



**YUKON
REGION**

A Yukon that Leads

AFN Yukon Regional Office
Regional Chief Kluane Adamek

AFN Yukon Regional Chief Kluane Adamek Celebrates Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation's 25th Anniversary of Self-Government

On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations - Yukon Region, congratulations to the leadership and citizens of Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation as it celebrates this momentous 25th anniversary of Self-Government!

I'd like to express my deepest gratitude and heartfelt congratulations to Chief Nicole Tom, Deputy Chief Zach Cochrane, and each of the Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation Chiefs, Elders, and leaders, including all those who have come before. The accomplishments of these leaders go far beyond only the last 25 years; they have guided since time immemorial, and the leadership of past and present generations have paved the way forward for other First Nations in the Yukon and across Canada who are pursuing their own journeys to self-government. This pathway to self-determination can only be built upon our own principles, laws, values and protocols, and Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation is a true testament to that.

I continue to admire Little Salmon Carmacks for the work you do to facilitate the learning, preservation and revitalization of the Northern Tutchone language for your youth and all citizens. This is incredibly important in maintaining the stories, teachings, and words of the ancestors, and ensuring they can be learned for generations to come.

I also want to acknowledge the trail that you have blazed with regards to modern treaty rights and the duty to consult through the 2010 Supreme Court of Canada *Little Salmon Decision*. The advocacy of Little Salmon Carmacks through that Supreme Court case reinforced the Crown's duty to consult as a standing requirement of treaty law, and has set the stage for future cases whereby third parties will be bound by treaties and signed agreements. This case, in addition to the work you are doing on the ground every day in community, reinforces the rights that all First Nations across Turtle Island have to ensuring that their voices are heard in a meaningful way.

As I think about the young people of this incredible community, I am energized and excited for the future that lays ahead. Youth are the leaders of the next generation, and will be the changemakers of tomorrow. Faced with some of the most difficult challenges of our time – from climate change to significant health crises – our youth will be tasked with building a better future for the next seven

generations. But even in the face of such immense challenges, the strength and resiliency of First Nations youth knows no bounds. I look forward to many more anniversary celebrations of Little Salmon Carmacks as we continue to hold up the leadership of young people, celebrate their accomplishments, and support them as they guide us into the future!

I raise my hands to each of the leaders, ancestors, Matriarchs, Elders, youth, and citizens who have been part of the work of this First Nation over the last 25 years, and before. Congratulations to all – I look forward to continuing on this good path of heart work with you!



Regional Chief Kluane Adamek, *Aagé*