

## LAND CLAIMS AGREEMENTS COALITION



Council of Yukon First Nations  
Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)  
Gwich'in Tribal Council  
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation  
Kwanlin Dun First Nation  
Makivik Corporation

Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach  
Nisga'a Nation  
Nunatsiavut Government  
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
The Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated  
Tlicho Government

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LCAC Leaders reflect on busy year

(December 8, 2009, Ottawa, Ontario) The Land Claims Agreements Coalition concluded its sixth annual Leadership Meeting in Ottawa on Monday.

The Coalition reconfirmed Coalition Co-chairs Paul Kaludjak, president of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc, and Kevin McKay, acting president of the Nisga'a Nation. Mr. Kaludjak stated that the Coalition has many 2009 achievements to celebrate including the release of its model national policy on the implementation of land claims agreements (modern treaties) in Canada. The roll-out was followed by the Coalition's third national conference, entitled *Claiming our Future: Implementing Land Claims Agreements for Social and Economic Prosperity*, held in Ottawa in May 2009.

Co-chair Kevin McKay reminded Coalition members, all of whom are modern treaty signatories, that there is much work to be done in 2010. This includes pressing the federal government to adopt the model implementation policy and educating Canadians about modern treaties. The Coalition has yet to receive an official government response to the model policy.

The meeting was followed by a reception hosting many distinguished guests, including the Leader of the New Democratic Party, Jack Layton, and MPs Garry Breitkreuz, Larry Bagnell, Dennis Bevington and Todd Russell. Senator Gerry St. Germain, Chair of the Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples, also attended.

Formed in 2003, the Land Claims Agreements Coalition is an association of Aboriginal peoples who have signed modern treaties. The Coalition's mandate is to ensure that these treaties are respected, honoured and fully implemented.

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