



**Tłıchǫ Łeàgıą Ts'ııı Kǫ**  
(Tłıchǫ Friendship Centre)

# **AGM 2018-19**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Greetings to all! Welcome to our AGM!**

**I offer the following as a select list of some of the work we did this fiscal year (2018-19) in the community. Some of our key activities were:**

**We maintain a regular drop-in for anyone in the community, with coffee/tea and snacks.**

- We operate a food bank operation throughout the year, as our supplies permit**
- We provide a hot meal for the homeless and the needy throughout the inclement weather months.**

**We ran an On-The-Land Healing camp for the homeless with facilitation from Lee Mason of The Young Warriors Network. Our design included workshops for the homeless, the youth and the entire community at different stages.**

**We continued our women's support group throughout the year. We are working to set one up for the men as well. These are supported by our Bingo revenues.**

**We ran a youth group, and attempted to establish an internet café (no funding, so this has not yet materialize).**

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**Tłıchǫ Łeàgıą Ts'ııı Kǫ -- 506828 N.W.T. LTD. -- REFC<sup>2</sup> -- Tłıchǫ Youth Council**

We started the design of services for the disabled; partnered with YDA to support our work and provide staff training and mentoring.

- **Yellowknife Disabilities Association (YDA):** With funding from NTNU's PS funding stream, we were able to launch a support program for individuals with disabilities. We were able to secure a solid partnership with the YDA. This not only enhanced our service delivery, but also provided training for our staff, to increase capacity.

**Staff Training:** Staff and volunteer training done as new staff/volunteers join us, or as new projects come into effect.

**ECE:** We also received funding from ECE to help with staffing, which necessitated an uptake on our staff training.

**Tłìchọ Kọ (Supported Housing, -- 4-Plex):** Though we acquired the management of the supported housing unit – the Tłìchọ Kọ project – in the fiscal year, delays with construction delayed the program opening until next fiscal year (June 11<sup>th</sup>). Nevertheless, instalation of telephones, internet and television needed to proceed; water, heating fuel and electricity accounts needed to be set-up. Furniture and all household items had to be purchased, delivered and set-up.

To effectively run the supported housing unit, we established a Housing Committee (as a Standing Committee of our Board of Directors) to give direction and guidance to services for the homeless. The work of our Housing Committee, in preparation for the opening of our Tłìchọ Kọ program continued a very accelerated pace. We had 58 applications for housing while we only had 4 spaces.

- ✚ The Committee set up its own terms of reference
- ✚ Committee set-up eligibility criteria to select homeless individuals to participate in our supported housing program
- ✚ Committee set-up a strategy to address homelessness in the long-term
- ✚ Committee hired a Housing Support Worker to manage our supported housing program.

Additionally, a great deal of work went into this project to bring it to life. This included meetings with the Tłìchọ government, our MLA, and GNWT Housing department (including the Minister, DM and senior program staff). At issue were some challenges in accessing funding and program contribution agreements from very late in the previous fiscal year, and though we succeeded in getting the CA's signed in the last few days of March, moneys did not flow until early April. This severely complicated our ability to deliver the work before March 31<sup>st</sup>, and necessitated renegotiated timelines for completion. We were successful, but this was very time consuming. These included our work under the SCHF program, the Shelter Enhancement Program as well as the NPH program funding our Tłìchọ Kọ program.

**As a footnote, the Board and I started on this project in 2014; it took us a full 5 years to bring it to life.**

**Radio Bingo: We run radio bingos all year, both as entertainment for the community as well as a fundraiser for us. Fundraising is used to feed the homeless as well as to contribute to our building retrofit fund and other programs.**

**Board Training: Conduct on-going in-house board training at every opportunity.**

**Inter-Agency: We participate in monthly inter-agency meetings that include all agencies and service providers in Behchokø.**

**Municipal, Regional, Territorial and National Government: numerous meetings to plan for joint activity, collaborative research, licensing.**

- This year again, work continues with our building renovations with funding from Shelter Enhancement from GNWT Housing (funding carried over to next FY due to delays in funding reaching us.)

**University of Alberta (UofA): meetings both in Yellowknife and in Behchokø to continue in our efforts at improving post-secondary education at territorial level, and plan collaborative projects, such as A/V productions, research, language studies, educational supports and housing.**

- This year we finally got started on curriculum development to launch our OTL credit program (with UofA and MITACS).

**University of Calgary (UofC): sharing of information and research methodologies regarding our own homelessness research as well as Yellowknife's, as we wrapped-up our research.**

- Work also included sharing research results with Tłı̄chø Gov's own researchers with UofA.
- We are also finalizing with them plans to administer a supported housing unit (4-plex) to alleviate homelessness.

**Funders: Meetings with funders as required to ensure proper reporting takes place and that we are compliant with terms of funding – especially with research and academic funding.**

**Greenhouse: We formally launched our greenhouse this spring. We grew Zukini squash, corn and beans (The 3 Sisters among the Haudenashone), as well as tomatoes, kale and mint. We also had a prolific tobacco harvest, most enjoyed by**

**some of our Elders. The plan is to eventually train some of our disabled participants to manage the greenhouse.**

**One of our biggest challenges is that far too much time is spent looking for funding to address shortfalls created by inadequate core funding arrangements. If all that work was directed at effective program delivery and client services, imagine how much more effectively we could respond to the real needs of the community. We continue to dream and pray...**

**Masi Cho!**

**j**