

Amy Lizotte

DIRECTOR - NORTHWEST TERRITORIES



I came to the NWT in 2006 for a job managing an on the land camp for NWT children in foster care. I came for the summer and never looked back. I went on to work a variety of fields including youth development, social support services, and with the territorial government in: environment; land and resource management; more recently in tourism; and now currently under trade and investment. I completed a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in 2013 focusing on environment, peace building and leadership. My research project assessed the viability of commercial gardening in Yellowknife, and initiated the revitalization of the Yellowknife Farmers' Market (along with countless dedicated volunteer hours).

I was first introduced to the leadership of the Tlicho and a discussion on economic development in March 2015. From this meeting, political approval and funding flowed to support the development of the Tlicho Regional Economic Development Strategy. I have been an active and committed member to the Working Group (TREDWG) ever since. I have been a key WG member pushing tourism forward through the development of a Tlicho tourism plan and a tourism committee. We are currently moving tourism development forward in various capacities in all Tlicho communities and putting the pieces together (through the establishment of a Tlicho regional tourism coordinator for example) to establish authentic Tlicho tourism packages for the market. Integral to this work is the subsequent implementation of the Tlicho Arts and Crafts strategy, and further partnerships will overlap with culture, trades and traditional economy as these sectors become established. It has been an honour to participate in this working group, and I am humbled to be nominated on behalf of the working group to participate in aboriginal economic development at the national level.

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