

SAHTU DENE AND METIS

COMPREHENSIVE LAND CLAIM AGREEMENT

April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017



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Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CLCA	Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement
CPN	Contracting Policy Notice
DEIA	Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs (GNWT)
DGG	Déljñę Got'jñę Government
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
IC	Implementation Committee
INAC	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
MVEIRB	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
NWT	Northwest Territories
SDMCLCA	Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement
SLUPB	Sahtu Land Use Planning Board
SLWB	Sahtu Land and Water Board
SRRB	Sahtu Renewable Resources Board
SSA	Sahtu Settlement Area
SSI	The Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated

CHAPTER 1

Overview and Background

On September 6, 1993, the Sahtu Tribal Council (later succeeded by the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated (SSI)), the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and the Government of Canada (Canada) signed the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (SDMCLCA), and the accompanying Implementation Plan. The SDMCLCA took effect on June 23, 1994.

Under the Agreement, the Sahtu received title to 41,437 square kilometres of land in the Sahtu Settlement Area (SSA) of the Northwest Territories (NWT), 1,813 square kilometres of which includes mines and minerals.

Other major provisions of the SDMCLCA include:

- \$130 million in tax-free capital transfers over a period of 15 years;
- wildlife harvesting rights and the right of first refusal for commercial wildlife activities in the SSA;
- establishment of institutions of public government to manage wildlife and regulate land, water, and the environment in the SSA;
- guaranteed Sahtu nominees/appointees on institutions of public government; and
- the right to negotiate self-government.

Section 29.2 of the SDMCLCA provides for the establishment of an Implementation Committee. The Implementation Committee is comprised of three senior officials, each representing one of the signatories to the Agreement (Canada, the GNWT and the SSI).

The Implementation Committee oversees and monitors the ongoing obligations of the parties pursuant to the SDMCLCA, and the completion of activities required to fulfill those obligations, as described in the Implementation Plan. The Implementation Committee also serves as a forum to resolve any issues that may arise with respect to the implementation of the agreement.

Implementation Committee meetings are held in person each year to plan, coordinate and review implementation activities and to discuss any implementation issues identified by the parties.

The Implementation Committee reports annually on the implementation of the agreement through the publication of an annual report. This report covers the 12 month period from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

This annual report provides an overview of activities undertaken and issues considered by the Implementation Committee during this period, including progress made towards the resolution of outstanding issues and future actions to be taken to advance the resolution of those issues.

This year, the Sahtu Implementation Committee met on the following dates:

April 13, 2016 (Norman Wells)

October 5, 2016 (Yellowknife)

December 6, 2016 (Ottawa)

SUMMARY OF AGREEMENT PROVISIONS

- **Eligibility and Enrolment:** An Enrolment Board comprised of seven people, one from each of the Sahtu communities, appointed by the Sahtu Tribal Council, was established to enroll those who are entitled to be registered as participants under the SDMCLCA. Ongoing enrolment of participants is the responsibility of the SSI.
- **Self-Government:** The SDMCLCA obligates government to enter into negotiations with the Sahtu Dene and Metis with a view to concluding self-government agreements that take into consideration the unique circumstances of the Sahtu Dene and Metis. Self-government agreements cannot contradict or be inconsistent with the SDMCLCA, nor can they affect the rights of the Sahtu Dene and Metis as Canadian citizens. Self-government agreements are intended to address the desire of the Sahtu Dene and Metis to have self-government exercised as close to the community level as is reasonably possible.
- **Dispute Resolution:** An Arbitration Panel was established to resolve disputes in accordance with the provisions of the SDMCLCA. The panel is comprised of four to eight members appointed by the parties.
- **Sahtu Organizations:** Designated Sahtu organizations are committed to executing the Sahtu responsibilities outlined in the SDMCLCA. A designated Sahtu organization must be a trust, society, or corporation established pursuant to federal or territorial legislation. All rights exercisable by a designated Sahtu organization, such as receiving and managing financial payments, and owning and managing land, were assigned by the Sahtu Tribal Council prior to the signing of the SDMCLCA.
- **Financial Compensation:** In accordance with the SDMCLCA, Canada paid approximately \$130 million over a period of 15 years to the SSI, as the organization representing the Sahtu Dene and Metis. The SSI commenced the repayment of the Sahtu Dene and Metis negotiation loans in 1995, through the deduction of loan repayment costs from federal capital transfer payments as per section 8.3, Loans Against Capital Transfer, of the SDMCLCA.
- **Resource Royalties:** As set out in Chapter 10 of the SDMCLCA, government must pay to the Sahtu, on a quarterly basis, a percentage of resource royalties received from resource development projects undertaken in the Mackenzie Valley. With the implementation of the Northwest Territories Devolution Agreement on April 1, 2014, these payments are now being made to the Sahtu by the GNWT, on behalf of government.
- **Economic Measures:** Government economic development programs in the SSA, which are in place from time to time, take into consideration the need to support the Sahtu traditional economy; encourage the development of commercially viable Sahtu businesses and enterprises; provide the Sahtu with business and economic training and educational assistance; and encourage Sahtu employment in major projects and developments in the public service and public agencies. Government is required to consult with the SSI when proposing new programs, and every three years the parties are required to review the effectiveness of programs relating to the economic development objectives and measures set out in Chapter 12 of the Agreement. In addition to their obligations under Chapter 12 concerning contracting and procurement, Canada and the GNWT will utilize best practices and procedures

intended to maximize employment and business opportunities for aboriginal people, as well as for local and regional small to medium sized businesses.

- **Wildlife Harvesting and Management:** Chapter 13 of the SDMCLCA sets out the Sahtu's wildlife harvesting rights in the SSA and provides for the establishment of the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board (SRRB). It is the responsibility of the SRRB, in collaboration with the other parties, to protect, conserve and manage, in a sustainable manner, renewable resources within the SSA to meet the needs of the public today and in the future. For more information, please visit the SRRB's website at www.srrb.nt.ca.
- **Land and Water Regulation:** Chapter 25 of the SDMCLCA provides for the creation of the following implementing bodies pursuant to legislation:
 - **Sahtu Land and Water Board (SLWB)** - regulates land and water use throughout the SSA. For more information, please visit the Board's website at www.slwb.com; and
 - **Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (SLUPB)** - tasked with developing a land use plan for the SSA and for reviewing and proposing amendments to the plan. For more information, please visit the Board's website at www.sahtulanduseplan.org.

Chapter 25 also provides for Sahtu-nominated membership on the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB), established pursuant to the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, which conducts environmental impact assessments of development proposals within the Mackenzie Valley. The SDMCLCA also allows the SSI to refer development proposals that may impact upon the SSA to MVEIRB, and provides an opportunity for the SSI to nominate members to Review Board panels which are established from time to time. For more information, please visit the Board's website at www.reviewboard.ca.

CHAPTER 2

Implementation Parties

THE SAHTU SECRETARIAT INCORPORATED (SSI)

The SSI is made up of seven Sahtu land corporations: four Dene land corporations and three Metis land corporations. During the period from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017, the SS DEIA I was represented on the Implementation Committee by Ms. Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Chairperson of the SSI Board of Directors.

- More information on the SSI can be found online at www.sahtu.ca.

GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (GNWT)

The Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs (DEIA) is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the GNWT's implementation activities under the SDMCLCA. During the period from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017, the GNWT was represented on the Implementation Committee by Ms. Susan Bowie, Director of Implementation.

- More information on the GNWT can be found online at <http://www.gov.nt.ca>;
- More information on DEIA can be found online at <http://www.daair.gov.nt.ca>.

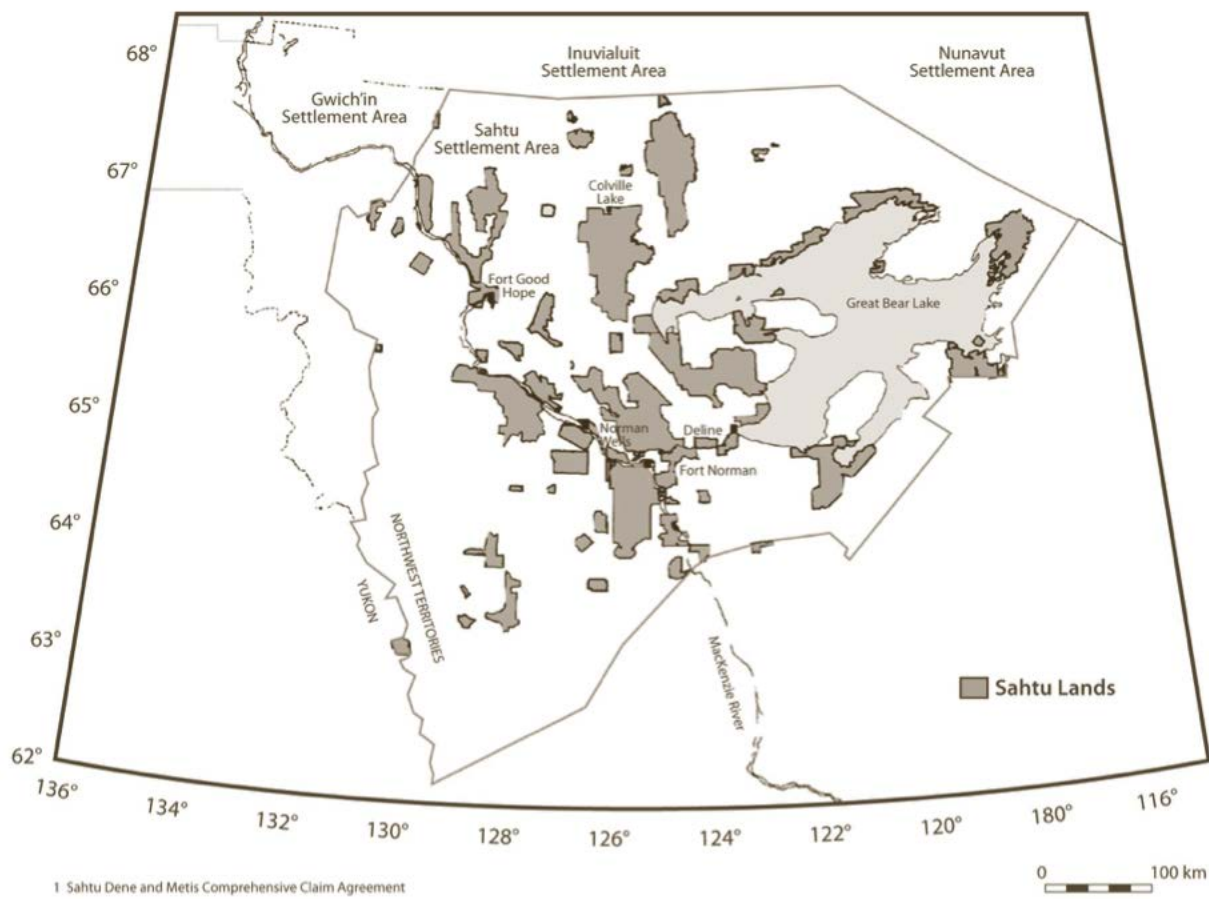
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA (CANADA)

The Implementation Branch of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is responsible for monitoring and facilitating the fulfillment of federal government obligations contained in the SDMCLCA and the accompanying Implementation Plan. The Implementation Branch provides funding to the implementing bodies, the SSI, and the GNWT, as identified in the Implementation Plan. Ms. Kimberly Thompson represented Canada on the Implementation Committee at the April 13, 2016 meeting. Mr. Dale Pegg, Acting Director Treaty Management West, represented Canada on the Implementation Committee from August 2016 to March 31, 2017.

- More information on the Government of Canada and its departments, programs, and services can be found online at <http://canada.gc.ca>;
- More information on INAC can be found online at <http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca>



MAP OF THE SAHTU SETTLEMENT AREA



CHAPTER 3

2016-2017 Reporting

ANNUAL REPORT

The SDMCLCA requires the Implementation Committee to prepare an annual report on the implementation of the agreement. While Canada is responsible for publishing the reports, the GNWT entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with Canada in 2016-2017 to draft, translate, design and print some of the reports on behalf of Canada.

Activities:

- The final draft of the 2010-2015 Sahtu Consolidated Annual Report was completed, circulated for review, and approved by all Parties in July 2016.
- The final draft of the 2015-2016 Sahtu Annual Report was completed, circulated for review, and approved by all Parties in July 2016.
- After both reports were translated, GNWT worked with a contracted publisher to complete the design and layout. Both Annual Reports were printed in March, 2017, and copies were distributed to all Parties.

Next Steps:

SSI will present the 2010-2015 Sahtu Consolidated Annual Report and the 2015-2016 Sahtu Annual Report at the next Annual General Assembly in August, 2017.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SDMCLCA

Land Exchange Amendment

In 1998, the GNWT and SSI completed a formal land exchange as part of the winter road alignment in the vicinity of Canyon Creek. As a result of the exchange, all

Parties agreed that an amendment to the SDMCLCA was needed to clarify that when Crown lands are exchanged with Settlement lands, those Crown lands are to become Settlement lands. In April, 2013, a Record of Decision was passed by the parties in support of an amendment to the SDMCLCA; and Order-in-Council 2016-0261, which officially amended the SDMCLCA, was passed by Canada on April 22, 2016.

Activities:

- Canada registered the Order-in-Council at the NWT Land Titles Office after it was passed.

Next Steps:

- To conclude the Canyon Creek land exchange, the GNWT will work with the Tulita District Land Corporation Ltd to change the status of the land they received from “Fee Simple Title” to “Settlement lands” in the Land Titles System.

Arbitration Panel – New Dispute Resolution Model

At the December 2015 IC meeting, Canada raised the possibility of amending the SDMCLCA in favour of a newer model of alternative model of dispute resolution, raising the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement as a more recent example. The newer staged approach would be a more cost-effective approach to dispute resolution than the board/committee model that the SDMCLCA currently provides for.

Most agreements signed prior to 1999 use a committee/board approach or model to resolve disputes, whereas those signed after 1999 use the staged approach. An agreement that uses the staged approach requires the parties to attempt to resolve the dispute through

alternate dispute resolution mechanisms like discussion, negotiation or non-binding mediation before bringing a dispute to an arbitration board. The Déljñę Final Self-Government Agreement and the Tłjchq Agreement are both examples of more recent agreements that use a staged alternate dispute approach, although the Tłjchq Agreement has the added feature of a Dispute Resolution Administrator to act as an overseer of the process and to perform general administrative functions.

The 2004-2014 Implementation Plan for the SDMCLCA, published more than ten years after the SDMCLCA was signed, contains a statement which encourages alternate dispute resolution, stating that “Nothing under 6.2 shall prevent parties to a dispute from agreeing to refer it to an alternate dispute resolution mechanism such as mediation or arbitration pursuant to the Arbitration Act (NWT).” There is no detail or process included, unlike other more recent agreements where a detailed process is described.

Activities:

- At the December 2016 IC meeting, Canada distributed a Discussion Paper that provided further background on options for dispute resolution models presently used in Modern Treaties. The SSI and the GNWT are to review Discussion Paper options internally.

Next Steps:

- The Parties to determine how they wish to proceed. A staged approach could be incorporated into an Activity Sheet of the next Implementation Plan or into the SDMCLCA itself, which would require a formal amendment to the Agreement.

SELF-GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS

Chapter 5 and Appendix B of the SDMCLCA provide for the negotiation of self-government agreements at the community level. The Sahtu Dene and Metis of Déljñę, Fort Good Hope, Tulita, Colville Lake and Norman Wells are each at different stages of the negotiation process. Over the course of the reporting period, Implementation Committee representatives provided updates on the progress of self-government negotiations at Implementation Committee meetings, and will continue to do so at future meetings.

Déljñę

On September 1st, 2016 (Effective Date), the Déljñę Final Self-Government Agreement (FSGA) became the first community-based self-government agreement to take effect in the Sahtu Settlement Area. The Déljñę FSGA established the Déljñę Got’jñę Government (DGG), a community-based government that is a combination of Aboriginal government and public government. Through this inclusive Aboriginal government, the DGG now represents and serves all residents in the Déljñę District. Déljñę First Nation Citizens have guaranteed representation on the DGG.

On Effective Date, the DGG replaced the Charter Community of Déljñę, and immediately assumed responsibility for the delivery of local, municipal programs and services previously delivered by the Charter Community. The DGG also took over programs previously provided by the band, including Health Canada Aboriginal Wellness programs.

As part of its Aboriginal government responsibilities, the DGG replaced and assumed the responsibilities of the Déljñę First Nation Band (#754), as well as the Déljñę Land Corporation and Déljñę Financial Corporation, the two organizations that were established to manage the land claim assets of the Déljñę Dene and Metis beneficiaries

under the SDMCLCA. A Beneficiaries Board is being created which all Déljñę Land Corporation members will be able to participate on, regardless of where they live, in order to manage Déljñę land claim assets.

The DGG has the ability to make laws and assume program and service delivery responsibilities in the Déljñę District, in the following areas:

- Community affairs and local services, including elections, the regulation of liquor and gaming
- Education, Early Childhood Education, and Adult Education, Training and Post-Secondary Education
- Language, culture and spirituality of the Sahtu Dene and Metis of Déljñę
- Adoption
- Child and Family Services
- Community Lands
- Traditional health
- Social Housing
- Income Support
- Justice
- Local land use planning
- Public Health and Safety

While the Déljñę FSGA makes it possible for the DGG to take on the responsibility for a broad array of programs and services, the DGG is carefully planning which of those jurisdictions it will exercise in the coming years. In areas where the DGG has chosen not to make a law, it will not be exercising its jurisdiction, and those programs and services will continue to be delivered by the GNWT.

As the DGG builds its capacity and determines its priorities over time, it will exercise more powers and assume more responsibilities.

Tulita

The Tulita Dene Band, Tulita Land and Financial Corporations, Tulita Yamoria Community Secretariat, Fort Norman Land and Financial Corporations and the Hamlet of Tulita signed a self-government framework agreement with government in 2005. The negotiation of an agreement-in-principle (AIP) has been ongoing since that time, and is now nearing completion. In early 2017, negotiators began seeking the necessary approvals to initial a draft AIP.

Norman Wells

The Norman Wells Land Corporation, GNWT and Canada signed a self-government framework agreement in June 2008, and negotiations toward an AIP have been ongoing. In November 2016, negotiators concluded the text of a draft AIP. Parties have begun their internal reviews and government started preparing to initiate Section 35 consultation with other potentially affected aboriginal groups.

Fort Good Hope

The K'asho Got'ine of Fort Good Hope, Canada and the GNWT concluded a Process and Schedule Agreement in September 2014, and negotiations for an AIP got underway this year.

Colville Lake

The Behdzi Ahda First Nation of Colville Lake, the GNWT and Canada signed a Process and Schedule Agreement for the negotiation of self-government in 2014. The Parties are now in the early stages of negotiating an AIP.

OVERLAP ISSUES

At each IC meeting this year, SSI continued to communicate to Canada and the GNWT their strong interest in reaching an overlap agreement with the Tłıchǫ government. SSI is also concerned about economic measures issues and contracting in the Sahtu Settlement Area as it relates to the overlap issue.

Activities:

- At the October 2016 IC meeting, SSI reported that it had met with Minister Bennett of INAC to discuss the Sahtu/ Tłıchǫ overlap issue. At that meeting, SSI asked Canada for resources toward reaching an overlap agreement, not only with the Tłıchǫ, but with the Na-Cho Nyuk Dun and Nunavut. SSI also asked for resources to fund a transboundary workshop.
- Canada committed to review and respond to a supplementary funding request from SSI.

Next Steps:

- The issue of the overlap between the Sahtu and Tłıchǫ Settlement Areas is being monitored by the IC, which continues to support the SSI and Délı̨nę in their efforts to secure an overlap agreement with the Tłıchǫ.
- SSI will continue to work with Délı̨nę to engage the Tłıchǫ Government in overlap discussions.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVIEW AND RENEWAL

Chapter 29 of the SDMCLCA refers to an Implementation Plan, which contains Activity Sheets that describe how the parties will undertake the activities required to fulfill the obligations of the Agreement, as well as an estimate of the associated costs.

The initial SDMCLCA Implementation Plan was signed on September 6, 1993, by Canada, the GNWT and the Sahtu Tribal Council for a ten year period. The Plan was renewed for a ten year period – 2004 to 2014 – and a third plan covering the period 2014 to 2024 has been drafted by a tripartite Implementation Plan Working Group.

Activities:

- A review of the draft 2014-2024 Implementation Plan was completed, with the exception of Annex D (Finances) because the figures are not yet available. Canada asked whether there was any interest in moving forward on finalizing the Implementation Plan without Annex D to avoid further delays, but the Parties agreed on the importance of having the financial figures captured within the Plan and decided to wait and print the Implementation Plan once this Annex was completed. In the interim, Canada submitted the draft Implementation Plan to the Translation Bureau to be translated into French.

ECONOMIC MEASURES

In Chapter 12 of the SDMCLCA, which is the Economic Measures chapter, Canada and the GNWT are committed to promoting the economic interests of Sahtu participants, including support for the traditional economy, the development of businesses, and the creation of job and training programs. Furthermore, when the GNWT and Canada propose economic developments programs related to the objectives of this chapter, they must consult with SSI.

Activities:

- At the December 2016 IC meeting, Canada communicated that Dennis Bruner, Procurement Specialist with the Modern Treaty Implementation Office, is available to provide a 2-day workshop on procurement within Sahtu communities. The IC agreed that a workshop on procurement should be organized.

- SSI requested that the workshop be comprehensive on the entire procedure of dealing with contracts, incorporating any recent changes to the federal structure. A primary focus should be on waste sites and remediation contracting in the context of land claims.
- The Parties agreed that it would be beneficial for the GNWT to partner on this workshop in order to provide information on how to work with all levels of government.
- The Parties requested that a teleconference be organized to further discuss the structure of a workshop with Dennis Brunner. The Parties are looking at the availability of the business community, a potential location and potential dates to hold the workshop.

IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING RENEWALS

As set out in the SDMCLCA Implementation Plan and associated bilateral funding agreements, Canada provides funding to the SSI, GNWT and implementation bodies created pursuant to the land claim, to support the ongoing implementation of the agreement.

Board Funding

Canada has recognized the challenges and inefficiencies in its current approach to board funding in the NWT, and embarked on a review. Between July and December 2016, Canada engaged with Treaty partners and Boards/Committees from the NWT to identify and discuss issues facing Boards, with respect to funding and board operations. Based on these discussions, and on broader research, Canada completed an in-depth analysis of board funding and operational issues and developed options to address these issues. These options are currently being considered within the federal system, and may result in revisions to INAC's approach to funding boards.

Treaty Partner Funding

SSI expressed concern about treaty partner funding levels this year, and specifically about funding to the Sahtu Renewable Resources Councils. SSI is of the view that funding to the Renewable Resources Councils should be increased, as their role has evolved significantly since the SDMCLCA came into effect.

SSI and Canada took the opportunity to meet bilaterally in Ottawa in December 2016 to discuss funding issues in more detail.

Over the reporting period, Canada provided the following funding to the SSI and implementing bodies created under the agreement:

Recipients	2016-2017 Core Funding
Sahtu Secretariat Inc.	\$636,494
Renewable Resources Council	\$437,452
Sahtu Renewable Resources Council	\$855,074
Sahtu Land and Water Board	\$1,041,118
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board	\$393,497
Sahtu Arbitration Panel	\$36,726

NORMAN WELLS PROVEN AREA

Chapter 9 of the SDMCLCA requires government to consult with the SSI regarding matters discussed with Imperial Oil Ltd. or other parties concerning any amendment, renegotiation, or renewal of the Proven Area Agreement. As well, government and the SSI are to establish a joint committee for the purpose of reviewing current and future operations pursuant to the Proven Area Agreement. To satisfy this requirement, Canada, SSI and Imperial Oil/Esso meet at least once each year in Tulita, Fort Good Hope or Norman Wells to undertake this review.

Activities:

- At the April 2016 IC meeting, SSI put forward the request to INAC that it was interested in holding the annual Proven Area meeting with Imperial Oil and asked INAC to organize a meeting.
- At the October 2016 meeting, SSI advised that it had met with Imperial Oil about the sale of its 2/3 portion of the Norman Wells Proven Area. SSI requested to meet with Michel Chenier, INAC, about Canada's 1/3 portion, although Canada has not indicated that this portion is up for sale. SSI also indicated that the GNWT was implicated in this issue as a result of Devolution, because companies must now apply to GNWT for Significant Discovery Licenses.
- At the December 2016 IC meeting, SSI reported that it was engaged in discussions with Imperial Oil regarding key issues of reclamation and remediation, and determining the life and liability of the field. The SSI informed the IC that INAC's Regional Director General, Mohan Denetto, NWT Region, had been involved in discussions regarding remediation. SSI identified several major challenges, including the costs

of remediation and associated funding, the ability to secure remediation contracts, as well as complications in remediation contracting resulting from relationships with other land claim groups.

Next Steps:

- The Parties agreed to continue to monitor and discuss the implementation of the Norman Wells Proven Area Agreement, keeping this as a standing item at future IC meetings.

TUKTUT NOGAIT PARK

The community of Paulatuk originally proposed the creation of Tuktut Nogait National Park in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in the late 1980s, primarily, but not exclusively, to protect the Bluenose caribou herd and its calving and post-calving habitat. Parliament added the park to the schedule to the National Parks Act (Canada) in 1998. An extension of the park into the SSA was later approved. The Délı̨ne District Land Corporation owns the land underlying the Sahtu extension, and has a representative sitting on the Tuktut Nogait Management Board (the Board.) An interim land withdrawal, which came into effect on April 13, 2013, to protect the surface from future development, expired on April 24, 2015.

The Board wrote a letter to Bernard Valcourt, Minister of INAC, and Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of the Environment on March 24, 2015, regarding the completion of the Tuktut Nogait National Park extension and protection of the land through a renewal of the interim land withdrawal until that occurs.

The extension of the park is important to the people of both Délı̨ne and Paulatuk, as it protects the headwaters of the Hornaday River which flows north through the Park to the Arctic Ocean. Maintaining water quality of this river is

essential to Paulatuk's char fishery, as the char fishery and the caribou harvest are two of the cultural and nutritional mainstays of the community.

At the December 2015 IC meeting, SSI reported that, while there had been commitments to withdraw the land, they were currently relying solely on the Sahtu Land Use Plan to protect the area. Canada committed to follow up with Parks Canada on this implementation issue.

Activities:

- At the December 2016 IC meeting, INAC reported that they had followed up with Parks Canada on the letter the Board wrote to INAC regarding Tuktut Nogait National Park. INAC advised that any follow up required should be done directly through Parks Canada, as Parks Canada has the lead on this matter, and identified Kevin McNamee as a contact.

CO-MANAGEMENT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

At each IC meeting, representatives review the status of nominations and appointments to the various boards created under the SDMCLCA, exchanging information and confirming the steps necessary to fill vacancies.

At the December 2016 IC meeting, Canada presented its new open, transparent and merit-based process for board appointments, which applies to appointments where Canada provides the nomination. The process includes a public advertisement and candidate screening.

Activities:

- Canada issued an advertisement for Ministerial appointed board positions which ran until December 19, 2016.
- The Parties had previously agreed to include the Sahtu Arbitration Panel in the advertisement, although the Sahtu Arbitration Panel involves joint nominations.

- Canada asked SSI and the GNWT to assist in promoting the advertisement. SSI indicated that they were also looking to increase transparency within their appointment processes.

CAPACITY BUILDING

At the October 2016 IC meeting, the GNWT stated that one of the priorities of the territorial government is to build Aboriginal government and business capacity. The GNWT indicated that it is open to considering different approaches to achieving this goal, and discussed initiatives currently under way with other Aboriginal governments. As one example, Délı̨ne and the GNWT partnered on a Land Administration training initiative in November 2016 and January 2017 to train people to administer lands, since the DGG now has the responsibility and ownership of community public lands.

Activities:

- GNWT distributed a summary of training courses available to GNWT employees. The summary is intended to provide SSI with an indication of where territorial training and capacity building needs lie and provide ideas for possible collaboration on capacity-building initiatives.
- SSI agreed to review the summary and get back to the GNWT.
- Canada also responded, stating that INAC's NWT regional office has funding available for capacity building through its Community Development program, and may be interested in partnering on some capacity building ventures in the future.

