

1. Corporate Matters

Present: Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come
Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark
Chief Marcel Happyjack Mandy Gull
Chief Curtis Bosum Gaston Cooper
Chief Davey Bobbish L. George Pachano
Chief Dennis Georgekish
Kenneth Gilpin
Chief Darlene Cheechoo (Abstain) Gordon Blueboy
Chief Richard Shecapio Thomas Neeposh
Matthew Mukash (Abstain)
Chief Thomas Jolly John Henry Wapachee

Also present Chief Allan Jolly, Chief Pauline Trapper Hester, Bill Namagoose Matthew Swallow, Abel Bosum, Geoff Quaile, Stephane Ouellet, Jean Sebastien Clement, Billy Katapatuk.

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum and the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 10:00 am.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come as Chair and JP as Secretary

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-11: Adoption of Agenda of April 22nd, 2016

Grand Chief explained his correspondence which is attached hereto and that it was in response to letter received from particular Chiefs. He understands the pre-occupation over the Agreement, it is not perfect, things in negotiations never are. We pushed as much as we can at this time, there will be more that can be achieved through implementation. He warned that there are Quebec representatives that would be happy to have the adapted forestry regime under the Paix des Braves Agreement and later amended fail.

There were a number of specific points he wished to address:

1. There has been no clear forestry regime since 2013 and Quebec has picked and chosen what they will implement. Bill 57 promotes clear cutting operations and forestry has been carried out through an interim regime, which is part Paix des Braves and part new regime. They are cherry picking the rules due to the ambiguity. Before Bill 57 Forestry Companies would

- develop their plans, Bill 57 means it is Quebec that develops the plan and there are serious implementation concerns.
2. Failure will make it difficult to challenge when there is ambiguity as to what part of the regime applies.
 3. Diversion of resources for negotiations versus implementation. Meaning 6 years of negotiations means we are not helping on the ground and in the field.
 4. We are now having delays in the governance agreement implementation as there is some overlap in relation to the impact of forestry regime. i.e. integrated table on land use planning of category II lands. i.e. TGIRT tables.
 5. Negotiators have secured as much as we possibly can at this time.

The Grand Chief then asked Abel Bosum to introduce the Harmonization Agreement.

Abel Bosum explained that Forestry was out of control through much of the 1980's and 1990's. He explained that Chapter 3 of the Paix des Braves Agreement was a revolutionary change from the Industry driven approach to forestry before that time. It is important not underestimate what a gain this was at the time and it could not have been expected to be easy which has been the main challenge today. The Cree Quebec Forestry Board and the Joint Working Groups are more critical than any other provision as we had no role before. These groups are the links between what happens on the ground and the regulation. He stated that it is important to focus on the evolution of representatives on these bodies and we need solution-oriented representatives. In 2010 Quebec decided to develop a new Forestry Act – Bill 57. Which was to improve the regime for the rest of Quebec introducing a method called “eco-systemic” cutting, meant to replicate a forest fire. There are many inconsistencies that were found and implementation problems so a “Harmonization Agreement” was negotiated. He cited how badly cutting was carried out in the Baril Moses area when there was no adapted regime, prior to the agreement. He stated that many of the concerns raised in consultations on the New Agreement, can be addressed through implementation. There are other items which are not related to forestry which can only be addressed at other tables, i.e. Non-Native Cabin leases. There was also concerns on mining which need to be addressed at another table and not at the Forestry table. He added that there is room to expand our influence in implementation.

Abel Bosum explained that land users seemed particularly concerned with protection around lakes and rivers and we have secured modalities which can be expanded on at the water bodies mentioned above. The longer we wait due to the legal ambiguity the weaker our position is to secure measures and benefits for our land users.

Chief Marcel Happyjack inquired about the protection for the 1% area which only applies to forestry but is unprotected from mining. There is also concern about 200% harvesting, he also shared concern on the 25% areas and the influence of

major roads adding that there are 30,000km of roads and Waswanipi is particularly concerned about new roads.

Abel Bosum repeated that the Harmonization Agreement only addresses forestry and that there are tables for addressing the non-Forestry items that were raised. Abel Bosum explained that the 200% is related to the trappers being allowed to decide when cutting will happen, giving them the option to have two years of cutting done in one year, so that the trapline can rest for one year. This would be at the discretion of the tallyman.

In regards to the 25% and major forestry roads he did explain that there was a problem however, the COMEX was reviewing the roads and did not appear that approval will be automatic. He explained that the environmental protection regime would be a strong tool for the non-Forestry Regime concerns.

He agreed that the Cree team did not get everything they wanted on buffers but there is the ability to expand on this at the Cree Quebec Forestry Board level.

Chief Marcel Happyjack inquired about the wood allocation and the wood for Nabakatuk and there is local concern that they are not getting enough wood. The concern is that the Cree Nation Government will attempt to control it. Abel Bosum explained that of the 300,000 under the Paix des Braves Agreement 70,000 was assigned to Mishtuk and the 50,000 for the sawmill. The mill isn't running so we lost it and moreover in the last three years the Cree have lost 210,00 because we did not manage the allocation properly. He added that he was reassured by the communities meeting to discuss the matter.

Chief Marcel Happyjack stated his community only recently completed consultations and he want to hear what happened in the other communities.

Chief Richard Shecapio explained that 2 to 3 sessions have been held to review the Agreement. He explained that Mistissini trappers experience in the Baril Moses area and the damage that happened which gave a good warning of what the alternative would be if we don't do what we can to hold back Quebec's forestry regime. There were no major concerns with the Harmonization Agreement, the real concern is that there be any delay so the cutting that happened in the Baril Moses area before the Agreement could occur in our traplines. Chief Shecapio stated that they also have their own concerns on the wood allocation and that they are open to exploring solutions that will benefit everyone. He explained that in the past all we did was sell the wood absent any real business model. We are willing to sign a business development MOU between the five communities to determine the use of the wood allocation.

Chief Bosum stated consultation were carried and he has the general support of his trappers for the Agreement. He concluded by saying the Agreement should be approved and perhaps hold a special Council Board meeting.

Chief Thomas Jolly, stated that his land users are concerned and want it clear what is protected. He stated that they wanted the tallyman involved in the early decisions, i.e. roads, cut blocks etc. He explained that there was a need to protect forestry areas and enhance diversity. He stated that Trappers liked the idea of having the ability to rest the land and he supported the approach. He explained that his community was ready to go ahead with the Harmonization Agreement, he explained that one Tallyman wasn't able to interviewed but that majority support the Agreement.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated Waskaganish haven't had consultations because the forestry coordinator has been away since Christmas for health reasons and she was sure the tallymen will raise the same issues. She added that there are portions of two traplines that are not covered at all. It may only be two traplines but it is an important impact on these trappers. She stated that the Paix des Braves Agreement is constitutionally protected and we would have recourse against Quebec for breaching it if they tried. She did not think it likely that Quebec would consider breaching the Agreement as we have fought them before on this. She stated that we need to defend and bring forth the protection of our Treaty. Further, she did not agree it was good idea to discuss such an important discussion via conference call explaining that it is not as transparent as we could be. We are talking about impacts on the Cree way of life and we are addressing the issue backwards. She explained that we should have consulted our people two years ago and this is where we went wrong on this file. She did not feel there is consensus and didn't believe we should pass the resolution at this time.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that it is in correct to characterize where we are as only recently worked and not involving tallymen and its important to keep in mind all the negotiations that happened with trappers from the Mario Lord case, Paix des Braves Negotiations, Joint working groups, Baril Moses negotiations and we have constantly sent the negotiating/consulting teams to the communities. He explained that Bill 57-Quebec's New Forestry Regime was introduced and we reacted, with a law suit and the eventually the Baril Moses Agreement. Trappers have always been involved. He stated that what he was hearing was that the majority of trappers agreed. He stated that it was his experience that one on one the trappers are happy and seem content with this type of consultation and he was not sure a community consultation will help. Finally, he stated that the Cree leadership agreed at the last Board/Council meeting that there would be telephone conference call and the people directly impacted were consulted.

There was a general discussion on the appropriate forum for approval of the Harmonization Agreement.

The Secretary then read the draft Resolution which had been prepared for the approval of the Agreement.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo asked that it be clearly noted for the record that the Waskaganish community consultation had not carried out.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that Nemaska's consultation was just to get their perspective.

Mandy Gull wants it clarified that in the community consultations it was a general presentation and that the Agreement as such was not reviewed.

John Henry Wapachee asked if a simplified version of the Agreement and report on the community consultations could be made available. The Grand Chief stated that notes would be made available.

Mandy Gull feels that the point that Darlene raises, we should release the reports to community members on reports. She stated she also agreed we should be reviewing this Agreement at a live meeting. The Grand Chief stated it would be possible to a detailed report at the next meeting.

Chief Marcel Happyjack explained that his community members and land users supported the Agreement but it was difficult to support general considering that status of forestry impacts in the region. His staff had requested that another delay in approving the Agreement be sought but he understood the risks in waiting.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-12: FORESTRY HARMONIZATION AGREEMENT AND RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS on February 7, 2002, le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec, acting through the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government, entered into the *Agreement concerning a New Relationship between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec* (the "**Paix des Braves**");

WHEREAS Chapter 3 of the Paix des Braves provides for an adapted forestry regime on certain parts of the territory of Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS Section 30A of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* ("**JBNQA**") also provides for the adapted forestry regime;

WHEREAS the Paix des Braves and Section 30A of the JBNQA can only be amended with Cree consent;

WHEREAS the Paix des Braves has been amended on five (5) previous occasions including with respect to forestry;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government and Québec entered into a Confidentiality Agreement regarding traditional Cree expertise on December 12, 2006 in order to protect information used in the context of the preparation of the forest management plans, as provided by the adapted forestry regime (the “**2006 Confidentiality Agreement**”);

WHEREAS the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1) was assented to on April 1, 2010;

WHEREAS, on July 24, 2012, Québec and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee, acting through the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government, entered into the *Agreement on Governance in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory* ;

WHEREAS the Paix des Braves Dispute Resolution Process was triggered by the Cree Nation Government on May 14, 2013 with respect to the wood allocation of Nabakatuk Forest Products (the “**Nabakatuk Dispute**”) and various renunciation to prescription were obtained but the Dispute remains to be resolved;

WHEREAS the Crees and Québec agreed, in the *Agreement to Resolve the Baril-Moses Forestry Dispute* signed on July 13, 2015, to undertake and pursue discussions with a view to concluding by December 1, 2015 an agreement regarding the harmonization of the adapted forestry regime with the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (the “**Harmonization Agreement**”);

WHEREAS discussions have taken place between Québec and the Crees on the proposed Harmonization Agreement in consultation with the Chiefs and the members of the Joint Working Groups of the Cree communities of Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, Waswanipi, Waskaganish and Nemaska;

WHEREAS drafts of Amendment No. 6 of the Paix des Braves to replace Chapter 3 thereof and to amend Section 30A of the JBNQA (“**Amendment No. 6**”) set out in **Schedule A** hereof), of the Confidentiality Agreement to replace the 2006 Confidentiality Agreement (set out in **Schedule B** hereof), and of letter-agreements on the required processes regarding forestry consultations in respect of the Baril-Moses territory (set out in **Schedule C** hereof) and the Southern Waskaganish traplines (set out in **Schedule D** hereof) are well advanced, (collectively, the “**Harmonization Agreement**”);

WHEREAS Québec has agreed to an additional renunciation to prescription with respect to the Nabakatuk Dispute (**Schedule E** hereof);

WHEREAS Schedule C-1 of Chapter 3 is substantially completed and shapefiles have been provided to the CNG, as reproduced on **Schedule F** hereof;

WHEREAS the issues related to Cree consultations regarding private vacation leases have been referred to the Cree-Québec Standing Liaison Committee of the Paix des Braves;

WHEREAS the Chiefs and Joint Working Group members of the Cree communities of Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, Waswanipi, Waskaganish and Nemaska (the “**Joint Working Group members**”) have been consulted and have reviewed the Harmonization Agreement (which was sometimes also referred to as “Amendment no.6” by the communities during the consultations);

WHEREAS in October and November 2015, the proposed Harmonization Agreement / Amendment no.6 was presented to the Cree Joint Working Group members and the Cree Chiefs of Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, Nemaska, Waskaganish and Waswanipi;

WHEREAS in December 2015, supplementary meetings were held with the Cree Joint Working Group members and the Cree Chiefs of Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, Nemaska, Waskaganish and Waswanipi and the draft Harmonization Agreement / Amendment no.6 as well as analyses thereof were reviewed and discussed;

WHEREAS, at the meeting of the Council/Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) / Cree Nation Government (GCCEI/CNG) of December 16, 2016, the CNG Forestry Negotiation Team was requested to present the draft Harmonization Agreement / Amendment no. 6 to the communities affected by forestry;

WHEREAS in January and February of 2016, the CNG Forestry Negotiation Team presented the draft Harmonization Agreement / Amendment no.6 through community assemblies;

WHEREAS supplementary consultations on the Harmonization Agreement / Amendment no.6 were held with the Cree communities during the month of April 2016 further to a Council-Board directive of March 23, 2016;

WHEREAS a letter was sent to the Grand Chief on April 19, 2016 by Chiefs Happyjack, Cheechoo and Jolly describing certain concerns with respect to the Harmonization Agreement /Amendment No. 6;

WHEREAS certain of these concerns relate to implementation matters, while others can be quickly addressed with Québec and others can only be addressed on a longer-term basis;

WHEREAS the Council-Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government (“**GCCEI/CNG**”) has reviewed the proposed Harmonization Agreement;

WHEREAS the Adapted Forestry Regime provides that it will evolve taking into account the principles set out therein and the recommendations of the Cree-Québec Forestry Board;

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2016, Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come wrote to the Cree Chiefs and Council/Board members setting out the reasons for concluding the Harmonization Agreement now;

BE IT RESOLVED :

THAT the Consolidated Harmonization Agreement, that is, the proposed Harmonization Agreement to replace Chapter 3 of the Paix des Braves and to amend Section 30A of the JBNQA through Amendment No. 6 of the Paix des Braves (**Schedule A**), the Confidentiality Agreement to replace the 2006 Confidentiality Agreement (**Schedule B**), the letter-agreements on the required processes regarding forestry consultations in respect of the Baril-Moses territory (**Schedule C**) and the Southern Waskaganish traplines (**Schedule D**) be and they are hereby approved, substantially in the form appended hereto and subject to the finalization of Schedule C-1 and other potential improvements;

THAT the CNG Forestry Negotiation Team be and it is hereby mandated to finalize Schedule C-1 to Chapter 3 with Québec on the basis of **Schedule F** hereof and verify the feasibility of inserting other improvements to the Harmonization Agreement;

THAT the Director of the Environment and Remedial Works of the CNG be and is hereby authorized, for and on behalf of the Crees of Québec, to sign the Confidentiality Agreement to replace the 2006 Confidentiality Agreement substantially in the form appended hereto as **Schedule B**;

THAT, the Grand Chief / Chairman of the GCCEI/CNG and the Deputy Grand Chief / Vice Chairman of the GCCEI/CNG be and they are hereby authorized, for and on behalf of the Crees of Québec, to sign the proposed Harmonization Agreement, including Amendment No. 6 to replace Chapter 3 of the Paix des Braves and to amend Section 30A of the JBNQA (**Schedule A**), the letter-agreements on the required processes regarding forestry consultations in respect of the Baril-Moses territory (**Schedule C**) and the Southern Waskaganish traplines (**Schedule D**) substantially in the form appended hereto with such improvements or changes as they may in their discretion deem advisable and to do all things necessary or useful to give effect to this resolution.

During the deliberation of the Resolution each Board/Council member spoke on the Resolution with Chief Darlene Cheechoo and Matthew Mukash abstaining and Mandy Gull voting against the adoption of the Resolution.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was adjourned.



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary

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1. Corporate Matters

Present:

Chief Davey Bobbish
Chief Dennis Georgekish Christina Gilpin
Chief Kenneth CheezoKenneth Gilpin
Chief Curtis Bosum Gaston Cooper
Chief Thomas Jolly John Henry Wapachee
Chief Marcel Happyjack Mandy Gull
Chief Richard Shecapio Thomas Neeposh
Chief Louisa Wynne
Chief Darlene Cheechoo

Also present were Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director, Matthew Swallow, Treasurer, Jack Blacksmith Chairperson of the CNG Board of Compensation, Chief Alan Jolly, Chief Pauline Hester, Billy Katapatuk, Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations and Henry Mianscum, Director of Capital Works and Services.

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum the meeting commenced at 1:00 pm.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark acted as Chairperson and John Paul Murdoch acted as Secretary.

Chief Dennis Georgekish raised the issue of how lots are allocated between communities in as far as housing is concerned. Chief Marcel Happyjack would be seeking a supporting Resolution for the Broadback protected area.

On a motion duly made by Chief Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-13: Adoption of the Agenda of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on May 24th and 25th, 2016

2. Inventory and Monitoring of Groundwater Resources

Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations introduced representatives from the University of Quebec of Abitibi Temiscamingue who provided a presentation on “Inventory and Monitoring of Groundwater Resources”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Cheechoo inquired as to when the mandate could start and where funding could come from? It was explained that Government funding would be sought and that the mandate could start in accordance with the host communities' calendars. Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that the communities were welcome to invite the group to come and present in their communities.

Chief Allan Jolly raised the challenges of studying water in the context of Climate change and global warming.

Chief Marcel Happyjack suggested seeking partnerships with industry to participate in the projects.

Chief Cheechoo stated that there were considerable impacts being felt in regards to water in her community and that the next meeting of Council would be on May 31st, 2016 if the presenters were available.

The Directors held a discussion on the proposed studies as they related to global warming and other environmental concerns.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo explained the precarious state of the drinking water supply in Eastmain and invited the delegation to Eastmain.

3. Cree Federal Negotiations

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled and reviewed a report related to the Cree Canada Negotiations on Governance, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he was hoping that even draft agreements could be sent to the leadership so that they can consult their people to be in better position whenever it comes to approve an Agreement. He did not want to be in a difficult position as was the case with the Harmonization Agreement, he asked that any Complimentary Agreement, Constitution or other related legal instrument also be shared.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that it was difficult considering how much the texts can change in the course of negotiations adding there would be proper consultations before approval of any Agreement.

4. Trade Agreement

Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry joined the meeting and gave a presentation on the development of the Eeyou Eenu Nation Trade and Commerce Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto.

John Henry Wapachee inquired into the status of the development of databases on the inventory of manpower in Eeyou Istchee. Andy Baribeau explained that it had been undertaken by CHRD.

Chief Thomas Jolly supported that spirit of cooperation that the Agreement could be expected to instill as between communities to make sure that we maximize our manpower and resources as between communities.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that it would be an important tool for promoting the development of Cree manpower.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that the exercise was overdue and he looked forward to seeking the variety of ways that communities are trying to address competition of companies and the promotion of local manpower. He wanted the Cree Nation Government to examine its own internal processes for awarding contracts and to ensure that there is local participation in this review. He explained the importance of set aside contracts so that community members can achieve certification requirements. He stated that he recently met with the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay who have shown an openness and interest to work with the community to ensure that local development opportunities are maximized. He gave examples how set aside contracts allowed a local entrepreneur to amass the hours need to develop into a competitive and large private company. He asked the leadership how many non-Native companies had been supported by Cree communities.

Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director confirmed that through the coordination between making local hours available and monitoring individuals did succeed in getting certification in a number of trades.

Chief Marcel Happyjack stated that the exercise should include an assessment of the opportunities and projects that are coming to Eeyou Istchee so that people can be ready.

Kenneth Gilpin stated that it was important that there not be exclusion of anyone or specific segment of Eeyou Istchee. He stated that having a monitoring or policing of the eventual Agreement would be advisable.

Jack Blacksmith stated that it was important that we do not create too much red tape which at times will slow development contrary to the stated objective. He stated that communities have the power to regulate their own industries and sometimes we can keep ourselves out of development if we don't integrate into existing regimes giving the example of CCQ and RBQ. He also shared the practice of outside entrepreneurs of partnering with Crees offering a pittance of the revenue and participating in the continued exclusion of local labor and service providers from opportunities generated by contracts. He added that CREECO will be eager to participate in the development of the Agreement.

The members issued a Directive to Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry to proceed with the community consultation in the development of a Trade Agreement between the Communities of Eeyou Istchee with a view to fostering a strong and viable Cree economy (*Directive 2016-02*).

5. Cree Quebec Forestry Board

Abel Bosum, presented a recommendation for the nomination of a Chairperson to the Cree Quebec Forestry Board. He stated that after investigation into the recommendation there appeared to be no objection.

Chief Marcel Happyjack inquired as to who makes the nomination. Abel Bosum explained that the names come from Quebec and the Cree can put forward names should they like, we have put names in the past and they had not been accepted. He added that it is a 4 year term.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-14: Chairperson of the Cree Quebec Forestry Board

WHEREAS Mr. Hervé Deschênes has been proposed by the Government of Quebec as Chairperson of the Cree Quebec Forestry Board;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby supports the nomination of Mr. Hervé Deschênes as Chairperson of the Cree Quebec Forestry Board as per subsection 3.17 of the "Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec".

6. Weh Sees Indohoun Zone

John Paul Murdoch reviewed the documentation related to the efforts to maintenance of the "Weh Sees Zone" explaining its origins with the EM 1A Rupert Project. He explained that it has become an important tool for the local and regional governments to get a handle on harvesting in the area. More recently the Cree Nation Government secured funding to continue the organization but Quebec had imposed the need for consent of the EIBJRG. There was a vote and the Government subsequently imposed the need for unanimity. Considering the apparent collusion between Quebec and the Jamesiens to end the Weh Sees organization a request for direction was being asked for.

John Henry Wapachee stated that he was hoping that it would go forward because of the mining project. He disagrees with why the Regional Government got involved when they were not part of it in the past.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that it is very difficult for land users and that his community was ready to manage the resource. He added that many lakes were affected and monitoring is needed. It would appear that the non-Native people would like to just come in and do whatever they like with no accountability. When there is no management or accountability this is when our land users get upset and want to refuse development. He stated that we never held people away in the past when they wanted to hunt or fish because assumed that there was always sustainable. In Nemaska we will continue to manage the Weh Sees Zone.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that it was important that the Weh Sees Zone continue and that mandate continue. Over harvesting will end the resources for our people and that monitoring was imperative. She stated that every effort should be made to continue the organization.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that this seems to be a remnant of the MBI days where the Jamesiens approached with a divisive nature always trying to ignore our rights and our interests. This organization helped the most vulnerable of our communities. He stated that this not just an issue of Non-Native hunting but also land users and respect from traditional values and rules between our own people and our communities.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that we shouldn't look just at one area, the underlying problem will affect the whole territory. This should not go back to the Regional Government, this should go to the Government of Quebec and that is where we should be fighting it. He stated that we should not be arguing our rights with the mayors. He also expressed concern over the fishing derbies and the impact that they may be having in the communities. Elders in his community said it is as if we are playing with rights, land, resources and way of life. We have to look at ourselves not just non-Native fisherman and hunters.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that it is important not to under estimate how the mayors see us and would like to criticize our land use as a way of defending their own interests. He stated we also have to look at Quebec to make sure they do not send what is important to us, as in this case we were only talking about monitoring and still Quebec sent it to the Regional Government. He was concerned that the Jamesiens seem to care little for the environment and want development at any cost as demonstrated by their position in the face of uranium development. He also agreed with Chief Bobbish that it should remain a Cree Quebec issue with the Cree Nation Government.

Chief Wynne inquired about the wildlife preservation officers and their ability to monitor the territory. Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that they have been cut substantially by the Government. He added that there will be focus on traditional value and land uses at the AGA scheduled for this summer.

7. Cree Quebec Governance Agreement

Abel Bosum tabled and reviewed a report related to the Governance Agreement with Quebec and its implementation. Abel stated that there were a number of issue he felt important to raise. He warned the Council of the fear that the Jamesiens and the Government has in regards to Cree occupation versus Quebecois occupation of the North and that for this reason the negotiation of the Regional Government was very difficult. This is why there is also considerable weight given to the Cree voice when expressed through the Regional Government. He doesn't agree with the approach of the Government on the Weh Sees file and how Quebec is delegating matters to the Regional Government contrary to the Governance Agreement. He stated that a clear message will be sent to Quebec on the role of the EIBJRG and the Cree Nation Government and that the Cree have not released any rights on Category I, II and III lands. We will need to keep this mind going forward and not allow the Government to use the Regional Government to divert our rights and interests.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that he did not agree with the idea that one person from the Jamesian government would be given a veto. He did not see how the Regional Government could work in such an environment.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he understood that we had the authority to address the issue on category II lands and that we should examine exercising our authority as such.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that it was his understanding that the discussion should be pursued and maintained with Quebec.

The Directors issued a directive to Abel Bosum and the Cree representatives of the Cree Quebec Standing Liaison Committee to raise the matter the matter of the continuation of the Weh Sees Indohoun Sector File with Quebec at the Standing Liaison Committee (**Directive 2016-03**).

8. Broadback Protected Area

Chief Marcel Happyjack tabled a draft Resolution in relation to the community of Waswanipi requesting support for the establishment of the Broadback Protected area. He explained the origin of the request going back to 2011.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that it is very important to the people of Waskaganish that this area be protected as the community is downstream.

On a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-15: Cree Nation Support Of Protection Of The Forest In The Broadback Valley Of Eeyou Istchee

WHEREAS, the Cree are committed to the principles of sustainable and equitable development and responsible stewardship by protecting the land, rivers, lakes and environment in Eeyou Istchee for present and future generations;

WHEREAS, the Cree, as Indigenous people have fundamental Aboriginal and human rights including the right for self-determination and the right to practice tradition, language and culture as stated in the United Nations declaration on the rights of Indigenous people, and for which intact forests are a necessity;

WHEREAS, the Baril-Moses agreement which was signed in 2015 provides minimal protection of Waswanipi's Proposed protected area;

WHEREAS, a task force was created following the Baril-Moses agreement in 2015, to facilitate discussions between the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi, the Cree Nation Government and Quebec Government on extending a protected area for the Broadback forest on Waswanipi territory;

WHEREAS, the Broadback Forest is essential for the survival of species at risk including the Woodland Caribou, as recommended by a study commissioned by the Grand Council of the Cree on the Status of the Woodland Caribou in the James Bay region of Northern Quebec in 2012, avoiding further development of within areas known or presumed to be occupied by woodland caribou would be necessary for the survival of this species;

WHEREAS, Climate change is now of global concern and intact forests are one of our best tools to mitigate its effects;

WHEREAS, Waswanipi's protected area of the Broadback River Valley is part of the regional protected / conservation strategy adopted by the Cree Nation Government;

WHEREAS, the Cree Nation has previously supported this position in resolution 2012-35.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CREE NATION GOVERNMENT:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government reaffirms the will of the Cree Nation Government to ensure the implementation of Waswanipi's proposed protected area, and that no forestry activities should take place in the Broadback River Valley, covering the full protected area proposed by Waswanipi and further mandates the Grand Chief and the Board of the Cree Regional Authority to take all necessary steps as may be required for the full recognition and implementation of this Proposed Protected Area.

9. Minutes

The members reviewed the minutes of March 22nd and 23rd and April 22nd and after a number of corrections on a motion duly made Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Marcel Happyjack adopted:

Resolution 2016-16: Adoption of Minutes of meetings of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on March 22nd and 23rd and April 22nd, 2016.

10. Housing Presentation

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Henry Mianscum, Director of Capital Works and Services, Lawrence Katapatuk, Lili Uha and Norm Hawkin joined the meeting and provided a presentation on the state of "Housing" in Eeyou Istchee a copy of which is attached hereto.

The presenters delivered the first part of the presentation related to: Related to the status of housing and the promotion of Private Home Ownership.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated it was imperative that implication employment be considered in the presentation. It is important that communities catch up with arrears but we need to make sure our community members have the employment opportunities. She stated that Waskaganish suffered from the ailments as contained in the presentation and repeated that employment was key and locally the discussion was to make the move towards Private Homeownership. She agreed that private homeownership is the answer.

The OJ Housing Administrator inquired how to get access to the community housing action plan. It was explained that it was shared with the DO and Treasurer of each community.

Chief Dennis Georgekish commented on the rent geared to income which he stated should be accompanied with homeownership.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he agreed with what was present and agreed that the CMHC program was not workable however he wanted more information on other programs that might be workable or other stakeholders that could assist and participate including such as CREECO, BOC or even James Bay Eeyou Company. He added that he heard of the arrangement that had been negotiated with Steel Hawk and wanted to know if there were such arrangements made with Cree companies.

The presenters continued to the Presentation.

Chief Dennis Georgekish discussed the housing and infrastructure development challenges in Wemindji.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that the health board and CSB were invited to come and inform the DO's and Treasurers of their plans to be included. He added that the lagoon issue as raised by Chief Georgekish and should be part of community planning.

Chief Thomas Jolly was pleased to see the effort and work being put into addressing the housing crisis in Eeyou Istchee. He talked about efforts of the past like the Cree Housing Corporation, he stated that we slipped backwards and need to move forward.

Thomas Neeposh stated that these are not new ideas and there needs to be a time frame for when we plan on achieving these things. With regards to financing and bulk purchasing he stated it was important we don't not forget about the local businesses. He stated that it was important to keep in mind local impact, community members need jobs if they will pay for their rent.

Chief Allan Jolly spoke of the challenges in Ontario.

Chief Richard Shecapio didn't agree with putting stick built at the bottom of the assessment of appropriate housing structures. He explained that it should be higher because of the benefit to the manpower in building these structures. He explained that the CCQ regime doesn't apply in a plant and hinders our manpower development. He also wanted to see the plan on how to certify our manpower which he felt was absent. He added that we will need to break down contracts in lots that reflect the capacity of our manpower and our businesses. He liked the idea of the Cree centralized Mortgage Agency, the communities should be shareholders and not only participating at the committee level. He expressed general support for the plan but would like greater collaboration.

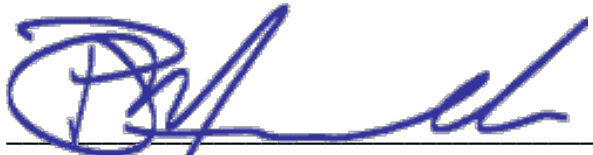
Kenneth Gilpin stated that we should make sure that we don't let the Government off the hook in regards to obligations on housing.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that when confronting the current situation we should not be overwhelmed with the detail and that we are capable of managing a great deal. He explained that, we are already managing considerable infrastructure programs and reminded everyone that we should be focusing on the income earners who are in social housing.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that it was also relevant to examine the restrictions that are being placed on us through the Federal Obligations that we assumed. He also liked the mortgage agency idea. He explained that a market needs to be created not just agencies. He explained that there were two developers in Chisasibi interested in developing real estate. He underlined the deplorable situation where people pay their rent down south but don't pay their rent at home.

Chief Dennis Georgekish asked for a Chiefs meeting on the matter or a separating meeting on the matter. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that the issue would be brought back to the DO's and Treasurer Committee.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary

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1. Corporate Matters

Present: Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come
Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark
Chief Darlene Cheechoo Gordon Blueboy
Chief Louise Wynne
Chief Richard Shecapio Thomas Neeposh
Chief Kenneth Cheezo Kenneth Gilpin
Chief Thomas Jolly John Henry Wapachee
Chief Marcel Happyjack Mandy Gull
Chief Dennis Georgekish
Chief Davey Bobbish George L. Pachano
Gaston Cooper

Also present were Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director, Matthew Swallow, Treasurer, Jack Blacksmith Chairperson of the CNG Board of Compensation, Chief Alan Jolly, Chief Pauline Hester, Billy Katapatuk, Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations.

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum the meeting commenced at 9:30 am.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come acted as Chairperson and John Paul Murdoch acted as Secretary.

The Directors reviewed the agenda and Chief Richard Shecapio wanted to add an issue to the discussion on Policing Services. Discussion on recognition for Moose Factory, Waskaganish Pool, Paving, Disbursement of Honoraria were would also be considered,

On a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio the members adopted:

Resolution 2016-17: Adoption of the Agenda of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on July 26th and 27th, 2016.

2. Financial Statements

Matthew Swallow, Treasurer and Sylvain Fauher of RCGT tabled and presented a memorandum related to the audited financial statements and the 2015/2016 audited financial statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government, copies of which are attached hereto.

The Grand Chief explained when there was a discussion on the legal notes that there would be a presentation on the number of other Native groups and communities that were suing the Cree Nation directly claiming great tracts of land into Eeyou Istchee. He explained that a thorough presentation on the matter would be done at the Annual General Assembly and maps will be produced to illustrate the problem.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come informed the meeting that there was an in camera session with auditors without management to verify if there were any issues to worry about. The Auditors did express some concern over delays in accounts payable and the proper implementation of the salary and holiday management software which are being addressed. The Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come also gave a profile of the workforce demonstrating the challenge related to the management of travel claims. He was also proud to report the women had outnumbered men in regards to hiring and employment.

Chief Richard Shecapio underlined the concern with the continued deferred revenues under Justice. He explained that in Mistissini there was an issue with lack of programs for those returning home from incarceration. He inquired about the ability to address the need for half way houses.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that the deferred revenue is misleading as the funds have been committed to items such as the Women's Shelters for example. He stated that examined would be made into the possible spending on half way houses.

The Grand Chief stated that it was imperative that we do not have deferred revenues at the end of the Agreement and Bill Namagoose, Executive Director and Mathew Swallow have been directed to meet with Director on this matter.

John Henry Wapachee agreed with the need identified by Chief Shecapio.

Kenneth Gilpin explained that there are some initiatives which are behind schedule and it is reflected in our financial statements as a surplus and that we should not think that things are not moving. He also explained the initiatives of the Department in regards to corrections and the management of proceedings in our communities.

Chief Thomas Jolly expressed concern over the failure to use the resources that had been built in the Justice Buildings. He further suggested the formation of an Audit Committee that could facilitate the review of the financial statements considering the volume of information that needs to be reviewed.

On a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Marcel Happyjack the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-18: 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby approved the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and further mandate the Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief to sign the fore mentioned financial statements;

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government further recommends to the Delegates at the Annual General Assembly to retain the firm of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton as auditors of the organization.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Thomas Neeposh the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-19: Recommendation of Auditors

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed and adopted the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government recommends to the Delegates at the Annual General Assembly to retain the firm of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton as auditors of the organization.

3. Cree School Board Funding

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained the correspondence from the Federal Government a copy of which is attached hereto. The concern is that the Federal Government is gearing up to make arguments to either take over the administration of education or the management of funds as the performance rate of Cree students is so much lower than other First Nations, which is not aided by the significantly larger budget of the Cree School Board as compared to these other groups. He explained that the Cree School Board faces particular challenges.

Chief Shecapio stated that he was happy with the efforts to ensure that there is Cree content in curriculum but he wanted to see what the actual impact was on the education level of students

because he was seeing a significant increase in Cree students enrolling in schools in Chibougamou. He is concerned that the CSB is struggling with the duality of its mandate.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that there was a concern over professional students and that there was an exodus from the communities by the CSB Post Secondary Program.

Chief Marcel Happyjack said that there should be a joint meeting with the School Commissioners. Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained that calling of an Assembly for November on education would be an opportunity for the leadership to meet,

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that it was important to make sure that the comparisons are fair, for example do these other First Nations we are compared to speak their language or know their traditions? This should not be seen as a failure. i.e. MicMac have an 88% success rate however how many of them speak Mic Mac?

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that we should not underestimate impact of lack of housing on schooling and presence in communities. He also expressed on the impact of the curriculum on children's ability to succeed in school.

Chief Georgekish explained that before Cree children are labelled failures the fact that they can speak three languages must be kept in mind. He added that children needed to be encouraged in the pursuit of their studies.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo stated that more effort needs to be put into education. He explained that more efforts need to be made at the home level. He explained that the after effects of residential school should not be underestimated. It was imperative that people need to stand with their children going to school.

4. Federal Negotiations

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that discussions were going well with the Federal Government however there was insufficient development in text to provide a copy today. He explained the initial attempts for the Government to make all discussions or an eventual agreement subject to Federal Policies which could be changed as the Government wishes. Further he considered it a success to have the OSR Policy of the Federal formally removed from discussions and that the tax exemption remained intact. With regards to ratification there is an Agreement that Board/Council and Local Resolutions would be sufficient regardless there would be thorough consultation at the community level.

The Quebec Government was apparently not happy with the OSR and tax exemption positions. The issued was addressed by removing any reference to Quebec in the Agreement. He added that the O&M Agreement would also be secured for 25 years. He stated that currently the

matter was being passed through cabinet with an expected signing date in December. He further explained that after the Agreement is adopted implementing legislation would be adopted.

5. Day Scholars

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained the origin of the Day School Scholars cases. These are the students that were not residing in Residential Schools but residing in boarding homes but none the less suffered the oppression of the system. He explained that efforts are being made to assist them in accessing compensation as did residential school students. He explained that included in this was the pain suffered by the parents. There are three levels of damage that are to be addressed, the child, the parents and the Band. A Resolution was adopted to join the Seashell community in the Kamloops area which has also filed proceedings.

A Participation Agreement has been drafted for participation in the class action suit. However, there are discussions with the Federal Minister to avoid the filing of actual proceedings. The Minister is in the process of naming a Special Representative to manage discussions. He explained that more updates would be forth coming as a number of the communities have formally joined the effort.

Chief Alan Jolly stated that the Cree of Moose Factory were joining the effort as well.

The Grand Chief explained that nothing has been agreed to as of yet but it was only the beginning of the file.

6. Policing Matters

The Grand Chief tabled and reviewed all the correspondence that had been sent in regarding Policing Services. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained the ratio for officers and explained the history of negotiations of the Policing budget which was initially very difficult.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that there was a shortage of officers due to in an inability to proceed sufficient Cree candidates and the unusually high number of Cree officers that are on leave at any given time.

He explained that there was a recommendation to establish a Policing Hub in Waskaganish which should assist matters.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that 15 new officers are to be hired immediately based on the indexing available under the Agreement. The Grand Chief explained that Right now 16% is now non-native which could go much higher if the urgent vacancies are filled with non-Native officers. There is a balance to be made between our ability to generate candidates and meet the demand for officers. Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that every

effort was being made for recruitment and employment. Management and Executive confirmed that there will be an audit of management and officers in relation to the Eenou Eeyou Police Force.

Chief Richard Shecapio stressed importance and was particularly concerned the remedial action is not being implemented quickly enough. Chief Shecapio also expressed concern over the statistically high level of crime being reported in Mistissini. He agreed that there were supplementary measures that could be implemented such as public security officers.

Bill Namagoose explained that a total of 25 officer will be hired in the short term.

Chief Thomas Jolly expressed concern with Officers being over worked and under staffed during critical periods. He expressed solidarity with the Officers of Eeyou Istchee who have very challenging jobs.

Chief Louisa Wynne stated that she was happy to hear that there would be an increase in officers and that there was also a local concern on inability to enforce local by-laws. She stated that the problem is also challenging considering the multiple jurisdictions in her community.

Police Director Reggie Bobbish explained the day to day challenges of managing the Eenou Eeyou Police Force.

7. Ontario Land Claim

Jessica Orkin, legal counsel joined the meeting and provided a presentation on the Ontario Land Claim, a copy of which is attached hereto.

8. Cree Self Insurance Program

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained the new Cree Self Insurance Program that will be managed through the Board of Compensation. He explained that there was a bidding process implemented this year to ensure the best rate for the communities. He explained that Jack Blacksmith would be providing documentation on exactly what each community has been paying.

He explained that an Advisory Committee composed of 3 local representatives and 2 regional representatives make up the Committee to review the management of the program.

Jack Blacksmith, explained the importance of timely reporting if the program is to be managed successfully.

The Grand Chief congratulated the two on developing a program beneficial to all the communities.

Chief Shecapio expressed dissatisfaction with the size of the deductible being asked for from the communities. Jack Blacksmith explained that it is a function of lower premiums but the matter will be submitted to the Advisory Committee.

Chief Davey Bobbish requested that the issue of providing insurance to private home owners be looked at as some have difficulty finding home insurance. Jack Blacksmith stated that it is very challenging to manage and a proposal is being developed which should be ready in September in regards to Private Housing. He warned that the deductible will remain a very challenging issue.

9. Draft Report on Sub Section 3.2.7

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director and John Paul Murdoch tabled and reviewed the Draft Report from the Special Commission on the 10 Year Clause, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Cheechoo needs to address how people are registered. She stated that the matter was very challenging between communities. We need to discuss our own registry versus having a third party register people and that this should be considered with the recommendations.

Chief Alan Jolly stated that he is not comfortable with the 10 years clause. He stated that he saw Eeyou Istchee as his inheritance and felt as though his rights were being eroded. He stated that the Cree Nation Government should be managing its own registry of citizens and not left in the hands of Quebec. He stated that the Waskaganish Council had passed a Resolution that all members should be funded and he doesn't know what happened to that Resolution. He cannot accept his people being denied their rights under the JBNQA. He stated that there was an issue with the CSB allocating funding to students that can't graduate versus those who are perhaps more able to graduate.

John Paul Murdoch explained that the distinction between identity, rights and access to programs. The 10 year clause was not meant to be read in conjunction with programs which come with inherent conditions. He explained that the imposition conditions is not a new issue and pre-dated in the JBNQA. People should not confuse accessing program with identity. He gave examples such as the Trappers; Income Security Program which comes with conditions.

Chief Alan Jolly understood that programs do have conditions but felt the affects were unfair.

Chief Wynne stated that there are discrepancies on how standards and applications are processed giving an example where siblings are granted status with one sibling being denied.

John Paul Murdoch explained that discussions on the management of lists has been initiated.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that the mandate of the Commission can be added to address management questions with local representatives when the time comes. The Grand Chief stated that the appeal process should also be clarified the Commission in the final report.

Chief Alan Jolly stated that consideration should be given to the building of duplex in Waskaganish so that members from his community can do their time on a rotating basis.

10. Recognition of MoCreebec

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come reviewed the draft Resolution for the recognition of MoCreebec at the next Annual General Assembly.

Thomas Neeposh inquired as to how the land issue would work, specifically Category I and II lands considering the community was in Ontario. Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that this was a first step and we would see how discussions went in the future with other First Nations and the Governments.

Chief Alan Jolly gave the history of his community including the different discussions that have been held with the different levels of government.

Chief Cheechoo inquired how the MoCreebec would identify themselves and wondered when they will address it.

Chief Dennis Georgekish was unclear how the recognition would work and questioned whether "subject to" should not be integrated into the text.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come this is how we started in the past.

Billy Katapatuk explained how Washaw Sibi went about getting recognition from the Cree Nation, namely through the carrying out of a community tour and consultations with those communities that would likely be affected. He explained that this was not easy but was very necessary to put people mind at ease and get support.

Chief Georgekish stated that he wanted to take the Draft Resolution to his community before it is tabled.

Chief Alan Jolly, stated that he did want to undertake a community tour. He was unclear of how things will solve themselves but he was hoping to go to the communities after an Agreement is reached.

Chief Cheezo stated that he liked the idea of a community tour because there were MoCreebec members in his community that wanted to understand what was happening.

The Grand Chief stated that after the communities of Waskaganish, Eastmain, Wemindji and Nemaska give an invitation to Chief Jolly to come and meet with their communities the Resolution will be put back on the table for consideration.

11. Waskaganish Swimming Pool and Paving in the Communities

Chief Cheechoo raised the issue of the need for a swimming pool in her community. She explained the implication of the recent partial diversion of the Rupert River on the community's need for the facility.

She explained the need for paving of the access road and the local roads as an issue of safety but more importantly a health matter.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that the relevant templates or amendments to Treaty Program funding are being reviewed and considered and will be brought it back to the Board/Council for approval. He also explained that it needed to reviewed by the Cree Nation Trust to ensure that nothing is funded which the Government can later deduct from its funding obligations under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement.

12. CNYC By-Law

Alex Moses, Chairperson of the Cree Nation Youth Council tabled and presented a presentation and jointly reviewed a draft of the By-Law concerning the Cree Nation Youth Council with John Paul Murdoch, copies of which are attached hereto.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo pointed out the unusual composition of elected and administrative staff of the Council. She also pointed out that the By-Law could be made succinct in regards to administrative support to the Council.

Alex Moses stated that they understand the difference and will be trying to address it. He explained that 10 years ago both Youth Chiefs and Youth Coordinators were combined and options are being explored.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that he was proud of the efforts of the Youth and Alex Moses in passing this By-Law. He added that it was reviewed by the Executive Committee which recommended its adoption.

Chief Jolly stated that he was very proud of the Youth for the work and what they had done. He stated that he looks how far CNYC representatives have come from and he stands with them.

Thomas Neeposh stated that there are things that have to be examined and therefore it should be assured that things may evolve.

On a motion duly made by Chief Thomas Jolly and seconded by Thomas Neeposh the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-20: By-Law Concerning the Cree Nation Youth Council

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Youth Council was established and functioned successfully for many years as an informal institution without legally personality providing an important opportunity for Cree youth to influence the destiny of the Cree Nation through its self-governing institutions;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Youth Council wishes to take steps to clarify its relationship and opportunities for collaboration with the Cree Nation Government;

THEREFORE the present By-law is intended to establish the principles for the establishment and functioning of the Cree Nation Youth Council as an integral part of Governance of Eeyou Istchee within the Cree Nation Government.

1. DEFINITIONS

Cree Nation Youth A beneficiary of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement as described in Section 3, thereof between the ages of thirteen (13) and thirty-five (35) inclusively.

Eeyou Istchee Territory described under Section 4 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement.

2. CREE NATION YOUTH COUNCIL

The Cree Nation Youth Council shall be a forum to:

- a. facilitate the development, capacity, leadership, and a joy of life of the Youth, in order to have a better future for the People and the Cree Nation;
- b. maintain a strong connection to the Cree Nation Government which recognizes that accountability is a part of maturing, as it participates in the wider task of nation-building Improve program development, delivery and assessment;
- c. facilitates the collaboration and integration of youth programs and activities with other entities;
- d. promotes strong connection to communities and greater responsiveness to community needs through the focus on program delivery that addresses strategic priorities; and
- e. facilitate the accessing of youth program funding from a wider number of sources.

3. COMPOSITION

The Cree Nation Youth Council shall be composed of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the, the Chairpersons of the Local Youth Councils and the Local Youth Coordinators of the communities of Eeyou Istchee.

4. Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Cree Nation Youth Council

4.1 The Chairperson shall be the Chairperson of all meetings of the Cree Nation Youth Council including any General Assemblies organized by the Cree Nation Youth Council.

4.2 The Chairperson of the Cree Nation Youth Council must be

- a) A Members of the Cree Nation Youth as defined in Section 1 above the age of 18;
- b) Resident of Eeyou Istchee;

- c) Not have been convicted of a criminal offence;
failure to meet any of these qualifications results in immediate vacation of office due to disqualification at which time the procedures referred to in sub-section 4.3 would be initiated.

4.3 The election procedures for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be those that apply to the Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief of the Cree Nation Government *mutatis mutandis* subject to the following exceptions:

- Only members of the Cree Nation Youth as defined Section 1 shall eligible to vote shall;
- The term of office of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson is four (4) years.

4.4 The remuneration and working conditions of the Chairperson shall subject to the applicable salary scale and working conditions of the Cree Nation Government.

5. Function

5.1 Procedures

The Cree Nation Youth Council shall be responsible for determining its own rules of procedures, including the procedures to be applied at General Assemblies.

5.2 Voting

Questions arising at any meeting of the Cree Nation Youth Council shall be decided by a majority of the votes of those present. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

5.3 Methods

Meeting by telephone conference may be held at any time at the discretion of the members and such meeting shall be deemed to take place in the Cree community in which one or all of the participants are located.

5.4 Authority

The Cree Nation Youth Council shall have the authority to disburse funds as allocated under the applicable budget of the Cree Nation Government, any authority delegated to the Council by the Board/Council of the Cree Nation Government or granted under any Financial, Program or Administrative Agreement of the Cree Nation Government or other Government Authority.

5.5 Administrative Support

The Department of Social and Cultural Development shall maintain 2 contractual positions for the purpose of assisting the Cree Nation Youth Council and the Chairperson in the pursuit of their objectives. The contracts shall be for a maximum duration from one (1) year starting after the election of a Chairperson and four (4) years thereafter (being the duration of term of office of the Chairperson) to ensure that there is at least one (1) year overlap between the contracts and the terms of the Chairperson of the Cree Nation Youth Council.

The Chairperson of the Cree Nation Youth Council shall participate with the Department of Human Resources of the Cree Nation Government in the recruitment for the positions related to CNYC Operations and Special Projects.

The job description for the position addressing *CNYC Operations* shall be developed with the Human Resources Department.

The job description for position addressing *CNYC Special Projects* shall be developed with the Human Resources Department

(Note: There will be consultations with the Youth Council on merging sections 5.5 and 4.4)

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THIS BY-LAW

Aside from the normal procedure for amending a By-Law, namely the adoption of a Resolution by Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and a Ratification at a General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government any Amendment to the By-Law must be initiated or accompanied by a Resolution of the Cree Nation Youth Council.

7. DECLARATION

The preceding is the complete text of the By-Law Concerning the Cree Nation Youth Council duly adopted by the Council.

13. Under ground Water By-Law

Chief Darlene Cheechoo reiterated the interest of Waskaganish in having the group related to the underground water survey present in Waskaganish despite the difficult in scheduling a meeting.

It was explained that a Resolution was recommended as the Government appeared to be discriminating against Eeyou Istchee providing funding only for territories South of the 49th Parallel.

On a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio the members adopted:

Resolution 2016-21: QUEBEC WATER STRATEGY PROVISIONS FOR NORTH OF 49 °

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec has initiated a consultation for the development of a Water Strategy 2016-2030 for the province of Quebec and has explicitly excluded from the development of the strategy more than half the entire province found north of the forty-ninth parallel;

WHEREAS the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee, the local governments and the Cree Nation Government would be in a much better position to participate in the planning and accommodations of local and regional development if they had the proper tools for assessing and protecting water aquifers and water resources generally;

WHEREAS there is no conceivable reason for excluding Eeyou Istchee from any government program aimed at protecting the environment or facilitating the rational planning and management of our natural resources and is in fact is contrary to Section 2.12 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement in that it unfairly discriminates against the authorities north of the 49th parallel.

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby authorizes the Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come, Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark and the Director of Cree-Quebec Relations to undertake all actions and communications necessary to put an end to the discriminatory application and development of the Quebec Water Strategy.

14. Honorariums

Kenneth Gilpin shared the desire from a number of Board members that wished to return to the method of paying Honoria to due upon each meeting versus on a quarterly or bi-annual basis.

On a motion duly made by Kenneth Gilpin and seconded by Chief Louisa Wynne the members adopted:

Resolution 2016-22: Method of Disbursement of Honorariums

IT IS RESOLVED


THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby mandate the department of finance to process the payment of honoraria on a per meeting basis and Directors the Treasurer to take the necessary action to ensure its administrative implementation.

15. EIBJRG

The Directors reviewed the upcoming agenda of the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government agenda.

Chief Marcel Happyjack stated that he had a discussion with the Mayor of Lebel-Sur-Quevillon over how we keep the jobs and the development in Eeyou Istchee. He suggested that there be an examination going back to 2002 and demonstrate how much has gone out of the territory.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was adjourned.



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary

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1. Corporate Matters

Present:

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come	
Chief Richard Shecapio	Thomas Neeposh
Chief Thomas Jolly	John Henry Wapachee
Chief Marcel Happyjack	
Chief Darlene Cheechoo	Gordon Blueboy
Chief Curtis Bosum	Gaston Cooper
Chief Dennis Georgekish	Christina Gilpin
Chief Kenneth Cheezo	Kenneth Gilpin
Chief Davey Bobbish	
Chief Louisa Wynne	Matthew Mukash

Billy K. Pauline Hester

Also present were Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director, Matthew Swallow, Treasurer, Jack Blacksmith Chairperson of the CNG Board of Compensation, Chief Alan Jolly, Chief Pauline Hester, Billy Katapatuk, Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations.

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum the meeting commenced at 9:30 am.

Chief Davey Bobbish acted as Chairperson and John Paul Murdoch acted as Secretary.

The Directors reviewed the agenda and added the items of By-Laws of the Eenou Eeyou Police Force, Housing Matters, Governance Funding, Weh Sees Indohoun and Day Scholars.

On a motion duly made by Chief Marcel and seconded by Thomas Neeposh the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-23: Adoption of the Agenda of a meeting of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council held on September 13th and 14th, 2016.

The Directors reviewed the minutes and made a few corrections and on a motion duly made by Chief Dennis Georgekish and seconded by Chief Marcel Happjack adopted:

Resolution 2016-24: Adoption of Minutes of a meeting of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council held on May 24th and 25th, 2016 and July 26th and 27th, 2016.

2. Justice Department Update

Don Nichols, Director of Justice and Correction Services joined the meeting and provided a presentation on the Capital Expenditures of the Department, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Jolly inquired how administration of programs was being worked out with the Cree Board of Health. Mr. Nichols explained that the CNG was taking care of Capital and Health Board is taking care of the Operations and Maintenance and that there were Agreements in place a such.

Chief Bobbish inquired into the use of program funding or the identification of other funding for sports and recreation considering the potential positive impact of these programs from a crime prevention point of view.

Directive to Management and to look how funds can be allocated either from the funds administered by Justice or through other funding and would be examined at the December allocation meeting (*Directive 2016-04*).

3. Cree Federal Relation

The Directors held an in camera Session on the content and status of discussions with the Federal Government on the Governance Negotiations.

4. Judicial Advisory Committee

Don Nichols explained the need for the review of the mandates of the members of the Judicial Advisory Committee.

On a motion duly made by Richard and seconded by John Henry Wapachee the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-25: Cree Nation Government Representatives on Judicial Advisory Committee

WHEREAS on May 30, 2007, the Gouvernement du Québec (“**Québec**”) and the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) (“**GCCEI**”) and the Cree Nation Government (“**CNG**”) entered into an *Agreement concerning the Administration of Justice for the Crees* thereby resolving, during the term of that agreement, certain issues involving Québec and relating to Section 18 of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* (“**JBNQA**”);

WHEREAS following the coming into force of the *Agreement concerning the Administration of Justice for the Crees*, Québec and the CNG each appointed their representatives on the Judicial Advisory Committee contemplated by paragraph 18.0.37 of the JBNQA;

WHEREAS the term of membership of a member of the Judicial Advisory Committee shall be for three (3) years and shall be renewable;

WHEREAS the Judicial Advisory Committee shall comprise equal representation from Québec and the CNG and shall not exceed a total membership of ten (10) individuals;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby approves the appointment of the following individuals to be the Cree Nation Government representatives on the Judicial Advisory Committee for a term of three (3) years, effective immediately:

- (1) Deputy Grand Chief/Deputy Chairman Rodney Mark;
- (2) Irene Neeposh;
- (3) Kenneth Gilpin;
- (4) Daisy House;
- (5) Denis Blanchette.

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government further recommends the nomination of Daisy House as Chairperson of the Committee for a term of two years.

5. AGA Resolutions

The Corporate Secretary tabled and reviewed the Resolutions that had been adopted at the Annual General Assembly. Prior to determining what precise action could be taken on each Resolution a Directive was issued to the Management Committee to develop recommendations on what if any administrative actions could be committed to addressing the Resolutions and report back to Board/Council (*Directive 2016-05*).

6. EIBJRG Agenda

The Directives reviewed the upcoming agenda of the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government a copy of which is attached hereto.

7. Day Scholars

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come provided an update of the case originating from a BC First Nation Community. He explained that there were three classes in the group, the boarding home children, the parents and the communities.

There is a meeting on October 5th, 2016 for a case management meeting with the judge. He stated the most important work and the biggest challenge will be the quantifying of those affected 40 communities and countless students. When this number is known then the financial implications in consideration of the common experience payments can be calculated. If we succeed in extending the compensation it would help all day scholars not just the communities that have formally adhered to the case.

Chief Allan Jolly stated that he was concerned with the use of the term “Band” in the development of the case as his community has agreed to participate despite the use of the term Band.

8. Policing

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled a report entitled “Eeyou Eenu Police Recruitment Plan”, a copy of which is attached hereto. He emphasized that hiring has begun for 25 additional officers and only 2 of the candidates are Cree this far but this is to be expected when hiring is done on an emergency basis. He added that there will be an audit or inspection of policing services which would be brought back to leadership.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he wanted an assurance or commitment of sometime made so that there would never be only one officer or too few officers able to patrol during events in the community. He stated that there needs to be an Agreement on the absolute minimum of Officers that would be permitted in a community.

Chief Marcel Happyjack stated that they had hired local public security officers to respond to a rash of break-ins. He was hoping that the remedial measures, specifically the hiring of extra officers could be carried out expeditiously.

The Grand Chief stated that there needed to be an integration between police forces and the planning of community events.

Chief Georgekish related stories of too few officers on duty at a given time as well. He also shared the problem of everyone being aware of bootleggers and pushers and little being done to catch these people.

Chief Jolly shared stories of shortages of officers in his community and attributed this to the low number of officers assigned to his community. He explained that this was very damaging for the wellbeing of these officers.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo stated that efforts need to be made to supplement the officers on duty and inquired as to why cadets are not available like they are in southern communities.

The Grand Chief explained that the use of Cadets was raised and insurance or liability issues were raised. He stated that despite the concern a directive to the management committee could be issued to address possibilities for supplementing forces with the development options like cadets (***Directive 2016-06***).

9. Housing Matters

John Henry Wapachee raised the issue of Housing and stated that he was hoping the item would remain on the agenda of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government due to its critical nature.

Bill Namagoose explained proposals which have been submitted to a number of communities in regards to the construction of six-plexes as an alternative solution. He explained a number of ongoing activities to move the discussions from the Board/Council meeting that was dedicated to housing forward, adding that a mandate had been given to Henry Mianscum on the matter.

10. Weh Sees

John Paul Murdoch explained the current status of the Weh Sees Indohoun zone as an instrument for the monitoring of wildlife and how Quebec with the apparent coordination of the Jamesians are working to put an end to it. He explained that the Jamesians are not unanimous in the exercise.

Chief Dennis Georgekish reiterated the importance of monitoring in the protection of wildlife. He stated that the exercise benefitted all people not just the Cree.

11. Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government Public Security Committee

The Board/Council reviewed the recommendation to have Chief Thomas Jolly nominated to the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government Public Security Committee which can only be filled with elected representatives.

On a motion duly made by Davey and seconded by Curtis the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-26: Nomination to Public Security Committee

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government is entitled to nominate a representative to the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government Public Security Committee;

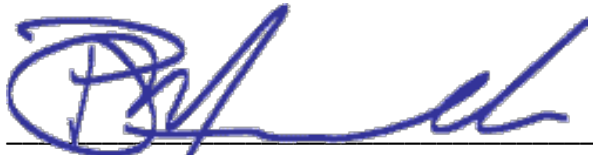
IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council hereby nominates, Chief Thomas Jolly to the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government Public Security Committee.

12. Calendar

The Directors reviewed the proposed 2017-2018 Calendar of meetings a copy of which is attached hereto.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting adjourned at 4:34 pm.



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary

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4. Cree Naskapi Commission 4
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1. Corporate Matters

Present: Chief Richard Shecapio Thomas Neeposh
Chief Thomas Jolly John Henry Wapachee
Chief Dennis Georgekish Christina Gilpin
Chief Marcel Happyjack
Chief Kenneth Cheezo Kenneth Gilpin
Gaston Cooper
L. George Pachano
Chief Darlene Cheechoo Gordon Blueboy
Chief Louisa Wynne

Chief Pauline Hester, Chief Alan Jolly, Billy Katapatuk, Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, Matthew Swallow, Treasurer, Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director, Jack Blacksmith, Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations, Isaac Voyageur, Abel Bosum, Martin Desgagné, Nadia Saganash.

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum the meeting commenced at 9:30 am.

Chief Richard Shecapio acted as Chairperson and John Paul Murdoch acted as Secretary.

The Directors reviewed the agenda and on a motion duly made by Chief Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Gaston Cooper adopted:

Resolution 2016-27: Adoption of the Agenda of meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on November 16th, 2016

2. New Relationship Agreement Program Revisions

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled and reviewed a presentation on the Cree Nation Program Structure and the description of the Programs which was being presented for and approval after review and development by the Directors of Operations and Treasurers of Eeyou Istchee, copies of which are attached hereto.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo inquired about the implication for the deferral projects and she also inquire about the O&M of previous buildings where the destination of the buildings may have changed. With regards to priorities and orders of projects she wanted a final decision to be made by the Chiefs and not by the Directors of Operations and Treasurers. She also expressed concern with how construction contracts are awarded in the communities at times in contravention of local By-Laws. She argued that there needs to be a Cree tendering system and not simple reliance on a Quebec legislated process.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that the O&M issue will be examined. In regards to deferred project, he explained that it was an issue of cash flow management. More importantly he explained that final decision on priorities and what is approved does lie with the Cree leadership and the Administrative leadership. He explained that the DO's and Treasurers are not a legal entity with decision making authority. He explained that a working group is being together to start the discussion on the establishment of a Cree tendering system. He shared the concern with what happened in Waskaganish about the failure to hire Cree workers.

Thomas Neeposh inquired about revision 9, as it applied to regional entities and if this included the School Board and Health Board. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that this was in reference to CNG facilities only.

Chief Dennis Georgekish expressed concerned about urgent projects not being prioritized and is also concerned with the respect for local construction by-laws.

Martin Desgagné explained the efforts to prioritize and develop the Wemindji Lagoon and eco centre projects. Bill Namagoose responded stating that there will be discussion with the Chiefs on Construction By-law in the context of ensuring open Trade between communities.

Chief Louisa Wynne shared the challenges and difficulties of managing construction and development in her community. She explained that the challenge of ordering material on time made the approval process even more difficult. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that this is why there will be flexibility built into the management of the cash flow process and in the case of the triplex it was an issue of DIAND that was slow in the approval process.

Kenneth Gilpin stated that he was glad that the continued development of community and recreation centres would be on the agenda as the communities are always evolving and how they use buildings is also always changing. He explained that we should be doing an inventory of how or if we are meeting the needs of communities in regards to social activities and in the maintenance of the social cohesion of our communities. He stated that we need to be innovative because the needs of a Cree community go beyond a simple centre.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director agreed that we needed and have always argued for an expansive definition of "Community Centre" versus the simple dance hall that DIAND was insisting on.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that it is imperative that communities plan for growth.

Chief Shecapio stated in his community they also exceed parameters at times precisely to anticipate growth in his community. He added that he was happy to hear that the tendering process is to be addressed in the communities.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he wanted to see that local councils approve as well not just the Cree Nation Government. Chief Shecapio agreed that he projects themselves should be approved by the community and the Cree Nation Government and that the proposed changes to the program would help the communities.

On a motion duly made by Thomas Neeposh and seconded by Chief Marcel Happyjack the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-28: Review and Confirmation of Program Structure

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed a proposed Program Structure for the spending of certain funds which have been received from the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec in regards to the costs of implementing provisions of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement Treaty which was adopted on December 18th, 2008 by Resolution 2008-55 and amended on March 14th, 2010 by Resolution 2010-13;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopt the attached description of Programs tabled this 16th day of November 2016 for the spending of certain funds which have been received from the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec in regards to the costs of implementing provisions of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement Treaty.

3. Cree Quebec Forestry Board

Hervé Deschenes, Chairperson of the Cree Quebec Forestry Board joined the meeting and provided a presentation introducing his tenure and the Board, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Darlene stated that there should be a review of the membership of the Cree Quebec Forestry Board and that she would like to propose Steven Blacksmith to fill the vacancy immediately.

Chief Marcel Happyjack stated that he would like the issue examined at the December meeting. Chief Shecapio agreed that vacancies needed to be addressed and should be examined at the December meeting.

Jack Blacksmith inquired about the northern limit forestry line. Isaac Voyageur confirmed that the redline is the Northern limit. Jack Blacksmith pointed out that all of Waswanipi traplines are completely in the forestry zone.

4. Cree Naskapi Commission

The Board/Council considered a recommendation to renew the terms of the sitting members of the Cree Naskapi Commission as their term ends on December 10th, 2016 and at this time it was not entirely clear what would happen to the Commission subsequently to the Cree Federal Governance Agreement. It was explained that the appointments are also jointly managed with the Naskapi who agree to the nominees.

On a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Chief Dennis Georgekish the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-29: 2016 Appointments to the Cree Naskapi Commission

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have considered the candidates for representation on the Cree Naskapi Commission established pursuant to the Cree Naskapi Act, in light of the expiration of the terms of the previously nominated representatives;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby approve the renewal of the mandates of the Mr. Phillip Awashish, Mr. Robert Kanatewat and Mr. Richard Saunders as representatives to the Cree Naskapi Commission.

5. Natural Resources Committee

Nadia Saganash tabled and reviewed a Brief from the Natural Resource Committee under the Eeyou Istchee Bay James Regional Government which would be reviewed with that Council later that day, a copy of which is attached hereto.

6. SQ Investigation

John Paul Murdoch explained the continued efforts to ensure the Government of Quebec convened a Provincial Judicial Inquiry into the accusations of abuse that had been made by Indigenous Women of the Val D'Or area at the hands of Police Officers and the recent action of the City Val D'Or passing a Resolution continuing to also make the demand. He explained some of the other exemplary efforts being made by the City Val D'Or.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that we need to get the information out to the communities on the efforts being made by Val D'Or. She stated that she would like to support Val D'Or in their efforts. She stated that we have to make sure that this issue doesn't get hidden and slip on the side. She was very concerned about the women that came forward and the possible reprisals that they might suffer. She added that we should not be boycotting or discussing this right now and

instead work to support the efforts to amend bridges. She concluded that we need to continue to bring this matter forward and ensure that something is done.

Chief Louisa Wynne stated that she was very concerned for the women that came forward. She stated that they will be scared and if there was a fear about coming forward before it would be worse now with the lack of prosecutions against accused officers. She explained that they need to know that we support them and that they are not alone.

Chief Shecapio stated that we cannot let this issue be dropped and that we need to stand and support all First Nations women. He explained that we will be vigilant on this matter.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that we need to look at how we can continue to push and protest the inaction. He raised the issue of profiling and how damaging it can be. He stated that we cannot accept the discrimination and double standard when it comes to the application of justice and protection of Indigenous Peoples.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that we should always be ready to meet on this issue and that every entity should make it clear that they support their women.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary

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	Resolution 2016-31: Adoption of Minutes of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on September 13 th and 14 th , 2016 and November 16 th , 2016	2
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1. Corporate Matters

Present: Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come
Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark
Chief Davey Bobbish L. George Pachanos
Chief Marcel Happyjack Mandy Gull
Chief Kenneth Cheezo Kenneth Gilpin
Chief Curtis Bosum Gaston Cooper
Chief Dennis Georgekish Christina Gilpin
Chief Darlene Cheechoo Gordon Blueboy
Chief Louisa Wynne Matthew Mukash
Chief Richard Shecapio Thomas Neeposh
Chief Thomas Jolly John Henry Wapachee

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 9:45 am.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come acted as Chairperson and John Paul Murdoch acted as Secretary.

The Directors reviewed the agenda adding the items of Contracts in Eeyou Istchee namely the construction of Cree Health Board Housing Units, Moose Factory Community visits, Height of Land Negotiations and on a motion duly made by and seconded by the Directors adopted:

On a motion duly made by Chief Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Chief Davey Bobbish the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-30: Adoption of the Agenda for a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on December 13th and 14th, 2016

The Directors reviewed the minutes making a number of corrections and on motion duly made by Thomas Neeposh and seconded by John Henry Wapachee the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-31: Adoption of Minutes of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on September 13th and 14th, 2016 and November 16th, 2016

2. Eeyou Eenou Police Commission

Charles Bobbish, Chairperson and Simeon Trapper, Vice-Chairperson joined the meeting and tabled and reviewed a presentation on the activities of the Eeyou Eenou Police Commission, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Cheechoo stated that she supports the officers as much as possible and inquired about how some of the initiatives identified would be implemented. Mr. Bobbish explained that there will be administrative agreement.

Chief Shecapio inquired as to the role and activities of the Commission in regards to complaints from the communities. Charles Bobbish explained that the Commission mandate is to improve the quality of service in the Cree Nation as whole and that individual complaints need to be managed by the Director, he explained that they were aware of the complaints and complaints from the Police. He added that the commission is working on how to address the specific issue of complaints against officers for misconduct at our meetings.

Chief Marcel Happyjack stated that we should look at how the schools can play a role in crime prevention, including Youth Protection. He stated that in Waswanipi there was a real problem with break-ins and vandalism. Charles Bobbish explained that the proposed Neighbourhood Watch manual had a list of all of the people who could participate including our local entities. He explained that the hope is that we don't just talk about ideas but that we actually implement them. He explained that the manual even identified sources of financial resources for the implementation.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that he was concerned about how to recruit our community members to join the EEPF especially in light of the current need to go outside our community to hire officers. He added the importance of having Police be involved in campaigns in our schools and with you as a part of a Crime Prevention Program.

Chief Dennis Georgekish would like the Commission to examine the role of Officers in our communities and ensure that they have the resources they need to help them do their jobs safely.

Chief Curtis Bosum inquired about the establishment of a call centre. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that it is being examined and the concern right now is the cost that is associated with it.

Chief Thomas Jolly expressed concern on the scheduling and management of our officers so as not to provoke burn outs and he agreed with the importance of recruitment.

Matthew Mukash discussed the importance of ensuring that there was a Cree philosophy or vision when discussing the delivery of such important services such as Policing Services in Eeyou Istchee.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo shared the concerns that we are in a sort of crisis when it comes to recruitment. She had heard that a recent cohort had to be cancelled as there were not enough candidates. She stated that it was imperative that we work on the new terminology to refer to our police to demonstrate that they have a positive role to play in our communities. We need to underline the protective role that they are supposed to play in our communities.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained that currently we have 9 candidates at Nicolet. He added that the Policing Agreement allows the Cree to go to any institute in Canada can be hired.

Chief Cheezo stated the importance of recruiting as far upstream as possible. She stated that if we do not do this we will lose the Cree nature of our police and we will always have shortfalls.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come concurred on the importance of recruitment. The Policing By-Law is under review and there is a provision for an audit to be carried out, this will be done and the report would be table here by June 30th, 2017.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that the community members need to be consulted on a “Neighborhood Watch Program” as they are the ones that will make this work. He wanted this clarified in the next steps.

Simeon Trapper explained that local support for Officers is very critical to the ability of our officers to do their jobs.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that we have a bad habit of dumping our social problems on the police.

Charles Bobbish, thanked the leadership for their time and said that the Commission will make every effort to ensure service improve adding that they would concentrate our efforts to ensure a truly “Cree” Police Force.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that he wanted to adopt a Resolution to support the advancement of the Neighbourhood Watch project to support the Commission and Justice in the development and implementation of the program. This program will help the overburdening of the police and bring the community together.

On a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Marcel Happyjack the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-32: Eeyou Eenou Police Commission Development of Neighbourhood Watch Program

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has received a presentation from the Eeyou Eenu Police Commission in regards to the development of Crime Prevention Programs;

WHEREAS there is a need to bring communities, community members and community leadership closer to the Eeyou Eenu Police Force to ensure the development of safe and positive communities reflective of Cree traditions and values;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby formally supports the efforts of the Eeyou Eenu Police Commission working with the Judicial Advisory Committee to develop a Cree Neighborhood Watch Program aimed at improving the safety and security of Cree communities.

3. Val-d'Or Crisis

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come reviewed the status of the file. He explained the recent meeting with the Premier and what provoked it. He explained the efforts and programs to assist native people in Val-d'Or that had been secured including the PVM Investigations into individual cases and the nomination of an Independent Observer. Not a single Officer was charged and there is clear discrimination. At the Meeting with Couillard and the Grand Chief again pushed again for an Inquiry despite Quebec's clear desire to put everything under the National inquiry. He gave many reasons why the Provincial Judicial Inquiry was so necessary and that the National Inquiry was too big and their mandate is too large and will take so long that we can't wait. He explained that in Quebec we have specific incidents, specific cases and we do not want the police to hide behind the shorting comings of social service institutions.

He explained the lobbying efforts of Val-d'Or, the mayor of Val-d'Or and that the municipalities and unions were standing with us on the continued demand for a Provincial Judicial Inquiry.

The Grand Chief raised the issue of the report last Friday in Val-d'Or concerning racial profiling in the administration of municipal fines which demonstrated the discrimination that Crees live with.

He explained the meeting with the women in Val-d'Or and their continued demand for a Public Inquiry and that despite their fears they want to denounce what happened. He informed the meeting that there will be a meeting with Premier Couillard tomorrow at 4:30pm where he will announce to Indigenous leadership the actions that will be taken. He explained that staff was working with the Premier's office on the mandate of a potential Inquiry and who could run it which is a good sign. He said that he had explained to the Premier had the Inquiry been convened immediately it would have been completed already.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he was very disturbed by the matter. He stated that last week was very difficult for the community of Nemaska in light of the youth who lost his life outside Val-d'Or. He stated the practice of star light tours is still relevant and very disturbing and he knows that we have people who have not come forward yet with their experiences. He knows that many are afraid to come forward and that these are very difficult times.

Chief Georgekish stated that there is too much tension in Val-d'Or and the issue of a boycotting is being raised again. He raised the issue of the racial profiling that is going on in Val-d'Or.

Linda Shecapio stated that she was bothered that Cree Women's Association was not asked or consulted about the position being taken by the Cree leadership. She stated that the Association had the right to speak for women in Eeyou Istchee as they are the ones who bring life into the world. She stated that we cannot solve or address the issue by working with the colonial government. She stated that to address the matter we need to go to our elders and grandparents if we are to really have healing. She resented that money and services were brought to the friendship centre and yet nothing to the Women's Association.

The Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come informed the meeting of the letter that was sent by the women who had filed complaints against officers naming Edith Cloutier to speak on their behalf demanding a Provincial Inquiry. He added that the Chief of Lac Simon, Pikogan, and Kitsisakik are also recognized by the Government of Quebec as speaking for the women. He added that he understands that there are different groups and representation will sometime overlap but that it was important that we should not lose sight of the goal because when we get the Provincial Judicial Inquiry everyone and every entity will have the ability and right to make a statement. He stated that he saw the task was to secure the Provincial Judicial Inquiry so that everyone will have a voice.

Glen Cooper shared his experience of being taken on a star light tour during three separate incidents. He explained that these incidents were not in Val-d'Or but also in the City of Montreal. He stated that it is important that we know that it is not only women and that everyone have an opportunity.

Mandy Gull stated that the Women's Association should be included in the mandate.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that there could be a general directive to the Women's Association to assist in securing the argument for a Public Inquiry.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that the Women's Association didn't need a directive and that they had the authority to go ahead in representing Women's interests at the Provincial Judicial Inquiry but that perhaps it was appropriate for them to prepare a special budget submission.

The Grand Chief stated that it was also prudent to look ahead in the event the Government rejects the demand for a Provincial judicial inquiry. He stated Amnesty International has been

approached, who confirmed that there is no mandate to review and address police action by any of the Government resulting in a failure under international human rights law. He explained that we will exhaust domestic remedies and we will then move into the International forum if needed.

There was then a discussion on coordination amongst Cree leadership, including the Women's Association and how soon it can be determined if Quebec will proceed or not with a Provincial Judicial Inquiry.

4. Funding Allocation

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled and reviewed the recommended funding allocations for 2017-2018 from the Cree Quebec New Relationship Agreement and Cree Canada New Relationship Agreement including other Agreements that provide for capital and program funding in Eeyou Istchee, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Richard Shecapio inquired about the mandate on examining paving to examine what communities have spent in the past, he would like it included in the mandate. He also commented on the CHRD funding and stated that he has never seen a report on the success of the program and wanted to see how the investment in CHRD is performing.

Chief Louisa Wynne inquired about the Cree Nation of Wemindji and why they don't take CMHC units but they only take the A-Base. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that this was a decision of the community.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo asked if the decision on the allocation could not be deferred to the following day.

5. 2017/2018 Budget

Matthew Swallow, Treasurer tabled and reviewed a memorandum related to the 2017/2018 of the Cree Nation Government, he also tabled the 2017/2018 Cree Nation Government Budget, copies of which are attached hereto.

Chief Darlene requested that the budget also be deferred for approval until the following day to allow for reflection.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 am December 14th, 2016.

Chief Darlene expressed concerned with how things were being done as compared to previous years. She explained that previously the Director of Operations was aware of allocation recommendations but that this was not the case this year. She stated that same was true for the

Women's Association when she wanted to see the budget allocated to them. She also stated that it wasn't clear who are our consultants and what are they paid and that these were major concerns for her. She stated that she had requested that a caucus of the Chiefs prior to this meeting so they could discuss some of these finer points. She stated it was difficult to make a decision on large amounts of funds with in an hour or two. She stated there is room for improvement on the process. She added that she appreciated the work that was done by the Treasurer in announcing new positions as there is obviously planning involved.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark explained the sources of some the numbers which can at times be tied to indexation matters under particular Agreements. He shared the concern that there is a lot of funding that does not make its way to program development and administration and rather gets used on consultants.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated it needs to be understood that a lot of the funds come from Agreements, and obligations that the Cree Nation Government has assumed and we then have to make sure the funding has to be managed accordingly. The Grand Chief stated that if the Council would like to increase funding in a particular budget, for example if there was a desire to increase funding to the Women's Association then take it from the discretion portion of the funding and give to the Association.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that numbers and allocations were agreed to on November 3rd, 2016 at a meeting of all the Directors' of Operation and Treasurers and haven't changed.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that he doesn't have sufficient time to review the budget or meet with his DO and Treasurer. He stated that at times his Council is not always in agreement with what their Director of Operations and Treasurer propose. He stated that the documentation should be available before the meeting and a meeting among the Chiefs should be convened to discuss it, adding that this goes for the budget and the allocation. He concluded by stating he still has questions as to why housing is not moving in his community.

Linda Shecapio stated that she supports the comments from Chief Darlene Cheechoo. She stated that she was ashamed of our colonial system of governance fighting over a pie. She stated that the Association had so little funding and such an important job to do.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that he wanted decisions to be made in a timely manner because it helps with planning and execution. He stated that he met with his DO's and Treasurers and even questioned CNG staff based on that exchange. He said we should be meeting on the principles and on philosophy earlier if we want to change things.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that the real issue is the provision of the information in a timely manner and it could have been settled much earlier. She stated that next year she would like a caucus meeting be called when the figures are available.

Chief Dennis Georgekish expressed concern over the timely provision of information.

Chief Shecapio agreed that a more timely distribution of material would be appropriate and he clarified that he was not given any document at the Executive as the issue of funding allocation was not discussed there. He did express concern on the influence that advisors had on the process. He stated that like the Chief of Chisasibi, he to gets properly briefed from his staff and would like the allocation and budget to be approved. He agreed to look at calling preparation meetings in a more timely manner.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that regular updates in the status of project submissions can be made but it needs to be understood the projects remain fluid until the November meeting where it is closed. He stated that it was important to recognize the numbers will move as we get closer to the end of the calendar year.

Chief Thomas Jolly also expressed concern with being given the opportunity to understand allocations and budgets before they are approved.

On a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Richard Shecapio the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-33: 2017-2018 Funding Allocations and Approval of the 2017-2018 Budget of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed the proposed budgets for 2017/2018 Fiscal year of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Trust has made available for the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year ***seventy-eight million thirty thousand dollars (\$78,030,000.00)*** from the funds reserved under the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee to fund the obligations of Canada under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement assumed by the Cree;

WHEREAS the funds payable by the Government of Quebec under the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec to the Cree Heritage Fund Foundation as the Recipient of Funding under said Agreement is ***ninety-six million one hundred and ninety-eight thousand and eight hundred and thirty-six dollars (\$98,198,836.00)*** for the 2017/2018 fiscal year to allow the Cree to fund the obligations of Quebec under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement assumed by the Cree through the New Relationship Agreement;

WHEREAS the Directors of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed programs and projects

allocation proposals developed by the Executive Director, Director's of Operations and the Treasurers of Eeyou Istchee for 2017-2018 funds made available pursuant to the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Agreement Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec and the Agreement Concerning a New Relation Between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts and approves the 2017/2018 Budgets of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government as presented this 14th day of December 2016;

THAT the Directors of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby recommend and authorize the Cree Heritage Fund Foundation and the Cree Nation Government to secure, allocate and disburse 2017-2018 funds made available pursuant to the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Agreement Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec and the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee through the Cree Nation Trust in accordance with the attached Schedule;

THAT the Directors of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby recommend and authorize the Cree Heritage Fund Foundation and the Cree Nation Government to secure, allocate and disburse 2017-2018 Community Economic Assistance Funds in accordance with the attached table identified as "Summary Schedule; Ministerial Sheet 2017-18" a copy of which is attached hereto.

6. Feasibility Study for the establishment of Marine Protected Area

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark tabled and reviewed documentation related to explore discussions with the Government of Canada in regards to the establishment of Marine Protected Areas on the coast.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo inquired if here local environmental people had been consulted as they should. She explained that her environment staff and local tallyman should be consulted on the establishment of any protected areas.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that MOU did not engage anyone in the creation of a Protected Area but rather would lead to exactly the discussions that Chief Cheechoo was requesting.

On a motion duly made by Chief Louisa Wynne and seconded by Chief Davey Bobbish the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-34: Collaboration with Parks Canada for the Feasibility Assessment of a National Marine Conservation Area in the Eeyou Marine Region

WHEREAS the Government of Canada is committed to a substantial increase, in the next five years, in protected areas along Canadian shores, including Canada's sub-arctic and arctic coastlines;

WHEREAS, as part of this commitment, Canada is working to expand Parks Canada's system of National Marine Conservation Areas;

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government ("**GCC(EI)/CNG**") support this objective and are willing to work with Parks Canada to assess the feasibility of establishing a National Marine Conservation Area in the Eeyou Marine Region ("**Feasibility Assessment**"), the whole in a spirit of collaboration and shared interest, with the participation of the concerned Cree communities, and in a manner consistent with the *Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement*;

WHEREAS the coastal waters and islands offshore from the Cree communities of Waskaganish, Eastmain and Wemindji are located within the Eeyou Marine Region to the south of the limits of the Nunavik Marine Region and therefore south of the area covered by the *Agreement relating to the Cree-Inuit Offshore Overlapping Interests Area* ("**Overlapping Interests Area**")

WHEREAS the Cree communities of Chisasibi and Whapmagoostui have shown support for, and have expressed interest in participating in, the Feasibility Assessment;

WHEREAS the GCC(EI)/CNG recognize the potential interests of the Nunavik Inuit, as represented by Makivik Corporation, in participation in a feasibility assessment for a National Marine Conservation Area in the Overlapping Interests Area, and therefore wish to make it clear that they are willing to work closely with Makivik Corporation towards shared and common objectives in this matter, including the extension of the study area for a Feasibility Assessment north from Chisasibi and the estuary of the La Grande River;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government ("**Council/Board**") hereby support the collaboration with Parks Canada, in participation with the concerned Cree communities, for a Feasibility Assessment to be carried out in the Eeyou Marine Region;

THAT the GCC(EI)/CNG shall seek support from Parks Canada to examine, in collaboration with the concerned Cree communities and Makivik Corporation, the portion of the Feasibility Assessment situated in the Overlapping Interests Area, it being understood that the geographical

scope of the study in such area will itself depend on consultations with the said Cree communities and Makivik Corporation.

THAT the GCC(EI)/CNG shall take the necessary measures to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Parks Canada, and as applicable Makivik Corporation, for the purposes of carrying out the Feasibility Assessment, and to ensure the full participation of the concerned Cree communities therein, and as applicable and to the extent considered appropriate by Makivik Corporation, of the concerned Inuit communities;

THAT Council/Board hereby authorizes and directs the Deputy Grand Chief/Vice Chairman, or such other person as he may designate, to take the necessary measures for the implementation of this resolution and to report back to the Council/Board from time to time on progress toward the objectives contemplated by the Feasibility Assessment.

7. Court Rules

Don Nichols and Me Matt Sherard joined the meeting and presented, “Consolidated Recommendations Of The Cree Nation Government On Rules Of Practice Of The Court Of Québec”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by George L. Pachano and seconded by John Henry Wapachee the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-35: Cree Proposal on Certain Proposed Rules of Practice of the Court of Québec

WHEREAS paragraph 18.0.14 of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (“JBNQA”) provides for the establishment of rules of practice required for the proper administration of justice in the “judicial district of Abitibi”, which district includes the Cree communities, after consultation with the Cree Regional Authority, as it was then;

WHEREAS paragraph 18.0.15 of the JBNQA provides that such rules of practice must take into consideration the particular circumstances of the district, the customs, usages and way of life of the Crees in order to facilitate the administration of justice and render justice more accessible to the Crees;

WHEREAS the Court of Québec (“Court”) developed proposed rules of practice, including rules applicable specifically when the Court sits outside the chief place of the judicial district of Abitibi in Amos (i.e, when the Court is “itinerant”), and such rules would apply when the Court sits in Cree communities;

WHEREAS the Court requested that the Cree Nation Government (“CNG”) provide comments on the rules applicable to the “itinerant court” and the CNG undertook to consult Cree communities and other Cree stakeholders with respect thereto;

WHEREAS, for the purpose of this consultation, the CNG Department of Justice and Correctional Services (“Justice Department”) prepared a draft technical document proposing recommendations regarding certain proposed rules of practice, with due regard for Cree rights under Section 18 of the JBNQA;

WHEREAS the Justice Department requested the input of various stakeholders on this technical document, including from the Cree communities, the Eeyou-Eenou Police Force, Cree CAVAC workers, Native parajudicial workers, the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and its Director of Youth Protection;

WHEREAS, further to this consultation and subsequent input of the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/CNG, this technical document was amended;

WHEREAS it is now appropriate for the CNG to submit this technical document entitled “Consolidated Recommendations of the Cree Nation Government on Rules of Practice of the Court of Québec” to the Court, substantially in the form of the document bearing that title appended hereto (“Cree Proposal”), for consideration by the Court, and for the purpose of discussion between the CNG and the Court with respect thereto;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) / the Council of the CNG (“Council/Board”) hereby authorizes and directs the Deputy Grand Chief/Vice Chairman and the Director of the Justice Department, or such other person as they may designate, to submit the Cree Proposal to the Court, for and on behalf of the CNG, for the consideration of the Court and for the purpose of discussion between the CNG and the Court with respect thereto, with such changes not affecting the substance thereof;

THAT the Council/Board hereby authorizes and directs the Deputy Grand Chief/Vice Chairman and the Director of the Justice Department to do such other things as they may in their discretion deem necessary or useful to give effect to this resolution.

8. Status of Caribou

Isaac Voyageur, Director of Environment and Remedial Works and Nadia Saganash tabled and reviewed a brief entitled, “Recommendations Regarding The Status Of Leaf River Caribou Herd”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Matthew Mukash shared some of the traditions and practices in the past in regards to caribou to make sure that they were always available. He stated these laws need to be our starting point

not reacting to the Non-Native laws and debate and that we should be speaking from our own laws. He said that we should be presenting the Non-Native hunter with our laws which prohibits hunting if you will not use all of the animal. He stated this should be written in the Cree constitution. He raised the issue of the Court Rules that were adopted not long ago and stated that we need to ensure that we are heading in the direction of managing all matters ourselves and that everything should be managed under one umbrella such as the Cree School Board and the Cree Board of Health. He also argued for abandoning the Categories of land such as I, II and III which come from the matter of extinguishment of rights.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that his community wants to see the Sports Hunt closed and that it was very important that for the benefit of the whole Cree Nation that it be closed. He underline the insult that caribou are often taken in the Sport Hunt just for trophies and no one can ever say that this is what was agreed to under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement. He also mentioned the Innu hunters which were causing problems because they were not coming in the territory to hunt respecting the same traditions that we do but rather were behaving in an excessive manner not reflective of our traditions. He also warned of rising complaints of people bragging about hunting on social media, which is contrary to Cree tradition.

On a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Chief Davey Bobbish the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-36: Sports hunt on the Leaf River Herd

WHEREAS the recent population census conducted this past summer (2016), combined with the 2016 fall classification results estimates the Leaf River herd at 181 000 caribou.

WHEREAS the priority of the native harvesting as defined under paragraph 24.6 of the JBNQA must apply;

WHEREAS paragraph 24.6.3d) provides that if game populations does not permit levels of harvesting equal to the guaranteed level established pursuant to paragraph 24.6.2, the Native people shall be allocated the entire kill and may allocate a portion of this kill to non-Natives through recognized outfitting facilities.

WHEREAS the current level of the Leaf River Herd population does not permit a harvest level over and beyond the guaranteed level of harvests of the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi;

WHEREAS the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Coordinating Committee (HFTCC) has recommend the complete closure of the sports hunt as of 2017.

WHEREAS the Quebec Government has proposed to keep the sport hunt open for an additional year disregarding the priority of harvest and the guaranteed level of harvest;

WHEREAS failure to close the sports hunt as of January 30th 2017 is considered a failure to respect the guaranteed levels of harvest and the principal of priority of harvest, and therefore a breach of the JBNQA.

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Council Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Nation Government hereby demand the complete closure of the sports hunt as of January 30th, 2017 to reduce the pressure on the herd and protect the guaranteed level of harvests of the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi.

THAT directives be given to urge to Quebec Government to comply with the HFTCC recommendation and respect the guaranteed levels of harvest.

THAT directives be given to take legal action should the Quebec government fail to comply with the aforementioned principals of the JBNQA.

Chief Thomas Jolly raised the Eeyou Hunting Law that the Cree Trappers' Association had developed. He agreed that the sport hunt should be closed.

Chief Dennis Georgekish shared the growing concern of his community with excessive hunting and the sport hunt of caribou. He stated that we have to be careful that our community members don't indulge in behavior that we condemn from visitors or guests in our territory.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that it was important to keep in mind the danger with the level of "Guaranteed Level of Harvest" and that the concept did not come from our land users. He further commented on the Innu hunters who traditional leaders don't feel comfortable to prevent them from coming into the territory but who have failed to conclude agreements or respect their word in regards to having a reasonable and traditional hunt.

Matthew Mukash raised the possibility of having an inter-tribal treaty to manage the issue as between Indigenous groups.

9. Contracts

Chief Marcel Happyjack introduced the issue explaining that it arose from actions of the Cree Board of Health as Social Services of James Bay who have a letter attached hereto. He then introduced John Kitchen and Kevin Neeposh who as private Cree entrepreneurs who tried to secure work from the CBHSSJB.

John Kitchen explained a tendering process of the CBHSSJB on housing units which their companies were qualified to bid on. He explained that they were told at first instance that they were too expensive. He stated that the plans would change regularly and be given a very short

delay to respond. He explained that when the companies compared bids amongst themselves they were all actually very close in pricing which could not therefore be considered as not reflecting market prices.

Kevin Neeposh explained that he saw from the actions of the profession advisors of the CBHSSJB or the CSB discriminate against Cree companies. He stated that consultants or firms don't negotiate fairly because they do not table actual figures and it is never clear what they are basing the "fair" price on. He stated the difference is usually 25-30% in nature. He stated there is not a fair effort to negotiate and then they quickly go to tender. He stated that they came to this meeting to seek support to find a fair process to keep contracts and opportunities in Cree hands. He added that one of the problems is that professionals insist on certain suppliers preventing them from passing savings to the client. He gave the example of an outside entrepreneur that came in and made \$4,000 profit on a \$3.5 Million dollar contract.

Kevin Neeposh raised the example of outside communities that do what they can not to employ locally or engage local services. He asked how it was fair that he followed local bylaws that set high standards on employment and the outside entrepreneur does not. He concluded by saying that the construction industry is so depressed that the low prices right now are not reflective of a viable industry.

The Grand Chief explained how estimates are carried out internally before we go for a bid whereas the Government will invite bids from 4 or 5 entrepreneurs which then becomes a public tender. He stated that he was not aware of how the Cree School Board or the Cree Health Board arrived at their estimates and he explained that it was not an easy task. He reminded everyone that the Cree Nation Government assist the Cree School Board and the Cree Health Board in securing capital funding, which as it comes from Government comes with specific restrictions. He stated that we have been examining how to ensure that our communities, our entrepreneurs and our labourers will be protected.

Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry tabled and reviewed a presentation entitled, "Eeyou-Eenou Nation Trade And Commerce Agreement; Status Report Presentation to Cree Nation Government", a copy of which attached hereto.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that it was through the Treaty that we were hoping to take control over the meaning of Section 28 and put an end to arguments that entities or Crown Corporations are only bound by Treasury Board of a foreign government.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he wished this would advance more quickly. He stated that in Mistissini a By-Law was adopted to protect the enhancement of manpower and they left the issue of public tenders alone and is now wondering today if the community shouldn't have limited access to public tendering. "Public Tender" does not guarantee employment for our workers. He inquired if it wasn't better to consider Cree Nation tendering only. He gave example of locally managed contracts that resulted in considerable accreditation of local

workers. He stated that the Cree Leadership was not likely using all the tools at our disposal to promote local entrepreneurship.

Kathleen Wooton explained that the Cree School Board is an a catch 22 where on one hand we want to promote Cree entities but ever since the scandals in South we are now under very strict requirements and are obligated to award by public bidding. She stated that they hired a Deputy Director General of Operations who we expect to manage the process and be able to report to us on how we are doing and we would call an information session with Cree contractors so we could share the criteria and obligations on the Cree School Board when considering contractors.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained that the Directors of Operation and the Treasurers had formed a Committee that would look at the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Construction By-Law.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated contracts are managed in a way that doesn't promote Cree entrepreneurs by the Cree School Board and the Cree Health Board. He added that he also witnessed a double standard for local and outside entrepreneurs in regards to respect for local bylaws. He stated that we should only be going for outside resources when there are none available locally like an architect. He shared examples of outside contractors having very little respect for local standards or practices.

Thomas Neeposh explained that he has witnessed how difficult it is for Cree contractors to gain access to business and construction opportunities. Reviewed minutes.

Page 17 – Thomas Neeposh stated that we should make all efforts to support Cree businesses.

Chief Wynne explained the damage and loss when a contractor brings outside workers when there is skilled labour available locally, especially in such an isolated market.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated a Report would be asked for from Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry by June.

There was a discussion on a possible Resolution that could be adopted to promote Cree entrepreneurship. There was a discussion on how to define "Cree" entrepreneurs.

On a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Chief Louisa Wynne the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-37: Cree Participation in Employment and Contracts

WHEREAS the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement contains provisions related to the promotion of local economic development opportunities namely under Section 28;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government, Cree School Board, Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and Local Governments of Eeyou Istchee all manage resources resulting in the awarding of employment and contracting opportunities;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby demands that all Cree, Federal and Provincial Government entities promote Cree employment and Cree entrepreneurship in a manner respectful of the obligations to do such under Section 28 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement.

On a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Chief Dennis Georgekish the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2016-38: Chiefs Committee Meeting

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby calls for the scheduling of meetings of the “Chief Committee”.

10. MoCreebec Consultations

Chief Alan Jolly gave an update to the Board/Council on community consultations tours to explain the status of affairs for MoCreebec. He reported that they have also been trying to carry out a census from which communities MoCreebec members were affiliated. He stated that he was unable to meet with Wemindji but that the Chief of Wemindji had spoken to his people and it appeared that the community was in support of MoCreebec. He stated that the Cree Nation of Eastmain had adopted a Resolution supporting MoCreebec. He stated that he had met with the Council of Nemaska in Val-d'Or. He explained that they went to Waskaganish and met with Council but a public meeting was not possible but that they would likely return to have a public meeting. He stated that in January 2017 they would be going to Waswanipi and at the end of the month to Mistissini. Ouje-Bougoumou remained yet to be scheduled. Whapmagoostui Chisasibi and Washaw Sibi would likely be in March.

11. Other Matters

The next meeting of the Board/Council is to be held on January 24th and 25th, 2017 in Chisasibi.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary

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1. Corporate Matters

Present: Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come
Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark
Chief Davey Bobbish
Chief Marcel Happyjack Mandy Gull
Chief Kenneth Cheezo Kenneth Gilpin
Chief Curtis Bosum Gaston Cooper
Chief Dennis Georgekish Christina Gilpin
Chief Darlene Cheechoo Gordon Blueboy
Chief Louisa Wynne Matthew Mukash
Thomas Neeposh
John Henry Wapachee

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the By-Laws and there being a quorum the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 9:30 am.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come acted as Chairperson and Paul John Murdoch acted as Secretary.

The Directors reviewed the agenda adding the items of Municipality of Chapais expansion, "Native" Group from Chibougamou, and on a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Chief Davey Bobbish the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2017-01: Adoption of the Agenda for a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on January 24th and 25th, 2017

2. Nutrition

Bella Petawabano, Chairperson and Dr. Kitty of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay joined the meeting and table a presentation entitled, "Improving Access to Nutritious Food in Eeyou Istchee", a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Cheechoo addressed the issue of food security and wanted an examination of why the price of food was different as between the communities. She explained that the source of food, be it local green houses or other means should be examined. She also raised the issue of personal funding raising which can involve the distribution of food which is not necessarily legal or safe. She also inquired about the health of the game food that our people depend on and if this was being monitored.

John Henry Wapachee stated that he agreed with the actions being proposed but stated that there needed to be a declaration of the magnitude of the problem. He also advocated a holistic approach to addressing the crisis and argued for the appointment of a Steering Committee whose terms of reference should be brought back to the Council.

He added that there are great number of people being diagnosed with diabetes that we can learn from. Chief Marcel Happyjack stated that he did not understand either why considering the location of his community why food costs would be higher than in the neighboring non-Native Communities when transportation costs are identical.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that he agreed that it was time to take action and address the important issue of nutrition especially considering how much control that Cree leaders have on the choices that could be made in the groceries stores.

Chief Cheechoo raised the issue of Federal food mail program which have been cut and that pressure could be put on the Government to put the program back could be an immediate action that could be taken.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come shared the story of meeting a youth Joey Blacksmith who lost his leg to diabetes. He stated that he was an example of an amazing speaker to share the importance of what is being discussed. He shared a story of how we shame or don't support one another in exercise, diet or weight demonstrating that we need to be very careful of our cultural biases. He also raised the issue of the reliance on medication versus taking charge of your own health. He stated that we should be examining all points of influence such as daycares to influence as much as possible the implementation of proper diets and healthy habits.

Dr. Kitty stated that by reducing complications from obesity, medication will naturally be reduced.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that the presentation would be going on a community tour and was asking for assistance with scheduling.

Alex Moses shared his experience in listening to Mr. Blacksmith and agreed that a campaign for awareness is needed. He stated that as the Chair of the CNYC he agreed that he also has the responsibility to bring awareness to the state of malnutrition in the Cree Nation leading to such high incidents of diabetes.

Willie Gunner explained that he has been told that he was borderline for developing diabetes and he share the importance of going out on the land and eating of traditional food and the restorative impact that this has on his health. He shared other arguments and stories to demonstrate the importance of the traditional way of life for the maintenance of healthy physical and emotional living.

Chief Cheezo stated that this was a very important issue and that in Eastmain the local leadership is trying to emphasize local organized sports as a solution. He thanked the presenters for the information and that they were welcome to present in Eastmain.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2017-02: Adoption Of The Framework For Action To Improve Access To Nutritious Food In Eeyou Istchee

WHEREAS rates of chronic diseases are high in Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS the rate of food insecurity is high in Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS the proportion of low-income families is high in Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS access to affordable nutritious foods is essential to promote health, attain food security and prevent chronic diseases;

WHEREAS as a nation, we need to ensure that nutritious foods are available and affordable to all Eeyou families;

WHEREAS in 2015, the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (“GCC(EI)/CNG”) and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (hereinafter referred to as “CBHSSJB”) committed to work together to improve access to nutritious foods for the families of Eeyou Istchee in order to improve their health and well-being and created a Joint Working Committee;

WHEREAS the Joint Working Committee developed a Framework for Action to improve access to nutritious food in Eeyou Istchee (hereinafter referred to as “Framework for Action”) and proposed a list of actions;

WHEREAS the GCC(EI)/CNG recognize that the issue of access to nutritious foods is complex and that the collaboration of multiple stakeholders is required to improve access to nutritious food in Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS it is deemed necessary that the GCC(EI)/CNG and CBHSSJB call upon their own departments, councils, committees and working groups to be models for other entities and lead by example, by promoting health and improving access to affordable nutritious food in all their activities and interventions;

WHEREAS it is deemed necessary that the GCC(EI)/CNG and CBHSSJB call upon local Bands, and their development corporations, the local and regional businesses and associations, the Cree

School Board and the schools, the daycares, and all other Cree entities to join forces and take immediate action to promote health and improve access to affordable nutritious food in their own sectors of intervention and activities;

WHEREAS it is deemed necessary that the GCC(EI)/CNG and CBHSSJB call upon suppliers and transportation companies to support and enhance the improvement of access to affordable nutritious food in Eeyou Istchee and ensure quality of food, from supply to distribution;

WHEREAS it is deemed necessary that the GCC(EI)/CNG and CBHSSJB call upon community members and their various local wellness committees to be actively involved in the improvement of their community food environment, to ensure availability of affordable nutritious food for all;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government declare the importance of addressing nutritional health and hereby adopt the Framework for Action to improve access to nutritious food in Eeyou Istchee (hereinafter referred to as “Framework for Action”);

THAT the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government shall join forces with the CBHSSJB and call upon their departments, councils, committees and working groups, the Band Offices, development corporations, the local and regional businesses and associations, the Cree School Board and the schools, the daycares, and all other Cree entities as well as suppliers and transportation companies to actively contribute to the improvement of access to affordable nutritious food in their own sectors of intervention and activities within the context of the Framework for Action and with respect to the principles promoted therein;

THAT the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government shall develop and implement a Regional Action Plan in collaboration with the different stakeholders of Eeyou Istchee to ensure access to affordable nutritious food for all in accordance with the Framework for Action.

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government further mandates the Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief to undertake all actions necessary for the implementation of this Resolution.

3. Toponymy

John Bishop joined the meeting, tabled and reviewed a presentation entitled, “Proposed Mandate for the Cree Nation Government’s; Toponymy Program”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

John Henry Wapachee stated that it would be good to include the CTA as an organization in the exercise. He also suggested that the history of traplines be documented which he felt was important in the context of development and border disputes or discrepancies.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that similar was carried out many years ago in Chisasibi territory through his cultural department. He stated that local land users were very involved and that he hoped that such work that was carried be integrated in any new effort and to include those that worked on this issue in the past. Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that the collection and integration of the work is exactly what was hoped for.

Matthew Mukash stated that this was a very important issue and that there should be a statement of principle explaining why this is being done. He stated that it could be adopted some time in the future to be used as terms of reference.

Chief Louise Wynne stated that she was pleased with the initiative and hoped that it would be carried out in an expedited manner. She explained that there were many elders and hunters who have been waiting for this to be carried out.

Thomas Neeposh stated that he had the privilege on working on a place name project and getting to interview land users on place name. He stated that it was important to include the extended family and not only the tallyman when carrying out consultations on place names. He stated that the exercise would be important for replacing the French place names which are currently labeled on our rivers.

John Bishop stated that guidance would taken from local leadership in each community as to how the work will be carried out.

The Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government issued a Directive to Abel Bosum, Cree Nation Government Negotiator with Quebec and Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations to initiate discussions with the Government of Quebec for how to give effect to the Cree Nation Government initiative on toponomy (***Directive 2017-01***).

4. Cree Canada Governance Agreement and Constitution

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come reviewed the history of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement. He explained the status of the community consultations being carried out, the meetings with communities and staff of the Cree Nation Government. He presented a summary of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement, reviewing portions of the presentation that is given in the communities entitled, "Cree Nation Governance Agreement; Cree Constitution; Cree Community Information Meetings; January -February 2017", a copy of which is attached hereto.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director reviewed the documents that he had sent the Board/Council members in relation to the alternative to the current Cree Canada Governance Agreement. He provided examples of Federal oversight which were not meant to lift up communities but rather to off load Treaty obligations or ensure that communities are forced in situation where they have to sell or develop their territory. He presented a document entitled, Consolidate Grant Agreement Years 2013 to 2028 to explain how the Government had tried to subject the Cree Nation to their expansive definition of OSR and leaves us upon to the complete discretion of Federal Policies in regards to First Nations. He explained how Federal negotiators were convinced in the case of the current Cree Canada Governance Agreement not to impose Federal Policies, he explained how difficult it was and the current discontent among civil servants when they find out that the Cree are not giving up their tax status. He then review further the presentation that was given in the communities on the Cree Canada Agreement and the Constitution.

Chief Marcel Happyjack explained the reaction in his community and that there is a lot of discussion at the local level. He stated taxation, OSR, the potential impacts on land users and there was discussion on the approval process. He stated that he would be organizing more consultations at the local level. He stated that at this time there was not opposition but there were questions.

John Henry Wapachee raised the issue of the Implementation Committee to high light the roles and he wanted more description in to what the new mandate of the Cree Naskapi Commission would be. He also recommended that members of the Cree Nation be allowed to forward or make contributions to the Agreement and the Constitution.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that she had many questions about the Agreement and the Constitution. She stated that she was particularly concerned about OSR in how it applies to Treaty entities. She stated that exceptions be sought for these entities. She was also concerned with the finality of the document. She also expressed concern over the approval process in that she felt that we were taking away the voice of the people. She stated that she will always be concerned with other entities having authority over Category IA lands. She stated that it was a big mistake to have another government having authority over Category IA lands. She stated that she would also like to know the results of the consultations in the other communities.

Mandy Gull stated that if minutes were taken in community consultations if it could be shared with other communities because it would be good if communities to hear what is being said and answered in other communities. She appreciated when the Grand Chief stated that a final report would be table in April. She also inquired about documentation being made available and an email address created specifically to receive people's questions. She was also asking about the status of translation of summaries. She inquired as to when the Post Secondary students consultations would be. She stated that she would have preferred that there be a discussion between the local community and the CNG to define their relationship. What happens when there is a dispute between local government and CNG if there is a conflict in

jurisdictions. She also asked who will the Cree Naskapi Commission be reporting to and that it was perhaps time to consider the transfer of knowledge from those on the Commission presently. She then inquired as to the calculating and forecasting that was done in the assessment of the Financial Agreements.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained the size of group for the tour which was composed of individuals who have participated in governance matters and discussions with the Government on the Agreement such as John Hurley. He stated that questions and comments are being recorded. He also explained that the Federal Government has stated that they would be sending a Federal Observer. He explained further that we were examining how to share information while trying to protect the Agreement from attacks by third parties. He added that the summary of the Agreement and Constitution was being translated. He also provided that consultations had been set for Post-Secondary students: February 20th Gatineau and February 22nd Montreal

He stated that in the future when local Government pass Laws, they will not send them to Canada and neither will they will not beholden to the Cree Nation Government either. He discussed the relationship between local governments and CNG, which stated that we will build on the collaborative relationship where the CNG only acts at the invitation of the local governments. He stated that this is the way it has always been and that no authority or jurisdiction is being taken away from local governments. He explained that the new jurisdictions of matrimonial property and language and culture would only be exercised after further discussion and negotiations at all levels of the Government. He stated that the Agreement and Constitution had been formally sent to the Women's Association and the Cree Naskapi Commission. He explained that the Commission would remain an independent body. He explained that the power to change things in the future would only work collectively. Only with the Agreement of the communities and all levels of Cree Government could be change things. The Cree Nation Government on its own cannot change anything and that it was important to remember that it was not the Grand or the Deputy Grand Chief that was the Government but the collective Cree leadership. He explained that our people were also protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in regards to equality and other important freedoms.

The Grand Chief reminded everyone of the numerous reports that had been carried out on the Agreement and the Constitution over the last 8 years through the countless Federal Relations reports.

In regards, to the OSR he stated that we had successfully negotiated an exemption from the oppressive Federal OSR policy and protected important sources of revenue.

In regards, to the finality of the document he stated that the document needs to be seen in light of the negotiations of the past 30 years on the Cree Naskapi Act. He stated that it is the Chief and Councils that represent their people. In regards, to the Constitution it was important to recognize that it was a starting point and that in the future we do not need the authority of

the Federal Government on where we take it. He stated that there would be a report following the consultations. He reminded how successful the Cree Nation has been in moving in increments. He stated that this Agreement and Constitution was an implementation of a previous recommended which was subject to referendum and therefore didn't see the need for another.

Thomas Neeposh stated that he can see the improvement from the past. He shared the experience of the early exciting days of implementing the Cree Naskapi Act. He stated that he see the strengthening of governing ability and that it will not be easy for everyone to understand right away. He added that this will not be easy and I know that people are scared. He inquired as to the status of consultations that William Mianscum had carried out some years back regarding self-governance. He stated that he hoped we moved quickly with the approval and implementation of the Agreement and the Constitution.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that the work that William Mianscum had carried out would be very useful when we have power over our constitution and then determine where to go. He added that Mr. Mianscum was helpful in past negotiations such as the Cree Quebec Governance Agreement.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that there were questions in his community related to taxation and transfer of powers from the Federal Government to the Cree. He stated that there were also concerns on communities losing authority. He stated that there is still confusion over the Agreement and Constitution. He hoped that this issues would be addressed in the community consultations.

Bill Namagoose stated that the Agreement and Constitution is made available at all Band offices. He explained further that no powers were going from Communities to the CNG and that this could not even be done subversively as local leadership makes up the Cree Nation Government. He stated this was an important step in self-government.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated why he supported the Agreement and the Constitution, namely he was very happy with the idea that the Cree Nation would make the decisions on internal governance with any federal oversight in the future. He gave the example of the Cree Naskapi Commission that the community would meet with every two years to complain about the governance provisions in the Cree Naskapi act that were problematic at the local level. He stated that the Commission reported to the Federal Government on problems and how many times did they change it, only Once and even then it was only due to the last Cree Canada Agreement. He stated that this was the opportunity to address our own obstacles. In regards, to the O&M funding that this was an important succession and would give us stability versus fight every 5 years not to be cut. He stated that he was also not worried about taxation because it would be a Cree decision and as a Chief he had no intention in allowing it. He stated that this was important step forward.

Chief Allan Jolly stated he liked everything he was hearing under the Agreement and the Constitution except that “Ontario” is not included. He stated that at the November meeting he asked that there be some room made in the Governance Agreement of the Constitution made for communities like MoCreebec be brought in the fold. He stated that local people were asked if they preferred the Indian Act or the Cree Naskapi Act and there was a majority of people who said the Cree Naskapi Act even if they did not understand it fully.

Chief Pauline Trapper stated that her communities members were concerned but a lot of questions were answered at the community consultation session. She stated that members were very happy to hear about the removal of federal oversight. She also said that the words of Robert Kanatewat were very inspirational. She encouraged Chiefs to make sure that members went to the local consultation sessions. She stated that she could see clearly that the Agreement was a move forward.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo stated he has had a local consultation on the Agreement and the Constitution and that there are many questions. He stated that the report and questions from the meeting would be sent to the Cree Nation Government delegation. He added that copies of everything have also been distributed locally. He stated that efforts had to be made to make sure people are well informed. He stated that he was glad that the leadership decided to take time versus trying to approve it last December. He looked forward to the consultation scheduled for his community.

Matthew Mukash stated he was happy with the idea of the Constitution and that it would be in the hands of the Cree Nation. He recited some of the preamble of the Draft Constitution. He stated that he did not disagree with the writing but he did ask about Education and Health which are addressed in the JBNQA but not mentioned here. He said in past Governance there was discussion of having both of these jurisdictions under one umbrella but he understood the challenge consider that Health and Education were under Provincial Jurisdiction. He also raised the idea of having some sort of security force in light of the escalating violence and terrorism around the world. He did not want to alarm anyone but stated that it was an important concern. He also inquired about the future of governance possibilities on Category II and III lands. He doesn't object to the adoption of the Agreement and the Constitution.

Mandy Gull stated that she didn't understand how the relationship between the Cree Nation Government and the local government would change and suggested the formation of a working group or working committee to address the issue of the definition of the local government and the Cree Nation Government. She gave the example of the potential appointment of an Administrator or the examination of audited financial statements or conflict in jurisdictions. She wondered if it would be the Cree Nation Government or Board/Council that would decide in the event of a conflict.

Chief Louisa Wynne stated that she had a lot of questions and some had already been raised. She asked for community consultation to be held in Whapmagoostui on February 10th, 2017

and that she would be organizing a community meeting before to help people develop questions and their ideas before any delegation arrives.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come reiterated Chief Bobbish's comments clarifying that we were securing O&M funding for 23 years. In regards to MoCreebec he stated that as the Constitution would be entirely in the hands of the Cree Nation we could address this matter at the appropriate time. In the case of the potential appointment of an Administrator he underlined that nothing would change and we have not had problems with this at this time even though the threat is real and that if it ever did happen that we would manage it together. In regards, to conflicts of laws he stated that they do not need to be sent to the CNG or the Federal Government to be valid. He didn't disagree with the establishment of a Committee or Working Group before or after the signing of the Agreement.

Mandy Gull inquired into the possibility of creating a Committee or Working immediately. Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that a draft Resolution would be prepared on the matter.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark stated that he looked forward to communities looking at laws instead of by-laws which tend not to get elected. He stated that there were so many issues that we could address such trade matters or health matters. He also looked forward to the planning that could be done with a secure O&M Agreement including the additional \$200 million that would be paid under the Agreement.

5. Expansion of the Municipality of Chapais

Chief Curtis Bosum stated that he wanted a mandate issued to the CNG to figure out how to stand against any potential by the municipality of Chapais.

Chief Happyjack expressed the same concern as there were two Waswanipi traplines that could be affected. He has appointed the Natural Resource Director to address the issue.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that issue will be examined but it was important to keep in mind that decisions can't be made without Cree involvement which is now unavoidable on Category II lands and Category III lands whether it is through the Cree Nation Government or the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government.

6. Chibougamou Metis

Chief Curtis Bosum tabled a draft Resolution purportedly adopted by a group of individuals claiming metis status within the municipality of Chibougamou, namely Luc Michaud and Daniel Bergeron. He was concerned with their potential claims for lands and wildlife resources. He told them that they should not consider any discussion with as consultation and he cautioned them.

John Paul Murdoch explained the erroneous assumptions that groups were making about a recent Supreme Court of Canada recognizing the Métis Nation which Francophones were translating literally as mixed blood and thereby claiming Indian Status. He did explain that they could cause problems as they were creating status of cards and using “Eeyou” as their status which could cause problems for everyone. He stated that accelerating work on a JBNQA Beneficiary card help avoid potential problems. He added that in the immediate future this more a problem for the Municipality of Chibougamou than for the Cree Nation.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come reviewed the history of the Métis judgement in question which is clearly different in origin than what is being claimed in Chibougamou. He gave the example of the Lubicon Cree who could not gain status and found it incredulous that this group in Chibougamou could succeed where so many with far better claims have failed. He said we can give the forms to fill out like everyone else.

7. EEPF Inspection

The Board/Council held an *in camera* session in regards to the “Inspection” of the EEPF and the current status of the work force.

8. Minutes

The Directors reviewed the minute making a number of corrections and on a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Thomas Neeposh the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2017-03: Minutes: Adoption of Minutes of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council held on December 13th and 14th, 2016

9. Height of Land

Thomas Neeposh stated that the inability to maintain the moratorium on vacation lease in the Height of Land area was causing a lot of problems for land users for Mistissini. He asked that the Government be approached about maintaining the moratorium until discussions are completed.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that the issue was being addressed and negotiations were resuming since the Innu Chief had been on sick leave for sometime. There was a commitment to have the issue raised at the Cree Quebec Standing Liaison Committee.

10. Chisasibi Airport

Chief Davey Bobbish tabled and reviewed a request for political support for the establishment of the Chief Robert Kanatewat Airport. He stated that the community was applying for Federal

funding to extend the runway and that formal support from the Cree nation Government would help the application. He explained that the expansion was important to meet medivac needs.

On a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Chief Dennis Georgekish the members adopted:

Resolution 2017-04: Support for the Development of Chief Robert Kanatewat Airport

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Chisasibi is in the process of developing the Chief Robert Kanatewat Airport to aid in promotion of the community as an important hub of the North;

WHEREAS this development will facilitate the increased safety of travel in the north, the improvement of health services throughout the territory, the economic development of the region and the greater connection of communities in the North;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby formally supports the development of the Chief Robert Kanatewat Airport in the community of Chisasibi as a major transportation hub of the North;

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government further mandates the management of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to identify resources which can be dedicated towards the development of the Chief Robert Kanatewat Airport.

11. Land Use

John Paul Murdoch tabled and reviewed a presentation on how to address obstacle and deadlocks with the Natural Resource Committee of the EIBJRG in regards to the development of land use plans, a copy of which is entitled, "Challenges of Land Use Planning". He explained that the recommendation is to seek advice from the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment to provide guidance on how the land use plans can be developed without infringing upon Cree Rights under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that when we signed the Governance Agreement we made it clear that we would not be abandoning anything under the JBNQA and that all Government including the EIBJRG would have to respect Cree Rights. He stated that we would not allow the Jamesians to pretend we don't exist and that our rights don't exist. Section 22 still governs land use plans and environment regulation in general.

Matthew Mukash explained problems that were being encountered with land use studies and planning North of the 55th Parallel. He explained that they were not included or participated in

the land use plans related to their territory. He wanted the issue discussed and negotiations established on the matter.

Deputy Grand Chief Rodney Mark explained that there were discussions ongoing in overlapping matters with the Inuit and that the work of the Eeyou Eenou Planning Commission should help the discussions in the future.

12. Regular Program Funding

John Paul Murdoch, tabled and reviewed presentation entitled, "Access to Regular Government Programs Under the James Bay Northern Agreement" a copy of which is attached hereto. He explained that it was tabled for information and to be used by Board/Council members and entities such as CWEIA, CTA or Youth when governments try and deny access to programs that the Cree are rightfully entitled to.

Chief Davey Bobbish inquired about the application of the guarantee of access to regular programs to the infrastructure requirements for services guaranteed under the JBNQA such as health or education. There was then a discussion on the potential rejection of applications for reasons other than funding having already been provided under the JBNQA and the Paix des Braves Agreement.

13. Working Session

John Paul Murdoch reviewed the Draft Resolution that was prepared in response to the request from Mandy Gull.

On a motion duly made by Mandy Gull and seconded by John Henry Wapachee the Directors adopted:

Resolution 2017-05: Working Sessions in Regards to the Cree Canada Governance Agreement and the Cree Constitution

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT a Working Session of the Council/Board members will be convened for the purpose reviewing the results of community consultations on the Cree Canada Governance Agreement and Cree Constitution and to allow for open discussions on the internal governance relations of the Cree Nation as a whole under the current Cree Naskapi Act and under the future Cree Canada Governance Agreement or Cree Constitution.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.



Paul John Murdoch
Corporate Secretary