



## **GNWT and Délıne Got'ıne Government Sign Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 7, 2019)** – The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Délıne Got'ıne Government signed an intergovernmental memorandum of understanding today in Yellowknife. The event was attended by Cabinet Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly, Deputy Premier Robert C. McLeod, Minister Wally Schumann, Minister Louis Sebert and Minister Glen Abernethy met with the Délıne Got'ıne Government's K'aowádó Kə (Main Council) ʔekw'ahtı́dó (Chief) Leeroy Andre, Deputy ʔekw'ahtı́dó Leonard Kenny, and members Danny Bayha, Tommy Betsidea, Dora Blondin, and Walter Bezha.

Signed by Deputy Premier Robert C. McLeod and Délıne Got'ıne Government ʔekw'ahtı́dó Leeroy Andre, the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Délıne Got'ıne Government and the Government of the Northwest Territories*, this is the first such agreement with a community-based self-government. It commits the two governments to maintaining and enhancing their government-to-government relationship founded on the principles of the *Délıne Final Self-Government Agreement* and the *Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement*. It provides a framework for the two governments to work together, promote effective communication and constructive dialogue at the political level about common priorities in the Délıne District.

“The Délıne Got'ıne Government is pleased to build upon its new and evolving government-to-government relationship with the GNWT through the memorandum of understanding. The memorandum of understanding will strengthen our relationship and is a new beginning for all of us,”

**-ʔekw'ahtı́dó Leeroy Andre, Délıne Got'ıne Government**

“This memorandum of understanding is a tangible example of the work we are doing to strengthen our government-to-government relationships with Indigenous governments, which is a priority of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly. The signing of this memorandum of understanding establishes a forum for the GNWT and the Délıne Got'ıne Government to meet on an annual basis and commits our two governments to working together as partners to advance the interests of all NWT residents.”

**-Robert C. McLeod, Deputy Premier**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly made it a priority to advance land, resources and self-government negotiations and to continue to establish and strengthen relationships formal government-to-government relations with all Indigenous governments in the Northwest

Territories through the development of memorandums of understanding. This is also one of the commitments of *Respect, Recognition, Responsibility – the Government of the Northwest Territories' Approach to Engaging with Aboriginal Governments*.

### **Quick Facts**

- The Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding recognizes the importance of the government-to-government relationship between the Dłı̀nè Got'ınè Government and the Government of the Northwest Territories.
- The agreement commits both governments to meet once per year.

### **For more information, contact:**

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