



|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Corporate Matters .....   | 2 |
| Resolution 2017-09: 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 April 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 ..... | 2 |
| 2. Cree Canada Governance Agreement and Constitution .....   | 2 |
| Resolution 2017-10: Cree Nation Governance Agreement and Cree Constitution .....   | 8 |

## 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  
Chief Darlene Cheechoo Gordon Blueboy  
Chief Louisa Wynne  
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 9:50 am.

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

The Directors reviewed the agenda and on a motion duly made by Thomas Neeposh and seconded by Chief Davey Bobbish the Directors adopted:

***Resolution 2017-09: 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 April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

## 2. Cree Canada Governance Agreement and Constitution

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come introduced Bill Namagoose, Executive Director who gave a presentation on the consultation tour of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement.

The Grand Chief explained and expanded on the efforts that have been made to answer questions in the community. He also remembers adopting and proposing a Resolution for Cree Governance and a Cree Constitution that he proposed as

Chief Darlene Cheechoo asked if the letter from Waskaganish Councillors on the agenda could be removed. She stated that it related a local matter and should not be distributed. She stated that the petition should also be posted. Mandy Gull stated that she agreed that the letter should not be posted as well and agreed that it was a local internal matter. Gordon Blueboy Cree Nation Government representative and Councillor of Waskaganish stated that the letter was sent to the Chief and leadership of the Cree Nation Government by the Councillors and that they wished it be part of the agenda. He explained that it was no longer just a local matter and affected all

communities. He then requested permission to read the letter as he was one of the people that signed it. Gordon Blueboy then proceeded to read the letter addressed from the Council of Waskaganish to the Chief of Waskaganish. The Grand Chief agreed that this is an internal matter and it should not be the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government that should intervene to fix things, he explained that the solution to the impasse in Waskaganish needed to come from there.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo read a statement explaining that her community was only asking for more time. She explained that she did not understand the approval process and had doubts that it was necessary to initiate the process before the fall. She stated that there is too much fear mongering and concerned with the threat that Waskaganish would be treated badly if they did not approve the Cree Canada Governance Agreement. She explained that recent events have caused damage to local relationships and caused a questioning of leadership that wasn't there before. She also wanted to know why this Agreement is listed as a "Termination Agreement". She asked that Waskaganish be given the opportunity to settle their matters internally.

The Grand Chief explained that at this time there was no Cabinet Approval even if the Agreement was supported by the Civil Servants at this time. He explained that it was important to get the cabinet submission in before the summer. The Grand Chief explained how the term "Termination Agreement" is coined by lobbyists like Russ Diabo and carries no official meaning. He stated that the petition is good and that democracy is good and debate is good but at some point as leaders a decision needs to be made. He added that he is elected by the people of Waskaganish as well and he too is obligated to provide information to the community when asked.

Chief Louisa Wynne stated that she is sad to see what is happening in Waskaganish and stated that she hopes that Waskaganish is supported in its request. She stated that she was hoping that work can begin quickly on the Cree Constitution so that we can change it to make it more appropriate to our context. She added that she remembered when the JBNQA was discussed that there was a lot of space and room given to elders. She stated that it is imperative that the views and words of our land users and elders be included in the future versions of the Constitution. She hoped that the meeting would proceed well and that the leadership would remain united.

Chief Thomas Jolly explained the approval process in Nemaska. He stated that there was one thing that was regretful and that was what happened with the Rupert River and the after effects are still felt today. He stated that we need to look at each other equally and treat each other equally. Whether people agree or not we should not change how we work together and that the unity of the Cree Nation is very important.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that he agreed with the Chief of Waskaganish that this is a very important decision and effects all community members. He explained that he invited the Cree Nation Government to present the Agreement twice in his community. He agreed with the Chief of Nemaska and Whapmagoostui that greater Cree content was required in the Constitutional documents of the Cree Nation. He stated that a Constitution is for the people and should come

from the people. He explained that the people of Wemindji agreed and that his Council agreed that the Agreement be approved.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that there were tools that we should be using more to brief and properly explain to leadership where we are going. He explained that personally he reviewed the Governance Agreement and saw the important benefits that would be secured by the Cree Nation. He raised the uranium file as an example where a strong Cree Nation was able to change things. He agreed that the essence of the Cree Naskapi Act is being kept and that decision making will help in the future. He did not see dramatic changes but the opportunity to great things with the Constitution in the future. He explained that there were many information sessions and radio shows that were held to explain the Agreement to the people. He saw how hard it was to motivate people to come to the meeting, he explained sometimes the Council will go weeks trying to get a meeting. He advocated for the formation of the Working Group to try and address these matters. He commented on the letters coming from Waskaganish and explained that he also received a petition under the Cree Naskapi Act, and he subsequently met with the Cree Naskapi Commission which investigated the matter. By going through the process, he saw that there were governance matters that we should take the time to clarify and correct. He stated that the Commission missed important points and should examine the whole context and not just the day in which a petition is filed. He stated that it is important to judge things on the whole picture not just recent events. He stated that he doesn't see anything coming of the intervention with the Cree Naskapi Commission and hoped that going forward the leadership together could address these issues. He explained that he read the correspondence from Joanne Willis and saw that there were individuals like her that could make contributions in the future, he cited also the example of Peter Coon who also had contributions that he could make. He also expressed concern that local members do not participate enough in public meetings. He concluded by stating that his members and his Council both agreed with the adoption of the Agreement and the Constitution.

Chief Davey Bobbish thanked Chief Cheechoo for explaining what was happening in Waskaganish and he was sure that things will go well when community are properly informed. He stated that he was also concerned with the lack of public participation. In the past there was no doubt that the Chief or the Grand Chief wanted to take the people in the right direction. He explained that this Agreement and Constitution has been a long time coming. He stated that this has been on the table since 2008. He stated that he sees the origin of this and has no doubt that it is going in the right direction. He explained that he was concerned with the amount of work that lay ahead in getting the Agreement and Constitution approved. His members, Council and elders agree that this should go for and he wants this to go forward. He explained that the Cree Naskapi Act has been used for 30 years with Federal oversight and he sees the value in choosing our path forward without Federal oversight. He hopes that the Agreement moves forward.

John Henry Wapachee talked about when he found out that the James Bay Northern Agreement was signed. He talked of the importance of the Agreement and that the people understand the

Agreement he was grateful for information that he was able to get from the office of the Executive Director.

Kenneth Gilpin talked about the history of the Cree Nation starting with the denial of Cree rights in the face of development to present day. He stated he can see how the Agreement and the Constitution will help future generations and he will be proud to say he was there the day that it was approved. He agrees and approves the Cree Canada Governance Agreement.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo agreed that it was good to have the document and content of the document but it is not clear to her how it will help the people in the future. She stated that she really hopes the Youth understands how the Agreement and Constitution will govern their future. How will the youth manage local interference? She would like to see the letter of Joanne included in the kit, including the petition as a matter of record. She was concerned that our people have been deprived of an opportunity to contribute to the document. She stated that in the past people were given the opportunity to have input in the document.

Chief Marcel Happyjack explained the approval process in Waswanipi. He agreed with the Agreement and saw the benefit in it. He also agreed that it was important that the leadership be united. He also thanked all his community members that came to the three meetings that had been convened.

Chief Alan Jolly stated that we succeeded in breaking the Indian Act with the Cree Naskapi Act. He explained that other Nations are only beginning to discuss this. He explained how this was a monumental task for the Cree Nation. He explained that he was even more in favour of this Agreement now, as we are taking ourselves even farther from the Cree Naskapi Act. He stated that we should not even think of slowing down and that we need to have more confidence on the collective wisdom of our people.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo explained that his people approved the Agreement. He explained that he sees the benefit in the Agreement and how it will help his people. He is pleased to see how we manage things and added that he had a message for the Youth because the challenge would be for them to take the Cree Nation to new heights for will be for them.

Chief Curtis Bosum explained how his community met and reflected on the Agreement. He explained the path of his community since the JBNQA was adopted. He stated that his Council and his community approved the Agreement and they now wanted to move forward.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained that there was a meeting in Matagami where there was a commitment by leadership to meet this day and people asked for time to meet. He explained that every effort was made to consult the people within the window that was described. He asked for a proposer and a seconder to the Resolution approving the document.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he knew that we have held consultation to hear our people and that there were people in the room and he wonder if he would hear from them. The Grand Chief stated that he wanted to know if there was a mover and a seconder before opening the floor for comments and questions from the public.

Kenneth Gilpin made a motion for the adoption of the Resolution approving the Cree Canada Governance Agreement and the Constitution which was duly seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum.

Linda Shecapio addressed the Council and stated that she saw some value in the Agreement and the Constitution. She stated that she would like to see more content from the women of Eeyou Istchee. She was concerned that there was not equal representation of women on the Council. She stated that without the voice of women it is not likely that things will work well in the future.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come talked about the many women that participated in consultations and who were very impressive when they spoke in the communities. He then went through a list of elders and prominent women who have participated in consultations and through governance discussions in the history of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement.

Kathleen Wooton inquired as to the number of people who were present when the Resolutions were adopted at the local level. She made the argument that it could have been less than 25% of the eligible voters. She explained that everyone's voice was not heard.

The Grand Chief explained that considering the different tools that were used and the representative nature of local leadership it is not fair to say specifically how many people are represented. He stated that it is important to note that the discussion and participation is not closed.

Simeon Wapachee explained the Nemaska Governance Committee that had been created locally to look at the Agreement and the Constitution and he talked about the different focus groups that they formed. He explained that the process lead to a local consensus that everyone was in favour of the Agreement. He was very favourable for the process that his Council had committed to it. He explained that every Chief should know the documents in question because they govern our people today. He sincerely hoped that the Agreement would be adopted because it will help the Cree Nation because and that there will be stability. He urged the leadership to vote in favour of the Agreement because it will provide stability and will help the youth. He thanked the leadership and his Chief and Council for their efforts.

Alex Moses Chairperson of the CNYC stated that he heard a lot of talk about concern for the Youth. He stated that it was very important to recognize that the Youth are listening. He explained that there is a lot of negative commentary going around out there. He added that it is good that there is lots of different opinions out there. He explained how even among the Youth Council there very divergent opinions who are passionate about their Nation and their people.

He asked for an applause for the leadership for the hard work they do. He explained the training program that the CNYC wants to put together starting with the JBNQA.

Rusty Cheezo, Chairperson of the Board of Compensation raised a number of concerns that his Board but found them insufficient to hold back the Agreement. He added that, they would like to participate and work together in future discussions. He explained that it is possible even on difficult issues of the Cree Nation to work together. He stated that it happens all the time that people disagreed in the past.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that the situation is not comparable to the JBNQA, because that was taken to the people and this Agreement wasn't. She added that it is not just the Cree Naskapi Act and wants to know how the community's rights will be diminished and by who. She disagrees that it has not been discussed for 7 years but it has only been a few months, where they were given in complete documents which was not reasonable to be allowed to analyze. She stated that it was the duty of the leadership to analyze the Agreement and report to their people. She confirmed that the women were not included in the drafting of the Agreement and only a few were included in the consultation. She asked why so many groups and entities were being ignored and disregarded. She stated that in the future the people will not have a say and is very concerned that too few people have demonstrated support for the Agreement.

The Grand Chief responded that there were no powers being taking away from local council. He explained that the new powers still have to be negotiated and that there is much discussion and consultation that has to go forward. He agreed with a number of comments stating that it is normal that there be a difference of opinion. He gave the example of Nemaska where a woman questioned him personally at a meeting resulting from the efforts of the Youth and Chief and Council that stimulated local debate. He stated that we will respect the decision of Waskaganish and that if they ask for information we will send information. He explained that every other community has had the opportunity to consult their people and encouraged Waskaganish to do the same. He shared the story of Robert Kanatewat that at some point the leadership needs to stand up and make a decision. He explained that he had to respect the authority of Chiefs and Council's and those communities that have decided to go forward.

Chief Dennis Georgekish shared with the meeting important advice from his late father related to returning to the land to make sure that our words carried weight and meaning.

Gordon Blueboy stated that at the meeting in Waskaganish with the Deputy Grand Chief and John Paul Murdoch, Saunders Weistche gave the opening prayer. He stated that this elder is a very respected community elder who stated that he had a dream/vision which spoke to him saying that as a Nation we needed to go forward. He explained that when it comes to community meetings it is important that people come to meetings without needing to be paid. He was very concerned with the incentives that are paid to people to come to meetings. He stated that we are setting a bad example in doing so. He stated that he was confident that the people of Waskaganish will fix their current situation and he knows there are a lot of people that don't

know what is going on. He explained that we want our Chief to call a Council meeting and that is what our people asked for. He stated that this is a very good Agreement and he knew when it was first brought that it was a good Agreement.

Calleigh Spencer stated that she was concerned that it would appear that women have not been addressed. She asked why women were not included or not sitting with the leadership.

The Grand Chief thanked Mrs. Spencer for her concern and explained that indeed women have and do play an important role in governance.

On a motion duly made by Kenneth Gilpin and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum the Directors adopted:

***Resolution 2017-10: Cree Nation Governance Agreement and Cree Constitution***

**WHEREAS** on November 11, 1975, the Grand Council of the Crees (of Québec), the Northern Québec Inuit Association, the Government of Québec, la Société d'énergie de la Baie James, la Société de développement de la Baie James, la Commission hydroélectrique de Québec (HydroQuébec) and the Government of Canada entered into the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement*;

**WHEREAS** the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* was approved, given effect and declared valid by the *James Bay and Northern Québec Native Claims Settlement Act* (S.C. 1976-77, c. 32) and the *Act approving the Agreement concerning James Bay and Northern Québec* (CQLR, c. C 67);

**WHEREAS** on February 21, 2008, the Government of Canada, the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Regional Authority, now designated as the Cree Nation Government, entered into the *Agreement concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee* ("**New Relationship Agreement**");

**WHEREAS** Part 2 of Chapter 3 of the *New Relationship Agreement* sets out a process for negotiations leading to an agreement concerning Cree Nation governance ("**Cree Nation Government Agreement**");

**WHEREAS** it is appropriate to address in the *Cree Nation Government Agreement* arrangements concerning Cree local and regional government on Category IA lands, as well as certain provisions of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* relating to the land regime governing Category IA lands;

**WHEREAS** it is appropriate to enter into the *Cree Nation Government Agreement* with the Government of Canada as a nation-to-nation agreement which will provide for the modernization of the governance regime on Category IA lands contemplated, at the local level, in Section 9 of

the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* and previously provided for in legislative form in the *CreeNaskapi (of Quebec) Act*;

**WHEREAS** the *Cree Nation Government Agreement* aims to promote greater autonomy and greater responsibility on the part of the Crees for governance on Category IA lands in the context of and in compliance with Section 9 of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement*;

**WHEREAS** the *Constitution Act, 1982* recognizes and affirms the existing Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada,

**WHEREAS** the inherent right of self-government is an existing Aboriginal right under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;

**WHEREAS** Part 2 of Chapter 3 of the *New Relationship Agreement* also provides that the Cree Nation will develop a Constitution ("**Cree Constitution**"), which shall be effective as the fundamental law of the Cree Nation, shall be consistent with the *Cree Nation Government Agreement* and shall come into force at the same time as the *Cree Nation Government Agreement*;

**WHEREAS** it is appropriate to set out in the *Cree Constitution* arrangements regarding the exercise of the Cree right of self-government in relation to the administration and internal management of the Cree First Nations and the Cree Nation Government on Category IA lands;

**WHEREAS** the *Cree Constitution* is an instrument of internal self-government of the Cree Nation and is subject to its full control with regard both to its adoption and to its future amendment to take account of the context and changing conditions;

#### **IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) / Cree Nation Government do hereby approve the *Agreement on Cree Nation Governance between the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and the Government of Canada*, on the basis of the draft dated December 23, 2016, and the *Constitution of the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee*, on the basis of the draft dated October 31, 2016, both submitted to and reviewed by this meeting;

**THAT** the Grand Chief / Chairman, the Deputy Grand Chief / Vice Chairman or such other persons as the Grand Chief may designate be and are hereby authorized to sign the *Agreement on Cree Nation Governance between the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and the Government of Canada* for and on behalf of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) / Cree Nation Government substantially in accordance with the draft of such Agreement dated December 23, 2016 submitted to this meeting and attached hereto.

Mandy Gull abstained from the adoption of the Resolution.

Mandy Gull inquired as to what the status of the Resolution because all ten Resolutions are not there. She was concerned with the lack of consensus and the tone of the meeting. Mandy Gull stated that she was concerned because we seemed to be going back on the commitment that the Agreement would not be approved until all Councils had approved the Agreement. She was concerned with the accusations of interference of two Cree Nation Government representatives in local governments which she wasn't sure were true or not. She was concerned with the bullying and "lateral" violence being expressed at the table. She questioned if it would not be possible for the Agreement to be adopted except with the election of a woman as Grand Chief. She raised other points where she did not approve of the Grand Chief's behavior especially in regard to women. She stated that she agreed with the process and will fulfill what her people ask.

The Grand Chief stated that when people ask questions or make statements that are not correct, they shouldn't feel bullied when it is our obligation to set things straight. He explained that when you are a leader you will never have the support of everyone. He gave the example of Waskaganish, as it will be up to the local leadership to approve or not and that it is not up to this Council. He stated as leaders there was a commitment to make a decision as this Council and that there are people who want this Agreement to be approved. He asked what should we do for them. He thanked Mrs. Gull for her comments but he pointed out that it is his obligation to explain things where there is a misunderstanding and even more importantly when there is a question. He stated that being given an answer you don't like is not bullying and people need to understand this as a normal and challenging part of communicating. He explained that people cite the JBNQA as a model for consultation and approval, but he stated that it was important not to forget the trust that people had in their leadership and the responsibility of those leaders to their people who did not read or even completely understand the Agreement, but they trusted their leaders to make the best decision for them. He also pointed out that he never says he represents Cree men or Cree women but the Cree Nation.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that she wanted to ensure that her concerns and comments raised in the meeting were properly recorded in particular her concerns that her people have not approved the Agreement, concerns over interference in local matters and concerns that her people have not been properly consulted.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting adjourned at 3:15pm

- 1. Corporate Matters.....2**
  - Resolution 2017-11: 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 May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 .....2**
  - Resolution 2017-12: Adoption of minutes of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 .....2**
- 2. Cree Canada Relations .....2**
- 3. CHRD Policy .....5**
  - Resolution 2017-13: Policy and Procedure on Programs of the Department of Cree Human Resource Development .....5**
- 4. EEPF Inspection Report.....5**
- 5. Day Scholars .....6**
- 6. FARR .....6**
- 7. ECN Update .....7**
- 8. Trade Agreement.....7**
  - The Board/Council issued a Directive to Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry to seek a convocation of the Chiefs’ Committee subsequent to the upcoming elections to allow for greater discussion on a proposed Cree Nation Trade Agreement (ENATCA) (Directive 2017-04). ..... 7
- 9. UPCART Caribou Strategy .....7**
  - Resolution 2017-14: CARIBOU MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (UNGAVA PENINSULA CARIBOU ABORIGINAL ROUND TABLE)..... 8**

## 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 10 am.

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

The Directors reviewed the agenda and on a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum the Directors adopted:

***Resolution 2017-11: 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 May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017***

The Directors reviewed the minutes of a meeting held on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and on a motion duly made by Chief Davey Bobbish and seconded by Kenneth Gilpin the Directors adopted:

***Resolution 2017-12: Adoption of minutes of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

## 2. Cree Canada Relations

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled and reviewed a document entitled, "REPORT ON CREE-CANADA GOVERNANCE NEGOTIATIONS; GCC(EI)/CNG COUNCIL-BOARD MEETING OUJE-BOUGOUMOU – MAY 30-31, 2017" a copy of which is attached hereto.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that he had begun efforts to meet with Ministers once the Resolution from Waskaganish had come in which was the last Resolution in our ratification process. He stated that he had met with Minister Wilson on the approval of the Agreement, he stated that she current chairs a working group mandated to address oppressive colonial legislation as it applies to Native groups. He stated that he has a one hour conversation with the Minister on the matter. He stated that she had many questions and the he explained to her the consultation process and message that was delivered in the communities. He stated that we had worked for 8 years to try and get out of the Indian Act box when the Cree Naskapi Act was negotiated and adopted. He explained the history of the implementation of the Cree Naskapi Act and eventually the conclusion of the Cree Canada New Relationship Agreement which was adopted by referendum. This Cree Canada New Relationship contained reference to the Cree Canada Governance Agreement and the Constitution which was negotiated for many years by different negotiators and internal working groups that contained a cross section of Cree society.

He stated that the Minister asked him if he knew what it was to be under the Indian Act. He responded to her that he was the last Chief of Mistissini under the Indian Act and cited modern example where local governments adopted By-Laws to fight drug dealing which were disallowed by the Federal Government. He stated that the Cree Nation would not accept this and that we will manage ourselves. He stated that the Minister stated as an Indigenous leader she had tried to do exactly what the Cree Nation had achieved to this point. She also asked what the position of Quebec was in regards to the Cree Canada Governance Agreement. He responded that this was not a matter for the Government of Quebec and he gave the example of the Cree Quebec Governance Agreement where the Government of Canada was not asked for its opinion. He argued that the Government of Canada did not need the support of Quebec to move forward with the Agreement. He emphasized that the Cree Nation is taking the power to tax but not accepting any obligation to tax Cree people. He also explained that the communications had been made to the Naskapi and the Inuit who are resident with Category I lands which have both sent letters saying that they would not object to the Agreement. He reminded everyone that the Cree have always taken the lead and the Inuit and the Naskapi are usually quick to follow, this is something that some people have difficulty with, that there is not the security of walking a path well-travelled, but this is what we have always done. Minister Wilson explained that her community was unable to achieve what the Cree have achieved today due to infighting and fear. Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come explained to the Minister that the Prime Minister has stated that he would like to find a new way of defining the relationship with First Nations and there is no real example but the Cree Governance Agreement was a concrete example. He also clearly explained to the Minister, that like any other society there were members of the Cree Nation that had their own opinion and that this was normal and not to impose an unrealistic standard to the Cree Nation.

He explained that the Agreement is being submitted to Cabinet and the bureaucracy for approval. He warned the meeting participants not to underestimate the number of government officials that will try and block the Agreement as we move forward. He explained the evolution of Cree Canada relations from the Indian Agent, to the Regional Office, to the Minister and now

ultimately to the Prime Minister. He reminded everyone that this was not an easy path and there is much resentment because of what we have achieved.

Linda Shecapio and Irene House of the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association joined the meeting and expressed their concern with the implication of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement. Mrs. House focused on the importance of traditional lessons and teaching when making important decisions related to self-governance. She bestowed the virtues of traditional shared leadership. She thanked the Board/Council for the opportunity to address the leadership.

Linda Shecapio tabled and reviewed a Resolution adopted by the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he was concerned with the last whereas clause on the second page. He believes the clause to be misleading because at the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 it was apparent how much effort had been made to engage community members in the consultation and he therefore disagreed with the statement. He cited the 4 community meetings that he had convened and the efforts made on radio and social media. He disagrees with the characterization that the consultation was deficient. He also stated that we should recognize that there is a significant portion of our "Constitution" which is unwritten.

Linda Shecapio stated that she remembered a meeting with the Cree Nation Government where she was informed of internal structures, where John Paul Murdoch stated that a Women's Association was not needed. John Paul Murdoch rebutted the statement.

John Henry Wapachee cited local efforts to demonstrate that absolutely every effort was made to recruit participants at community consultations. He stated that there is a hesitation and fear but when we look at our path and where we have come from we can understand the purpose of the new Agreement.

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that we need to recognize that despite every effort, not everyone is going to come to a community consultation and not everyone will agree. We have done our best to tell the truth and provide a clear picture of the Agreement and the Constitution. He stated that he doesn't read the Resolution as a questioning of the Agreement but of a questioning of the approval process. Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated that we cannot deny the number of consultations that were carried out, he pointed out that there was a great number of women who participated in the consultation. He asked if the CWEIA resolution was subject to the consultation that was being questioned. He then gave example of the challenges of adopting instruments such as Constitutions and other documents with Government support. He reminded everyone of the role of the Cree Nation in the adoption of the Canadian Constitution through the work of the likes of Billy Diamond and Walter Hughboy. He stated that there are many groups that have no Agreement and find themselves in a precarious situation because they refuse to enter in Agreements until absolutely every questions and concern is answered and addressed.

He stated that the Council of Waskaganish has spoken and it is not the place of the Cree Nation Government to tell the local leadership that they made mistake. He stated that the Cree Nation Government has gone to the people and listened to them. We will be noting concerns such as those contained in the Resolution and we will address them when and as best we can.

There was further discussion on the approval process and the challenges that lay ahead in having the Agreement approved by Canada.

### **3. CHR D Policy**

Louisa Saganash tabled and reviewed the, “Policy and Procedure on Programs of the Department of Cree Human Resource Development”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Richard Shecapio inquired as to the eligibility of administrative fees in program funding proposals. Louisa Saganash, Director of CHR D explained that there is an attempt to keep eligible administrative costs as low as possible to ensure that there is more program funding. He proposed maintaining the administrative expense if it is allowed under the Main Agreement.

Chief Bobbish stated that he agreed with Chief Shecapio saying that at times the administrative burden can be very high so it should be kept.

On a motion duly made by Chief Dennis Georgekish and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum the Directors adopted:

#### ***Resolution 2017-13: Policy and Procedure on Programs of the Department of Cree Human Resource Development***

**WHEREAS** the Cree Human Resources Development Department has presented to the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government the revised “Policy and Procedure on Programs of the Department of Cree Human Resource Development”;

#### **IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority hereby approves and ratifies the “Policy and Procedure on Programs of the Department of Cree Human Resource Development” as presented a copy of which is attached hereto, with the amendment to allow for a maximum fifteen percent (15%) for administrative fees for prospective proponents.

### **4. EEPF Inspection Report**

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director with the assistance of Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director and Nancy Bobbish tabled and presented an EEPF Inspection Report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Chief Darlene Cheechoo inquired if other communities had problems where officers were not reporting for court for By-Law infractions which was affecting enforcement. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that the issue had been identified as a Court liaison issue was identified as needing to be addressed. Mandy Gull inquired how much of the examination related to the administrative side of the Policing administration. She expressed concern for the safety or work environment of the civilian administration.

Nancy Bobbish stated that there is a plan for the civilian staff but this would be part of regular HR. Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he was happy that there were recommendations for how to improve service he added that he would like to see how other entities can contribute to improving police services. Bill Namagoose stated that the priorities of communities need to be brought to the Police Commission as this falls more in their mandate.

John Henry Wapachee inquired about mental health and psychological programs for assisting officers because their work can be very hard on them. He wanted to ensure that there was a specific program for police. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that there was contract for the provision of such services.

Matthew Mukash stated that it would be good if there was greater communication with the public to help people understand what the role and mandate of the police force was. He assumed that the Justice department could play a role in this. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that he saw this as part of the recommendation of being proactive and emphasizing prevention programs.

## **5. Day Scholars**

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come provided an update on the status of the Day Scholars collective class action suit. Chief Allan Jolly inquired as to when people would be informed of a settlement and if they qualify? Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come stated the Government has the document where people are registered as Day Scholars and that matter of settlement depended on the Federal Government's ability to approve a mandate quickly.

There was discussion on local support that would be needed to address the matter.

## **6. FARR**

The meeting examined the FARR program which was a Government of Quebec program designed for developing the regions of the province. The program was proposing a 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 split between the Cree, Jamesian and Inuit communities and it was not clear if this was contrary to the Cree Quebec Governance Agreement or prejudicial to funding allocation in the North. The

discussion was a precursor to the discussion that would need to happen with the Jamesiens at the EIBJRG.

## **7. ECN Update**

Alfred Loon joined the meeting and provided an update on the status of the ECN network. Matthew Mukash inquired about rumors of an under water line from Labrador to NWT. Alfred Loon, explained that there were discussions but he hasn't heard anything from the proponent who he doubted was still living. Chief Bobbish inquired as to the entities that would be involved in the fiber to home project. Mr. Loon explained that this would depend on the community and interest expressed by a community to provide the service.

## **8. Trade Agreement**

John Paul Murdoch reviewed the presentation that had been submitted by Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry in regards to the Eeyou Eenou Trade and Commerce Agreement explaining that there was a request to have a more focused consultation with the leadership perhaps through a Chief Committee meeting prior to bringing it back to Board/Council.

Chief Richard Shecapio asked if the Cree School Board has been consulted as we need all the entities on board if this is going to work.

John Paul Murdoch explained that Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry was perhaps hoping that level of consultation would happen after the Cree leadership is consulted.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that it will be important for companies to recognize that Markets will have to be open, first to Cree companies and then after to others. He explained that we need to be open across communities and that everyone needs to understand the implications. I will want further consultations at the local level and with regional companies. In regards to CCDC and other big companies he explained that they are the only ones that can answer bonding demands, development companies go to the Band. Private end up having to go to partnerships to get bonding. He understood that bonding important because it protects the job.

Chief Shecapio he wanted the Cree Health Board and the Cree School Board to be Parties to the Agreement.

The Board/Council issued a Directive to Andy Baribeau, Director of Commerce and Industry to seek a convocation of the Chiefs' Committee subsequent to the upcoming elections to allow for greater discussion on a proposed Cree Nation Trade Agreement (ENATCA) (Directive 2017-04).

## **9. UPCART Caribou Strategy**

Nadia Saganash joined the meeting and presented a draft resolution in relation to the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table Strategy.

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

***Resolution 2017-14: CARIBOU MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (UNGAVA PENINSULA CARIBOU ABORIGINAL ROUND TABLE)***

**WHEREAS** the migratory caribou population is in drastic decline and the recent population census conducted this past summer (2016) along with the last fall classification results revealed that the population of the Leaf River Herd is estimated at 181 000 caribou compared to the estimated population of 430 000 caribou in 2011, and the George River herd is estimated below 9000 caribou.

**WHEREAS** the migratory Caribou decline is a cause of concern for many nations of the Ungava peninsula and since 2010 there has been no caribou management plan in place.

**WHEREAS** the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table (UPCART), created in 2013 and composed of representatives of seven nations from Labrador and Quebec, came together following the drastic decline of the George River Herd.

**WHEREAS** the Cree Nation representatives have been participating in the Ungava Peninsula Aboriginal Round Table (UPCART) and since the last two years, the UPCART has been drafting a caribou management strategy for the Ungava caribou.

**WHEREAS** the UPCART Caribou Management Plan is ready to be adopted and implemented by each respective native nations.

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby supports the work of the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table and the proposed Caribou Management Strategy.

**THAT** the board Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby mandates the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Director of Environment and Wildlife Administrator to facilitate Cree participation and collaboration in the UPCART works and implementation of the caribou management plan.

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

Minutes of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 in Oujé-Bougoumou, Eeyou Istchee.

---

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Corporate Matters .....   | 2 |
| Resolution 2017-15: Nominating Chief Davey Bobbish to act as Chairperson. ....   | 2 |
| Resolution 2017-16: 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 July 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2017..... | 2 |
| 2. Financial Matters.....  | 2 |
| Resolution 2017-17: 2016-2017 Audited Financial Statements.....  | 3 |
| 3. Governance Agreement Consultation and Ratification .....  | 3 |
| 4. MoCreebec.....  | 4 |
| 5. Honorarium.....   | 5 |

## 1. Corporate Matters

Present: Chief Davey Bobbish  
Deputy Grand Chief Mandy Gull  
Chief Kenneth Cheezo  
Chief Curtis Bosum  
Chief Dennis Georgekish  
Chief Darlene Cheechoo  
Chief Louisa Wynne  
Chief Thomas Jolly

George L. Pachano  
Kenneth Gilpin  
Gaston Cooper  
Christina Gilpin  
Gordon Blueboy  
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 1:45 pm.

On a motion duly made by Chief Dennis Georgekish and seconded by Chief Louisa Wynne the Directors adopted:

### ***Resolution 2017-15: Nominating Chief Davey Bobbish to act as Chairperson***

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

The Directors reviewed the agenda adding the items of Governance Discussion Update, Honorarium, MoCreebec and on a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Thomas Neeposh the Directors adopted:

### ***Resolution 2017-16: 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 July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

## 2. Financial Matters

Matthew Swallow, Treasurer joined the meeting and table and reviewed a memorandum in relation to the 2016/2017 Draft Financial Statements, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Bobbish was flexing his muscle for the camera while Sylvain Faucher tabled and reviewed the audited financial statements of the Cree Nation Government.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo inquired about the continued maintenance of the Lubicon Lake Cree case. Chief Bobbish explained that it is true that the provisions had been made for the item but it should be kept in case despite it being unlikely they should someday win their case and could reimburse the Cree Nation for the funds provided.

On a motion duly made by Chief Louisa Wynne and seconded by Chief Kenneth Cheezo the directors adopted:

***Resolution 2017-17: 2016-2017 Audited Financial Statements***

**WHEREAS** the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed the 2016-2017 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 2016-2016 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and further mandate the Chief Davey Bobbish and Chief Richard Shecapio 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.

Chief Thomas Jolly inquired as to the financial institution that might be used in the future. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director wished that it be clear first that he sat on the Board of Directors of the First Nations Bank. First, he explained that it was the operating account that was being considered to be moved from the CIBC and not necessarily investment funds of the Cree Nation. He explained that what was being done was due to the manner in which CIBC closed operations in Chisasibi with no regard for the Community.

**3. Governance Agreement Consultation and Ratification**

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director stated that it came down to the wire with the possible opposition of the Government of Quebec to the Governance Agreement. Until the end the Government stated that they did not accept the failure to get the Cree to surrender taxation and were concerned over encroachments on their jurisdiction. On the Federal side the Policy was that the Provinces were required to assist which was on an obstacle.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained how the Federal Government agreed to ignore the opinion of the Government of Quebec and to proceed as they had failed to send the correspondence that they would not oppose, which they had committed to. He explained that the Federal representatives asked if it would be Ok if the Agreement signed even while elections were going on in the Cree world. The Grand Chief agreed, concerned with the Agreement being attacked while it was sitting on the table. He added that it is now the implementing legislation and a complimentary agreement that must be negotiated by December 2017.

Thomas Neeposh inquired if the abstention of the Government of Quebec represented any possible threat to the Governance Agreement. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that it don't appear to.

#### **4. MoCreebec**

Chief Allan Jolly explained the request that MoCreebec go to the different Cree community to explain the position and aspirations to community members. He explained the he met Eastmain, Nemaska, OJ, Waskaganish, Chisasibi. Couldn't meet Waskaganish people which is scheduled for September, 2017 and the last meeting would be with Washaw Sibi in August. He stated that the greatest challenge was meeting Waskaganish and Wemindji. He stated that he was hoping that a Resolution could be adopted today in regards to the recognition of the community or if it could be done at the Annual General Assembly. He stated that he was waiting for Chisasibi, Wemindji, Waskaganish and Whapmagoostui for supporting Resolutions.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo stated that she would be more comfortable if a Board/Council Resolution was considered after the members meeting in Waskaganish considering the number of members registered with Waskaganish at the time.

Chief Thomas Jolly inquired how binding the Resolutions were when adopted at the Annual General Assembly. He also said it should be clear that it is not only legal but moral obligations that needed to be considered.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that he was taking the issue home for direction before it is brought here. He was unclear as to whether the process should start at the regional level or the local level.

Other members of the Board/Council were unclear as to the next steps.

Chief Allan Jolly stated that more than ½ the people of MoCreebec have been born in Moose Factory and Moosonee and could not see themselves moving back to Quebec. He stated that it was for these people that is necessary to establish a community. He stated that he was sure that the people of Waskaganish would stand with the people of MoCreebec. He is sure of this because of the time he has spent there and what he has been told.

Chief Bobbish stated he agreed with the other Chiefs that it would be more appropriate to meet at the local level before coming to the Board/Council. He appreciated the words of Chief Cheechoo and was not comfortable with adopting a Resolution at this time even if he was confident that the people of Eeyou Istchee would support MoCreebec.

Chief Allan Jolly committed to completing community consultations.

## **5. Honorarium**

Kenneth Gilpin raised the issue of honorarium he wasn't sure when it was last raised. The meeting issued a Matthew Swallow, Treasurer and Paul John Murdoch to present options at the Annual General Assembly scheduled for the following week for consideration (Directive 2017-05).

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

|     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 1.  | Corporate Matters .....  | 2 |
|     | Resolution 2017-18: 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 September 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2017.....                         | 2 |
|     | Resolution 2017-19: Adoption of Minutes of meetings of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on May 30 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2017 and July 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2017..... | 2 |
| 2.  | Report from the Grand Chief .....  | 2 |
| 3.  | Cree Canada Governance Agreement Implementation.....   | 5 |
| 4.  | AGA Resolutions.....   | 5 |
| 5.  | Joint Meeting with School Board .....  | 6 |
| 6.  | Drinking By-Law .....  | 6 |
| 7.  | MoCreebec.....   | 7 |
| 8.  | Waskaganish 350 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary.....   | 7 |
| 9.  | Recognition for Dr. Matthew Coon Come .....  | 7 |
| 10. | EIBJRG .....   | 7 |
| 11. | Chief’s Meeting .....  | 7 |
| 12. | Legalization of Cannabis .....   | 8 |

## 1. Corporate Matters

Present: Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum  
Deputy Grand Chief Mandy Gull  
Chief Davey Bobbish  
L. George Pachanos  
Kenneth Gilpin  
Gaston Cooper  
Chief Dennis Georgekish  
Christina Gilpin  
Chief Darlene Cheechoo  
Gordon Blueboy  
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 9:30 am.

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum acted as Chairperson and Paul John Murdoch acted as Secretary.

The Directors reviewed the agenda adding the items of Waskaganish 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary and MoCreebec on a motion duly made by Chief Darlene Cheechoo and seconded by Thomas Neeposh the Directors adopted:

***Resolution 2017-18: 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 September 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

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

***Resolution 2017-19: Adoption of Minutes of meetings of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017***

## 2. Report from the Grand Chief

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum tabled and reviewed an action plan for 2017 describing how he would initiate the implementation of his mandate, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Grand Chief clarified that the Housing Strategy would not mean that the Cree Nation Government would be building houses, but that it be a plan developed at the Cree Nation Government but that all governments, including provincial and federal, would be involved in implementation.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he wanted to see the Housing Administrators included in the Directive on Housing. Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum agreed that this was appropriate.

Chief Dennis Georgekish inquired if a Housing Department would be needed. Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum stated that he assumed this would be a consideration in the development of the Plan.

Chief Thomas Jolly stated that consideration needed to be given to the Capital of the Cree Nation Government when consideration is given to governance. Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he thought the Trappers should be a priority item and not discussed at the end. The Grand Chief stated that he appreciated the comments and to keep in mind that even after directives are given the plans and strategies will have to be brought back to Board/Council for implementation and he looked forward to the leadership continuing to be engaged through this process.

John Henry Wapachee agreed with the Social Development Directive and the work that needs to be done to address the situation of the trappers' today. In regard to advancing our economies he stated that it was very problematic when we fail to engage Cree companies and Cree workers and that it reflects poorly on the Cree Government. He stated that this was particularly egregious considering the number of educated and trained workers in Eeyou Istchee.

Thomas Neeposh stated that at the local level, access to work and contracting opportunities was very critical and agreed that there was a great deal of work that was ahead of the Council.

Kenneth Gilpin stated that he appreciated the clarity with which the Grand Chief was presenting priorities and how he was suggesting we meet the challenges. He was particularly proud to be part of the Cree Nation Government. He gave examples of the importance of sitting on the Cree Nation Government and playing a role in governance.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that the CCQ regime would be an issue in the discussion on the Housing Strategy and under the Cree Free Trade Agreement. He also inquired if the exercise would include a review of what works locally and if contracts should be managed at the local level versus being managed at the regional level and this way local priorities can be addressed. He raised examples where even with tools like the BSDQ regime, companies find ways to exclude local entrepreneurs. He explained that the next barrier is AMF certification since the Charbonneau Commission which he found to be just additional red tape that got in the way of directing actual benefits to the communities.

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum stated he anticipated that the emergency plan would address these issues and that we would address the procurement laws and procedures at all levels. He recognized that the deadline was short but he stated the planning window is small and we need to act fast before the planning has gone too far for capital projects next year.

After the discussion the Directors issued a number of Directives:

Upon consideration of the presentation of an action plan from the Grand Chief the Board/Council issued the following directives.

Directive to the Cree Human Resource Development Department to work closely with the Cree Nation Youth Council in the promotion of training and employment program specifically designed for the Youth of Eeyou Istchee, in consideration of the Resolution adopted at the 2016/2017 Annual General Assembly related to the matter. Including working with the Youth Council in developing new programs (Directive 2017-06).

Directive to the Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief to continue the initiative that began with the Capacity Building Series of Conference that were held to ensure that the Cree Nation and in particular the future leaders of Eeyou were properly informed and educated on the Agreements and Governance Potential of Eeyou Istchee. This requires close collaboration with the Cree School Board Post Secondary Department (Directive 2017-07).

Directive to the Grand Chief, through the Chiefs Committee under the Cree Nation Government By-Law to develop a “Cree Nation Emergency Housing Strategy” for presentation as soon as possible and adoption at the December Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government, this work would involved the D.O.s and Treasurers, Local Housing Administrators, etc. (Directive 2017-08).

Directive to the Grand Chief, to initiate the finalization and eventual implementation of the Eeyou Eeyou Nation Trade and Commerce Agreement through the Chief Committee for presentation and consideration by the full Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (Directive 2017-09).

Directive to the Cree Quebec Standing Liaison Committee to ensure the implementation and respect for section 28.10.3 and 28.10.4 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement, and to further ensure said compliance is compatible with the Cree leaderships vision of subsections 28.10.3 and 28.10.4 as enshrined in the Eeyou Eeyou Nation Trade and Commerce Agreement. The result would be to have binding legislation on all Ministries affecting the Cree School Board and Cree Health Board Procurement policies and procedures (Directive 2017-10).

Directive to the Grand Chief, Deputy Grand Chief with the assistance of the Director of Quebec Relations, Director of Justice and the Director of Cultural and Social Development to work with local Governments, the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and the Cree School Board and other key organizations such as CWEIA to ensure the development of a Cree Nation Social Development Plan that will be key to respond to the Social Development Plan being developed by the Government of Quebec for First Nations in Quebec (Directive 2017-11).

Directive to the Department of Cultural and Social Development to develop and present for an approval of a Strategic plan for ensuring that segments of the Cree Nation such as the Youth,

Elders, Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association and other groups are supported and provided services under the Cree Nation Government structure (Directive 2017-12).

Directive to the Grand Chief to proceed with the establishment of the Eeyou Eenu Governance Working Group to assist in providing advice and direction to the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government regarding the implementation of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement and the enhancement of the Cree Constitution. The Group would be composed of Community designated representatives and individuals who have played key roles in Cree governance: Robert Kanatewat, Phillip Awashish, etc (Directive 2017-13)

Directive to the Grand Chief, with the assistance of the CTA, Cree Representatives on the Income Security Board, James Bay Eeyou Corporation administrators, Niskamoon Corporation program administrators and the Director of Social and Cultural Development, carry out an inventory of programs and benefits available to trappers and land users, particular attention needs to be paid to obstacles in securing additional income beyond income security and potential gender discrimination practices for presentation to Board/Council for further direction. This process needs to be carried in consultation with active land users (Directive 2017-14).

### **3. Cree Canada Governance Agreement Implementation**

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled and reviewed a report on the status of the implementation of the Cree Canada Governance Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Gaston Cooper inquired what the impact of the split in the Ministry of Indian Affairs will have on Cree Canada relations. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that Minister Bennet would remain responsible for Cree relations and that there would be no change for the Cree Nation.

### **4. AGA Resolutions**

Paul John Murdoch tabled and reviewed the Resolutions for the most recent Annual General Assembly, copies of which are attached hereto.

The Grand Chief explained that this was the first review of the AGA Resolutions and that there was still examination required on how the Resolutions could be addressed, especially for those Resolutions that affect other entities.

Chief Richard Shecapio stated that he wanted discussion on the Route du Nord included in discussions on the maintenance of the James Bay Highway. Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum stated that we would engage the Cree representatives on the SDBJ board and the President of SDBJ to make sure that the JBNQA was respected. He remembered a Transportation Committee where considerable work had been done which somehow got overshadowed by Plan Nord.

## **5. Joint Meeting with School Board**

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum introduced a request from the Cree School Board for a joint meeting. The meeting agreed that a day could be offered during the December meeting. The Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum suggested adding to the items that the Cree School Board wished to raise.

## **6. Drinking By-Law**

Isaac Voyageur, Director of Environment and Melissa Saganash, Director of Quebec Relations tabled for First reading the Drinking Water By-Law a copy of which is attached hereto and remained available to the public.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that he had a preference for a Cree law and he didn't really like that we maybe opening the door for the Government of Quebec to come into the communities by incorporating the Quebec Drinking Water Law by reference. He gave an example where the issue was worrisome on how it was being managed on a daily basis as an operator ran out of chlorine and the treatment officer said don't worry it happens.

Chief Thomas Jolly explained that his community was currently accessing ground water

Chief Richard Shecapio inquired about the enforcement and asked to whom the fines would be paid. The response was that compliance was a greater concern than enforcement and that the issue would be clarified at a future meeting.

Kenneth Gilpin raised the issue of salt water intrusion and the problems that result locally and how there have been constant problems to the extent that the water is now coming from surface water and they didn't believe in the well system that was installed. He expressed concern that the community maybe taking water from the unregulated source at km 381 which no one was monitoring.

Gaston Cooper raised the issue of community members taking their water from traditional sources and he asked if the Water Officer could test these other sources for community members. He gave examples where someone tested natural sources of water and members headed the warnings that their water sources were no longer potable. Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum explained that this only applied to Category I lands.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated that community members don't like the local water and prefer traditional sources. He explained that people didn't like the use of chlorine and for this reason went to springs.

L. George Pachano explained that are many sources of category I drinking water sources. He even explained that people are developing skin disorders from drinking water and he wanted to know

who was monitoring this. He stated that this was a critical by-law and could have far reaching consequences.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo she shared the concern of the enforcement and requested a copy of the Quebec regulations including a flow chart of the By-Law and regulations.

#### **7. MoCreebec**

Chief Alan Jolly explained that he wanted to report that he still had to meet with Whapmagoostui and he was waiting for a Resolution from Waskaganish and Washaw Sibi in support of formal recognition of the Community of MoCreebec, which he was hoping to receive by November and then the Council could then be in a position to pass a Resolution.

#### **8. Waskaganish 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Charles Hester and Darryl Hester of Waskaganish joined the meeting and provided a presentation on the celebration and festivities planning for the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Waskaganish.

Board/Council members expressed their support the event and that the anniversary was recognition of a milestone in a very long path and history of the Cree. Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum added that this was also an important teaching opportunity.

Chief Davey Bobbish proposed moving Board/Council scheduled in May a week earlier to coincide with the celebration.

#### **9. Recognition for Dr. Matthew Coon Come**

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum summarized the decisions that were made by the Executive Committee recognizing the years of services and retirement from public life of former Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come.

#### **10. EIBJRG**

The Board/Council members of the meeting reviewed the proposed agenda for the Eeyou Istchee Baie James Regional Government. There was discussion on where the issue of the hours of operation for gas services in Matagami could be discussed. Chief Thomas Jolly stated that he was wanted discussion on the quality of facilities along the James Bay Highway, including communications infrastructure. It was determined that in light of the upcoming municipal elections it was wise to wait for the establishment of a new Council before deciding how to address a number of irritants.

#### **11. Chief's Meeting**

With the presence of the Chiefs, Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum raised the issue of scheduling meetings. It was agreed that future dates would be established on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September for the next meeting.

## **12. Legalization of Cannabis**

The Grand Chief pointed out that documentation was made available in regard to government actions in the legalization of cannabis for information purposes.

Chief Darlene Cheechoo explained that extensive analysis is required because the repercussions of jurisdictions that have legalized are just beginning to be seen. She stated that the concerns are great and need thorough examination.

Chief Dennis Georgekish stated there are already people trying to approach the Cree Nation regarding the potential commercialization and participation of the Cree in growing operations. He shared the concerns of Chief Cheechoo.

Chief Davey Bobbish stated that it was important that the Cree Nation participate in the consultation process because it will come quickly and affect many aspects of Eeyou Istchee. He recommended the inclusion of the Police, the Cree School Board and the Cree Board of Health in the discussion of the matter.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.