



CHAMPAGNE and AISHIHIK First Nations

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 13, 2014

CAFN CELEBRATES 20TH SELF-GOVERNMENT ANNIVERSARY

Haines Junction – This February 14, the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations celebrate 20 years of Self-Government. On this day in 1995 Our Final and Self-Government Agreements first took effect. Our Chief and Council acknowledge this very special anniversary and our past leaders and community people who worked hard to get us where we are today.

Self-Government has given us the freedom and ability to move forward with our nation as we see fit. We are proud to be one of the first four Yukon First Nations to sign and enact our comprehensive land claims agreement. Together with our partners, the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun, Teslin Tlingit Council and Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, we paved a path for First Nations across Canada to follow.

We would like to acknowledge the role of the territorial and federal governments. This historic and important partnership between our first peoples and Canadians established the unique governance model we have today.

This date coincides with another special event: on February 14, 1973, Chief Elijah Smith, Chief Ray Jackson and other Yukon First Nation leaders presented Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow in Ottawa.

February 14 is a day to recognize our government and our people and a day to be proud to be First Nations.

The Champagne and Aishihik First Nations acknowledges the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun, Teslin Tlingit Council and Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation on their many successes in implementing their agreements over the past 20 years. We are grateful for your partnership 20 years ago when we worked hard together to achieve our Final and Self-Government Agreements.

On March 19, 2015, please join in a 20th anniversary celebration in Whitehorse. Please watch for more details!

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