

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Denendeh Investments Inc. Announces its New Board Members**

(Yellowknife, NT) Monday, April 23, 2007

Denendeh Investments Inc. (DII) is pleased to announce the addition of five new members on their Board of Directors: Calvin Helin of Vancouver, BC; Ron Jamieson of Six Nations, Ontario; Chief Clarence Louie of Osooyos, BC; Blake Lyons of Yellowknife, NT; and Dave Tuccaro of Fort McMurray, Alberta.

“We are very pleased with the high caliber of individuals who have joined our Board,” said John Bekale, Chairman of Denendeh Investments Inc. (DII). Other board members on DII are John Bekale of Yellowknife, James Firth of Inuvik, Greg Nyuli of Ft. Providence, Jim Schaefer of Ft. Smith and Raymond Taniton of Deline.

Darrell Beaulieu is the Chief Executive Officer of DII. DII is the general partner of Denendeh Investments Limited Partnership, whose partners are all the Dene First Nations of the NWT and including Smith’s Landing First Nations in Alberta, and the Denendeh Development Corporation. Its current investments include Shehtah Nabors LP, NASCo, Northland Utilities Enterprises Limited., Arrowmakers Fine Traditional Art Gallery Limited, Mackenzie Environmental Solutions, Denendeh Manor LP and Yellowknife River Resorts Inc.

Biographical information on the new Board members:

**Calvin Helin** is a nationally known aboriginal lawyer from the Tsimshian Nation of BC’s Northern coast. He received his law degree from the University of British Columbia, and was called to the Bar in 1992. Mr. Helin has been active in the creation and direction of many not-for-profit organizations. He is founding President of the Native Investment and Trade Association, and founding Vice President of the National Aboriginal Business Association, and the founding Vice-President of the newly formed BC Oil and Gas Association, among others. Mr. Helin is well-recognized nationally and internationally for innovative development of business models and is the author of a recently published book entitled, “Dances with Dependency.”

**Ron Jamieson**, a Mohawk from Six Nations, held senior executive positions in the financial services industry for ten years prior to being appointed Vice-President, Aboriginal Banking, Bank of Montreal in September, 1992. He assumed the position of Senior Vice-President in 1996 and retired in 2006. Throughout his career, he has been active in economic development initiatives for Aboriginal communities across Canada. He is a member of the Conference Board of Canada's Council on the Corporate Management of Aboriginal Affairs and he was a member of the Economic Task Force

advising National Chief Matthew Coon Come of the Assembly of First Nations. In addition, he was Chairman of the Royal Commission on Economic Matters affecting Aboriginal People in Canada and a member of the Whitehorse Mining Initiative - Finance and Taxation Issue Group.

**Chief Clarence Louie**, has served as Chief of the Osoyoos Indian Band in British Columbia since 1985. Under his direction, the Band has become a multi-faceted corporation that owns eight businesses, including, a golf course, a construction company, a forestry company, the largest privately owned vineyard in Canada, a convenience store, and a residential and agricultural leasing company. One of the bands biggest projects has been its eco-tourism resort campground and RV Park that includes a marina and a 120 room full service hotel and gas bar. Under his leadership, there is virtually no unemployment and the band is enjoying socio-economic development that is vastly improving the community's social, educational and health needs. Chief Louie is a popular motivational speaker throughout Canada and the North.

**Blake Lyons**, was the longest-serving member of the Yellowknife City Council, winning seven elections between 1987 and 2006. He served as the President of the NWT Association of Communities from 2000 to June and was on the Board of Directors of Canadian Association of Municipalities in same time period. He was the Chair of Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Municipal-Aboriginal Relations Committee from 2002 to 2005. Mr. Lyons was Executive Director of the NWT Teachers Association between 1980 and 1999 and was the Executive Director of the Nunavut Teachers Association from 1999 until March 2007.

**Dave Tuccaro**, is a Treaty Indian of the Mikisew Cree Band of Alberta. He is the President and CEO of Tuccaro Inc. which provides services primarily to the Oil Sands in Northeastern Alberta in diverse sectors, such as heavy equipment, construction, mining, technical services, staffing, management consulting, project management and water and vacuum services. He established the Northeastern Aboriginal Business Association. Mr. Tuccaro was a member of the National Task Force on Oil Stands Strategies, and the National Aboriginal Financing Task Force and served as Chair of the Aboriginal Business Canada Market Expansion Group.

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