

**Annual General Assembly Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)  
Cree Nation Government  
Draft Agenda**

**Day 1:           Wednesday, September 1, 2021**

**Meeting commences at: 9:39 am**

**1. Opening Prayer:**           Hugo Hester from Waskaganish

My name is Hugo Hester and I have thought of doing this for two days, to do the opening prayer. I pray that all goes well during this meeting and we all be respectful to one another.

**2. Quorum & Chairperson:**

Quorum is met, and Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty will be chairing Day 1 of the AGA and Deputy Grand Chief Norman A Wapachee will be chairing Day 2 of the AGA

**3. Appointment of Recording Secretary:**

Adoption of Recording Secretary; namely, Priscilla Bosum to record minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> GCCEI/44<sup>th</sup> Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly

On a motion duly made by:           Ron Simard

Seconded by                               Justus Coon-Come

The following resolution **no, 2021-01** was adopted and carried.

IT IS RESOLVED:

that the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly here by name Priscilla Bosum to be the recording secretary for the 2021 Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government

**4. Opening Remarks**

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty

## **DRAFT MINTUES of 47<sup>th</sup> Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) /44<sup>th</sup> Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly Via Zoom on September 1-2, 2021**

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Welcomes everyone who is virtually present at the Annual General Assembly, welcomes the listeners and apologizes to the delegates that this meeting could not be in person. Asks the Community of Waskaganish to do the opening Prayer

Gives a brief update on what her and Norman have done and worked on since the beginning of their term, when I first came in, I was given a lot of files to work on. Mandy Thanks our previous Grand Chief Abel for his previous work and thanking Sophie for always standing by her husband. Informs the delegation that her and Norman sat down to discuss on the projects that she had worked on while serving as the Deputy Grand Chief and how the Cree Nation Government is. Norman is still in the transition period and learning as he goes. There will be a lot of briefing to be given to Norman.

The first person we met was Premiere Legault, Mandy invited two (2) chiefs and Youth Justice Debasidge (Mistissini Youth Chief) to sit with them during Legault's in Mistissini. We discussed various things, and informed the premiere about how we want to build more housing in the Cree Nation. The chiefs who were present during this meeting discussed the projects that their communities were working on. The Grande Alliance was also something that was discussed and requested to have community visits to explain this project so people can understand about the Grand Alliance project.

I have met with the Cree Trapper Association while in Nemaska and also met with Serge Lariviere and discussed the conflicts that our hunters encounter while been on the program. Norman and I will do community tours and sit with the Chief and Council to listen and see what they want to do for their communities and what type of support they will require from the Cree Nation Government leadership. I just want to reassure everyone that my office will always open for me to help people whoever will need help. There is a lot of work that needs to be done in the Cree Nation but I trust our people to carry out their tasks.

I would like to acknowledge the communities who have been affected with Covid-19 and know that your communities and families are in my prayer. It's important to follow community protocols. The vaccine helps to prevent serious illness, it does not prevent getting covid-19. The mandatory isolation law is to prevent any serious outbreaks in our communities and that it should continue to be respected. At times it can be hard to follow these isolation laws but this is for the safety of our communities.

### **Deputy Grand Chief, Norman A Wapachee**

Good morning, everyone, I would like to say that I am grateful to be able to sit amongst you to discuss some issues. I would like to send my greetings to all of those who are listening and to those that I will be working with and all other entities. I would like to thank the people who shown their support during my

campaign. I would like to Thank all previous Grand Chief, especially Abel. He worked hard in fighting and negotiating for Ouje-Bougoumou people to have a place to call home. Not to allow the mining and forestry companies for them to come destroy our lands and drain our lakes and rivers, this is my desire is to fight for our lands. These were just some of the things that I had discussed when I came in to office. This is also my first AGA and I look forward to working closely with Mandy. I worked with her during her last term and I see his type of work she was capable of and was honoured when she got in and I was happy I got in also. We will be starting to visit the Cree communities and this is just what I had to say for now.

Mandy informs the delegation that the inauguration will not be taken place until further Notice

### **5. Introduction of Delegates**

<b>CHISASIBI</b>	Chief Daisy House James Bobbish	Violet Pachano Janie Pachano Robbie Tapiatic	Roderick Pachano Robert Kanatewat
<b>EASTMAIN</b>	Chief Kenneth Cheezo Emily G. Whiskeychan Barbara Weapinecapo	Roger Weapinecapo Sophia Cheezo	Denis Moses
<b>MISTISSINI</b>	Chief Thomas Neeposh Justus Coon-Come Justice Debassige	Willie Iserhoff William McLeod	John S. Matoush Stacy Anderson
<b>MOCREEBEC</b>	Chief Allan Jolly Grace Delaney	Mary Small Michael Jolly	Cynthia McLeod Victor Weapinecapo
<b>NEMASKA</b>	Chief Clarence Jolly Josie Jimikin	Simeon Wapachee Joshua Iserhoff	Rose Wapachee Bradley Mianscum Jr.
<b>OUJE-BOUGOUMOU</b>	Chief Curtis Bosum Ron Simard Terilynn Gull	Judy Capisissit April Bosum	Margaret Bosum

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<b>WASHAW SIBI</b>	Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt Jean Denis Cananasso	Billy Katapatuk Sr Freddy Mowatt (A)	Gloria Polson (A) Andrianna Trapper (A)
<b>WASKAGANISH</b>	Chief Clarke Shecapio Thomas Stevens	Gordon J. Blackned Hugo Hester	Redfern Blueboy Rita McLeod
<b>WASWANIPI</b>	Ronnie Ottereyes Rosie Jolly	Don Saganash Betsy Jolly	Gloria Jolly Flora Mark
<b>WEMINDJI</b>	Chief Christina Gilpin Arden Visitor Frank Atsynia	Elmer Georgekish Francis Mark Carrie Stewart	Ernest Tomatuk
<b>WHAPMAGOOSTUI</b>	Chief Robbie Kawapit Rita Masty Sheshamush	Mariah Kawapit Jordan Masty	Elijah Masty
<b>Cree Nation Government:</b>	Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty Deputy Grand Chief Norman A Wapachee Bill Namagoose, Executive Director Michael Petawabano, Deputy Executive Director Matthew Swallow, Treasure Isaac Voyageur, Director of Environment and Remedial works John Paul Murdoch, Head Negotiator Donald Nicholls, Melissa Saganash, Anthony MacLeod, Tim Horton's Boss		

**6. Appointment of Resolutions Committee:**

The resolution committee were appointed, namely Bill Namagoose, Michael Petawabano, Melissa Saganash, Don Nichols and Matthew Swallow

On a motion duly made by: Thomas Neeposh

Seconded by: Joshua Iserhoff

The following resolution **no, 2021-02** was adopted and carried.

IT IS RESOLVED:

**DRAFT MINTUES of 47<sup>th</sup> Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) /44<sup>th</sup> Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly Via Zoom on September 1-2, 2021**

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THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee/ Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly nominate: Bill Namagoose, Michael Petawabano, Melissa Saganash, Don Nichols and Matthew Swallow

**7. Review and adoption of agenda of the 47<sup>th</sup> GCCEI/ 44<sup>th</sup> Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly**

On a motion duly made by Don Saganash      Seconded by Margaret Bosum  
The following resolution **no, 2021-03** was adopted and carried.

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee/ Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby adopt the draft agenda for the 2021 Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government.

**For Resolution Committee:**

- Thomas Neeposh to review the energy subsidy and to have the ISP office moved to Mistissini
- Moose Management report
- CWEIA to use or find their traditional names
- Taxation issues
- Mandy to help people with their mental health
- Forest Fire 2013-get more information
- Voting rights-Youth Chief and a seat
- Review ISP funds

Derrick Neeposh:      The BOC already had their AGA and we have videos of it for you people to view, just ask me.

Rita Sheshamush Masty:      Mode of transportation to be added to the agenda

Mariah Kawapit:      Audio was bad could not make out what was said.

**Break at 10:56am**

**Meeting commences at 11:05**

**8. Review and Adoption of Minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> GCC(EI) Annual General Assembly/43<sup>rd</sup> Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly**

Presented by John Paul Murdoch

Question and Answers:

Grand Chief Mandy: Thank you JP, some of the resolutions that you presented from 2020 should be updated. The Billy Diamon Highway has already been done, the Quebec Government has agreed to change its name from James Bay Highway to Billy Diamond Highway. As for the forest fire impact update, I still haven't been given the any news as to where this file is at. I am aware that this was given to the Cree Nation Government departments to work on, I will follow up on this and I am aware that a resolution will be needed and I will bring an update on this tomorrow. As for the income Security program, a committee was formed to work on this file, it was our former Grand Chief Abel Bosum who was given the mandate to work on the ISP file and will request for a summary regarding this file. Rodney Mark was also the one leading this file. The name of the Income Security Program has changed to Income Security.

Don Saganash: Inquires about the affordable rent that was mentioned in the minutes.

Jean Paul: this was just a discussion on rental scales but no figures in place.

Mandy: Anyone else has questions regarding the minutes from last meeting in 2020

Robbie in the minutes its mentioned about the transportation Subsidy, who was mandated to look after this

Jean-Paul Development of Cultural department, Rodney Mark

Kenneth Cheezo: Forest Fire Resolution, what is the exact wording of it

Jean-Paul Reads the Resolution and shows it on the screen

Grand chief Mandy: I will try to bring an update tomorrow on the 2020 Resolutions and are there any other questions?

Wemindji: This is regarding page 12 or 13 regarding Hydro, its still the same this fall, the water is quite deep and it affects the fish. This happens every year, we can't really catch the fish. I

believe that this is something that should be discussed. When the doors at Sarcelle open it gets worse. Hydro should look at our needs when it comes to our fishing and hunting activities.

Grand Chief Mandy: Thanks him and will ask for a summary to be brought regarding Page 12 of the 2020 Minutes. Anyone have any other questions? If not, who wants to put a motion to adopt the 2020 minutes?

### **9. Adoption of Minutes:**

On a motion duly made by Ernest Tomatuk      Seconded by Bradley Mianscum Jr

The following resolution **no, 2021-04** was adopted and carried.

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee/ Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby adopt the minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> GCCEI/43rd Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government.

Mandy asks Jean Paul to show people how to log into the CNG website for them to see the information on meetings, minutes, resolutions. This website is open for everyone that wants to go view this information.

JP shows the delegation how to log in on the CNG website to Cngmeetings.com to obtain information on their meetings, there is no login or password required. Simply go to Assemblies and click on agendas, it will open a screen with today's Agenda. Goes over the website with the delegation and explains the procedure of how new information is downloaded on the CNG.com website

Mandy: Those who are listening, its open for everyone, all year round. You can find all information on the website

### **10. Board Council Minutes**

On a motion duly made by Ron Simard      Seconded by James Bobbish

The following resolution no, 2021-05 was adopted and carried.

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee/ Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby adopt the 2020-2021 Minutes of Board/Council Meetings.

**Lunch Break 11:39am**

**Meeting Reconvenes at 1:09pm**

Grand Chief Mandy welcomes back the delegates and would like to give the new Youth Grand Chief Adrian Gunner to come say a few words

Words from Youth Grand Chief

Thanking God for allowing him to be able to attend this AGA virtually and Congratulates Mandy and Normand on been elected and also congratulating the Waapmaagoostuii Youth DGC. Acknowledges the work that Abel Bosum did for the Cree Nation and thank him for his years of leading the Cree Nation. Adrian also thanks the former Youth Grand Chief for all the work she has done during the time she was elected as YGC.

Mandy encourages him not to be shy to ask questions in any area they may need help in.

**11. 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Presentation done by Matthew Swallow

Matthew begins by congratulating Mandy and Norman and greets the delegation and explains how he will proceed with his report. He introduces Sylvain Fourcher, who will help present the financial audit report.

**Cree Nation Government:**

- Paix Des Braves
- Cree Heritage Foundation

Overview of the Financial Results for the year ending March 31, 2021  
2020-2021 Financial Highlights

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
	\$	\$
Current year surplus from Operations	3,317,691	1,963.154
Plus (less)		
Transfer to appropriated accumulated surplus-EEPF		
Capital Assets Replacement Fund	(2,226,380)	(2,
226,380)		



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Centres-Capital Maintenance and replacement fund	<u>2,937,659</u>	<u>263,226</u>
Unappropriated Accumulated Surplus at end of year	<u>4,028,970</u>	—
Appropriated Accumulated-EEPF Capital Assets Replacement Fund at end of year	<u>8,740, 846</u>	6,514, 466
Maintenance and replacement fund at end of year		2, 937, 659

Highlights of the financial audit statements – **General Fund Revenue: 2020-2021**

\$274,157,548

- O&M Regional Support Funding- 5.7%
- Capital “A” Base Community Allocation-7.5%
- O&M Community Allocation-33.5%
- Special Projects-20.7%
- Others—7.4%
- Eeyou-Eenou Police Force-7.9%
- Administration of Justice-5.6%
- Apatisiwin Skills Development-5.6%
- Indigenous Support Fund-6.1%

General Fund Revenue by Source: \$274,157, 548

- Capital “A” Base Community Allocation (CIRNAC)
- O&M Regional Support Funding (CIRNAC)
- O&M Community Allocation (CIRNAC)
- Government of Quebec
- Indigenous Services Canada
- Emergency Preparedness Canada
- Eenou-Eeyou Limited Partnership
- Cree Nation Trust
- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Others

**General Fund Expenditures 2020-2021:**

**\$270,839,857**

- Executive Office (0.4%)
- Environment and Remedial Works (0.6%)
- Special Projects (22.4%)

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- Government Support Services (1.8%)
- Others (0.5%)
- Political Representatives (0.3%)
- Social and Cultural Development (0.7%)
- Apatisiwin Skills Development (5.6%)
- Capital “A” Base Community Allocation (7.6%)
- Commerce and Industry (0.4%)
- Finance and Treasury (1.5%)
- O&M Community Allocation (33.9%)
- Administration of Justice (5.6%)
- Eeyou-Eenou Police Force (8%)
- Capital Works and Services (1.3%)
- Senior Management (0.4%)

**GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE 2019-2020:            \$261, 504, 242**

- Executive Office (0.7%)
- Environment and Remedial Works (0.4%)
- Special Projects (27%)
- Government Support Service (2%)
- Others (7%)
- Social and Cultural Development (0.5%)
- Apatisiwin Skills Development (8.6%)
- Capital “A” Base community Allocation (5.8%)
- Commerce & Industry (0.5%)
- Finance and Treasury (1.4%)
- O&M Community Allocation (34.1%)
- Administration of Justice (6.8%)
- Eeyou-Eenou Police Force (8.6%)
- Capital Works and Services (2.1%)
- Senior Management (0.4%)

Allocation of the Capital “A” Base Funding 2020-2021:	\$20,521,906
Allocation of the O&M Funding 2019-2020:	\$104,361,100
Allocation of the O&M Funding 2020-2021:	\$107,579,591
Allocation of the Capital “A” Base Funding 2019	\$15,089,350
Allocation of the Cree Nation Trust Funding 2020-2021:	\$98,000,000
Allocation of the Cree Nation Trust Funding 2019-2020	\$133,884,150
Allocation if the Indigenous Support Funding 2020-2021	\$16, 893,095

**ALLOCATION OF THE CREE NATION HOUSING FUND PRIVATE HOUSING SUBSIDIES 2020-2021**

**\$ 6, 521, 163**

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- Cree Nation of Chisasibi- 17 Units (37.5%)
- Cree Nation of Mistissini- 5 Units (8.5%)
- Cree Nation of Nemaska- 5 Units (8.6%)
- Cree Nation of Waskaganish-5 Units (10.9%)
- Cree Nation of Waswanipi-5Units (9.2%)
- Cree Nation of Wemindji- 6 Units (12.9%)

General Fund Revenue 2020-2021	\$8, 138, 427
General Fund Revenue 2019-2020	\$8,916,628

General und Expenditure 2020-2021	\$8,138,427
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- Enhancement and Protection of the Cree Rights and Natural Res (9.6%)
- Political representation (3.2%)
- Agreement Concerning a new relationship with Quebec (23.1%)
- Others (2.4%)
- EMR-Implementation Agreement (3.3%)
- Cree Canada New relationship Agreement (27%)
- MoCreebec Support (10.4%)
- Uranium Proceedings (2.6%)
- Day Scholars (4.3%)
- Cree Customary Adoption and Guardianship Certification Process (2.1%)
- Ontario Land Claim (12%)

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC 2020-2021**

**\$104,417,962**

- Cree Nation of Chisasibi (7.3%)
- Cree Nation of Eastmain (3.1%)
- Cree Nation of Mistissini (6.8%)
- Cree Nation of Nemaska (3.1%)
- Cree Nation of Waskaganish (9.3%)
- Cree Nation of Waswanipi (12.9%)
- Cree Nation of Wemindji (10.7%)
- Whapmagoostui First Nation (6.7%)
- Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation (3.8%)
- Contribution to Wyapschinigun Fund (15%)
- Distributions to other Cree Entities (20.9%)
- Capital appropriation to operations (0.4%)

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC 2019-2020**

**\$102,491,088**

- Cree Nation of Chisasibi (15.4%)
- Cree Nation of Eastmain (3.7%)
- Cree Nation of Mistissini (12.2%)
- Cree nation of Nemaska (3.4%)
- Cree nation of Waskaganish (6.3%)
- Cree First Nation of Waswanipi (7.1%)
- Cree nation of Wemindji (6.1%)
- Whapmaagoostui First Nation (6.6%)
- Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation (3.8%)
- Contribution to Wyapschinigun Fund (15.0%)
- Distributions to other Cree Entities (19.9%)
- Capital appropriation to operations and others (0.4%)

**EXPENDITURE**

**2020-2021**

**Total: \$436, 088**

**2019-2020**

**Total: 427, 992**

**SUMMARY OF THE CREE NATION GOVERNMENT AND RELATED ENTITIES ALLOCATION FUNDING TO THE COMMUNITIES AND CERTAIN ENTITIES 2020-2021**

**TOTAL: \$325, 268, 161**

**SUMMARY OF THE CREE NATION GOVERNMENT AND RELATED ENTITIES ALLOCATION FUNDING TO THE COMMUNITIES AND CERTAIN ENTITIES 2019-2020**

**TOTAL: \$360,504,019**

Every year we try to prepare our reports to be understanding and easy to read for people. These funds were not used only used for the Cree Nation Government but was also disbursed to each community. We do receive a big amount of those funds and each community are able to put these funds to use in their respective communities. Before closing I would like to acknowledge the employees who continued to work hard on the financial part and I would never be capable to do my job if it had not been for all you. If there are any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me and thank you Mandy for giving me the opportunity to do my presentation. Financial reports will be sent out as soon as they become available

**Question Period:**

Roderick Pachano: Greets everyone and makes a comment about how fast the presentation and also asks about who takes care of the Eeyou Mishtik Marine fund?

Matthew: Council Board will be the one to decide how those funds will be used and when

John Paul Murdoch: A resolution from Council Board will be needed in order for those funds to be sued

Chief Thomas Neeposh: I wanted to inquire about the Capital.....

Matthew Swallow I think that Bill can respond to that question

Bill: (could not make out what he said)

Chief Daisy House: Where can we get those funds so that each community get them.

Bill: Paix des braves we always make sure that we are transparent as to where these funds are distributed. We are not sure that these funds will be enough, but we have to go on based on the community's needs.

Mandy: DO's and Treasurers should do a presentation to explain a bit more on where the funds are distributed or how

Josie Jimikin: The Cree Nation Trust, how much more is left in there?

Bill Namagoose: I can request for the information and make a presentation after I receive the information I need.

John Longchap: Houses are all different sizes; others are given another type of subsidy while others are given an amount to build their homes. The further north you build the more subsidies you get.

Chief Christina Gilpin: Six houses were built in Wemindji, so the funds came in in 2021. I think Chisasibi had more houses that were built, not sure if it's first come first serve....

- Chief Clarence Jolly: asked a question but could not make out what he saying
- Chief Clarke Shecapio: Would like for us to sit with DO's and treasurers so we can have an idea on how we can work with housing funds. Also, I would like for us to review on how we can help our women during this time. We need to work and revisit our priorities
- Ernest: To be able to give more funding, someone who hunts and requires methods of transports it requires a lot of funds and more funding should be made available for the Cree Trappers an.
- Grand Chief Mandy Gull: Next DO's and Treasurers meeting, these should all be looked at the possibility
- Thomas Stevens: A lot of the hunters turned to CTA during COVID. CTA did not receive any funding from elsewhere, yet many turned to CTA for various things. Niskamoon Corporation was able to help us help our hunters and trappers meet their needs.

### **Ratification and Adoption of Financial Statements**

On a motion duly made by: John S Matoush

Seconded by: Ron Simard

The following resolution no, 2021-06 was adopted and carried

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly hereby taken cognizance of the 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government.

**Break 3:08pm**

**Meeting reconvenes at 3:39pm**

### **12. Appointment of Auditors for 2021-2022**

On a motion duly made by: William McLeod

Seconded by: Don Saganash

The following resolution, 2020-07 was adopted and carried.

**IT IS RESOLVED**

THAT the delegates of the Grand council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup> /44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly having received the recommendation of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominate the same auditing firm, Raymond Grand Thornton to act as the auditors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government.

**13. 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements of the Cree Nation Government Board of Compensation**

Derrick Neeposh gives a brief update on their Annual AGA

- Gestion DC provides the meal and lodging for the employees,
- Quality Inn is 100% Cree owned
- Insurance

**Question Period:**

Mandy: Asking anyone who had questions

Don Saganash: The hotel in Val D'or, do we save taxes?

Derrick Neeposh: The tax-exempt card cannot be taken because the hotel is not located in a Cree community but this is probably something that can look at.

Pauline Lameboy –NDP

- Accountability and
- To work closely together
- Climate Change
- Decolonization
- The courage to do what's right
- Bill 262

Mandy asks Pauline for her coordinates in case people want to get in touch with her.

Steve Corriveau:

Thank you for giving me this opportunity and I wish I was able to speak Cree more fluently. I have been able to visit some of the Cree communities in the inland and coastal. I also had the honour to meet the Chiefs and many Cree people during my visit. I understand that the land and river preservations are an important aspect in lives of Cree. I learned a lot during my visit in the Cree communities. Encourages everyone to go out and voe

Steeve Corriveau website is the place to go if you need to reach him.

#### **14. Presentation of Laws Adopted by the Cree Nation Government**

Cree Language Act-Presentation by JP

Question: Roderick Pachano

Bill will be retiring from the Cree Nation Government I will still be around; I will always make myself available for anyone who will need my help.

- Cree Nation Government Annual Report  
Presented By Bill Namagoose

Question Period:

Chief Clark Shecapio: Access roads for Coastal Communities how can we do this?

Bill Namagoose: 50/50 of the road should be split for Cree to pay 50% of the roads

**Concludes Day 1 of AGA**

***Meeting Adjourned at 5:04pm***



**DAY 2**

**Thursday, September 2, 2021**

Meeting Commences at 10:14am

**1. Opening remarks by Norman A Wapachee**

Thanks everyone and greets everyone, today is my sister Mary and her husband 38<sup>th</sup> Wedding anniversary. Shares a story about his late brother Philip and his wife Helen who was Mandy's auntie.

Opening Prayer: Mandy Gull

**2. Review of Agenda for the day:** Done by Deputy Grand Chief Norman A. Wapachee

**3. COVID-19-Bertie Wapachee and Paul Linton**

**Bertie Wapachee**

Begins by greeting everyone who is in attendance and to those listening. Thankful to have been given the opportunity to come share a bit and also mentions that their annual report is available. I would like to thank all my workers who have worked hard since the Covid outbreak. I would also like to Thank Bella Moses Petawabano and our former Grand Chief Abel Bosum for all their hard work. Sends his sympathies to the families who were affected by this sickness and remembers the ones who lost their life due to this sickness.

**Paul Linton**

Talks about Covid-19, 218.5 million cases of Covid 19 in the world; he shared the number of vaccines that were given. In Canada there are presently 1,503,019 cases, 26, 962 Deaths and 1,443,808 recovered. Ninety percent of patients been hospitalized are not vaccinated. As of yesterday, there were 690 active cases in the province of Quebec. In Eeyou Istchee there are 19 active cases and 4 of them were hospitalized and  $\frac{3}{4}$  were under the age of 40 years old. Contacts tracing has been done and completed and for the past three (3) days we have not had new cases. Hotel Espresso patients are still able to go out and get their meals and this coming Friday everyone will be tested. Those whose tests come back negative will be moved to another floor. For those traveling South or anywhere else, the vaccine passports will be mandatory to eat in a restaurant. We are trying to help others get their vaccine passports but we do encounter problems. We really don't want the schools to close down; it's why we are working hard to prevent the spread in our communities. Chibougamau has not had any

new active cases in the last four (4) days. Those who attended the Adult Ed graduation in Mistissini, all have been tested and cases are going down and the only one we need to focus is the outbreak at Espresso Hotel in Montreal.

### **Bertie Wapachee**

Vaccine Passports will be required when you travel outside of your communities. It is still undecided if we will need these in our communities. We are short staffed with the front-line workers; this has a great impact on them as well. Some have taken leaves due to Covid-19; other communities are more affected with the short ness of staff. Our employees encounter different people, even those that have anger. We need to put security measures for our front-line workers because at times our Police force do not have time to come each time. I just want to encourage you all to encourage your young ones to continue respecting our front-line workers.

- There will be a zero tolerance of violence in our clinics, as a way to protect our staff.
- We have requested for the healing lodge to be built which would be built in Chisasibi and I believe that this would help our people with their healing.
- Youth protection act to be revised so it doesn't look like CHB is babysitting the children while parents are out drinking. CHB is implementing programs/projects to help our youth begin their healing journey.

Congratulates the new elected Youth Grand Chief and Deputy Youth Chief and thanks the delegation for listening and for been given times to come discuss the work that they do.

### **Question and Answer Period**

**Roderick Pachano:** Thanks, CHB for sharing and giving us an update on the Covid-19. Our leadership should be the ones to also bring updates on the Covid-19 and not only the CHB. Our leaders should ensure that we should not fear, and to make our youth aware of what is happening. I think that our leadership need to talk to us and our youth as well. I just wanted to share this and thank you for listening to me.

**Justus Coon-Come:** Our community is affected with this Covid-19 as well just like all the other communities and just as the elder said we should not have to instill fear in them. They should not be forced to do anything they want to do, especially when it comes to the vaccines.

**Bertie Wapachee:** Everyone has their own freedom; I chose to take the vaccine and I don't think that anyone intends to hurt us with the vaccine. When it comes to discussion of fear or instill fear to people, it can be just a way of trying to make our loved ones understand. Everyone has their own freedom to decide what they want or want to do. I am sure that God has given everyone the knowledge to decide things for themselves. It is our job to ensure that we protect and help our people. Freedom is about choice; you decide what you want to do. It is not our intention to scare anyone; it's why we work closely with our leadership.

**Ronnie Ottereyes:** **Recommendation** in Waswanipi a lot of teachers have decided to leave their employment due to the isolation rule that we have in place for our communities. The isolation rule makes them leave their job and this makes it a bit hard for us, the community of Waswanipi not have certified teachers but substitutes who are not certified to work as a teacher. I would recommend that we look at our teachers like front line/essential workers. I see many kids with no teachers because the teachers are isolating or have decided to leave.

**Mandy:** When Covid-19 first hit we didn't know what it was but soon enough over the past two years we were educated. Losing someone thru Covid-19 is hard and it affects you a great deal because I lost someone due to this virus. We all have our own rules and protocols to follow. The recommendation that Ronnie mentioned will be forwarded to public Health. When one community wants to change or add a law to the protocols, it will affect all the other communities, so we have to be mindful of these types of requests.

#### **4. Closing remarks by Bertie Wapachee**

- Healing Lodge which is planned to be up by Spring 2022
- Programs in the healing Lodge
- Want to work in partnership with other entities
- Ending Cycles of sexual abuse and sexual violence
- Etc...

*Break: 11:36 am*

*meeting Reconvenes 11:51am*

**5. Cree Trappers' Association (not available at that moment)**

**6. Cree Language Commissioner-Jamie Moses**

Greets the GC, DGC and the delegates, I am the Cree Language Commissioner for the Cree Nation Government. I would like to thank the following people who have given me the knowledge to know my language and be able to practice our way of life. Everyone has their own freedom to decide what they want in their own life. We all remember how our children were taken from their homes and were not let to speak their own language. I thank the students who have gone out to pursue their education but still hung on to their language while learning. It's important that we prioritize our language and our way of life. Covid-19 has given us challenges to perform our duties; most times we cannot meet the people we need to meet when it comes to work. There are three communities who have their workers who are working on preserving our language.

- The court there are also translators that can help them
  - The daycare also teaches our children while we are at work and encourage them to speak to our children in Cree
  - We cannot do this on our own but we expect our leadership to encourage and help us in this as well
  - The Cree language and Culture
- 
- I bring extensive experience working on cultural and language programming in Eastmain
  - I come from a family respected for its knowledge of Cree language and culture, and I am honoured to have been given this important responsibility.
  - I began my 5-year term as Commissioner January 2021
  
  - I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to be your Cree Language Commissionaire
  
  - An Act Concerning the Cree Language was the first law to be passed by the Cree Nation Government following the adoption of the Cree constitution
  
  - The Act was adopted unanimously by Council/Board at their meeting in Waswanipi in September 2019
  
  - The law represents a strong commitment to act on behalf of Iyiyiw-Ayimuwin by both local and regional governments in Eyou Istche.

The Act includes a number of provisions that will be implemented over the coming years, including:

- The Creation of the Commissioner of the Cree Language and their office.

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- Empowering the Commissioner to initiate a wide variety of work to reclaim, revitalize, maintain, and strengthen the Cree language as it is spoken in Eeyou Istchee.
- The adoption of Cree Language plans by the governments, entities, and other organizations operating in Eeyou Istchee. These plans will require that all organizations in Eeyou Istchee contribute to efforts to support Cree Language.

As we move forward it is important that we acknowledge the work of those who have worked tirelessly for our language over the past forty years. Their work is the reason we are here today-taking this action to ensure a future for our own language.

Since the Signing of the JBNQA, Crees have undertaken important work to support our language, including:

- The establishment of the Cree Way project and the development of teaching material in Cree
- The establishment of the Cree School Board and their development of language resources, websites, and teaching materials, as well as their training of Cree Language teachers and consultants.
- The work of the Cree Health Board to ensure health care can be delivered in the Cree Language
- The work of the Justice department to ensure the delivery of legal services in the Cree Language
- The establishment of the Cree early childcare facilities so our young children can learn in Cree from a young age.
- The organization of regional gatherings to guide regional and local leadership on the need for support for our language.
- The development of local projects and programs to support our language-like the recent project in Wemindji that has energized many across Eeyou Istchee.
- Most importantly, I want to acknowledge the work of the countless elders, teachers, and experts who have worked in each of the communities to teach, document, and produce material in our own language.
- We will need to draw upon their expertise as we move forward and I very much look forward to working with you on these important matters.

We understand that we cannot do this work alone-we will begin working to build a broad network that engages entities, communities, and the Cree public on behalf of our language.

We understand that we need to support local initiatives and local programming in each of our communities.

We understand that we need to engage elders to protect and sustain language expertise in each of our communities.

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We understand that we need to support young people and young families in their efforts to speak and learn the Cree language.

Shannon Atsynia began working in July 2021 as the Regional Coordinator of Cree Language Revitalization. She will be working with me to support efforts in all of our communities to develop effective programming on behalf of our language. Shannon Brings extensive experience working on behalf of our language and culture in her community of Wemindji.

We will soon begin reaching out to communities, entities, and the Cree public to:

- Gather feedback and suggestions as to needed language programs, and to identify partners who can assist us with this work.
- To communicate about Commissioner's office and its work
- To engage elders and language experts in each of our communities to ensure we have the needed advice and expertise.
- To engage with youth and young families on the supports they need.

We will also make efforts to promote the Cree language regionally and locally, with

- Campaigns aimed at raising awareness about our language, and language related issues
- Programming aimed at celebrating our language, including the establishment of a Cree Language Awareness Month
- Efforts to brand and raise the profile of the Commissioner of the Cree language's office-so that we can communicate effectively about language with the Cree public

Most importantly, we need to begin building our capacity to act effectively to support our language, by:

- Assessing the current state of our language in Eeyou Istchee-who is speaking it? How well are they speaking it? Who do we need to support with targeted programming?
- Assessing our current capacity to act-Who is working on language now? Are they getting the supports they need? What are the current levels of funding available for language support programming?
- Beginning consultation on a development of a Strategic Action Plan revitalization that will outline the steps we will take to support our language.

If we are to be successful in this endeavour, we will need broad support and assistance in all our communities. If you want to get involved, or have suggestions please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Jamie Moses, [Jamie.moses@cngov.ca](mailto:Jamie.moses@cngov.ca) Shannon Atsynia [Shannon.atsynia@cngov.ca](mailto:Shannon.atsynia@cngov.ca)

Deputy Grand Chief Norman A Wapachee Thanks Jamie for his presentation and is honoured to hear him speak Cree so fluently.

**Question and Answer Period:**

Rita McLeod: Thank you for giving me the time to speak and honoured to hear that youth speak our language fluently. I am a retired teacher from CSB. I have seen how much we have worked hard to hold on to our language. One of the things that make me think is the material that was produced in order to keep our language. I think it's time for us to start building or designing our own Cree language material. In churches there are hymn books and bibles in Cree, I think it's important for us to preserve this type of material. We should have our own building where this type of material is produced. It would also be ideal to have a computer lab where we can have all material printed in Cree Syllabics. This is something that I long to see in the Cree Nation.

Jamie Moses: Thank you Rita for giving your input and ideas on this, every community is allowed to create programs or projects that will help promote our culture and our language.

Whapmaagoostui delegate: In Whapmaagoostui we try hard to preserve our language but I noticed that our grandchildren tend to speak to us in English. Growing up my parents and grand-parents always encouraged us to speak our language so we don't lose it. When an elder tried to speak to our youth and children, we now hear them reply back in English.

Jamie Moses: There are places where we can seek funding for different types of projects such as:

- Niskamoon
- CTA College Program-Learning our Cree way of Life
- Elders are great teachers
- We have to help our young ones by teaching and guiding them about our way of life

Eastmain: I stand with Waskaganish with the idea of building a place where we ca create our own material, and acknowledge the Chief of Whaapmaagoostui. As a youth, I can say that been out on the land helps me a lot. I remember one time I visited Jamie during a project he was working on, we had to feed the elders and it was then that I realized that we didn't have that many elders. Our elders are slowly passing away and we need to learn as much as we can.

Jamie Moses: gave feedback to Youth Chief of Eastmain

*Lunch Break 12:48pm*

*Meeting Reconvenes 1:57pm*

## **7. Cree School Board**

Sarah Pash greets everyone and informs the delegation that we had a total of 188 graduates within our Cree School Board. We have a preparation to Post Secondary program available in the Adult Ed program.

- Students must be graduates
- Students can remain in their communities while taking this course
- Cultural Identity (Program)

Adult Education implemented this program, we are proud of the response from everyone during this pandemic. Cree School Board was able to meet the needs for the student during their online classes by providing laptops for their children. The post-secondary students were also able to access laptops for their children to continue their online classes.

### **Council Level**

- Governance
- New Strategic action plan for the CSB

Lowest rate of attendance mainly at Secondary level and it's important we get parental involvement to try and deal with this problem.

### **Clifford Loon**

#### **COVID MEASURES**

- Ensure the safety of our students
- Bus Rules be followed
- Face coverings on for bus users



- Face coverings for students (hallway, class, etc)
- Washing hands when entering and leaving school
- Daily Health Checks
- Monitor in accordance to CHB and Public health recommendations
- Working in collaboration with other entities

#### STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Consulting community stakeholders
- School committees
- Nishiyuu Elders Council
- CNYC
- CTA
- Seeking approval October 2021 meeting
- Will be able to present to all communities once ratified in October

#### MAJOR PROJECTS

- New High School in Chisasibi to be completed by 2022
- Chisasibi is building a new pre-school
- Housing in Chisasibi

Power is out in Chisasibi so no slides to show for now but will send them as soon as the power goes back on.

#### QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD

**Mandy:** Will there be adjustments made to the policies for students to purchase laptops I know that there was summer funding in the summer for students, which made it less stressful for the students.

**Sarah:** It's time to revisit our policies to continue supporting our Post-Secondary Students. The provision of allowances during the summer is also something that we need to look into as well.

**Caroline:** Students were not allowed to take online courses but due to covid we were able to negotiate for them to do so, its temporary for now but when the next round of negotiations come around. As for policies there are quite a few that we need to revisit and change. The emergency measure for students that was provided during the summer was a temporary measure for now and is something else that needs to be revisited.

- Don Saganash: inquired about the isolation rule, teachers in Waswanipi are quitting because of the isolation rule
- Caroline: CSB is trying to find ways for their teachers and find a way to retain our employees. We will know more when we do our exit interviews.
- Justice: Students motivation has gone down, online classes does not motivate them. What is CSB doing to improve the students motivation
- Sarah: This has become a big problem and one of the things is students deal with a lot of anxiety. There is a pilot project in Chisasibi and have seen great results from it. Caroline will share about the mental health and engagements in schools
- Caroline: As Sarah mentioned there was a lot students and not only student but adults dealing with anxiety. We are trying to find ways to help students deal with their mental health; this is a huge need in the Cree Nation. We are hoping that the 4<sup>th</sup> wave does not cause any school closures. Teachers prefer having their students in their classroom as well.

## **8. Cree Trappers Association**

- Thomas Jolly:** Opening Remarks, shared a bit about his health proceeds by showing off the CTA membership as of 2020-2021. I started my role as the President of CTA in April of 2021

In 1984 CTA had 904 members                      in 2020-2021 CTA had 10694 members

- Eenou Eeyou Limited partnerships & Federal New Relationship Agreement.

### Regional CTA Projects & Programs 2021-2022

- Access to traditional food 2021-2020, Cree Health Board \$200,000.00
- Comm-unity Freezer Project-2020-2021
- Sturgeon Management FILE-CNG
- Fish Habitat-CNG
- Eeyuu Ituun-Launch of the program fall 2021
- Cree Heritage Festival
- Cree Medical Bush Kirt Program-CHB/CTA
- Cree Heritage Festival 2022
- Cabin Insurance
- Eyou Marine Region-Projects
- Moose Hanitat

**EENUU EETOOWINN PROGRAM**  
Attestation of Collegial Studies

Number of Students that registered 32

Number of Students that will start the 16

Number of Cree Instructors 10+

Start date of the Program: September 20, 2021

Securing funding for the Eeyou Eetoowinn COORDINATOR

Participants will be taken to the bush in the fall and winter  
To begin in September 2021

**Cree Heritage Festival**

In planning

**Insurance for Cabins**

Hunters don't receive that much income, so this is why we want to work on this file to ensure that they are able to insure their cabins.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING NISKMOON 2021-222**

- NISKAMOON Provided for the Special Assistance for 2021-2022
- \$1,792,250.00 land users of the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee in order to provide
- them with the support to access the land and pursue traditional activities during the 2021 Spring season
- Gas Subsidy. Air transportation, food allowance, and ground transportation
- 2020-2021 Niskamoon provided \$1,075,36444

Meegwetch Nii Thomas Jolly

**QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

Allan: Thanks CTA for welcoming Mocrebec to become members of this programming. About 6-7 years ago we had people coming from

Waskaganish, Eastmain and Wemindji to come trap beavers in Northern Ontario. Our language is now lost but we will try hard to preserve it and will follow the types of programs that the Cree Nation is making available for their people.

Thomas: Thanks Alan and elaborates a bit more about some of the projects/programs in the Cree Nation

Don Saganash: makes a comment about the funds mentioned and how hunters do not get as much.

Thomas: Agrees with his comment but explains how the funds were already planned to be disbursed

Kenneth Cheezo: The people who work full time pay into pension but the hunters and trappers don't but maybe that this is something that should be looked at for them. How can our youth become a hunter when they barely make enough money to be out there on the land?

Thomas: You are right with what you said; I remember the fire near Eastmain. I wondered where they would hunt.

Clarke Shecapio: You talked about CTA membership; the more members a community has the more funding they receive. Land occupancy driven should be something that should be considered when funding is released to the communities. This is what I wanted to bring up

Thomas: This is how we began to have funding is because we occupied the land. This is how it always should be.

**Break 3:30pm**

**Meeting Reconvenes at 3:45pm**

### **9. "A Plea to the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee", Washaw Sibi**

Thankful for been given the opportunity to do this presentation to show everyone where we came from, where we are and where we want to be. –Annie Mapachee

PowerPoint Presentation by Annie Mapachee on Washaw Sibi

Norman A Wapachee: Listening to your presentation sort of bring me back to my community Ouje-Bougoumou which we share the same history but it's good to keep looking ahead.

**QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD**

John S. Matoush: What type of support are they inquiring from us, what are their expectations?

Annie Mapachee: To get the support for us to get some land (Category 1) to be able to build our community.

**10. Bill presents funds received from Canada and explains where the funds were spent.**

Tabling of financial Update

Funds received from Canada	<b>\$1,246,801,056.91</b>	100%
Disbursements to Beneficiary	(1,084,763,200.00)	-87%
Fees	(15,697,158.50)	-1.3%
Hedge Losses	(650, 107.08)	-0.1%
Transfers to Operating Account	(4,657,162.24)	-0.4%
Non-Resident Tax	(135,430.80)	0.0%
Investment Income	326,483,534.77	26.2%
Realized Gains	132,332,563.08	10.6%
Unrealized Gains	56,705,878.82	4.5%

**11. Liberal Party Presentation-Lise Kistabish**

Speaks to the delegation about her platform.

**12. Deliberation on Resolutions**

Ernest tomatuk-Don Saganash (ISP resolution)  
Community Access Roads-William McLeod, Hugo Hester  
Cree Energy Subsidy- Joshua Iserhoff, Ron Simard  
Government Offices in eeyou Istchee-Ron Simard, Frank Atsynia  
Forestry Regime in eeyou Istchee-Simeon Wapachee, Josie Jimikin  
Mental Health, Curtis Bosum, Judy Capisissit  
Resolution 2021 Moose, Don Saganash, Ron Simard  
Reclamation of Traditional Names- Don Saganash, Willie Iserhoff  
Assessing, Monitoring and managing Impacts from Hydro-Electric Development-Ernest Tomatuk, Daisy House

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Study on Historical use of Cree Nation Financial Resources-Daisy House, Clarke  
Shecapio  
Whapmagoostui Access Road,

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

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***Resolution 2021-08: Consultations and Review of Income Security Program***

WHEREAS Section 30 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “JBNQA”) establishes an income security program (hereinafter referred to as “the program”) to provide an income guarantee and benefits and other incentives for Cree people who which to pursue harvesting as a way of life.

WHEREAS the last revision of the Program and signing of the resulting Complimentary Agreement to the JBNQA was in June 2019 between the signatories of the JBNQA;

WHEREAS the revisions to the program have benefited some individuals and families while a specific category of beneficiaries lost their benefits altogether;

WHEREAS it is deemed necessary to have consultations and a review of the Income Security Program eligibility criteria and benefits;

WHEREAS Eeyouch continue to occupy the entirety of Eeyou Istchee and the program is fundamental to the continued preservation and promotion of the Cree way of life;

WHEREAS Cree Nation should ensure the continuation of this program in Eeyou Istchee to proceed in a manner that enhances traditional activity and promotes the economic sustainability for Eeyouch;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to initiate consultations with Government of Quebec and a review of the Income Security Program in consultation with local & regional Income Security Boards, local governments, organizations and associations such as Cree Trappers’ Association and Niskamoon Corporation with a view to ensuring the continuation of the benefits for beneficiaries and fair implementation of the program which is designed to promote and enhance our communities, protect our land users and the traditional way of life.

Proposed by Ernest Tomatuk

Seconded by Don Saganash

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

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**Resolution 2021-09: Cree Community Access Roads**

WHEREAS the construction of the James Bay Highway (now renamed the Billy Diamond Highway) was completed in 1974, and provided an opportunity for the construction of access roads to the Cree coastal communities of Waskaganish, Eastmain and Wemindji (“Access Roads”) so that these communities could become accessible by land all year round;

WHEREAS the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement* (“JBNQA”) contemplated the construction and maintenance of the Access Roads in Section 28 regarding Economic and Social Development for the Crees;

WHEREAS paragraph 28.16.1 of the JBNQA provides that “[n]egotiations will continue between Canada, Québec and the James Bay Crees to construct and maintain access roads to join the settlements of Eastmain, Paint Hills [Wemindji] and Rupert House [Waskaganish] to the main Fort George - Matagami road [James Bay Highway]”;

**WHEREAS** the Access Roads were constructed as gravel roads between 1994 and 2001, with certain financial contributions from Canada and Quebec;

**WHEREAS** for many years, the Cree Nation Government has sought to engage Canada and Quebec to undertake the rehabilitation and upgrading of these Access Roads, as well as the road connecting the community of Nemaska to the Route-du-Nord (“Nemaska Road”), which have a combined total length of 313 km, including all portions in Categories 1, 2 and 3 lands;

**WHEREAS** since at least 2013, Cree representatives have raised this matter on a number of occasions with Canada and Quebec to request them to provide a contribution for the rehabilitation and upgrading of the Access Roads and the Nemaska Road, including through high-level correspondence, and discussions and representations at the Cree-Canada Standing Liaison Committee and the joint Cree-Canada and Cree-Quebec Standing Liaison Committees;

**WHEREAS**, despite these efforts, the matter of federal funding to upgrade the Access Roads and the Nemaska Road remains outstanding and unresolved;

***IT IS RESOLVED:***

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to diligently pursue discussions with Canada and Quebec to secure their contribution required for the rehabilitation and upgrading of the Access Roads and the Nemaska Road, in



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compliance with Section 28 of the JBNQA, and to report on the progress of such discussions at each meeting of the GCC(EI)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council.

Proposed by William MacLeod

Seconded by Hugo Hester

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Annual General Assembly

***Resolution 2021-10: Cree Energy Subsidy***

**WHEREAS** members of the Cree Nation of Mistissini at an Annual General Assembly have adopted Resolution 2021-22 calling for the establishment of discussions to address the increasing costs of energy in Eeyou Istchee and the failure of the Cree Energy Subsidy administered by the James Bay Eeyou Compane to meet the needs of the residents of Eeyou Istchee;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to establish discussions with the appropriate entities and organizations such as Hydro-Quebec for the purpose of addressing the need to increase the Cree Energy Subsidy Program to reflect the actual costs and needs of energy for the people of Eeyou Istchee.

Proposed: Joshua Iserhoff

Seconded: Ron Simard

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Annual General Assembly

***Resolution 2021-11: Government Offices in Eeyou Istchee***

**WHEREAS** members of the Cree Nation of Mistissini at an Annual General Assembly have adopted Resolution 2021-23 for the relocation of offices of the Cree Nation Government outside Eeyou Istchee to the Cree Nation of Mistissini;

**WHEREAS** members of the Cree Nation of Mistissini at an Annual General Assembly have adopted Resolution 2021-24 for the relocation of the offices of the Cree Hunters and Economic Security Board to the Cree Nation of Mistissini;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to ensure to the greatest extent possible the location of Government Offices related to the delivery of services and the delivery of programs for the residents of Eeyou Istchee within the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee to ensure an equitable distribution of offices throughout Eeyou Istchee and with a view to finding the ideal location considering infrastructure and housing.

Proposed by Ron Simard

Seconded by Frank Atsynia

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 20

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Annual General Assembly

***Resolution 2021-12: Assessment of Forestry Regime in Eeyou Istchee***

**WHEREAS** the Cree Nation continues to value Eeyou Istchee as fundamental for the survival of the Cree Way of Life;

**WHEREAS** the Rights of the Cree, including hunting, fishing, trapping and the pursuit of the traditional way of life are constitutionally protected under Section 35 of Constitution of Canada;

**WHEREAS** the Cree Nation entered into an Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec in 2002, in order to, among other matters, achieve a balance between forestry development and the hunting, fishing and trapping rights and interests of the Eeyouch;

**WHEREAS** the Cree Nation, after two decades of implementation of the distinct forestry regime in Eeyou Istchee, acknowledges the necessity to evaluate the impacts of the said regime;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in cooperation and collaboration with the Communities impacted by Forestry and the Cree Trappers Association, undertake a comprehensive assessment and review of the legal (including Chapter 3 of the Paix des Braves Agreement) , environmental, social, cultural and wildlife impacts of forestry activities in Eeyou Istchee.

Proposed by Simeon Wapachee

Seconded by Josie Jimiken

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Annual General Assembly

***Resolution 2021-13: Mental Health***

**WHEREAS** the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent discovery, investigations into unmarked graves of residential school children and the residual effects of systemic racism which has defined the colonial actions and behaviors of federal and provincial governments in Canada the mental health of all First Nations, including the people of Eeyou Istchee is of grave concern;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to prioritize and facilitate that development of a Cree Nation approach to mental health with all entites and associations such as CWEIA:

- creating Cree-based mental health responses with the participation of elders;
- seeking funding to support this Cree nation response to enhanced mental health support at the local level
- engagement of youth in development a youth response plan through the CNYC

Proposed by Chief Curtis Bosum

Seconded by Judy W. Capassisit

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Annual General Assembly

***Resolution 2021-14: Moose Studies and Preservation Measures***

**WHEREAS** moose is an integral part of Cree Culture and has sustained the Crees for millennia and continues to this day making them a critical species for the survival of the Cree Culture;

**WHEREAS** the latest completed surveys conducted in Eeyou Istchee on the moose population dated back 12 years ago in Zone 17 (2009) and over 30 years in Zone 22 (1990) and the Ministere de Forests, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) in partnership with Cree Nation Government and Cree Communities of Waswanipi and Mistissini have conducted the moose aerial survey this past winter 2021;

**WHEREAS** it had become essential to conduct an updated moose survey and to ensure our continuation in harvesting rights while the moose hunting season is fast approaching in Eeyou Istchee

**WHEREAS** the report of the moose aerial survey is in the hands of MFFP and need to be share with the Cree Nation Government and the Cree Communities as soon as possible and urgent discussions are needed to take place in the Cree Nation and set up strategies that needs to be put in place to protect the moose population;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**That** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government demands MFFP release the moose aerial survey report to the Cree Nation Government and the Cree Communities immediately and initiate discussions within the Cree Nation to address:

- Reducing the moose hunting permits issued in zone 17 and zone 22,
- And/or asking the Crees to reduce harvesting moose as we did for woodland caribou
- And/or invoking section JBQNA 24.6.3 d) if game populations do not permit levels of harvesting equal to the guaranteed levels 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
- And/or other strategies to protect the moose immediately.

Proposed by Don Saganash

Seconded by Ron Simard

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government**

Annual General Assembly

***Resolution 2021-19: Evaluation of the Status of Observers to Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council***

**WHEREAS** a representative of the Cree Nation Youth of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly has requested an evaluation with a view to changing the observer status of the Cree Nation Youth Council representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council to having voting status;

**IT IS RESOLVED**

**THAT** the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 47<sup>th</sup>/44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly mandate the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government to undertaken an evaluation into the possibility of expanding voting rights at meetings of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council to representatives of other groups such as the Cree Nation Youth Council.

Proposed by Denis Moses

Seconded by Jordon Masty

Carried September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

**DRAFT MINTUES of 47<sup>th</sup> Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) /44<sup>th</sup> Cree Nation Government Annual General Assembly Via Zoom on September 1-2, 2021**

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Next Annual General Assembly: September 1-2, 2022 will be held in Eastmain, Qc

Deputy Grand Chief Norman A Wapachee: Closing Remarks

Grand Chief Mandy

Thanks everyone for partaking in the meeting and acknowledges all the workers involved in making this meeting a success. Thanks all the presenters. A Special thanks to Chisasibi delegations for having our Cree legends as their delegates. I would also wish good luck to or students who will be heading back to school and to stay safe. Our chairperson Sarah Pash informed me that there are 551 Post Secondary Students and 286 are women, that's almost the size of a small community. We are very proud of them. Thanking our former leaders. Also want to thank Bill Namagoose for all his work within the Cree Nation Government.

Closing Prayer: Chief Clarke Shecapio

*Meeting Adjourned at 5:45pm*