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# Tłı̨chǫ Wenek'e – Land Use Planning for the Tłı̨chǫ Nation

For: MODERN TREATIES AND RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE

By: Paul Bachand, Partner

Pape Salter Teillet LLP
www.pstlaw.ca

# BACKGROUND

- The Tlicho Wenek'e finds its roots in the Tlicho Agreement – the treaty between the Tlicho Nation, Canada and the Government of the NWT which came into effect in August 2005.
- The Tlicho have title to 39,000sq.km of land – all in one large parcel
- The Tlicho Agreement specifically allows for the Tlicho Government to make land use plans for Tlicho lands (7.4.2(b))
- The Tlicho Wenek'e came into effect under Tlicho law, which was passed by the Tlicho Assembly on April 22, 2013

# WHAT MAKES THE TLICHO WENEK'E UNIQUE?

- The Tlicho Wenek'e is focused on the protection of Tlicho culture and way of life by:
    - Identifying those areas of Tlicho lands that are important to Tlicho culture and way of life; and
    - Providing an appropriate level of protection for those areas
- The zones in the Tlicho Wenek'e – Land Protection Zones – connect the land with Tlicho culture and history and that helps to preserve the collective memory of the Tlicho
- Because Tlicho have title to all the Tlicho lands, there is no "multi party" land use planning board. Approval of the Tlicho Wenek'e rests solely with the Tlicho Government

# How was the Tlicho Wenek'e put together?

- The Tlicho Wenek'e had to incorporate the values of Tlicho who have lived on the land for generations. Guiding the creation process from the start was the Tlicho Land Use Plan Working Group, which consisted of two elders from each of the 4 Tlicho communities. They oversaw the establishment of planning goals and contributed their knowledge and direction throughout the process.

- There was full opportunity for community consultation and involvement during the preparation of the Tlicho Wenek'e. Workshops were held in all 4 communities.

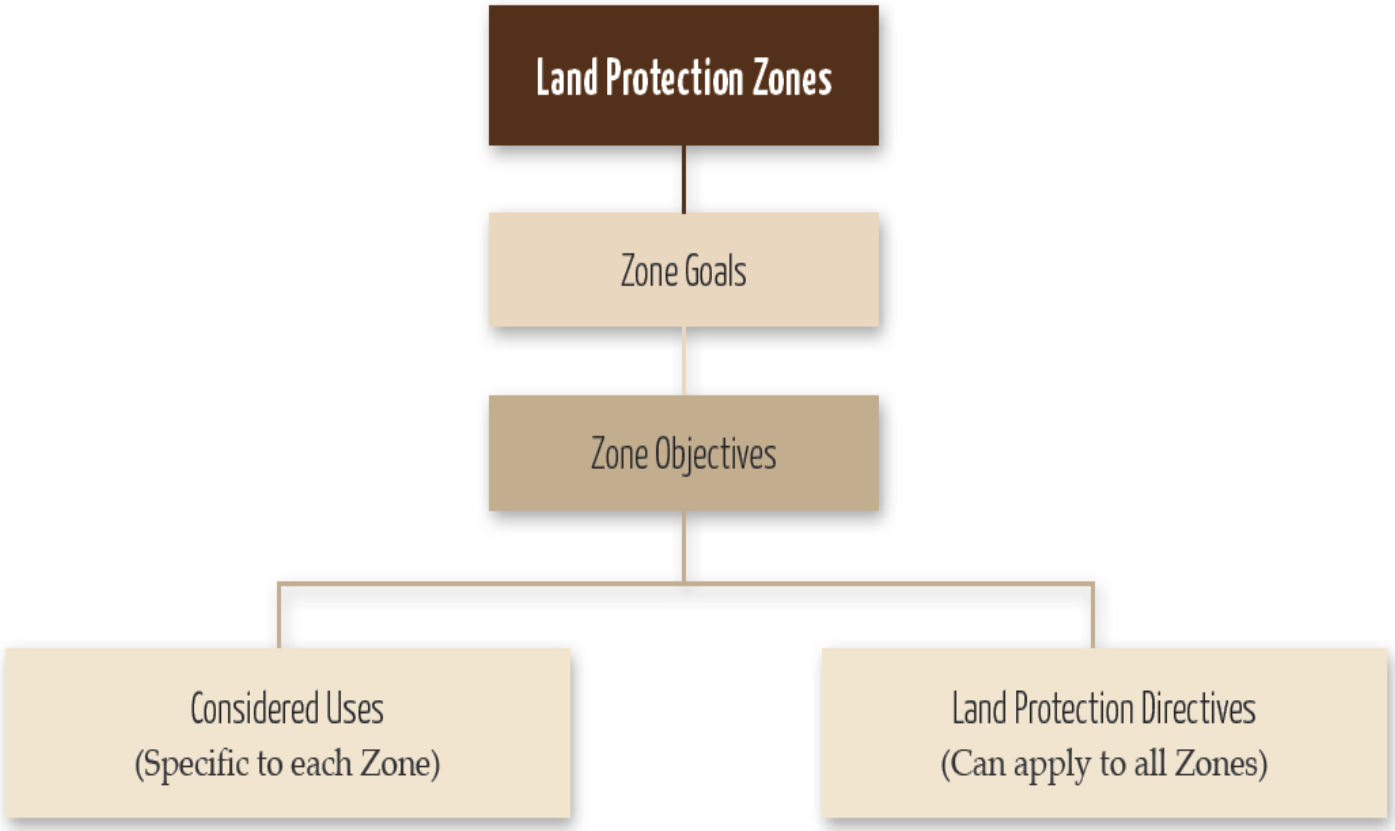
- Canada and the GNWT were provided with the opportunity to see and comment on drafts of the Tlicho Wenek'e before it was passed.

# LAND PROTECTION ZONES

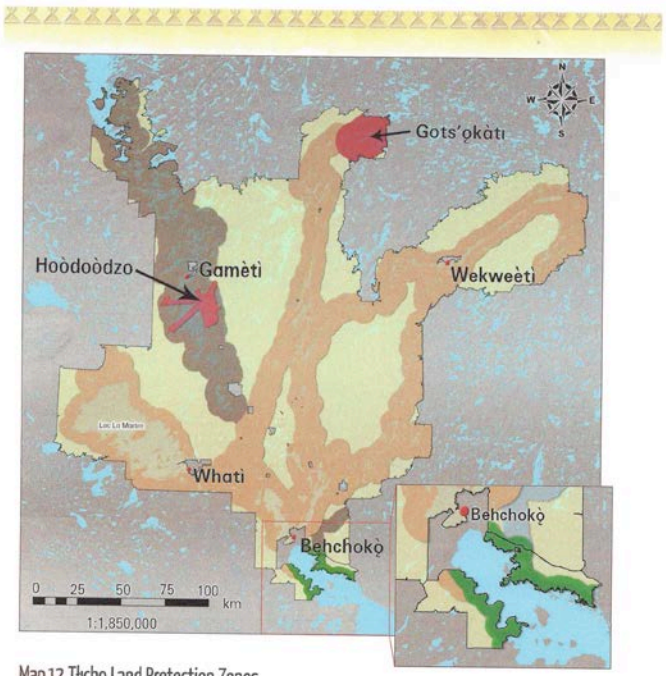
- Land Protection Zones are at the heart of the Tlicho Wenek'e. They set out the locations of the zones and what permitted uses will be considered in each of the zones.

- Note that these zones are not set out as zones for residential, commercial, industrial uses. Thee Land Protection Zones are closely connected with the Tlicho culture and uses of the lands.

# Tłı̨chǫ Land Protection



# LAND PROTECTION ZONES

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# CONSIDERED USES

| Land Uses Considered | Wexehlaxodıale *Land Use Exclusion Area* | Dèk'èasıìzedaà wèhoodıa *Habitat Management Zone* | Gowhadǫ́ Yek'e t'ı k'e *Traditional Use Zone* | Tłıchǫ Nawoo Ké Dét'ahot'ı *Cultural Heritage Zone* | Asıı Haxowıı Gha Enehatǫ *Enhanced Management Zone* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Camp or cabin | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Non-exploitive scientific research | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Transportation corridors | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Eco-cultural tourism | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Hydro-power generation | | | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Utility corridor | | | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Quarries | | | | | ○ |
| Commercial forestry | | | | | ○ |
| Hunting and fishing lodge | | | | | ○ |
| Mineral exploration | | | | | ○ |
| Mines and mineral development | | | | | ○ |
| Oil and gas exploration | | | | | ○ |
| Oil and gas extraction | | | | | ○ |

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# LAND PROTECTION DIRECTIVES

- Chapter 6 of the Tlicho Wenek'e sets out the "Land Protection Directives" that are further protection measures that will be used.
- Examples of Directives: Water quality, tourism, resource development and cumulative effects
- They are set out in order and identify expectations for:
    - Development proponents;
    - Activity and study by Canada and the GNWT; and
    - Partners in the management of Tlicho lands.

# FINAL THOUGHTS

- Tlicho have always been land use planning. The Tlicho Wenek'e is just a return to allowing others to see the expression of their vision for their lands
- There will always be review and revisiting as the climate changes and pressures are put on the land and animals.
- Aboriginal peoples should take the time they need to develop their own vision for their land.
- Everybody needs to respect that vision.