The Gwich’in Nation will continue “Our Journey to Self-Sufficiency”, we will strive to play a key role in promoting successful, sustainable and profitable businesses through responsible investments and collaborative partnerships that will contribute to building a sustainable economy and foster an entrepreneurial business environment for Gwich’in participants.

The Gwich’in Development Corporation will accomplish these objectives through the support of a strong and viable private Gwich’in business sector; establishing and/or acquiring sound profitable and sustainable business entities which will contribute to a culture of wealth generation and independence.

We envision our role as contributing to and promoting the Gwich’in Nation as a skilled workforce with self-confident entrepreneurial spirit that capitalizes on business and economic opportunities in a timely manner.

We will be guided by the following values:

- Respect for the environment, land, water and wildlife;
- Traditional values of respect, honor, trust and sharing will be adhered to;
- Self-sufficiency, independence and personal initiative will be encouraged;
- Conducting business in a professional, transparent and ethical code of conduct;
- Progressive, adaptive, flexible and proactive in our decision making and business conduct;
- Collaboration, open and honest dialogue;
- Foster and promote a safe and violent free work-place;

Our strategy going forward will be:

- Start, develop, build and/or acquire a portfolio of financially viable and sustainable corporate entities that meet established GDC investment criteria;
- Capitalize on opportunities and ensure access to funds for profitable and sustainable growth;
- Alliances, partnerships and collaborative working relationships with other businesses, corporations or governments involved in developing economic initiatives and capacity;
- Advocacy and a voice for entrepreneurship on behalf of the Gwich’in private business sector;
- Develop the Gwich’in Nation’s biggest asset “Gwich’in Participants through Capacity-Building Initiatives”;

As President, I will continue to build on the success of the Gwich’in Development Corporation while being a strong advocate for personal independence, entrepreneurship and building a sound economic base. I am committed to expanding the Gwich’in Development Corporation portfolio by capitalizing on business opportunities beyond the Gwich’in Settlement Area at the same time pursue economic opportunities within the GSA which do not directly compete with the private Gwich’in business sector.

Richard Nerysoo, President
Gwich’in Development Corporation
In 1983, the Mackenzie Delta Tribal Council (predecessor to the Gwich'in Tribal Council) was established to represent the Dene and Métis of the Mackenzie Delta in the then-known Dene-Métis Land Claim process.

Established in 1992, the **Gwich’in Tribal Council** (GTC) is an Aboriginal organization that represents Gwich’in Beneficiaries in the Mackenzie-Delta of the Northwest Territories and across Canada. The objectives of the GTC are to:

- protect and preserve the rights, interest and benefits of the Gwich’in in reference to their use, ownership and management of lands, waters, and resources in the Gwich’in Settlement Area;
- retain, preserve and enhance the traditional and cultural values, customs and language of the Gwich’in in a changing society;
- develop and promote economic, social, educational and cultural programs that will enable the Gwich’in to become self-sufficient and full participating members in a global society;
- uphold the rights, interest and benefits of the Gwich’in in reference to the Constitution Act, Treaty 11 and the Gwich’in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement; and
- receive, preserve and enhance the capital and the lands and other benefits transferred to the Gwich’in pursuant to the Gwich’in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement signed on April 22, 1992.

The GTC accomplishes these objectives through various wholly-owned organizations such as the Gwich’in Settlement Corporation, the Gwich’in Social and Cultural Institute, and the **Gwich’in Development Corporation**.
Participants (aka Beneficiaries)

Gwichya Gwich’in Council
Tsiigehtchic

Tetlit Gwich’in Council
Fort McPherson

Ehdiitat Gwich’in Council
Aklavik

Nihtat Gwich’in Council
Inuvik

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GWICH’IN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Gwich’in Settlement Corporation

Gwich’in Social and Cultural Institute

GDC
The **Gwich'in Settlement Area** (GSA) of the Canadian Western Arctic is comprised of land from the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA) is a portion of the Mackenzie Valley in the Northwest Territories and includes the communities of Inuvik, Fort McPherson, Aklavik and Tsiigehtchic.

Under the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, the Gwich'in Tribal Council was granted ownership of 16,264 square kilometres of land in parcels located throughout the GSA and Yukon. Sections of this land are very active with economic development arising from the proposed Mackenzie Gas Pipeline Project and other oil and gas exploration. By being involved in activities on Gwich'in land, the Gwich'in Development Corporation can ensure local resident’s are involved and benefit from these opportunities.
Tsiigehtchic which translates in the Gwich’in language as “at the mouth of the iron river” was formerly known as Arctic Red River. The name may refer to the iron or mineral deposit found in the soil further up the Arctic Red. The community was the first Gwich’in Indian band to sign Treaty 11 in 1921.

Fort McPherson is a traditional Gwich’in Community on the banks of the Peel River, with the Richardson Mountains to the west and 187 kilometers southwest of Inuvik. It is the largest of the four Gwich’in communities and remains an important centre of Gwich’in culture. It was the second Gwich’in Indian band to sign Treaty 11 in 1921.

Aklavik is located on the Peel Channel of the Mackenzie Delta, approximately 100 kilometres south of the Beaufort Sea. It was the administrative centre of the Western Arctic before Inuvik was built in the late 1950’s. The Aklavik Indian Band was previously a sub-band of the Fort McPherson Indian Band.

Inuvik is situated on the East Channel of the Mackenzie River, 120 kilometers south of the Arctic Ocean and 200 kilometers north of the Arctic Circle. It was built by the Federal government to replace Aklavik which was subject to annual spring flooding and offered little space for expansion. The Inuvik Indian Band was formed to represent members of the Arctic Red River, Fort McPherson and Aklavik Indian bands who moved to Inuvik.
The Gwich’in Settlement Region

Gwich’in Settlement Region
- Gwich’in Settlement Area
- Primary Use Area
- Secondary Use Area

Gwich’in Lands
- Surface Rights
- Subsurface Rights
- Surface and Subsurface Rights

Terrestrial Border
- Territorial Boundary
- Regional Boundaries
- Dempster Highway
- Water Features
- Community Boundaries
- Special Harvest Areas
- Gwich’in Territorial Park

Coordinate System: UTM Zone 8
Datum: NAD 83
Spheroid: GRS 80
Data created: February 2003

Produced by the Gwich’in Land Use Planning Board
This is not a legal document
Managing resource development effectively and responsibly

The **Gwich’in Development Corporation** (GDC) is 100% owned by the Gwich’in Tribal Council and was created shortly after the Gwich’in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement was signed in 1992.

Essentially, the GDC is an investment company with two goals:

- to increase revenues through development activities occurring within the Gwich’in Settlement Region of the Yukon and Northwest Territories (NWT).
- to ensure Gwich’in Participants are involved in training, employment and business opportunities created from these activities.

By forming partnerships with experienced companies who have an interest in resources and opportunities existing within the Gwich’in Settlement Area of the NWT, the GDC continues to accomplish both these goals. Each partnership has proven to be successful in the competitive economy by combining outside expertise and technology with traditional knowledge and experience of geography and culture.

Currently, the GDC has six operating subsidiary companies that conduct business in five major industries: real estate, hospitality, transportation, oil and gas, welding, rock crushing and heavy equipment rental.

GDC’s headquarters are in Inuvik with operations being conducted in Inuvik, Fort McPherson, Yellowknife and Edmonton.

**MISSION**

To create, acquire and own profitable businesses, and participate collectively with Gwich’in communities, private enterprise and people in active business ventures, GDC business activities will create a vibrant economic environment in which Gwich’in can participate. A majority of those employed by GD and its businesses, including management, will be comprised of qualified Gwich’in participants.

**VISION**

The GDC will generate significant returns on its businesses and the primary source of revenue generation and business growth for the Gwich’in.
VALUES

The GDC will be a role model for the way business will be conducted in the GSA. The GDC will consistently demonstrate a commitment to the following values:

- strong governance and accountability to its stakeholders
- ethical and responsible behaviour including setting standards and enforcing code of conduct
- respect for Gwich’in Participants and communities, Gwich’in culture and traditions, and Gwich’in Land
- respect for employees, partners and business relations
- continuous learning and knowledge sharing among GDC communities, businesses and people
- responsible management of risk

By adhering to these values in pursuit of its vision, the GDC will foster and sense of pride and ownership among the Gwich’in.

Strategic Alliance Philosophy

Alliances will emphasize broadening the economic reach of Gwich’in businesses while minimizing competition with privately-held Gwich’in enterprise within and outside the Gwich’in Settlement Area. Specific goals for establishing alliances include:

- risk sharing
- industry and/ or geographic diversification
- accessing experienced management, industry knowledge and/or relationships that may be leveraged to develop Gwich’in management capacity or other benefits to the Gwich’in or GDC, including positioning for set-aside work preparation.

The GD will hold, or make sure that Gwich’in interests collectively hold, a controlling interest in any new joint venture or partnership operating within the GSA. Business interests will operate in a manner consistent with GDC values or GTC policies.
SERVICES

The ICPZG head office in Inuvik manages nine prime location properties in Inuvik:

- Jim Koe Building
- Franklin Manor
- Semmler Building
- Rec Hall
- Alex Moses Greenland
- Mack Travel Building
- The Blackstone
- Professional Building
- ENR Building

And one centrally located property in Yellowknife:

- BDC Building
SERVICES

GDC-NNP Limited Partnership recently acquired several parcels of residential and commercial land. Development of these areas will increase the amount of living, office and warehouse property available in the bustling town of Inuvik.
SERVICES

Discover the Capital Advantage

With premier locations in Inuvik, Yellowknife and Iqaluit, Capital Suites has the expertise to ensure guests feel right at home. All of our hotels have in-room high speed Internet and a fully equipped business centre, to make working while you travel easier. Be sure to inquire about our corporate rates for long and short-term stays.
SERVICES

Visitors will feel right at home in this comfortable and supportive environment with northern staff, on-site translation services and home-cooked northern food. Larga Home's friendly and understanding staff will help guests arrange their flight, medical appointments and transportation logistics. Larga is committed to helping eliminate the difficult cultural barriers visitors may encounter while traveling to a large unknown city.
SERVICES

Gwich’in Helicopters Ltd. (GHL) provides professional aircraft and flight crews to service oil and gas exploration and development throughout the Gwich’in Settlement Area.

GHL has access to its partner’s fleet of over 70 helicopters, including the efficient, all-purpose Hughes 500D, a range of Astars, Longrangers, J etrangers, the medium lift Bell 204s, 205s and 212s. Each of the fifteen different model types of aircraft is suited for a variety of jobs, to provide customers with outstanding flexibility in rotary wing aircraft.
SERVICES

Bob’s Welding is an Aboriginal-owned company providing excellent service to Inuvik and surrounding communities for over 30 years:
- 2 complete crusher spreads
- water & vacuum services
- winch tractors, gravel trucks, cats, loaders, excavators, cranes, rock drills, packers
- camps
- tug & barge services
- suppliers of crushed rock, concrete, asphalt, pads