



**YUKON  
REGION**

A Yukon that Leads

## AFN Yukon Regional Office

### The AFN Yukon Region Celebrates Teslin Tlingit Council's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Self-Government

On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations - Yukon Region, I'd like to extend a most heartfelt congratulations to the leadership and all citizens of Teslin Tlingit Council, who are celebrating a momentous 30th anniversary of Self-Government today!

I want to express my deepest gratitude and heartfelt congratulations to Naa Shaàde Hàni Eric Morris, who has been an incredible source of support and guidance to the AFN Yukon Region and the Yukon as a whole during his tenure as Chief. I would also like to thank Deputy Naa Shaàde Hàni Alex Oakley, all members of the Teslin Tlingit Council Executive Council, Elders, and youth, including all those of generations who have come before us. The accomplishments of these leaders go far beyond only the last 30 years; they have guided since time immemorial, and the leadership of past and present generations has paved the way forward for other First Nations in the Yukon and across Canada who are pursuing their journeys to self-government and self-determination.

I'd also like to acknowledge the many achievements that Teslin Tlingit Council has accomplished in the last 30 years of Self-Government, including the signing of its Administration of Justice Agreement with the Government of Canada and Yukon in 2011. Following the signing, Teslin Tlingit Council passed the *Peacemaker Court and Justice Council Act* to guide the principles of the Justice Council, which is represented by five clans: Ishkitan (Frog), Kukhhittan (Raven), Yanyedi (Wolf), Deshitan (Split Tail Beaver), and Dakh'l'awedi (Eagle). Self-determination can only be built upon the principles, laws, values, and protocols that are held sacred by each First Nation, and this justice-related work is but one example of how Teslin Tlingit Council models its values-based approach to advancing the rights of its citizens and community as a whole.

Teslin Tlingit Council youth will be some of the great leaders of the next generations. Faced with some of the most difficult challenges of our time - from flooding to overlapping health and mental health crises - they will be tasked with building a better future for themselves and those who will come after them. But even in the face of such immense challenges, the strength and resiliency of First Nations youth knows no bounds.

We look forward to many more celebrations of Teslin Tlingit Council's anniversary of self-government, and we continue to hold up the leadership of young people, celebrate their accomplishments, and support them as they guide us into the future!



Proxy Regional Chief Mary Jane Jim  
Assembly of First Nations – Yukon Region