PHILIP RABESCA
August 19, 1953 - February 19, 2009

Dearly beloved son of the late Jimmy and Adele Deninla Rabesca of Behchokǫ, NT.

Philip was renowned as an interpreter-translator and served his people and especially his elders with his profound knowledge and love of his Tłı̨chǫ language and culture. During his recent hospital stays he spent his time listening to and translating elders’ stories, which give us all strength through their wisdom and humour.

He passed along the bush skills he got from his mother’s and father’s training to many young people in his family and through his work with the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency, and he taught many teachers. As much as he loved being in the bush, he also loved jamming with friends in his music room. Philip composed and translated many songs, including ‘O Canada’.

Philip will be sadly missed by his sweetheart Leslie, large family, children, grandchildren and many friends.

Philià dò nàowoò, dò yatìì k’e eghàla’dà. Yit’ìì tsekaa hoghàehtòq dòò xè eghàla’dà. N’ììht’ìì k’e dò yatìì łò dek’enèg’ììt’ìì. Philià “dò nàke lanì nàts’ìtso” nàowoò k’èè dìì nè k’e nàj’ìwo.