

**DRAFT MINUTES  
AND RESOLUTIONS**

39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly  
of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)

and

36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly  
of the Cree Regional Authority

held on

August 6, 7, 8, 2013

Wemindji, Eeyou Istchee

***“TOGETHER TODAY, FOR OUR CHILDREN TOMORROW”***

## **INTRODUCTION OF DELEGATES:**

The Chairman asked the delegates to introduce themselves.

### **Chisasibi:**

1. Chief Davey Bobbish
2. Doris A. Bobbish
3. Elizabeth Chisamish, Elder
4. William Chiskamish , Elder

### **Eastmain:**

1. Chief Edward Gilpin
2. Rusty Cheezo
3. Johnny Tomatuk
4. Kenneth Gilpin

### **Waskaganish:**

1. Chief Gordon Blackned
2. Gordon Blueboy
3. George Katapatuk
4. Florrie Katapatuk
5. Elliot Steven
6. Roy Weistche
7. Matthew Salt

### **Mistissini:**

1. Chief Richard Shecapio
2. Gerald Longchap
3. Richard Iserhoff
4. Harriet Matoush
5. Sandy Matoush

### **Nemaska:**

1. Alice Jolly Jr.
2. Walter Jolly
3. Samuel Mettaweskum
4. Malcolm Tanoush
5. Doris Tanoush
6. Edna Jolly
7. Chief Matthew Wapachee
8. Thomas Jolly

### **Washaw Sibi:**

1. Chief Pauline Trapper Hester
2. Minnie Otter
3. Jean Denis Cananasso
4. Emma Mapachee
5. Andy Trapper
6. Dustyn Hester

### **Ouje-Bougoumou :**

1. Chief Reggie Neeposh
2. Janis Neeposh
3. Daniel Bosum
4. Mary Bosum
5. Rosie B. Rabbitskin
6. Waylon Martin Sealhunter

### **Whapmagoostui**

1. Chief Stanley George
2. Jacob Dick
3. Allan House
4. Nathan Masty

### **Waswanipi**

1. Marcel Happyjack
2. Glenn Cooper
3. Paul Dixon
4. Johnny Grant
5. Allan L. Cooper
6. Caroline C. Dixon

### **Wemindji**

1. Dennis Georgekish
2. Bobby Georgekish
3. Fred Asquabaneskum
4. John Mark
5. Carmen Faries

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**GCCEI/CRA STAFF:**

Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come, Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark, Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Eddie Diamond, Director General, Matthew Swallow, Treasurer, Joshua Iserhoff, Youth Grand Chief, Tina Petawabano, Director of Quebec Relations, Rodney Hester, Director of Government Support Services, Johnny Trapper, Director of Human Resources, Alfred Loon, Director of Economic and Sustainable Development, Reggie Bobbish, Director of EEPF, Edna Neeposh, Executive Assistant to Grand Chief, Judy Cooper, Executive Assistant to Deputy Grand Chief, Rita Blackned, Administrative Assistant to Director General, April Pachano, Communications Officer, Monica Diamond, Office Agent.

**OPENING PRAYER:**

The opening prayer was said by Deputy Chief Marcel Happyjack from the community of Waswanipi.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

The agenda was reviewed by the Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come and the following items added are: Condition of the James Bay Highway; Mandates of the Grand Chief/Chairman & Deputy Grand Chief/Vice Chairman; Extension of deadlines related to the process of the compensation payments related to Indian Residential Schools; Supporting Resolution Site Selection for the Washaw Sibi Eeyou.

On a motion duly made by Paul Dixon and seconded by Chief Reggie Neeposh, it is resolved that the Assembly adopts Resolution No. 2013-01.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby adopt the agenda of the 2013 Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Regional Authority subject to the possible of additional items.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING SECRETARIES:**

On a motion duly made by Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Chief Davey Bobbish, it was resolved that the Assembly adopt Resolution 2013-02:

**RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby name Roslyn Tomatuk and Lillian Loon to be the recording secretaries of the 2013 Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Regional Authority.

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#### **APPOINTMENT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:**

On a motion duly made by William Chiskamish and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio it is resolved that the Assembly adopts Resolution No. 2013-03:

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly nominate Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Eddie Diamond, Director General, Matthew Swallow, Treasurer, Rodney Hester, Director of Government Services and John Paul Murdoch to the Resolutions Committee of the 2013 Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Regional Authority.

#### **OPENING REMARKS BY DEPUTY CHIEF DENNIS GEORGEKISH:**

Deputy Chief Georgekish welcomed all the delegates to the community of Wemindji and hoped that all guests feel welcomed to his community.

He thanked Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark for all he has done for the community of Wemindji.

He hoped that everything goes well at this assembly.

#### **OPENING REMARKS BY DEPUTY GRAND CHIEF RODNEY MARK:**

Deputy Grand Chief Mark stated his appreciation for all the support during the elections of the GCCEI/CRA.

He raised the issue of housing and economic development in the Cree communities.

He looked forward to working with Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority.

#### **OPENING REMARKS BY GRAND CHIEF MATTHEW COON COME:**

Grand Chief Coon Come thanked the Deputy Chief Georgekish and Deputy Grand Chief Mark for their welcoming remarks.

Grand Chief Coon Come stated that this is the 39<sup>th</sup> GCCEI and 36<sup>th</sup> CRA annual general assembly.

He pointed out that the Cree have come a long way, some of our people have left us.

He stated that sometimes it was difficult path, we had to go to the courts and that there is still a lot that needs to be done to make it easier for our children.

Grand Chief Coon Come stated that when we see the conditions of other First Nations, the Cree have really prospered and we cannot forget where we came from and that we have to support each other.

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He hoped that all goes well at this assembly and informed the delegates that the assembly is on live stream.

He stated that he would work closely with Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark.

He informed the assembly that an update will be given on the process of the Cree Governance.

### **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE 2012 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

On a motion duly made by Paul Dixon and seconded by Chief Edward Gilpin it is resolved that the Assembly adopts Resolution No. 2013-04:

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly having taken cognizance of the Minutes and Resolutions of the 38<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> the Annual General Assemblies of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Cree Regional Authority held on August 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012, in Waskaganish (Eeyou Istchee) are hereby approved and adopted.

### **APPROVAL OF THE 2012-2013 MINUTES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD/COUNCIL OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EEYOU ISTCHEE)/CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY:**

On a motion duly made by Chief Edward Gilpin and seconded by Marcel Happyjack it is resolved that the Assembly adopts Resolution No. 2013-05:

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly having taken cognizance of the Minutes and Resolutions of the 2012-2013 minutes of resolutions of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Cree Regional Authority hereby formally receive said minutes and resolutions as per the General By-Laws.

### **TABLING OF THE GCCEI/CRA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**

Matthew Swallow, Treasurer then presented a general overview of the financial highlights of the GCCEI Financial Statements, CRA Financial Statements, Eenou-Eeyou Limited Partnership Financial Statements and the Cree Heritage Fund Foundation Inc. Financial Statements as of March 31, 2013 and how the funding was disbursed for 2012-2013.

He informed the assembly that Sylvain Faucher a partner from Raymond, Chabot, Grant and Thornton who have been the auditors for the GCCEI/CRA for so many years is in attendance if anyone wants to direct any questions to him.

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The Treasurer also informed the assembly that the Cree Regional Authority does not receive funding for housing but loans have to be made.

Chief Dave Bobbish questioned about the shortage of funding for housing and added that he understands that the Government of Canada cannot provide all the funding and that we need to look at other ways to solve this issue.

Grand Chief Coon Come stated that the Capital Works Department is working on this matter as the "A Base" funding comes from INAC and also Quebec is being asked to provide some funds. The GCCEI/CRA is also looking at other ways to seek funding for housing.

Johnny Grant a delegation from the community of Waswanipi enquired if funding is allocated to the Cree Nation of Washaw Sibi.

Grand Chief Coon Come confirmed that funds are set aside for them each year.

Glen Cooper, a delegate from the community of Waswanipi raised the issue of elderly homes in the Cree communities and that this has been discussed for the past 15 years. He hopes and expects a home for elderly be built in Waswanipi soon.

Grand Chief stated that he thinks that the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay might discuss this issue.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EEYOU ISTCHEE)/CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY:**

On a motion duly made by Chief Gordon Blackned and seconded by Chief Edward Gilpin it is resolved that the Assembly adopts Resolution No. 2013-06:

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly having taken cognizance of the 2012-2013 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Cree Regional Authority hereby formally adopted said financial statements.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2013-2014:**

On a motion duly made by Rusty Cheezo and seconded by Marcel Happyjack it is resolved that the Assembly adopts Resolution No. 2013-07:

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly having received the recommendation of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority hereby nominate the firm of Raymond Chabot Grand Thornton to act as the auditors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority.

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**Tuesday, August 6, 2013 – Afternoon session:**

**PRESENTATION BY THE CRA-BOARD OF COMPENSATION & CREECO – DARLENE CHEECHOO, CHAIRPERSON:**

Darlene Cheechoo, Chairperson tabled the report from the CRA-Board of Compensation, CreeCo and also a brief summary of the financial audited statements. Tanya Pash, Controller and Albert Rondeau, Accountant and Accountant Supervisor were also present. James Bobbish provided the Cree translation for the Chairperson's presentation.

**CRA - Board of Compensation (BOC)**

Ms. Cheechoo stated that the Board of Compensation is the medium through which the Cree receive, administer, use, invest, transfer and distribute the JBNQA Compensation Funds and that it is comprised of 100% Cree Board of Directors since 1997; that the monies are spent for the implementation of the JBNQA is for the general benefit of the Cree; funding source such as the Cree Trappers Association, Cree Outfitting & Tourism and the Cree Arts & Crafts Association; that it has made significant contributions to all the Cree communities, to the advancement of Cree rights and to certain Cree entities; and that there is to be no cash distribution made to individuals; adding that the income of the Board of Compensation is non-taxable and that its status and existence are protected by Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 that is confirmed by tax returns files to government authorities.

**Evolution of BOC:**

Ms. Cheechoo, Chairperson presented a brief evolution of the Board of Compensation from the outset, highlighting that representatives from both governments were Board members to supervise the monies, funds were restricted, although owners, the Cree did not have ultimate and exclusive control; and that now, there is no government participation, funds are subject to limited reasonable investment restrictions and that investments are possible outside of the JBNQA territory.

**BOC Accomplishments:**

The Chairperson also provided an outline of the Board of Compensation's Accomplishments specifying that the most important return to the Cree Nation was funding provided: to defend the Cree rights and way of life; JBNQA Obligations; and Economic Development at the regional and local levels; Cree management of Compensation Funds without any government involvement; recruitment and retaining mostly Cree staff since 1995; use of a corporation to generate revenues through the creation of CREECO; and that without the Board of Compensation guarantees, no other Cree entity would have qualified to access preferential contracts under the Paix des Braves and other agreements due to ISO and bonding requirements.

She then reported on the amounts that have been disbursed: from the Administration Fund, from 1979 to 2013 a total of \$41,352, 187 had been provided to the Cree Regional Authority Council, Cree Trappers' Association, James Bay Cree Communication EC, Youth Council, Cree Outfitting & Tourism Association, Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association and others; and from the Community Fund, from 1979 to 2013 a total of \$101, 138, 768 had been provided to the nine Cree communities; and from the Economic Development Fund, in 2012-2013, a total of \$5,000,000 was disbursed to the

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nine Cree communities with an additional \$5,000,000 to be disbursed in 2013-2014 and also provides a general overview of the growth of the initial capital, from 1978 to 2013.

Furthermore, the Chairperson presented a review of the Board of Compensation's Investment Strategy for the Growth Fund and the Regular Fund, highlighting the Target and Actual Asset Mix of each fund, as of March 2013 and the continued monitoring of the Investment Managers, annual review of the Investment Policy in addition to the Investment Committee's activities, review of mandates and states that the updating of asset mix and structure is currently underway, and also provides a general overview of the growth of the Regular and Growth Funds, from March 2003 to March 2013.

### **Cree Collective Deductible Insurance Program (CCDIP)**

Ms. Cheechoo provided a brief summary review of the Cree Collective Deductible Insurance Program (CDDIP) highlighting that the CCDIP obtains insurance for over \$2 billion in Cree assets; increase in insurance premiums reflects an increase in insured assets and market conditions and that claim experience is also factored in the premiums charged and that the fund stands at approximately \$14 million. Adding that presentations have been made regarding the private insurance for housing and automobiles that will require the participation at the band level and that it is continuously reviewing the needs and searching for cost effective ways to provide access to participants. She then provides an overview of the growth of the CCDIP from 2008 to 2013, as well as briefly highlighting the benefits and intent of the program.

### **CREECO:**

Ms. Cheechoo, Chairperson stated that the CREECO is the holding company for Air Creebec, Cree Construction & Development Company (CCDC), Gestion ADC, Valpiro, Eenou Eeyou Realty Properties Inc., and certain partnerships including the Quality Inn and Suites, CREECO Dumas Mining Inc. and that the profits of CREECO flow to the Board of Compensation then back to the communities or are invested into new business ventures which are expected to increase future returns.

She provided a summary on the revenues from 2003 to 2013 providing a percentage breakdown of revenue for 2013; Shareholders' Equity/Deficit from 2002 to 2013, highlighting the positive and increase in the Shareholders' Equity, stating that the deficit (2002-2005) comprises all of the previous losses and income. She then provides a brief overview of the highlights and accomplishments of CREECO; Air Creebec, Cree Construction & Development Company (CCDC), Gestion ADC and Valpiro.

Glen Cooper asked what happened to the strategic plan to get CCDC out of debt in 10 years.

The Chairperson responded by stating that this is due to the changes in the markets, strategies, clientele, and the recovery action plan. Steps have been take to make CCDC profitable and make sure it survives in the construction industry and wants to report next year that CCDC is profitable.

Grand Chief Coon Come asked how much CCDC was in debt; the Chairperson stated that CCDC was in debt of \$8.8M.



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Chief Richard Shecapio had a question about loans under General Fund and wanted to know if these loans were available to the development corporations of the Cree communities.

The Chairperson stated that monies to the communities are given in the form of grants.

Chief Shecapio had a question for Matthew Swallow, Treasurer about the funding formula and if it has been done and what the status is.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director responded that funding left over from the Paix des Braves has been distributed and the distribution funding formula was approved by the chiefs which the smaller communities were not pleased.

**Presentation from Nellie House on housing for dialysis patients receiving treatment in Chisasibi:**

Nellie House stated that she was asked to speak on behalf of patients battling diabetes and wants to bring to the attention of this assembly that there needs to be housing built for patients from other coastal communities that come to Chisasibi to receive treatment for their diabetes.

Ms. House mentioned that she brought this issue at a meeting before in Waswanipi. She stated that this sickness takes a toll on one's body, both mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally and that there should be a place where patients can live in a peaceful and comfortable place where they can stay with families.

**Residential School Deadline – Chief Davey Bobbish:**

Chief Davey Bobbish tabled a petition to open and extend the CEP (common experience payment) and the IAP) Independent assessment process). 256 people have signed this petition.

Reason for Petition:

1. Some people did not received their compensation for all the years spent in Residential school. (CEP)
2. Some people did not receive all the information therefore they were unable to fully understand the procedures for these processes (CEP & IAP)
3. There was not enough time to bring more awareness for the Cree public regarding the CEP & IAP.
4. The people who experienced severe trauma during their stay in these institutions had difficulty to talk about for example sexual abuse. For some people, it is like reliving the experience, and in such cases, the IAP was not filled out.
5. Some people still live with their fear instilled in them at these schools, inhibiting them filling out these forms (IAP and CEP)

The petition is attached to these minutes (Annex I).

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Allan Cooper, a delegate from the community of Waswanipi stated that it is not only Chisasibi who are going through the residential school claim; it's the whole Cree Nation and provided his support to extend the deadline.

He mentioned that he attended residential school for 10 years at two different places and when he got his money he did not feel different.

The closing prayer was done by Malcolm Tanoush and the assembly adjourned for the day at 4:53 p.m.

### **Wednesday, August 7, 2013 – Morning Session:**

The opening prayer was done by Daniel Bosum an elder from the community of Ouje-Bougoumou. The assembly commenced at 9:22 a.m.

Rodney Mark, Deputy Grand Chief chaired the assembly. He reviewed the agenda for the day to the members.

### **CREE-QUEBEC AGREEMENT ON GOVERNANCE IN EYYOU ISTCHEE JAMES BAY TERRITORY: NEXT STEPS:**

Abel Bosum, Negotiator, Cree-Quebec Relations presented to the assembly on the Cree-Quebec Agreement on Government in Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory.

He provided a general overview of the Cree-Quebec Agreement on Governance in Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory.

He reported that the Cree-Quebec Governance Agreement does not affect JBNQA – role and jurisdiction of:

- Cree Local Governments (Sections 9 and 10)
- Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (Section 14)
- Cree School Board (Section 16)
- Administration of Justice (Section 18)
- Eeyou-Eenou Police Force (Section 19)
- JBACE, COMEX, COMEV, COFEX (Section 22)
- Hunting, Fishing, Trapping Coordinating Committee (Section 24)

Mr. Bosum also pointed out the main objectives and principles of the Governance Agreement such as:

- Undoing of Bill 40 (2001)
- Greater Cree autonomy and responsibility for governance of Category II lands
- Modernization of governance regimes on Category II and III lands
- Cree participation in governance of Category III lands in partnership with other residents of territory
- Withdrawal of legal proceedings concerning Section 11B of JBNQA and Dispute concerning Bill 40, MBJ and CRE-BJ

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He also reported that the Municipality de la Baie James (MBJ) and James Bay Regional Zone Council will be abolished.

Furthermore, MBJ will be replaced by a new public, regional government: “Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government”.

### **QUEBEC PROPOSED GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION – PRESENTATION BY JAMES BOBBISH:**

James Bobbish, Advisor/Consultant, provided a presentation to the members of the Cree Nation Annual General Assembly on Bill 20: Firearms Registration Act.

The issues are:

1. Abolition of Federal Long-Gun Registry
2. Opposition to Bill C-19 by Quebec
3. Quebec’s proposed Firearms Registry
4. JBNQA Harvesting Rights
5. Overview of Bill 20: Firearms Registration Act
6. Preliminary Potions of certain Cree entities
7. Next steps
8. Abolition of Federal Long-Gun Registry:

Mr. Bobbish reported that Federal Bill C-19 is an Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act also known as the ending the Long-Gun Registry Act which came into force on April 6, 2012.

He explained that Bill C-19 amends the Criminal Code and the Firearms Act to remove the requirement to register non-restricted firearms, also referred to as “long-guns” essentially rifles and shotguns. He also informed the assembly that Bill C-19 also provides for the destruction of all registration records of non-restricted firearms in the Canadian Firearms Registry.

### **Opposition to Bill C-19 by Quebec:**

Mr. Bobbish stated that Quebec is strongly opposed to Bill C-10 and the destruction of the long-gun records relating to Quebec in the Firearms Registry and that Quebec wants to establish its own registry using the information from these records to save time and money.

Quebec has also taken legal action against Canada to prevent the destruction of the long-gun records relating to Quebec and that on April 5, 2012, the Quebec Superior Court issued an interim (temporary) order in favour of Quebec and ordered Canada to temporarily protect the information relating to Quebec and to allow Quebec the right to access this information.

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On September 10, 2012 the Quebec Superior Court rendered its final decision on this matter and declared:

- Of no force or effect the section of Bill C-19 requiring the destruction of all records in the Canadian Firearms Registry, but only for data originating from Quebec
- That Quebec is entitled to receive from Canada all of the long-gun registration data originating from Quebec

The federal government appealed this decision to the court of Appeal of Quebec and on June 27, 2013 the Court of Appeal of Quebec ruled in favour Canada and declared that Canada has the power to destroy the long-gun data of the Canada Firearms Registry relating to Quebec.

Quebec has appealed this decision of the Court of Appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada requesting to protect the data pending the final decision of the Supreme Court.

On July 23, 2013 the Court of Appeal refused Quebec's request. The Minister of Justice has indicated that Quebec would also appeal this decision of the Court of Appeal and seek an order from the Supreme Court of Canada to protect the data until a final decision is made.

According to media reports and despite the decision of the Court of Appeal, Canada has stated that it would not destroy the data until the Supreme Court has made its final decision.

#### **Quebec's Proposed Firearms Registry:**

Mr. Bobbish reported that on February 19, 2013 Quebec introduced Bill 20: Firearms Act which establishes the requirement for owners of non-restricted firearms, essentially, rifles and shotguns that a registration certificate needs to be obtained for each firearm owned.

Bill 20 does not deal with gun safety courses, storage or firearms and ammunition, licenses to possess guns and other matters nor does it have any impact on the current federal legislation regarding safe storage and handling of guns and ammunition, possession and acquisition licenses and gun safety courses and that these federal requirements are still applicable in Quebec

Mr. Bobbish mentioned that special consultations by the Committee on Institutions of the National Assembly (commission des Institutions) will be held regarding Bill 20 by invitation but no information is yet available when these special consultations will begin.

### **JBNQA Harvesting Rights:**

Mr. Bobbish provided a general overview of sections 24.3.1, 24.3.12, 24.2.18, of the JBNQA Harvesting rights.

He reported that essentially, Section 24 guarantees the right of Cree beneficiaries to hunt, but this right is subject to laws and regulations regarding weapon control whether they related to public security and not to harvesting.

Overview: Bill 20, Firearms Registration Act

The purpose of Bill 20 is:

- To establish the rules governing firearms registration, including transfer of ownership
- To make it possible to identify firearms
- To make it easier for public authorities to be aware of the presence of firearms for public safety and the administration of justice – including supporting peace officers in their investigations and interventions
- To ensure the effective enforcement of court orders prohibiting the possession of firearms.

Mr. Bobbish mentioned that Bill 20 also provides for the following:

“The Government may, by regulation, in the cases and under the conditions it determines, exempt certain firearms and firearms owners from the application of this Act.”

The regulations have not been made public so it is unclear what exemptions may be provided.

### **Preliminary Positions of Certain Cree Entities:**

Overall, the Public Health Department of the Cree Health Board clearly favours the creation of a provincial firearms registry for long-guns and recommends that the obligation to register firearms should be maintained.

He reported that a brief stats on firearms-related deaths which a majority are caused by rifles or shotguns (non-restricted firearms).

Also, firearms-related issues are of increasing concern in Eeyou Istchee and as with other police forces in Quebec, the EEPF is generally in favour of a provincial firearms registry for long-guns.

Mr. Bobbish also stated that the Cree Trappers Association has expressed a concern that Cree hunters could face criminal charges under federal regime for a failure to register rifles and shotguns. Prior to the introduction of Bill 20, CTA asserted initial opposition to the creation of a provincial long-gun registry.

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In relation to the federal regime, the CTA has been effective in assisting Cree hunters to register firearms and to complete gun safety courses and added that input from the CTA is important in this regard for development of the Cree position regarding Bill 20 (registration of firearms).

**Next Steps:**

Mr. Bobbish also stated that input from the Cree Band and the CTA including local CTA committees will be sought regarding registration of firearms as reflected in Bill 20.

A letter will be sent to Quebec regarding the participation of the Cree Nation in the hearings of the Committee on Institutions regarding Bill 20 and one a draft Cree response to Bill 20 has been developed it will be tabled to the Council/Board for political approval.

The form of this presentation remains to be determined. It could be through a Cree-Quebec table, through direct discussions with the Ministry of Public Security, participation in the hearings of the Committee on Institutions or a combination of the above.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark thanked James Bobbish for his presentation and informed the assembly that question and answers would be done after the presentation of the Cree Nation Trust.

Reggie Bobbish, Director of Eeyou Eenou Police Force provided some general comments about Bill 20 and about the problems the police have within the Cree communities such as improper storage of guns, non-registered guns. He added that the EEPF detachments have a lot of firearms that cannot be released because people did not follow and register their firearms.

Mr. Bobbish stated that the police have been given the right and the power to enforce Bill 20 whereby they can just seize the firearms.

**CREE NATION TRUST – PRESENTATION BY TED MOSES, CHAIRMAN:**

Ted Moses, Chairman of the Cree Nation Trust provided a presentation on the Cree Nation Trust on this past year's activities.

He reported that new Relationship Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee was signed back in February 21, 2008 under which Canada provides the Crees with a lump sum payment to fulfill its treaty obligations under the JBNQA which the Crees must use to full the obligations assumed under the JBNQA.

**Purpose and Objective:**

The Chairman stated that the Cree Nation Trust receives funding requests and programs from the CRA for funding following treaty obligations:

- Construction or provision and operations and maintenance of community centers in each Cree community;
- Essential sanitation services in each Cree community;
- Fire protection;

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The Board of Trustees consists of the following:

Ted Moses, O.Q., Chairperson  
Albert Rondeau, Vice-Chairperson/Treasurer  
Bill Namagoose  
Mathew Swallow  
George Wapachee  
Katherine Moses-Blackned  
Matthew Rabbitskin

He reported that the investment of the portfolio of the Trust has been set at sixty percent (60%) in fixed income instruments and forty percent (40%) in equity investments. Furthermore, the Trust relies on an Advisory Board of experts in the development, revision and implementation of the Investment Policy.

#### **Summary of funds at December 2012**

Funds received from Canada	\$1,146,800,686.03	100.0%
Disbursements to Beneficiary	\$ 320,479,000.00	- 27.9%
Fees	\$ 7,756,932.22	-0.7%
Hedge Losses	\$ 436,308.85	0.0%
Transfers to Operating Account	(1,750,000.00)	-0.2%
Investment Income	115,893,568.02	10.1%
Realized losses	(11,376,314.37)	-1.0%
Unrealized Losses	(38,432,380.41)	-3.4%
	883,335,935.90	-77.0%

#### **Distribution of Funds:**

Distribution: \$68,000.000 in 2011-2012

Approved amount with CPI:

For 2012-2013 \$69,972,000.00  
For 2013-2014 \$70,812,000.00

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The Chairperson reported that the total amount of \$320,479,000.00 was distributed from 2008 to December 2013.

The Cree Nation Trust will attempt to maintain this level plus CPI for five years. It is hoped that it will allow the Cree communities through the CRA to use it to compliment the funds under the Paix des Braves Agreement and other Agreements to meet the development and program needs of their communities.

The Chairperson also provided a summary of the 2012 financial statements.

Chief Davey Bobbish mentioned that Canada has not looked at paving the roads as an obligation and wanted to know if this is how the Cree Nation Trust looks at it too.

John Paul Murdoch responded by stating that the Cree Nation Trust does not make the decision as the funding goes to the Cree Regional Authority and added that in the JBNQA it states "roads" but does not specify.

Grand Chief Coon Come mentioned that this can be discussed at the Director General and Treasurers' meetings.

Freddie Atsynia, representative from the community of Wemindji raised the issue of Maquatua Lake. The culverts on the bridge are all corroded and that he does not want this discussed but worked on.

Marcel Happyjack enquired as to where are the discussions on Nabakatuk. He stated that MBJ has established camps on Waswanipi Lake and they were not allowed to set their nets, set snares or hunt ptarmigan in this area.

Grand Chief stated that 26,000 cubic metres were only given to the Cree and MBJ got 56,000.

He informed the assembly that they would be looking all the resolutions of MBJ.

Chief Stanley George raised the issue regarding face book and the different forms of violence and lateral gossip. He stated that as a nation we need to work together to address our social issues.

He mentioned that all of these agreements that have been signed he has not seen a treatment center or women's shelter being built in the Cree communities. He raised the obligation of paving.

He had a question about Category III lands if the Cree are going to be sharing it.

He also mentioned about having the EEPF register firearms in the Cree communities.

Grand Chief Coon Come thanked Chief George for his comments and added that in the Cree Health Board agreement it is mentioned that healing centers and treatment centers will be built.

In regards to the gun legislation the Grand Chief stated that there is still opportunity to discuss this further or how it can be applied.

The closing prayer was done by Kenneth Gilpin.



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**Thursday, August 8, 2014 – Morning Session:**

**TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORTS FROM THE CREE ENTITIES:**

Grand Chief Coon Come informed the delegates that the following annual reports from the various entities, organizations have been distributed at this assembly.

GCCEI/CRA Annual Report  
Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association  
Eeyou Istchee Tourism Association  
Niskamoon Corporation  
Cree Nation Youth Council  
CRA - Board of Compensation  
Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company (Creeco) Inc.  
Cree School Board  
Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board  
Aanischaaukamikw – Cree Cultural Institute  
Cree Board of Health and Social Services  
Cree Nation Youth Council

**CREE SCHOOL BOARD:**

Kathleen Wootton, Chairperson of the Cree School Board and Abraham Jolly, Director General , Cree School Board presented the report on the past year activities of the Cree School Board.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide a brief overview of Policy Governance Model; review Council's job-outputs and work for 2013.

The Chairperson pointed out that the Director General oversees the administration and management of the Cree School Board.

The Chairperson reported that the Cree School Board now holds its regular meeting in the Cree communities. They have also had meetings with GCCEI/CRA (December 2012); Cree Trappers Association (May & June 2012); Mistissini Native Women's Association (November 2012); Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association (February 2013); Eeyou Eenou Police Force (February 2013).

**Cree School Board – Some Highlights of 2012-2013:**

September 2012: Swearing-in Ceremony of new Commissioners; Adoption of Code of Ethics; and graduation rate increased from 7.7% to 15.6%;

October 2012: Reviewed meeting notes from Cree Trappers' Association, developed Council Education Plan, and met with Cree Nation of Wemindji;

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December 2012: Council evaluated its performance; received information from Summit on Deficiencies and Addictions; assessed 8 monitoring reports from the Director General and Governance Development Committee reported on its work – set up two Working Groups for review process;

March 2013: Council Appointed Auditors; review meeting notes from Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association, assessed 4 monitoring reports, and met with the Cree Nation of Waskaganish, School Committee and the school staff;

June 2013: Council established new Ownership Linkage Plan, finalized composition of Working Groups for the Review Processed, received the results of the Canadian Achievement Tests – showing improvements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and Secondary 3 remains a challenge, discussed trends identified in all Ownership Linkage Meetings and amended its Ends and Executive Limitations policies accordingly.

The Chairperson also reported that the Council of Commissioners have started a review process for the following:

- Education Act for the Cree and Naskapi Native Persons and;
- Cree Component of Cree Education

The Council through its Governance Development Committee has also set up two Working Groups, one group will review the Cree Education Act and another group will review the Cree component of Cree education. These two review processes will focus on the “what” rather than the “how” is the responsibility of the Director General, Deputy Director General and the pedagogical team.

Furthermore, the review processes is an attempt to clearly define the “Cree Education System, identify the Cree values, principles and other aspects of Cree culture that should be included in the Cree education.

Abraham Jolly, Director General provided a report which focused mainly on the following:

- Youth Education (Pre-K to Secondary V)
- Adult Education (Upgrading & Vocational)
- Post-Secondary Services (College/University)

He also reported that the Cree School Board participated in the “Cree Capacity Building Roundtable of Eeyou Istchee an initiative centered on post-secondary students bringing awareness of future employment and business opportunities within the Cree Nation.

### **Youth Education:**

The Director General also mentioned that the action plans of the Cree School Board with respect to Youth Education is to develop and implement a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum; high focus on literacy and numeracy; building teacher capacity for continual improvement on classroom instructions; empowering school leadership for continual school improvement

### **Youth Education – Raising the bar on achievement:**

- June 2012 graduation rates: 15.9%

Exam pass rates for 2012:

- Secondary V English Language Arts – 905%
- Secondary V French Secondary Language – 100%
- Mathematics – not available

### **CAT Tests:**

- Grade 6 Read – increase by 8%
- Grade 6 Mathematics – increase by 19%
- Grade 9 Reading – decrease by 14%
- Grade 9 Mathematics – decrease by 8%

### **Adult Education:**

Mr. Jolly also reported that in 2012-2013 there were 310 adult students registered in both the general and vocation programs which 9 students have successfully met the requirements to obtain their Secondary School Diploma in General Education and 109 students have successfully completed their respective program, many programs are still ongoing.

### **Post-Secondary Student Services:**

The Director General also reported that there has been a 25% increase in enrollment by youth under 25 years of age whereby the highest student enrollment are in the communities of Chisasibi, Mistissini and Waskaganish.

Overall 344 students are enrolled with 29 confirmed graduates as of June 26, 2013.

Furthermore, the Chairperson stated that her hope is to create an education system that will provide quality education for our children and if we say education is important we must demonstrate through our actions that education is important and something we value.

### **CREE BOARD OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:**

Bella Moses-Petawabano, Chairperson, Mabel Herodier, Executive Director, Thomas Jolly, Vice-Chair, Jason Coonishish, Regional Public Health Coordinator from the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (CBHSSJB).

Ms. Moses-Petawabano provided an overview of the CBHSSJB and Mabel Herodier provided an overview of the departments of the Cree Health Board.

Robert Auclair, Director of Youth Protection provided a brief overview of Miuupimaatisiun group which is the largest group in the CBHSSJB encompassing regional health and social services,

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Chisasibi Regional Hospital and the network of Community Miupimaatisiun Centres (CMCs) in the nine communities of Eeyou Istchee.

Bella Moses-Petawabano informed the assembly that the report on “Cree Policy for Social Wellness” is not completed so therefore an update will not be provided at this time.

A copy of the CBHSSJB summary financial statement 2012-2013 was distributed at this assembly.

Bobby Georgekish, a delegate from the community of Wemindji raised the importance of finding ways to help young mothers on how to take care of their children.

Bella Moses-Petawabano stated that the CHB has a program in place to help young mothers.

Marcel Happyjack, Deputy Chief from the community of Waswanipi stated that the CHB should look at have a dialysis clinic in Waswanipi. Patients have to be sent to Montreal or driven 3 hours to Waswanipi.

He also raised the issue of having an elder’s home in Waswanipi and the lack of funding for ambulance services.

Mabel Herodier, Executive Director mentioned that a new elders home will be built by the Board of Directors have not decided where it will be located.

Ms. Herodier also reported that new clinics will be built in the Cree communities of Whapmagoostui and Waswanipi; and the hospital in Chisasib will be expanded.

A suggested was raised to have a 2 or 3 days meeting on social issues not just an hour.

#### **Thursday, August 8, 2013 - Afternoon Session:**

Johnny Tomatuk a delegate from the community of Eastmain spoke about the forest fire in Eastmain. He reported that only 3 trap lines were not affected, 17 cabins burnt down where only 4 were insured. He added that in the further the Cree nation needs to prepare for these kind of incidents such as forest fires and floods.

Grand Chief stated that a report was submitted by the Chief of Eastmain to the GCCEI/CRA on what was lost in the Eastmain forest fire.

**Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association – Presentation at the GCCEI/CRA Annual General Assembly:**

Linda Shecapio, Interim Regional Coordinator for the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association presented a history and mission statement of the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association (CWEIA).

She reported that the CWEIA is a “grass-roots and a non-profit organization that was legally constituted on January 28, 2009. Funding is received from a variety of sources including the solicitation of government grants, Quebec Native Women Association, Justice Quebec, Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of Quebec.

The CWEIA operates under the leadership of a volunteer Board of Directors, composed of entirely women from 12 communities which includes the 9 Cree communities and the additional communities of Washaw Sibi, Senneterre, Val d’Or and Chibougamu.

The Board of Directors meet 4 times a year and holds an annual general assembly once a year in September.

The CWEIA is currently in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the 5 year Action Plan which has started in April 2011 and ends in 2015. The CWEIA’s main concern is to provide the services and programs with consistency and quality for all Cree women.

The future goal of the CWEIA is to employ 10 employees by the end of the 5 year action plan.

Furthermore, the Regional Office of the CWEIA is in the development states of a permanent home within the next 4 years.

In conclusion, Ms. Shecapio stated that as our nation is plagued with suicide, obesity, alcohol and drug abuse, violence against women it feels that it is time as women to take leadership roles to better our communities in all areas that affect family and community development at all levels.

Ms. Shecapio reported that the CWEIA is also focusing on the development of careers in politics, business, education and health for Cree women and support from the leadership is the most integral part of their success and advancement.

The recommendations from the CWEIA are as follows:

- Mistissini Native Women’s Association will bring forth a resolution in respect to CWEIA’s participation and representation at the Grand Council level – reiterate Resolution 1999-16 – never received an official letter of invitation to such meetings.
- Proposal for a Cree community to provide the needs to house the CWEIA Regional Office and to accommodate housing for its employees.
- CWEIA to submit a resolution to address CNACA’s position to act as a governing body to compliment the women’s role in traditional arts and crafts as, CTA, COTA, and the Cree Cultural Institute have their own roles to carry out in their respective fields of raw materials, tourism, history and education.

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Linda Shecapio encouraged everyone to visit their website: [www.cweia.ca](http://www.cweia.ca) and added that CWEIA is always looking for partnerships.

Chief Matthew Wapachee thanked the community of Wemindji for their warm hospitality and congratulated the new elected leadership of the GCCEI/CRA.

Chief Matthew Wapachee had some issues he wished to discuss at this assembly one of them was "Emergency Preparedness: Search and Rescue", that this needs to be discussed before it becomes too big of a problem to do anything. The other issue he raised was to look at lower membership for resolutions or by-laws to be adopted in local community meetings.

Chief Wapachee thanked the people who have elected the leadership to speak on behalf of the Cree Nation Government. He mentioned that an elder once had told him that "it is a good thing that a person is given the power to decide what he wants to do and it even better when he realizes that he has accomplished what he has set out to do".

Grand Chief Coon Come stated that the GCCEI/CR has already decided that a meeting with take place inviting all the "First Responders", Public Safety be invited including, COTA, CHBSSJB and EEPF and at the next Council/Board meeting a status report can be provided.

Grand Chief also mentioned that the GCCEI/CRA aware of the problems Chief and Council encounter when it comes to adopting resolutions/bylaws. They have asked the Cree Naskapi Commission to look into this matter.

The Chairman thanked Chief Wapachee for his encouragement that we can govern ourselves.

Roy Weistchee raised the issue of paving the roads in the communities if funding has been set aside from the NRA funds and proposed an AGA resolution on this matter which is seconded by William Chiskamish.

Grand Chief Coon Come informed him that this is an issue can be discussed at Director General & Treasurers meetings.

### **James Bay Highway:**

Denis Georgekish gave a brief status report on this matter. MTQ had informed them that it is a private road so they cannot provide that much funding.

Mr. Georgekish stated that since the Quebec elections they have not heard anything from the Quebec government.

Chief Gordon Blackned stated that he had gone to two meetings whereby they had asked for more funding because in the winter time the highway is very icy. .

Although this committee had asked for more funding it was not approved.

Hydro-Quebec had stated that they would seek partners in the funding for the repairs of the James Bay highway.

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## **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:**

### **Resolution 2013-08: Joint Special General Assembly between GCCEI/CRA and Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay**

**WHEREAS**, the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly have received a report from the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and consider that more time is required to address the administration of health and social services in Eeyou Istchee;

## **IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the members of the 2013 Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority General Assembly hereby mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to examine the need and call for a joint Special General Assembly with the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** Mandy Ratt

**Seconded:** Annie Saganash

### **Resolution 2013-09: Request for an Official CWEIA Representation on the GCCEI/CRA Council/Board**

**WHEREAS**, the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association (CWEIA), is a sole organization within Eeyou Istchee dedicated to advocating for Cree women's issues, interests and their well-being;

**WHEREAS**, the CWEIA is a non-profit organization that was legally constituted on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009;

**WHEREAS**, as a new organization CWEIA continuously seeks sufficient funds to sustain its vision and mandate for all Cree women, girls and children in Eeyou Istchee;

**WHEREAS**, with a total population of approximately 18,000 beneficiary Crees living on and outside Cree communities CWEIA strives to work to improve the lives in the Cree communities and urban centres that include; Whapmagoostui, Chisasibi, Wemindji; Eastmain, Waskaganish, Nemaska, Waswanipi, Ouje-Bougoumou, Mistissini, Washaw-Sibi, and surrounding urban centres, such as Senneterre, Chibougamau and Val d'Or;

**WHEREAS**, through advocacy, education and awareness promotions the CWEIA focuses on ensuring social justice and social equity for all Cree women who have been marginalized while the Cree communities have continued to grow and develop over the past few decades;

**WHEREAS**, CWEIA promotes Cree women's engagement in the development and delivery of programs promoting equal opportunities in areas such as politics, economic development, health promotion, self-awareness and education;

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**WHEREAS**, more specifically, the CWEIA strives to increase its organizational capacity to provide consistent quality services and program opportunities to all Cree women and their families living in Eeyou Istchee and surrounding areas;

**WHEREAS**, in order for CWEIA to meet its stated goals and objectives, it must be allowed to play an important role in decision-making process;

**WHEREAS**, CWEIA must be given an opportunity to have a bigger voice in Nation Building and in the development of Cree Nation Governance, and capacity building for Cree women;

**BE IT RESOLVED.**

**THAT**, the delegates of the 2013 GCCEI/CRA Annual General Assembly recognize and acknowledge the important role that CWEIA plays in Cree society in nation building and capacity building in Cree governance, and the importance of having an increased role in Cree Nation decision-making process;

**THAT**, the delegates of the 2013 GCCEI/CRA Annual General Assembly request and mandate the Grand Chief and the Council/Board of the GCCEL/CRA to amend their respective compositions to allow a CWEIA representative to have an official seat on the Council/Board as soon as expediently possible;

**THAT** the members of the 2013 Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Grand Chief and the Council/Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** Johnny Grant

**Seconded:** Doris Spencer

**Resolution 2013-10: Request for a joint Special General Assembly between GCCEI/CRA and CWEIA**

**WHEREAS**, the *CWEIA* advocates to bettering the lives of all Cree women and will strive to work towards developing programs and services for approximately 10,000 women and children.

**WHEREAS**, *CWEIA*'s main purpose is to decrease violence in all Cree communities by delivering anti-violence campaigns at the local levels and to increase awareness of opportunities available to Cree women in business, entrepreneurship, training and education.

**WHEREAS**, *CWEIA* requests more political support from the Grand Chief and Cree Chiefs to promote and achieve its goals and objectives for Cree women of Eeyou Istchee;



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**BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the members of the 2013 Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority General Assembly further request that the CWEIA and Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority, work closely together on addressing the important issues that affect Cree women of Eeyou Istchee;

**THAT** the members of the 2013 Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Council Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to provide political support necessary and for the CWEIA to seek funds for a joint Special General Assembly on issues that affect Cree women of Eeyou Istchee;

**THAT** the members of the 2013 Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Council/Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
**Proposed:** Bobby Georgekish  
**Seconded:** Fred Asquabaneskum

**Resolution 2013-11: Cree Development Corporation**

**WHEREAS** Section 8.10 of the Paix des Braves is explicit in the mandate of the Cree Development Corporation is the economic and community development of the James Bay Cree's, promoting job creation, partnerships in economic development, business development and diversification;

**WHEREAS** the Cree Development Corporation is required to play a central role in a Cree Nation inclusive economic development strategy;

**WHEREAS** an urgent need is growing for the job creation and economic development throughout the Cree Nation and the CDC is required immediately for the Cree Nation to strategically pool and leverage resources to these present and growing critical needs;

**WHEREAS** Council/Board resolution 2011-07, February 3, 2011 supports the establishment of the Cree Development Corporation;

**WHEREAS** Council/Board resolution 2012-51, December 13, 2012 supports the establishment of the Cree Development Corporation;

**WHEREAS** existing economic development structures are unable to meet the needs and the time for discussion and consultation has passed and action is required;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby herby authorizes and instructs Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come, Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark and the Implementation Manager to implement

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without delay a detailed plan for the establishment of the Cree Development Corporation which should include details on:

- The Capitalization of the Corporation
- The identification and transfer of assets
- The identification of corporate organization
- The identification of the share structure to ensure the maximization of profit and ensure the distribution of the benefits and business and employment opportunities created in a consistent and equitable manner to the Cree Nation

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly further authorizes and directs Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come to take such measures as may be necessary or useful to the give effect to this Resolution.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** Richard Shecapio

**Seconded:** Chief Davy Bobbish

### **Resolution 2013-11: Indian Residential Schools**

**WHEREAS** the governments of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut have joined forces to create a mandatory curriculum for high school students to learn the legacy and history of residential schools;

**WHEREAS** in regards to the curriculum the Minister of Education of the Northwest Territories has stated that, "The learning activities in this unit are built on the voices and the stories of the former residential school students and others... they did this disregarding the pain and grief it caused them personally, because they wanted us to know."

**WHEREAS** there is no mandatory or elective curriculum in Quebec or Eeyou Istchee in regards to the legacy and history of residential schools.

### **IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Cree School Board to develop and implement in the schools under its jurisdiction curriculum for senior secondary school students to learn of the legacy and history of residential schools;

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Grand Chief, Deputy Grand Chief and or Director of Quebec Relations to lobby the Government of Quebec to follow the example of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories in the development and implementation of curriculum for senior secondary school students to learn of the legacy and history of residential schools.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** Paul Dixon

**Seconded:** Carmen Faries

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**Resolution 2013-13: Extension of deadlines related to the process of the compensation payments related to Indian Residential Schools**

**WHEREAS** a class actions suit was initiated and settlement reached for all First Nation community members who suffered through the Indian Residential School system;

**WHEREAS** the Indian Residential School settlement called for the payments in two categories, first as a Common Experience Payment “CEP” and second the Independent Assessment Process “IAP”;

**WHEREAS** some members of the Cree Nation did not receive compensation for all the years spent in residential school;

**WHEREAS** some members did not receive all the information therefore they were unable to fully understand the procedures for the processes;

**WHEREAS** there was not enough time to bring more awareness to the Cree public regarding the CEP and IAP

**WHEREAS** the people who experienced severe trauma during the stay in these institutions had difficulty to talk about abuses as it can be similar to reliving the experience;

**WHEREAS** some members of the Cree Nation still live with fear of foreign institutions like the schools which is itself a barrier to them completing the necessary forms

**WHEREAS** members of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi have tabled a petition signed by 256 community members calling for an extension of the deadlines that were imposed in regards to applying for compensation due to the Indian Residential School experience;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority 39<sup>th</sup>/36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Grand Chief and or Deputy Grand Chief to request from the appropriate authorities the extension of the deadlines that were imposed in regards to applying for compensation due to the Indian Residential School experience on humanitarian grounds.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** Paul Dixon

**Seconded:** Rusty Cheezo

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### **Resolution 2013-14: Declaration of Non-Violence**

**WHEREAS** during the 39th/36th Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority members of the Cree Nation, representing youth, elders, men, women and all segments of our communities walked to the meeting to raise awareness and seek commitments of Non-violence;

**WHEREAS** the delegates of the 39th/36th Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority, appreciated the message of non-Violence and signed personal declarations for Non-Violence;

**WHEREAS** the effort to eliminate violence in our homes, communities and throughout Eeyou Istchee will ensure a bright and strong future for the children of Eeyou Istchee and the Cree Nation as a whole;

### **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT**, the delegates of the 39th/36th Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority hereby make a declaration of Non-Violence and further mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to make a similar declaration and further direct the managers of the organization to identify concrete measures to bring actions to the Declaration of Non-Violence.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
**Proposed:** Johnny Grant  
**Seconded:** Thomas Jolly

### **Resolution 2013-16: Land Selection for the Washaw Sibi Community**

**Whereas**, previous General Assembly resolutions have been adopted which confirm support for the objectives of the Washaw Sibi Eeyou,

**Whereas**, previous General Assembly resolutions have been adopted which declare recognition of Washaw Sibi Eeyou as the tenth Cree First Nation,

**Whereas**, previous General Assembly resolutions have been adopted which call for the full integration of Washaw Sibi Eeyou into the Cree Nation and its various entities,

**Whereas**, the Washaw Sibi Eeyou have for several years been involved in activities related to the selection of a site for the future Washaw Sibi village taking into account various financial and other considerations provided by the Grand Council of the Crees,

**Whereas**, in April 2012, the Washaw Sibi Eeyou leadership was informed by representatives of the Grand Council of the Crees of the direction of negotiations related to the Cree Nation's Governance Agreement with Quebec, and the importance of ensuring that all Cree communities be situated so as to participate in the anticipated new Regional Government,

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**Whereas**, representatives of the Grand Council of the Crees urged the Washaw Sibi Eeyou to consider identifying a site for the future Washaw Sibi village north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel and within the Washaw Sibi traditional territory so that the Washaw Sibi Eeyou could participate in the future Regional Government,

**Whereas**, the Washaw Sibi Eeyou leadership presented the option to its membership of identifying a site for the future Washaw Sibi village north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel and within the Washaw Sibi traditional territory,

**Whereas**, the membership of the Washaw Sibi Eeyou, through a duly constituted community assembly, expressed its consent and willingness to identify a site for the future Washaw Sibi village north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel and within the Washaw Sibi traditional territory,

**Whereas**, a range of community consultations and technical studies have been undertaken to identify a site for the future Washaw Sibi village north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel and within the Washaw Sibi traditional territory,

**Whereas**, the completion of the work to identify a site for the future Washaw Sibi village is an urgent priority for the Washaw Sibi Eeyou,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**That**, the Annual General Assembly of the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee hereby supports the efforts on the part of the Washaw Sibi Eeyou to identify a site for the future Washaw Sibi village north of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel and within the Washaw Sibi traditional territory,

**That**, the Annual General Assembly of the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee hereby directs the Grand Council of the Crees to continue to provide financial, technical and other assistance to the Washaw Sibi Eeyou to achieve the above-noted objective in accordance with funds previously set aside for such purposes,

**That**, the Annual General Assembly of the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee hereby directs the Executive Director and the Treasurer of the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee to undertake all required measures to give effect to the above,

**That**, the members of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority 39th/36th Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Board/Council and more specifically the Grand Chief and/or Deputy Grand Chief to assist, support and work with the Washaw Sibi Community in the formal land selection of their community, including the management of relations with the Government of Quebec, municipal governments and other First Nations.

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** John Mark

**Seconded:** Chief Gordon Blackned

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**Resolution 2013-16: Honorariums for Delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority Annual General Assemblies**

**Whereas** the honorariums for delegates of the Annual General Assembly for many years has been established at one hundred dollars (\$100.00);

**Whereas** it would be appropriate to examine an increase in the honorarium payable to official delegates of the Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**That** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority 39th/36th Annual General Assembly hereby authorize the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to increase the honorarium due to the delegates of the Annual General Assemblies of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00).

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Proposed:** Rusty Cheezo

**Seconded:** Johnny Tomatuk

**Resolution 2013-17: Paving of Roads and Streets in Eeyou Istchee**

**WHEREAS** the official delegates of the Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority have discussed many ways in which to improve the quality of life in the communities of Eeyou Istchee;

**WHEREAS** the paving of roads and streets in the communities of Eeyou Istchee is an important element to the safety and health of community members in light of the respiratory issues related to dust in the Cree communities;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**That** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Regional Authority 39th/36th Annual General Assembly hereby mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority to ensure that all measures are taken to ensure that the paving of streets in the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee is treated as a priority.

**Proposed by:** Roy Weistche

**Seconded by:** William Chiskamish

**Carried:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Draft Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of the Cree Regional Authority, held in Wemindji, Eeyou Istchee on August 6, 7, 8, 2013.

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**2014 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

The next Annual General Assembly will take place in Waswanipi, Eeyou Istchee.

**CLOSING REMARKS BY DEPUTY CHIEF DENIS GEORGEKISH:**

Deputy Chief Denis Georgekish thanked the delegates for coming to Wemindji this past week and hope that their stay in the community of Wemindji was pleasant.

He agreed that there is a lot to be discussed at these assemblies.

He thanked the former Chief Rodney Mark for his leadership. He wished everyone a safe journey home.

**CLOSING REMARKS BY GRAND CHIEF MATTHEW COON COME:**

Grand Chief Coon Come thanked the community of Wemindji for their warm hospitality.

He noted that not all issues can be discussed as the Cree Health Board and Cree School Board were part of the agenda and stated that maybe we can look at just having a political agenda at these assemblies.

The Grand Chief also mentioned that on January 1, 2014 the Cree Regional Authority will be known as the Cree Nation Government.

The closing prayer was done by Flora Katapatuk. The assembly adjourned at 10:05 p.m.