

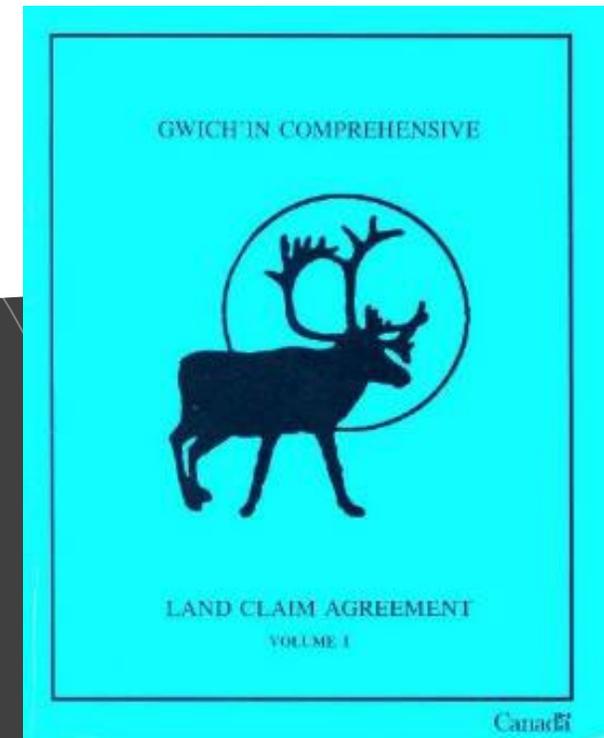
Gwich'in Tribal Council Lands & Resources

*Gwich'in land, culture & economy for
a better future*

Presentation by

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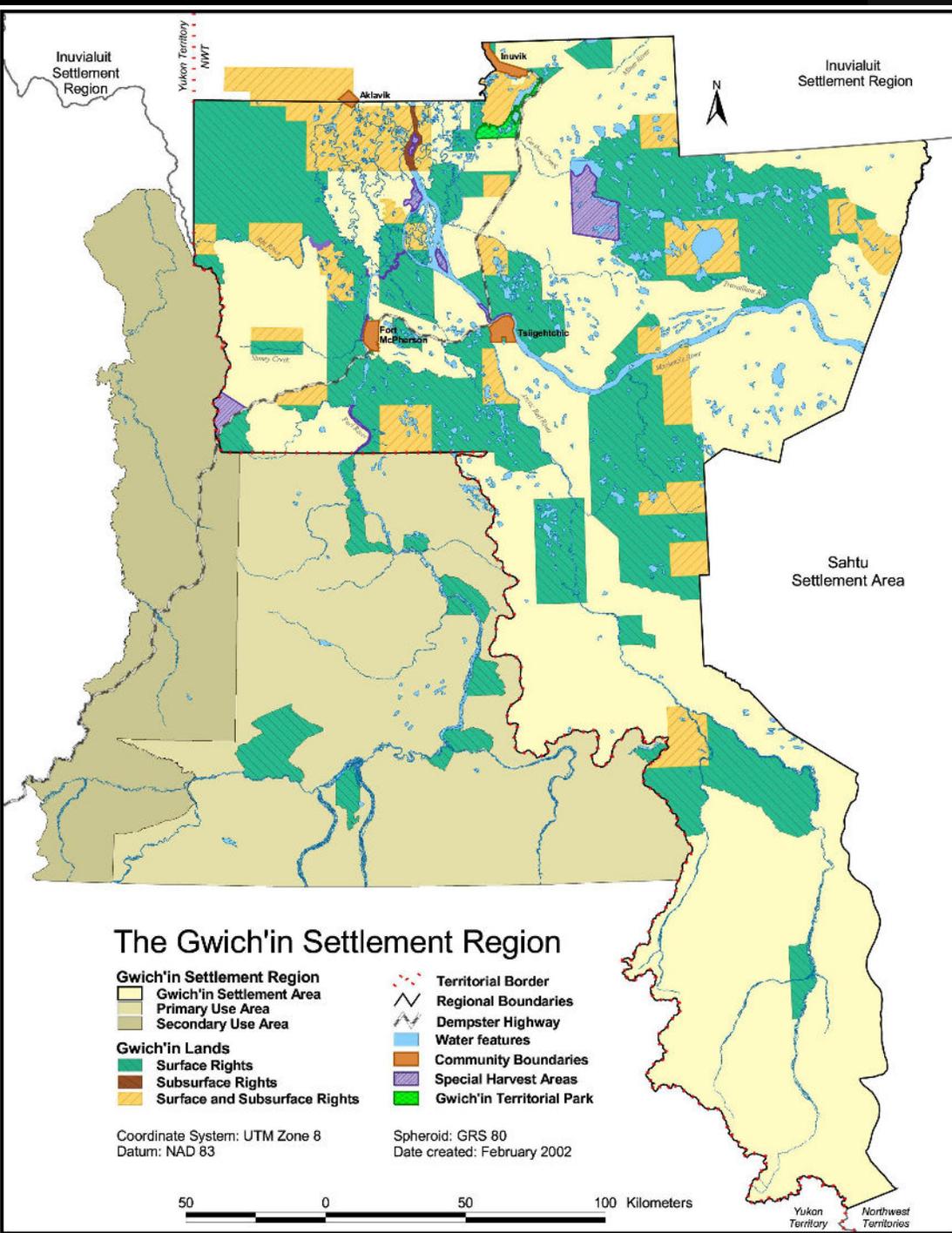


The Organization

- 1) Established in 1992, the Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) is an Indigenous organization that represents and defends the inherent and Treaty rights of all Gwich'in under the GCLCA.
- 2) The governance model of the GTC consists of a Board of Directors (BOD - 10 members) that governs the corporation in implementing the direction provided to it by the Annual General Assembly (AGA).
- 3) The last General Election was held on September 3rd, 2020.

Gwich'in Private Lands

- The Gwich'in own approximately **22,330** square kilometres of land in the Northwest Territories, and **1,554** square kilometres in the Yukon.
- This includes subsurface (mineral) rights to **6,158** square kilometres of land in the Northwest Territories.



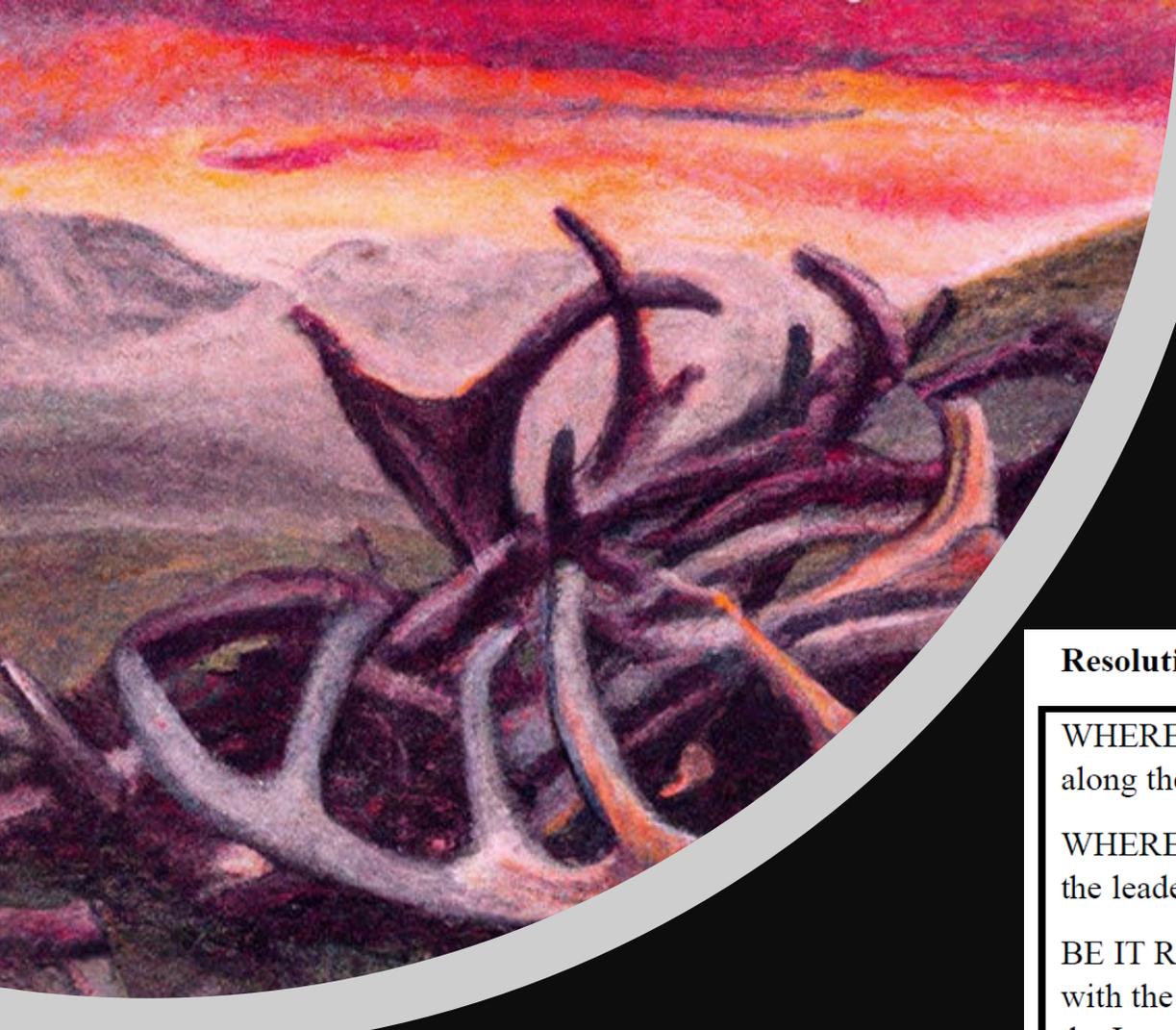
Gwich'in Lands and Resources - GLR

At GLR we are dedicated to:

- Protecting and preserving the rights, interests and benefits of the Gwich'in
- Overseeing the use, ownership and management of lands, waters and resources
- Ensuring the lands and resources are taken care of for future generations

In carrying out its responsibilities, GLR collaborates with Gwich'in community Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs) Designated Gwich'in Organizations (DGOs), Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB), Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board (GLUPB) and Gwich'in Land and Water Board (GLWB).





2021 AGA Resolution

Resolution #5:2021

WHEREAS the Porcupine Caribou herd continues to be disrupted in their migration patterns along the Dempster Highway (particularly the Yukon/NWT border) in the fall.

WHEREAS Gwich'in harvesters have concerns about unethical hunting practices and “letting the leaders pass” along the Dempster Highway.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Gwich'in Tribal Council Lands and Resources Department work with the Gwich'in Councils, the GRRB, the RRCs, the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, the Inuvialuit Game Council, the GNWT/ENR, and the Yukon Department of Environment to organize a workshop, including Gwich'in Traditional Knowledge keepers, to be held in or near Fort McPherson.

Mover: Abe Wilson

Seconder: John Norbert

Resolution: Carried.

2022 Gwich'in Gathering

- Gwich'in Niintsyaa 2022 Resolution to Protect the Birthplace and Nursery Grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd (unanimously passed by the Gathering on July 19, 2022).
- As a further commitment to this resolution and in accordance with GTC's AGA resolution 5, GTC in partnership with the Tetlit Gwich'in Council plan to host the 2023 Caribou Summit.



Caribou Summit

When: January 17-19th, 2022

Where: Tetlit Zehh - Fort McPherson

Who: Tetlit DGO and GTC hosting



SAVE THE DATE
JANUARY 17-19, 2023



CARIBOU
SUMMIT
JANUARY 17-19, 2023 - TĒTL'IT ZEHH







Caribou Summit

Objectives

- 1) A forum for stakeholders to discuss past, present and future issues impacting the Vadzaih (Caribou);
- 2) A platform to identify priorities for action to protect and preserve the Vadzaih (Caribou); and
- 3) A unique opportunity for Nations to come together and celebrate this critical resource.

Caribou Summit

Re-Cap Day 1

January 17, 2023

The Caribou Summit was led by a panel of Elders from the Gwich'in Settlement Area and Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation. This panel of knowledge holders set the tone and direction of The summit. Here they provided their wisdom and knowledge of Vadzaih. The themes were:

- **Climate change/Weather events**
 - I. CC is affecting the Caribou, We see more willows
 - II. The land is precious, and we need to protect it!
- **Harvesting practices of Vadzaih**
 - IV. Concerns with the use of Snowmobiles & 4 Wheelers
 - V. Harvesting is not being respected, guts and blood left on the land
- **Learning from Elders across all Gwich'in Territories**
 - I. Summits are great venues to transfer knowledge
 - II. Never too old to learn, even Elders are learning new things





Young hunters
learning spiritual
teachings from
(insert name)
&
Getting first hand
on lessons from
(insert name)



Caribou Summit

Re-Cap Day 2

January 18, 2023

The summit on the second day began with a group of delegates from Vuntut Gwitchin (YK), Gwich'in Settlement Area, Inuvialuit Game Council (NWT) and Neets'saii Gwich'in (Alaska, USA). The Panel spoke about Vadzaih in their regions, what they are seeing, hearing, and stories from their communities.

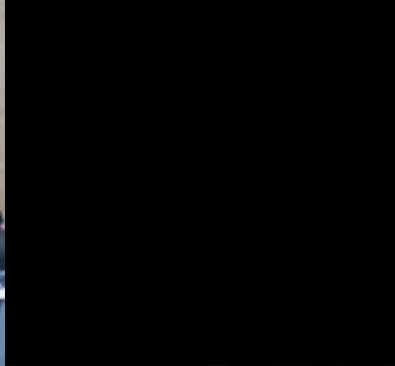
Themes:

- **Highway hunting**
 - I. Example of hunting along highway in Alaska
 - II. ATV and snowmobile are scarring the land along Dempster highway
- **Hunting practices**
 - I. Continuing harvest studies, provide info to RRC's
 - II. Monitoring of hunting was very successful on the Dempster highway
 - I. More effective communication between communities, and nations





Youth demonstrating Caribou head skinning to the CBC camera operator



While (insert name) teaches on lookers how to butcher Caribou meat



Caribou Summit

Re-Cap Day 3

January 19, 2023

The final day of the Caribou Summit saw a panel of leaders from The Inuvialuit and all Gwich'in communities from the GSA, Yukon, and Alaska. The community attendees had the opportunity to put forward questions, concerns and suggestions about how to implement any changes regarding Vadzaih.

Themes:

- **Teachings**

- I. New generation needs to be trained of all affairs
- II. Youth are eager to learn the traditional ways
- III. International Concerns of Vadzaih**
- IV. Send another Gwich'in delegation to Washington DC
- V. Educate the Americans about the Vadzaih

- **Monitoring/Regulations**

- I. Regulation of sport hunting/outfitters/hunting tourists
- II. Monitoring hunting along Dempster highway successful



What are we seeing today?

Muskox!

People selling Caribou

Disobeying Traditional Laws

Overgrowth of willows

to Many Wolves

listen to the Elders.

Young ppl wanting to learn

Youngens listening to Elders

Energy - People getting together.

To much tech used.

talking about same issues, we had 30 yrs ago

A Yearning to

Overgrowth of

Youth respecting the vidz.

We need Old Trails open

community need to have a caribou summit

a lot more heads, legs and some arms & ribs left on the land.

to Many Wolves

Travis the Ug thanks to Learn more Trad. Values.

Wastage - heads w/otage - skins on the ground - choke parts left behind.

Not listening to elders

What can we or should we do to learn from our past?

Lets teach how to prepare and cook it

Have a youth Caribou summit on the land

Keep the summit going

Let the leader pass. Listen to Elders

Hunting regulations

Don't continue to allow us to be demonstrate here

Learn to respect the Caribou + wildlife.

Round Booklet by season the seasons of practices.

include all age groups learn from each other

Let's continue to learn from the Caribou + wildlife.

Learn to respect the Caribou + wildlife.

Round Booklet by season the seasons of practices.

include all age groups learn from each other

have workshops all aspects of working with the animals

Follow Traditional Hunting Practices while so we protect the Timber

Learn how to SKIN Caribou the old ways

Learn more about Caribou

include our young ppl.

Teach youth how to use all parts of the Caribou

Let the leader pass. Listen to Elders

Learn more about Caribou

Listen to the elders and each other.

Spirit of the water

Offer tobacco to the water when setting out

Learn more about Caribou

What can we commit to so that we ensure the health + vitality of the Vadzaih?

Commit to educating our youth on best practices

Stop Sport Hunting

Do not use SKIDOOS - Walk for Vadzaih

Be accountable, Individual responsibility

to make offerings to the land.

Support each other.

to make offerings to the land.

commit to learn + learn.

Learn more on the Research of Caribou

When Caribou I will wear the leaders pass.

Support our people

Be accountable, Individual responsibility

WORK + SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

Keep the land clean - Keep garbage

Keep the land clean - Keep garbage

Teaching & Learning Together

Teach our family + friends on what we know

Let the leaders pass - To educate + promote this

Let the leaders pass - To educate + promote this

Nakhwa'anjòò kat dàgwinuu geenjit yiinjigwichidhoh'èe

Respect the words of our elders

Respect each other

Share with each other Whatever you killed long ago you didn't use it just for yourself. You have to share. That way you have good luck all the time. -Elizabeth Greenland

Hunt safely Watch how you shoot ...when you go around the caribou. You don't just fool [around]. Know where everybody is and...watch what direction you shoot. If you know somebody is in that direction, you try not to shoot that way. -Allen Koe Sr.

Don't harass caribou when hunting

I saw one year what I didn't like to see; I saw somebody chasing caribou with a big ski-doo. It's not right for them to do that because, these caribou their tongues were just hanging out.

-Emma Kay

Retrieve what you shoot

If a hunter wounds a caribou and leaves it to die of its injury, later when they hunt they won't make a good kill. This is because they left a wounded caribou...

...They are not to be killed for nothing. It is not to be left where it is killed. Take it and use it. If you don't want it, give it to whoever wants it.

-Chief Johnny Charlie Sr.

Sight in your rifle

You got to learn how to shoot caribou. You can't shoot and aim and kill them; you got to shoot certain ways to get hold of it because the land is rolling hills sometimes and the bullet will drop or [be] too high. You got to learn how to handle your rifle.

-Allen Koe Sr.

Respect the caribou

Don't waste

You have to respect it after you shoot it, and make sure you take everything. I know it used to be that men when they shot caribou, they even covered the blood up with snow.

-Bertha Francis

Let the Leaders Pass

When hunting caribou, people used to let the first herd, the leaders, pass by. Then they would hunt some caribou from the middle of the migration. They would let the rest go unharmed.

-Alfred Semple

Tell about your harvest

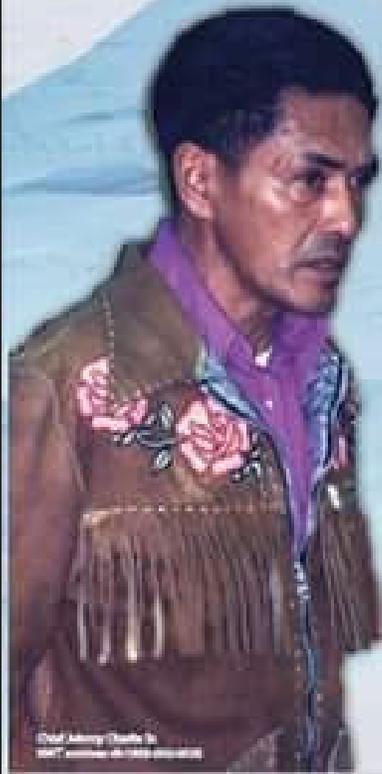
Caribou populations are in decline and other groups are facing management actions. We have had limited access to caribou the past 2 years. Porcupine caribou are abundant now but to help the Boards with their management plans, we need all harvesters to "report what they harvest". This will help to ensure that we have caribou today but more importantly for future generations. Please report your harvest.

-Robert Charlie

Respect the land

Look after our land and respect our land. We used to walk all over the land, but not with all skidoos and 4 wheelers. Not only can it destroy the land, it destroys the plants that the animals live off of.

-Mary Effie Snowshoe



Chief Johnny Charlie Sr.
www.chiefjohnnycharlie.com



HAI' / MAHSI