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# Plain Facts

On Land and Self-government



Indian and Northern  
Affairs Canada

Canada

## Déline Community Self-government Negotiations

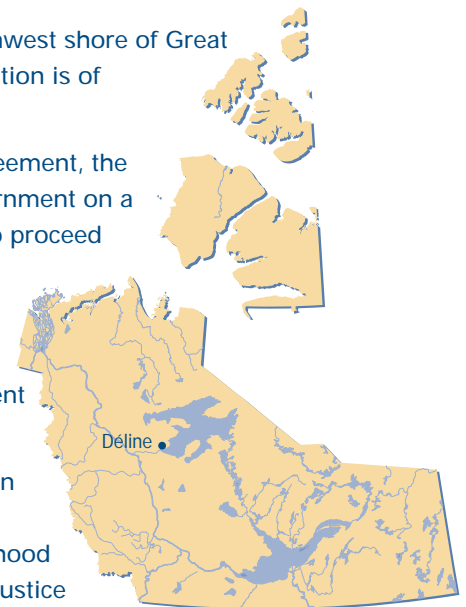
### *What's it all about?*

Déline is a community of approximately 650 people, located on the southwest shore of Great Bear Lake in the Sahtu Region. The overwhelming majority of the population is of Aboriginal descent, primarily Dene and Metis.

As a result of the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, the Sahtu Dene and Metis in the region have the right to negotiate self-government on a community by community basis. The community of Déline has chosen to proceed with self-government negotiations.

On October 14, 1998, the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and negotiators for the Déline Land Corporation signed an agreement setting out topics and a schedule for self-government negotiations.

Negotiations are now well underway toward an Agreement-in-Principle. In 1999/2000, negotiations produced draft sub-agreements on governing structures, elections, citizenship, grade school education, and early childhood education. Preliminary work has begun on addressing administration of justice and local government.



### *Other issues*

Déline community members are concerned about human and environmental impacts associated with uranium mining in the area between 1942 and 1960, and specifically, the former Port Radium mine site. The Déline people have indicated their desire to deal with the uranium issue in addition to ongoing self-government negotiations.

Déline Dene First Nation is working closely with the Government of Canada to decide what measures will be taken to address these concerns. A comprehensive action plan is being developed, and may include studies and investigations, and where appropriate, monitoring and remediation.

## *More background*

### Web pages:

Federal Policy Guide - Aboriginal Self Government: [www.inac.gc.ca/pubs/selfgov/policy.html](http://www.inac.gc.ca/pubs/selfgov/policy.html)

### Fact sheets:

Aboriginal Self-government in the NWT  
Advantages of Land and Self-government Negotiations  
Comprehensive Land Claims in the NWT  
The Negotiation Process  
Sahtu Dene & Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement  
Status of Land and Self-government Negotiations

### Publications:

Federal Policy Guide - Aboriginal Self Government  
Backgrounder - Aboriginal Self Government  
Sahtu Dene & Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement Volumes I & II

## *Fact sheets and publications are available by contacting*

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