global community on how we can work together and form lasting partnerships. Again, I would like to thank you and your staff for the opportunity to participate at this conference, a well worth while event.

In Tlicho Unity,

Eddie Erasmus  
Grand Chief  
Tlicho Government



# Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

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February 3, 2017

Honourable Mr. Wally Schumann  
Minister of Industry, Tourism, and Investment  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

MINISTER WALLY SCHUMANN	
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Dear Minister Schumann,

The Government of the Northwest Territories - Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment (GNWT- ITI) recently made funds available for representatives from the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) to attend the AME Roundup event in Vancouver, January 23-26, 2017. We would like to thank you and your department for the opportunity to increase our knowledge of the minerals industry and continue to build valuable relationships with government and industry representatives. IRC is pleased to provide you with this letter highlighting thoughts on our participation and to suggest how GNWT can assist IRC moving forward. We are confident that IRC and GNWT can take meaningful steps to promote a responsible minerals industry in the ISR for the benefit of Inuvialuit and all NWT residents.

### *IRC Takeaways from the Roundup*

While pursuing, a multifaceted economy is certainly desirable the realities facing all of Canada's north must not be lost in this pursuit; that natural resource development currently represents the greatest opportunity for Territorial, community, and individual prosperity. It is clear the minerals industry is the key piece of the Territorial economy. It is in this light that IRC representatives were encouraged to learn that the world's mineral investment climate appears to be improving as compared to previous levels. It was also reassuring to see the strong commitment made by GNWT to do what it can to increase NWT mineral investment. IRC is hopeful the Government's pledge to improve the current state will bear fruit.

IRC would like to offer our support as your government attempts to recapture lost mineral investment in the NWT. We feel there are obvious advantages for the minerals industry to invest in the ISR compared to other regions. Industry and government can take comfort that IRC is a well respected and reasonable aboriginal government that has developed significant relevant capacity through its interactions with the oil and gas industry's largest companies. While extensive petroleum exploration has occurred in the Mackenzie Delta and Beaufort Sea, the region remains relatively unexplored from a minerals perspective. Through ITI funded research IRC has learned there is real mineral potential in the ISR be it for diamonds on Banks Island, base metals on Victoria Island or unknown possibilities surrounding the unique Darnley Bay anomaly. And this is just what is identified based on a relatively small exploration sample size. The ISR land mass makes up ~25% of the NWT and we are certain there are economically viable mineral deposits within the region. As sea ice is predicted to cover less of the western arctic the resulting easier access to exciting targets and others currently unidentified will make the region that much more attractive. For these reasons, and a host of others, the ISR can be an attractive area for responsible mineral development in the NWT.

IRC's aim is to foster an environment within which mineral exploration and development can be successful in the ISR, regardless if carried out on Inuvialuit or Territorial lands. This requires ensuring the two main stakeholders - Inuvialuit and industry - feel comfortable pursuing mineral exploration in the region. IRC is taking a cautious but proactive approach to generate this comfort level. Soon, we hope to adopt an Inuvialuit Mineral Development Policy which will clearly state the conditions under which Inuvialuit will be supportive of the exploration for, and development of, regional mineral resources. Building on the policy we will implement a regional Inuvialuit Mineral Development Strategy which will describe how development should proceed to ensure Inuvialuit receive benefits, and risks to the local environment and people are minimized. IRC believes that these efforts can ensure consistency in community expectations of government or industry, and establish confidence in the regulatory framework which governs the ISR as described in the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement* and Territorial legislation. We believe that, ultimately, a successful investment environment is one where relationships are strong and surprises are few.

#### *How GNWT is helping IRC*

Through ITI provided funds IRC staff have gained valuable awareness of the minerals industry, be it from understanding basic geological processes through to understanding the creative financial arrangements companies work within. This also includes a recognition of how relationships with aboriginal governments, institutions and communities can 'make or break' potential project success. Attendance at Roundup conference events focused on the world's investment climate have given us an improved understanding of overall mineral finance. Through various Roundup networking opportunities IRC has gained significant insights as to how we can leverage our unique position, as a well respected aboriginal organization to establish the ISR as a safe environment for potential new investment to take place. Participation at the trade show booth helped create and strengthen existing relationships with industry and government. Our staff engaged in, conservatively, 50 meaningful conversations that have led to offers of improved regional mapping, geological understanding, and comprehension of exploration financing. Already we have been approached by several contacts made at the Roundup for more information on the ISR and IRC. We look forward to continue to build on these relationships.

Additionally, past GNWT contributions have allowed IRC representatives to attend similar conferences that has contributed greatly to our current comfort level with the minerals industry. We have learnt of new technologies that allow for greater exploration accuracy, new standard best practices which reduce environmental impacts and other regional aboriginal experiences (both good and bad) with the mining industry. ITI has contributed dollars to carry out a comprehensive history of ISR mineral exploration, dating back to the late 1950s, and ITI staff have offered to help us turn this information into a tool to increase local understanding and promote the region to mineral explorers. For this assistance, IRC is very appreciative.

#### *How GNWT can continue helping IRC*

We believe GNWT should consider the noted contributions to IRC as investments for the future and we encourage your continued support as we move towards a regional mineral development strategy. Currently, a focus on improving knowledge of the ISR geology and the minerals industry generally are areas that will help us in this regard. IRC and GNWT need to better understand the potential economic geology of the ISR to define targets of interest for junior exploration companies. We are pleased to learn the Northwest Territories Geological Society (NTGS) is considering research focused on the potential for diamonds on Banks Island, and we would like to see continued similar interest in the ISR from the NTGS. We request ITI ensure the ISR is well represented in the NTGS yearly work.

Additionally, GNWT and IRC can collectively influence where Federal geologists undertake scientific study through efforts such as Natural Resource Canada's 'Geo-mapping for Energy and Minerals' and other similar programs.

Providing contributions to allow for continued attendance at major Canadian mineral conferences - Roundup, PDAC and NWT Geoscience - will ensure valuable existing relationships are maintained and new ones are developed. Additionally, IRC would like to leverage ITI experiences gained as Dehcho regional leadership recently pursued a regional mineral development strategy. We would value your assistance as we near this step in our process.

Finally, Mr. Minister, we would like to convey our compliments to you and your staff for the professionalism and flexibility demonstrated as we work together to improve the ISR and NWT mineral climate. Specifically, we would like to thank the Client Service and Community Relations division for organizing our involvement in the Roundup and other events, the NTGS for a continued open dialogue, and your regional ITI staff for assistance with contribution agreements and other administrative matters. We look forward to continue working with these groups as we pursue a mineral development strategy and do what we can to attract responsible investment in our part of the NWT.

Sincerely,



Duane Ningaqsiq Smith  
Chair and Chief Executive Officer