



# TAHLTAN DENA C'O

T A H L T A N P E O P L E S ' P A P E R

## TAHLTAN NATION SIGNS NOVA GOLD PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Tahltan Central Council (TCC)
- Tahltan Heritage Resources Environmental Assessment Team (THREAT)
- Tahltan Negotiating Team (TNT)
- Kime Traditional Knowledge Project (KIME)
- Tahltan Wildlife Committee (TWC)

The Tahltan Central Council has signed the NovaGold Tahltan Participation Agreement. Key considerations of the agreement are: This agreement is the first agreement that will give substantial revenue to the Tahltan Nation from resource development. The revenue will allow the Tahltan for the first time to create and manage our own social programs based on our own needs and priorities through the Tahltan Heritage Trust Fund. This fund is to create social programs for all Tahltans to address the social and culture impacts from the mine.

There are key environmental authorities for the Tahltan from this agreement. The Tahltan will help decide the environmental standards during the operation of the mine as part of the environmental management team at Galore

Creek and setting the conditions of the permitting as part of the environmental assessment. At mine closure the Tahltan will participate in cre-



Confluence of Tahltan & Stikine Rivers

begin work on a Human Resource Development Strategy. This agreement allows for Tahltan businesses to have open book negotiations for contracts during construction and operation of the mine. This agreement is not a treaty, it is a business agreement that allows Tahltans to benefit from the project.

Contributed by Curtis Rattray

ating the closure plan and has authority to say if the closure work is satisfactory. Training and human resource development will allow the nation to create our own Human Resource Inventory and

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Tahltan Unity	2
Tahltan Nation Activity	2
Kime Traditional Knowledge Project	2
THREAT Team	3

## TAHLTAN LEADERSHIP UNITY

The Tahltan Leadership have met on a number of occasions to talk about unity in the Tahltan Nation. The elected leadership from the Tahltan and Iskut Band and the Tahltan Central Council have committed to unity and working to developing unity in Tahltan Nation.

This commitment will be car-

ried out in March during a Tahltan Leadership Summit. At this meeting the leadership will create a plan of action to consult the members to unite the Nation. The Tahltan members will then develop the Tahltan governance policies and strategies that will unite the Nation.

Contributed by Curtis Rattray.

*One  
Nation  
Many  
Voices*

## Months Of The Year

Provided by:

Freddie Quock, Anges Hunter and Susan Dennis

January	* <u>Khayō didze</u> Gah ughase Meneh dige no'odets'edze	<u>Kha.</u>	<u>Middle of winter month.</u> Rabbits chew bark month. Sun getting high month.
February	* <u>lhst'isā</u> Sāts'ēsli'e	<u>lhst'</u>	<u>Windy month.</u> Pussy willows coming out month.
March	* <u>Taten tsedle</u> Tatene iza'e	<u>Ta.</u>	<u>Thin crust month.</u> Crust starts month.
April	* <u>Taten chō</u> lh'az isā	<u>Tat.</u>	<u>Thick crust month.</u> Game is traveling month.
May	* <u>lh'az isā</u> Eyāze isā	<u>lh'a.</u>	<u>Animals are traveling month.</u> Young animals month.
June	* <u>Eyāz'isā</u> Et'āne iza'e	<u>Eyā.</u>	<u>Young animals month.</u> Leaves coming out month.
July	* <u>Tachōji chō</u>	<u>Tach.</u>	<u>Animals losing winter hair month.</u>
August	* <u>Digā isā</u> Et'ān denideli	<u>Dig.</u>	<u>Faded month.</u> Leaves getting yellow month.
September	* <u>lh'ta'igēdza'e</u> Hostel isā	<u>lh'ta'</u>	<u>Moose go into rut month.</u> Groundhogs getting fat or getting getting ready for winter month.
October	* <u>Men ten tsedle</u>	<u>Men.</u>	<u>Small lakes freeze month.</u>
November	* <u>Men ten chō</u>	<u>Ment.</u>	<u>Big lakes freeze month.</u>
December	* <u>Gah ughase</u> Sā ts'ēsli'e	<u>Gah.</u>	<u>Rabbits eat bark month.</u> Possibly sun dog month.

“\*” Most Common used one for Dease Lake

**T A H L T A N U N I T Y**



*“One Nation Many Voices”*

Tahltan unity will be created by the Tahltan members through community meetings, workshops, surveys and other methods. This work will begin in the spring and will be on going.

As part of unity we will have to look at:

What are the issues that divide us?

What are the solutions to the issues?

What are the governance policies and strategies?

As part of the governance policies and strategies the members will have to decide how will the membership be consulted and informed about issues and how will the members be part of the decision making.

The elected representatives create the policies and strategies through consultation with the members. It is the members who approve the policies and strategies.

Contributed by Curtis Rattray.

**T A H L T A N N A T I O N A C T I V I T I E S**

There has been a lot of activities that the nation has been involved in over the past 6 months.

Barrick Gold has donated \$1 million for the Tahltan Nation to build a wellness center. A community survey will be sent out to the communities so the members will give direction as to what the communities will like to have built with the donation. There will be a number of choices members can pick from.

The TCC is in accommodation negotiating with the province. The Tahltan Negotiating Team (TNT) is Cynthia Callison as negotiator, the two chiefs are the assistant negotiators, and technical experts are used as the need arises.

The TCC has asked the province to address a number of concerns: land stewardship planning, social and cultural

strategic planning, cumulative impacts study, Tahltan governance planning, consultation protocol with the province, revenue sharing with the province and interim accommodation agreement.

Contributed by Curtis Rattray

**K I M E T R A D I T I O N A L K N O W L E D G E P R O J E C T**



*Tsesk'iyé a cho kime*

The Kime Traditional Knowledge project currently has three staff members: Camille Callison, Librarian/Archivist; Tina Van Mierlo, TK Assistant; and Heather Hawkins, Digitization Contractor.

Grant Contributions have enabled the project to buy the necessary equipment and software to organize, store and preserve the collection of oral traditions, photographs, language material and sound recordings related to the Tahltan Nation into an archival database.

The collection and digitization of already existing traditional knowledge and land use studies into a searchable database and digitizing the contents of cassette tapes containing Tahltan elders' voices will help to preserve valuable Tahltan heritage.

The overall goal of the Kimma Project is to create a Tahltan traditional knowledge repository and archive to hold Tahltan traditional knowledge and language in trust for future generations.

## TAHLTAN DENA C'O OK'



Dease Lake

*Tahltan Peoples' Paper*

### *Tahltan Central Council*

Box 69  
Dease Lake, BC  
VOC 1L0

Phone: 250-771-3274  
Fax: 250-771-3130  
E-mail: [tahltan\\_central\\_council@yahoo.com](mailto:tahltan_central_council@yahoo.com)  
Editor: Camille Callison

*One Nation Many Voices*

The Tahltan Central Council (TCC) is located in Dease Lake, BC. The Tahltan Central Council was first established in 1975 as the Association of United Tahltans which was later incorporated as the Tahltan Tribal Council at the 10th Annual Assembly in Telegraph Creek (July 1985) and currently renamed the Tahltan Central Council in August of 2002. The TCC is comprised of representatives of 10 families from each of the two bands that make up the Tahltan Nation. The Tahltan peoples are comprised of two bands, each with an elected council: the Tahltan Indian Band (with headquarters at Telegraph Creek) and the Iskut First Nation (with headquarters at Iskut). The TCC links the Tahltan bands and represent anyone of Tahltan ancestry on issues around asserted inherent rights and title and provides resources to the public relating to legal matters.

## TAHLTAN HERITAGE RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM (THREAT)

As of 2004 the leadership of the Tahltan Nation had to put together a team of Tahltans' to participate and review the environmental assessment information to be sure that the process is addressing all of our concerns. The leaders agreed to create the Tahltan Heritage Resource Environmental Assessment Team (THREAT). Our biggest challenge was to convince the Government to recognize the Tahltan traditional knowledge. As a result of the respect that the elected Tahltan representatives gave the team; THREAT was able to have a voice at the workshops and achieve some of our goals.

There is a lot of confusion about resource development that is proposed in our Territory. It isn't the leadership that is encouraging resource development; but, development is being en-

couraged by the world markets. The increase in resource development proposals creates more work for the Tahltan government. The leaders had to find a way to delegate that work to review the projects. The members of THREAT, who are volunteers, took on the responsibility to participate, have done a very good job in providing the Tahltan Nations knowledge and concerns are presented at the environmental assessment process. Our goal to create the technical expertise similar to the provincial government so that we can fully understand and participate in the environmental assessment process that reviews resource development projects has been achieved with the creation of THREAT.

Contributed by Clarence Quock, EA coordinator



*Iskut*