



News Release – March 08, 2005
Whitehorse, Yukon

**Gwich'in Council International Establishing Permanent Office
in Inuvik, NWT**

The Gwich'in Council International [GCI] is an aboriginal organization representing the interests of Gwich'in in the Northwest Territories, Alaska and Yukon. As a permanent participant, the GCI works closely with the Arctic Council, a regional forum for sustainable development, mandated to address all three of its main pillars: the environmental, social and economic. GCI also works closely with the Indigenous People's Secretariat [IPS] and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade [DFAIT].

The Gwich'in Council International Board made up of members from the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Alaska held a Board meeting in Whitehorse, YT on March 01 – 02, 2005. During this meeting the Board members passed a motion to establish a permanent office in Inuvik, Northwest Territories as of April 01, 2005. The office will be located in the Chief Jim Koe Zehh at 1-3 Council Crescent. The phone number for the office is (867) 777-7918.

Contacts:

Mary Ann Ross
Chairperson, GCI
(867) 777 – 7905

Craig Fleener
Vice Chairperson, GCI
(907) 662 – 2587

Joe Linklater
Senior Arctic Official, GCI
(867) 966 - 3261