

# Dehcho Process

Strategic Overview

Main table discussions

## Treaty Rights

- **Basic Question:** **Should DFN agree to negotiate an Agreement under the comprehensive claims policy which requires a land selection process?**

- **All the OPTIONS:**
    - Negotiate a comprehensive claim
    - Negotiate Treaty Land Entitlement
    - Lobby Canada to change policy
    - Initiate a claim using courts
  - **Declare the Dehcho Nation as a self governing territory**
- ## Declare and implement self governing territory

- Most confrontational/radical, would require solidarity & strong strategy
- Any development not approved by DFN gov't would have to be opposed
  - Requires self funding or action without money
- Could have significant short and long term financial implications
- GNWT and Canada would oppose, may lead to violence, imprisonment
  - Relationships with non-Dene within DFN would be polarized.
    - May create family divisions amongst members

## Change Policy

- Requires a 'political will' at Federal level
- Election may change climate but delay process.
- Lengthy and still require negotiations.

- External support from other groups

- LUP PAS may be cancelled leaving lands vulnerable

- May be successful - shared ownership/stewardship

## **Comprehensive Claim**

- Requires considerable compromise

- Will provide clarity on Dehcho lands – largest land recognition in Canada

- Huge gaps between Canada/GNWT and DFN

- May ensure Park expansion, PAS and LUP in the shortest time frame

- self governance but won't achieve all Dehcho means more compromise

- Could result in quickest opportunities for economic development under DFN control

**Issues: If no land selection**

- Canada will likely discontinue negotiations

- Land withdrawals may expire in October - all lands open for exploration

- LUP probably will not be approved or implemented by Canada/GNWT

- No control on land - more 3rd party interest

- Direct action may be needed to protect lands