



NEWS RELEASE

GTC UNDERTAKES INDEPENDENT FORENSIC AUDIT OF DESIGNATED GWICH'IN ORGANIZATIONS

INUVIK (September 20, 2022) – In the spirit of good governance, continuous improvement and in the interests of transparency and due diligence, the Board of Directors of the Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) decided to undertake an independent forensic audit of the activities of the Gwich'in Councils in the communities of Aklavik, Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic. This forensic audit was announced by GTC Grand Chief Ken Kyikavichik during his annual report presentation at the GTC's Annual General Assembly in Teet'it Zheh (Fort McPherson, NT) on August 16, 2022.

The audit is currently underway and is being performed by the accounting firm Deloitte.

“Our Participants to the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement* expect the highest standards, accountability and compliance with respect to the proper use of financial resources at both the regional level through the Gwich'in Tribal Council and at the community level through the Gwich'in Councils or Designated Gwich'in Organizations as they are also known,” says GTC Grand Chief Ken Kyikavichik. “It is our intention that our governance, financial controls, resourcing and periodic reporting among our four Gwich'in Councils is improved to the extent that we improve transparency and accountability to our Participants. This is especially important given our current Nation-building efforts as we pursue a Final Agreement on Gwich'in Government.”

Going forward with Gwich'in Government negotiations, the GTC and its Gwich'in Councils feel it is important that all of the related entities (along with future Gwich'in Community Governments) be operated professionally and staffed with qualified personnel. This forensic audit will verify historical transactions and proper financial controls to provide learnings to help ensure that the Gwich'in Councils meet professional standards and expectations.

For further information:

Tony Devlin
Communications Advisor
tony.devlin@gwichintribal.ca