



## NEWS RELEASE

### Minerals Industry Congratulates Tłıchq on Release of Land Use Plan

Yellowknife, NT (April 30, 2013) The NWT minerals industry congratulates the Tłıchq Government for the release of their long awaited Tłıchq Wene'ke or Tłıchq Land Use Plan.

The plan arises from the Tłıchq Land Claims and Self Government Agreement signed in 2005, which gave the Tłıchq fee simple ownership of approximately 39,000 square kilometres of surface and subsurface lands. This is one of the largest single blocks of privately owned lands in Canada, approximately half the size of New Brunswick, and these lands are located on the mineral rich Slave and Bear Geological provinces, which host much of the known mineral wealth of the NWT.

The plan takes an open for business approach by the Tlıcho Government. Under the plan, they will consider transportation corridors anywhere on their lands; utility and hydropower corridors on 96% of it; and mineral and other development on over 40%. Existing mining leases and mineral claims will continue to be grandfathered as laid out in the land claims agreement. In addition, the plan is a living document that can be revised and updated.

“Mining is the economic engine of the NWT economy and mining on Crown lands in Tłıchq traditional territory today is creating unprecedented benefits through jobs and business,” said Cathie Bolstad, President of the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines. “With this plan, the Tłıchq now have a framework in place to optimize benefits from exploration and mining development on their own lands. Along with the NWT Government’s Mineral Development Strategy, Federal regulatory improvements, and our Chamber’s work with communities, the Tłıchq Wene'ke Land Use plan is helping reinforce to investors that the NWT is open for investment.”

In a news release, Tłıchq Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus said, “This Tłıchq Land Use Plan represents the Tłıchq vision for use of our lands that protects the land while recognizing that opportunities may be out there for land use proposals.”

The Tłıchq Land Use Plan will come into effect on June 1, 2013. At that time the moratorium on Tłıchq Lands will be lifted and Tłıchq will start considering proposals and applications for uses on Tłıchq Lands.

Click [here](#) to download a copy of the Tłıchq Land Use Plan from the Tłıchq website. For further information, please contact Kerri Garner at [kerrigarner@tliche.com](mailto:kerrigarner@tliche.com).

For more information on the NWT and Nunavut mining industries, please visit the website at [www.miningnorth.com](http://www.miningnorth.com) or contact Tom Hoefler, Executive Director at Tel: 867-873-5281 or email: [executivedirector@miningnorth.com](mailto:executivedirector@miningnorth.com).