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Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)
Grand Conseil des Cris (Eeyou Istchee)

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Cree Nation Government
Gouvernement de la Nation Crie

Whapmagoostui
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Chisasibi
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Wemindji
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Eastmain
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Waskaganish
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Nemaska
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Waswanipi
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Ouje-Bougoumou
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Mistissini
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Washaw Sibi
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MoCreebec
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2022 - 2023

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

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1. Corporate Matters

Present:

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty	
Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee	
Chief Marcel Happyjack	Irene Neeposh
Chief Clarke Shecapio	Gordon Blackned
Chief Thomas Neeposh	John S Matoush
Chief Daisy House	Robbie Tapiatic
Chief Kenneth Cheezo	Daniel Mark Stewart
Chief Christina Gilpin	Frank Atsynia
Chief Curtis Bosum	Gaston Cooper
Chief Clarence Jolly	John Henry Wapachee
Chief Robbie Kawapit	John Mamianskum

Also Chief Annie Mapachee Salt, Jean Denis Cananso, Chief Alan Jolly, Mike Jolly

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

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty reviewed the agenda, Chief Clarke Shecapio raised the issue of New Relationship Agreement projects and on a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-11: Adoption of the Agenda of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on June 1st and June 2nd, 2022 in Montreal

Grand Chief Masty Gull wanted to congratulate Chief Daisy House on the completion of her Master Degree from McGill University. She also wanted reminded the Council of June 22nd, 2022 as the scheduled Day of Morning in Eeyou Istchee. She also related a meeting with the Innu of Mashteuiasht which was very positive in the renewal of relations that began with the Patnership Agreement between Nations. She also wanted to express her condolences to the community of Waskaganish for the recent tragic loss of a young man and that we should keep the community in our prayers.

2. Executive Director Report

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director tabled and reviewed a report entitled, "REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; GCC(EI)/CREE NATION GOVERNMENT; BOARD/COUNCIL MEETING; MAY 31 AND JUNE 1-2, 2022", a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Daisy House inquired if a document would be tabled on the 10-year assessment on the EMR Agreements. She also inquired about the need for different environmental clean-up works in the area like what exists for old mining sites. Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that a joint report was tabled with Canada which will be brought to the table on the implementation of EMR Agreements.

Isaac Voyageur, Director of Environment and Remedial Works explained that assessments were being carried out on where to begin clean up works, it was explained that works would begin in the South where access was easy and move to more challenging sites in the North, for works in the Eeyou Marine Region Area there would be a presentation the following day where the matter could be addressed.

Gaston Cooper inquired if the composition of the Cree Naskapi Commission could be addressed so that all the members were Indigenous representatives. The Grand Chief explained that the matter was usually coordinated with the Naskapi and the mandate has been adjusted requiring discussion, she had reached out to the leadership of the Naskapi and was waiting for some feedback as they were affected as well. She stated that after speaking with the Naskapi she would like to have discussions with the Board/Council in ensuring greater transparency and accountability on the process and procedures that apply to the Cree Naskapi Commission.

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that the Cree Naskapi Commission was of greater importance to the Naskapi than to the Cree as they do not have the Governance Agreement that the Cree Nation does and are therefore much more dependent on the Cree Naskapi Commission.

On a motion duly made by Chief Thomas Neeposh and seconded by Irene Neeposh the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-12: Re-appointment of members of the Cree-Naskapi Commission

WHEREAS subsection 158(1) of the Naskapi and the Cree-Naskapi Commission Act (the “Act”) provides that the Cree-Naskapi Commission shall consist of a maximum of three individuals appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Cree Nation Government and the Naskapi band;

WHEREAS subsection 160(1) of the Act provides that a member shall be appointed for a term of two years;

WHEREAS subsection 160(4) of the Act provides that member are eligible for re-appointment on the expiration of their term of office;

WHEREAS Richard Saunders (chairperson), Robert Kanatewat and Philip Awashish were re-appointed as members of the Cree-Naskapi Commission, effective September 30, 2020, for a term of two years;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Cree Nation Government hereby recommend that, on the expiration of their current term of office, Richard Saunders (chairperson), Robert Kanatewat and Philip Awashish be re-appointed for a term of two years;

THAT the Grand Chief/Chairperson and the Executive Director be and are hereby authorized to do all things and to sign all documents useful or necessary to carry out the foregoing resolution.

3. Eeyou Eenou Police Commission

William MacLeod joined the meeting and tabled a report of the Police Commission on its activities entitled, “

Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee thank Mr. MacLeod for his presentation and stated that there were important implementation challenges.

John Henry Wapachee agreed that housing was a very critical issue and affected services at levels in the community. He expressed concern on how challenging the Human Resource management aspect of the EEPF appeared to be and stated that it was perhaps best that the EEPF have a special dedicated HR department for just them, especially considering how specialized the working conditions and context was.

Chief Happyjack stated that he was receiving complaints on how SQ officers are behaving the community and he wanted to know what the process for dealing with these complaints. He also stated that it was important to ensure that community members knew where to call when they saw suspicious activity in the communities. He agreed that the EEPF needed their own HR Department.

William MacLeod stated that the Police Commission shared the views of Board/Council that a separate HR Department would be a good idea.

Chief Christina Gilpin stated that she was also concerned in it being clear who the local Justice Committee were accountable to. She stated that she would like to see a number of communities consolidating their mandates such as the proposed Neighborhood watch Committees.

William MacLeod stated that he could not address the accountability issue but assumed that the accountability would have to be at the local level. He added that the communities were very important in assisting the Police do their jobs as well various officers of the Court.

Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay stated that health system is in a constant state of crisis management due to alcohol and substance abuse and if the root causes were not addressed, we would be constantly hiring police resources to what would feel like a never-ending problem. He stated that a comprehensive discussion was require to address the root causes of the social problems in our communities. He was concerned how normalized alcohol and substance abuse has become in our communities.

Deputy Grand Chief Norman A. Wapachee stated that all entities and organizations are going to need to work together to address the underlying challenges to justice, policing and community safety.

Gaston Cooper stated that he agreed with Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and the need to address our underlying social problems. He was concerned that the Police Commission had insufficient resources on how to manage complaints.

William MacLeod expressed thanks for the support but explained that the Commission and he himself is cautious not get directly involved in policing which was the Departments responsibility. The Commission has developed a “Coordinator” position to ensure proper flow of information and coordination with the local governments and the Department.

Irene Neeposh stated that she was concerned that local stakeholders who could be involved in ensuring community-based policing were not fully engaged. She added that there needed to be coordination between social services and policing to ensure that police are not overused or engaged inappropriately. She stated that community based policing framework requires many parties be involved instead of always being in crisis management mode.

4. Housing

John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services, Martin Desgagne and Travis Heritage joined the meeting and tabled a number of presentations in relation to housing:

- Community Private Housing Initiative Program 1.3A; and
- Special Community Social Housing Coordination

Copies of which are attached hereto.

Community Private Housing Initiatives

Chief Thomas Neeposh inquired if last years' applicants could access the new rates that are being proposed. John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services stated that the rates only applied to applications dated after April 1, 2022. Applications can be resubmitted if construction has not begun.

Irene Neeposh raised the issue of the need for education on financial management as it had a large impact on the income that could be available for housing, the liability in relation to vehicle is a specific example that she shared. She also expressed the need to be more imaginative in matters such as the use of Tiny Homes which was a good model.

Chief Gilpin stated that she was concerned still about the categorization of her community regarding construction costs and the resulting subsidy levels that are made available.

Chief Clarke Shecapio stated that he supported Wemindji in the calls to be recategorized regarding construction costs. He stated that he wanted greater communication at the local level on the programs, for example in relation to the increase in square footage that was being mentioned today. He stated that he wanted more information on the practices of financial institutions which continue to demand guarantees when it comes to housing. He also wanted a presentation on the resources available and the shortfall in relation to needs.

John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services explained that the presentation could be done to the community

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director explained that there were a number of related issues that needed to be addressed in convincing banks to refrain from requesting financial guarantees. He gave the example the land registry which was an important matter for Banks. He added that discussions were ongoing with Indian Affairs to have guarantees made available at a regional level instead of asking each local government to provide the loans.

Irene Neeposh inquired if people could build duplex's as a manner in addressing intergenerational housing needs. John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services explained that 2 individuals could apply for subsidies in such cases.

Chief Thomas inquired if the \$75 Million referred to in the Social Housing Presentation was available to be used immediately. John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services stated that should the application be successful it could be used.

Chief Christina Gilpin expressed concern over construction costs and the need to develop strategies using Cree purchasing power in social housing to reduce costs. She also expressed concern the imposition of of rental scales and that the matter was being taken from local jurisdiction to be managed at the regional level.

John S. Matoush stated that he appreciated the programs that were being reported on and that he wanted to ensure that available Cree manpower was properly assessed so that Cree workers maximize the employment opportunities that are being created by housing.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty stated that it was very important the recommendations be sent to John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services as this was the best way to document needs and give the Director the opportunity to analyse and follow-up on requests.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-13: Cree Nation Housing Workshop

WHEREAS the recent COVID-19 Pandemic has demonstrated that one of the most urgent issues in Eeyou Istchee is the ongoing housing shortage and crisis in Eeyou Istchee which is clearly a health problem, and can be associated with poor educational performance, lack of economic development and the aggravation of social problems in our communities;

WHEREAS there are numerous regional initiatives designed to address different aspects of the Cree Nation Housing and crisis and each community has its own unique context, challenges and proposed solutions for addressing local housing needs;

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for a Cree Nation Housing Workshop to harmonize housing initiatives and programs at the regional level and the local level to ensure that community members have access to the assistance and resource they need to address housing needs in Eeyou Istchee in an equitable manner;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby call for the convocation of a Cree Nation Housing Workshop and the submission by local governments of documents forecasting the local housing needs, profiles and recommendations for adaptations or improvements of regional housing programs by July 30th, 2022 to ensure an efficient planning and analysis in anticipation of the Workshop.

5. Cree Nation Prioritization Agreement

Anthony MacLeod, Director of Commerce and Industry tabled and presented a presentation entitled, "Cree Nation Prioritization Agreement – Update", a copy of which is attached hereto.

The Board/Council had a discussion on what the appropriate Cree name would be for the Trade Agreement.

Irene Neeposh inquired about the criteria and how they were adapted to non-construction industry activities. She also inquired as to the quality of the agreement with CHRD that was expected. Anthony MacLeod, Director of Commerce and Industry explained that the criteria could easily be adapted to non-construction activities.

6. Cree School Board

Presentation by Sara Pashagumskum, Chairperson of the Cree School Board entitled, “Update on Cree-Quebec Discussions Regarding Amendment of the Education Act for the Crees”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty stated that the JBNQA is clear that the Cree Nation has the right to manage and direct education in Eeyou Istchee, for example language and cultural issues are clearly within the jurisdiction of Cree Governments. She added that the role of parents and family is very important to ensuring the delivery of quality education at the home level, providing feedback in the schools, electing an active Council of Commissioners. She added that families are the most critical ingredient to a child’s success and as leaders the Cree Nation leadership had an obligation to work toward and improve the quality of life in our communities.

Sara Pashagumskum, Chairperson of the Cree School Board stated that the Cree School Board was concerned of the barriers that might be created by Bill 96 for Cree students going to college in the South, such as capping of seats in English colleges and requirements to demonstrate French proficiencies before graduating. The Cree School Board stated that they will be issuing a position on Bill 96, clearly stating the authority and rights of the Cree Nation within the territory. Apparently there is a 2 year implementation with Quebec which hopefully will allow us to address the impacts of Bill 96.

Chief Daisy House stated that she was very concerned with the state of education in the communities as our students were behind and had a lot of catching up to do before they attend college. COVID-19 has aggravated the situation and it is not acceptable if the competition is goes up and our students are starting from still further behind. She stated that the establishment of a college in Eeyou Istchee is now even more important. She stated that if we examine the most successful training programs today, it is the ones that are delivered in our communities which supports the argument for the establishment of more college programs in our communities.

Gaston Cooper inquired about the professional and technical human resources required which seems to stemming from the lack of pre-requisites being delivered in our schools.

Sara Pashagumskum, Chairperson of the Cree School Board explained that a new Department of Higher Learning which will hopefully accelerate the development of a Cree college and increase the amount of college level course to be delivered in the communities. She also cited a number of institutions that were being partnered with such as John Abbott for the

development of preparation programs for Post-Secondary studies. She agreed with the Grand Chief and the interveners that partnership and collaboration was necessary at all levels. She gave the example of attendance which was asked at 30% absenteeism which placed that students at great risk.

Chief Christina Gilpin stated that she was concerned with the number of youth that were not speaking Cree these days and that it seems there are fewer and fewer that will designate as Cree as their mother tongue. She was concerned as well with the implication of Bill 96 that would complicate things further.

Sara Pashagumskum, Chairperson of the Cree School Board stated that Lucie Shem had been engaged with linguistics to address exactly the concerns raised by Chief Gilpin and the plan is to develop a Cree proficiency test so that we can have a clear picture where we are because at the time being we do not have concrete data to assess the situation and guide program development. The hope is that the tool was assist in identify strengths and weakness and where we need to go. She stated that there are hard truths that we need to confront such as the fact that Cree language instruction time has been reduced in our schools. She stated that a new Department has been specifically created to ensure that Cree language tradition is in all aspects of the Cree School Board. The new Department reports directly to the Director General and touches all aspects of the Cree School Board.

Chief Allan Jolly stated that his community would appreciate a meeting with the Cree School Board management team to share their concerns and desire to access Cree School Board programming.

Chief Christina Gilpin expressed concern that Cree was being used and less by young children in the community. She expressed concern over the Quebec language law and the potential implications for Cree schools. She was also concerned that educational needs varied and that a cookie cutter approach could not be used and therefore instruction needed always to be adaptable.

Sara Pashagumskum, Chairperson of the Cree School Board explained that a language proficiency research program had been launched to address exactly this issue, which is being led by Lucie Shem. It is hoped that the study will assist greatly in assessing where we are in Cree language proficiency so that programs can then be developed and implemented accordingly. She added that it was imperative that Cree language be central to the Cree School Board education system: The Eeyou Eetuun Research Department was established to ensure that there are constant efforts to ensure that the Cree language is promoted through all aspects of the Cree School Board.

Chief Curtis Bosum stated that the community has reached out to McGill to establish a STEM program in the community regarding the hard sciences. He agreed with Chief Gilpin that preparing our students was imperative and the community was doing everything to help

students be prepared when they leave for studies but also more importantly to make that they are welcomed home with housing options and employment opportunities. He also expressed concern that Bill 96 would limited the ability of Cree students to access educational services in English.

The Grand Chief stated that the Cree language is first and must be prioritized by all Cree entities, and she will not accept the imposition of any other language on our communities or on our people.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo stated that all entities and organizations need to work together if we are to successfully prioritize education and Cree language and that a meeting among organization was perhaps worth considering

The Grand Chief stated that the recent COVID-19 Pandemic should be used as an opportunity to properly assess the impacts and where we were lacking so that we are more prepared should something like this happen again: Post Pandemic Analysis.

7. Cree Board of Health

Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay tabled and reviewed a presentation entitled, "Update to Cree Nation Government" a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Daisy House stated that she was pleased with the elevation of cultural, language and Cree perspectives in the delivery of services and that all leaders should contribute and assist the Health Board in this endeavour.

Chief Christina Gilpin stated that prior to the arrival of COVID-19 there was supposed to be a regional conference on health which was to included components of traditional medicines, etc. She added that people were looking forward to the conference and consideration should be given to reviving it. Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay stated that the matter was with the Niiskeeyou Department and hopefully would be brought back soon. He stated that the issue of diabetes is very critical in Eeyou Istchee to the point that there will be people who never can come home again because it would be impossible to put the necessary facilities in place in time. It stated that it is urgent that as a Nation we move on the matter.

The Grand Chief pointed out that the collaboration was very important between the Health Board and the Cree nation Government as the issue of amendment of the JBNQA might be involved in negotiations with the Government of Quebec, and the overall health of communities was in the mandate of Cree leadership. We need to exercise our legislative authority to support entities like the Health Board and the Cree School Board and meet the expectations of our community members.

Chief Clarke Shecapio stated there was concern that community members traveling for services were incurring high expenses due to fuel costs and other travel related costs, he suggested further that the establishment of these services in the communities could reduce this burden.

8. Forestry MOU

Richard Shecapio table and reviewed an issue sheet in relation to a Forestry MOU, draft Memorandum of Understanding and draft Resolution, copies of which are attached hereto.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty stated that she saw this as an important step and opportunity in strengthening and uniting the Cree economy. She stated that the Cree Nation had considerable authority and powers in regard to forestry and that it was important to exercise these powers to prevent being shut out by the provincial government. The unity of the Cree Nation is its greatest strength. In the past there were incidents of competition resulting in division and it was her hope that this Agreement would put an end for communities fighting over leftovers but rather making sure that everyone wins and that opportunities are created for Cree entrepreneurs. She stated that the Agreement will give an opportunity to develop a long-term strategy. She hoped that this would result in a long-term economic strategy and a mixed Cree economy. She hopes that the youth recognize the opportunities that are being created. She was that this Agreement represented a realization of the vision of Paul Gull for a cooperative participation in the Forestry Industry. She also thanked Me Jean Sebastien Clement and Richard Shecapio for their hard work on the file and finally she thank the Chiefs for the affected communities to show openness and flexibility allowing the Agreement to come forward.

On a motion duly made by Frank Atsynia and seconded by Irene Neeposh the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-14: Aah Nuutahtikwaaniwich Nisituhtimuwin Memorandum of Understanding

WHEREAS pursuant to the 2002 Paix des Braves, the Crees of Eeyou Istchee received a guaranteed annual allocation of 350,000 cubic meters of wood to be exploited for commercial purposes (“Paix des Braves Wood Allocation”), in addition to the other existing volumes at the time;

WHEREAS the 2002 Paix des Braves also contains provisions regarding Cree employment and contracts in the forestry sector;

WHEREAS the Paix des Braves was amended for the sixth time in 2017 and:

- a) section 3.60 thereof now provides that the Paix des Braves Wood Allocation is guaranteed for the specific purpose of “encouraging and facilitating employment and contracts to James Bay Crees and to Cree Enterprises”;

- b) other provisions thereof deal with enhanced involvement of Crees and Cree Enterprises in forestry related economic opportunities;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government and the Cree First Nations affected by forestry have a strong interest in increasing cooperation among themselves in order to enhance employment and contract opportunities to James Bay Crees and Cree Enterprises involved in forestry;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government and the Cree First Nations affected by forestry also wish to cooperate to enhance the creation of employment and contract opportunities flowing from the Paix des Braves Wood Allocation;

WHEREAS the Grand Chief, Deputy Grand Chief and the Chiefs of the Cree First Nations affected by forestry have been involved in discussions leading to the preparation of the proposed Aah Nuutaatikwaaniwich Nisituhtimuwin Memorandum of Understanding to establish a protocol in regard to discussions to be held by the Cree First Nations affected by forestry and the Cree Nation Government concerning the foregoing;

WHEREAS the Cree First Nations affected by forestry have each approved, by resolution, the execution of the proposed Aah Nuutaatikwaaniwich Nisituhtimuwin Memorandum of Understanding;

WHEREAS the proposed Aah Nuutaatikwaaniwich Nisituhtimuwin Memorandum of Understanding was reviewed by the Council of the Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Cree Nation Government hereby approves the proposed Aah Nuutaatikwaaniwich Nisituhtimuwin Memorandum of Understanding that has been tabled to this meeting;

THAT the Chairperson of the Cree Nation Government and Grand Chief of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) is hereby authorized to sign the Aah Nuutaatikwaaniwich Nisituhtimuwin Memorandum of Understanding in substantial conformity with the draft tabled to this meeting and to do all things necessary in order to give effect to the foregoing.

9. Corporate Services

Paul John Murdoch tabled and reviewed a report entitled, “Cree Nation Government Corporate Services”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Daniel Mark Stewart the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-15: Establishment of Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Corporate Services

WHEREAS Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has the authority to create, modify or dissolve Departments, Services and Agencies of the Cree Nation Government listed under Section 20 and 22 of the Cree Nation Government General Law;

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has recognized the need for the modernization of the role of Corporate Secretary in particular the creation of Corporate Services to meet the modern demands of ensuring the appropriate maintenance and management of Corporate Records, decisions of Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government, and management of logistical requirements of deliberations of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government with a view to promoting inclusive and transparent governance;

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed various proposals for the establishment of Corporate Services at meetings of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council held on December 9th and 10th, 2021, February 8th, 2022 and March 23rd and 24th, 2022;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby establishes the Department of Corporate Services adding “Corporate Services” to the list of Departments, Services and Agencies found at Section 20 of the General Law of the Cree Nation Government;

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the “Description of Corporate Services” as working document attached hereto and further amends Section 22 of the Cree Nation General Law with the insertion of the following text:

Corporate Services. Corporate Services will be responsible for all matters related to Corporate Governance including:

- Records and Data management
- Coordination of deliberations
- Management of procedural and administrative matters in relation to elected officials
- Coordination and collaboration with Corporate Secretaries or Services of the Governments of Eeyou Istchee

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by John Henry Wapachee the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-16: Corporate Secretary

WHEREAS Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has created the Corporate Services Department with the following staffing requirements:

- Corporate Secretary
- Corporate Counsel
- Corporate Administrator
- Corporate Clerk

WHEREAS the Board/Council have considered the staffing requirements of the Corporate Services Department;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby appoint Edna Neeposh as Corporate Secretary subject to the appropriate applicable working conditions, salary scales and remuneration.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by John S Matoush the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-17: Corporate Counsel

WHEREAS Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has created the Corporate Services Department with the following staffing requirements:

- Corporate Secretary
- Corporate Counsel
- Corporate Administrator
- Corporate Clerk

WHEREAS the Board/Council have considered the staffing requirements of the Corporate Services Department;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby appoint Me Paul John Murdoch Corporate Counsel subject to the appropriate applicable working conditions and remuneration.

10. CREECO

Derrek Neeposh tabled and reviewed, “Board of Compensation and CREECO Inc.”, a copy of which is attached to.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo inquired about the impact of the \$500 dollar per flight to the region. Derrek Neeposh stated that he was not aware of the implications at this time. Grand Chief stated that it is not clear if this applies to trips to Nunavik or Eeyou Istchee. She stated that more information will be brought back.

11. CHESB

The Board/Council reviewed a recommendation for the nomination of the Vice-Chairperson to the Cree Hunters Economic Security Board, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Clark Shecapio stated that he would have preferred a greater effort that the members of the Cree were Cree or better versed in the Eeyou Istchee context rather than the representatives that Quebec has been naming. The Grand Chief stated that the issue has been raised with Quebec.

On a motion duly made by Chief Kenneth Cheezo and seconded by Chief Marcel Happyjack the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-18: Vice-Chairperson to the Cree Hunters Economic Security Board

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has considered the opportunity to name the Vice-Chairperson for 2022-2023 of the Cree Hunters Economic Security Board from the members named by the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates Kathy Shecapio as Vice-Chairperson to the Cree Hunters Economic Security Board for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

12. Environment

Chantal Tetrault joined the meeting and tabled and reviewed presentations entitled,

- EMR Update;
- Pristine Seas – National Geographic;
- Joint Eastern James Bay Feasibility Assessment for a National Marine Conservation Area and Introduction of Parks Canada

Copies of which are attached hereto.

13. Re-classification in Housing Program

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-19: Re-Classification of Housing (Grant/subsidy) in the Cree Nation of Wemindji

WHEREAS in Cree Nation of Wemindji is currently associated with the Cree Nation of Eastmain and the Cree Nation of Waskaganish in the determination of the subsidy rate for the Private Housing Initiative which is based on estimated construction costs;

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed arguments for associating the Cree Nation of Wemindji with the Cree Nation of Chisasibi and Cree Nation of Nemaska which as similar construction conditions and costs;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby determine that for the purpose of determining the available subsidy for the Private Housing Initiative communities be grouped into three (3) groups rather than four (4):

- Whapmagoostui
- Chisasibi, Nemaska, and Wemindji
- Eastmain, Waskaganish, Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou and Waswanipi

14. Minutes

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark Stewart and seconded by Chief Kenneth Cheezo the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-20: Approval of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on March 23rd and 24th, 2022

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7pm.



Paul John Murdoch, Corporate Secretary

1. Corporate Matters	3
<i>Resolution 2022-21: Adoption of the Agenda of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 in Gatineau.</i>	
<i>Resolution 2022-22: Board/Council Membership – Chief Michael Petawabano</i>	
<i>Resolution 2022-23: Board/Council Membership – Raymond Jolly</i>	
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10. Eenou Eeyou Police Commission	13
<i>Resolution 2022-32: Nomination to Eeyou Eenou Police Commission - Samuel House</i>	

11. Eeyou Istchee Sports and Recreation Association 14

12. Cultural and Social Development Plan 14

The Board/Council issued a Directive to Matthew Swallow, Treasurer to identify sources of funding for Phase 1 of the Cultural Baseline Study presented by the Deputy Grand Chief on August 4th, 2022 (Directive 2022-03).

13. Audio Visual Team for the Cree Nation Government 14

The Board/Council issued a Directive to the Management Committee to address how the training proposal of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Audio/Visual team as presented August 4th, 2022, could be addressed (Directive 2022-04).

14. Grieve Counselling 14

15. Other Matters 15

1. Corporate Matters

i. Opening Prayer

The Opening prayer was recited by Jean-Denis Cananasso

ii. Notice and Quorum

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the Law and regulations and there being a quorum, the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 9:39 a.m.

Present:

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty	
Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee	
Chief Marcel Happyjack	Irene Neeposh
Chief Clarke Shecapio	Raymond Jolly
Chief Michael Petawabano	John S. Matoush
Chief Daisy House	Robbie Tapiatic
Chief Kenneth Cheezo	Daniel Mark-Stewart
Chief Christina Gilpin	Frank Atsynia
	Gaston Cooper
Chief Clarence Jolly	John Henry Wapachee
Chief Robbie Kawapit	John Mamianskum

Also present:

- Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt
- Jean-Denis Cananasso
- Chief Allan Jolly
- Michael Jolly

Regrets: Chief Curtis Bosum

iii. Chairperson and Secretary

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acted as Chairperson and Edna Neeposh acted as Secretary.

iv. Agenda

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty reviewed the agenda, and the following items were added:

- Cultural Baseline Study
- Housing Strategy

On a motion duly made by Chief Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-21: Adoption of the Agenda of a meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 in Gatineau.

v. New Members

- Chief of Mistissini

The Cree Nation of Mistissini held elections for Chief and elected Michael Petawabano for a four-year term.

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Daniel Mark-Stewart, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-22: Board/Council Membership – Chief Michael Petawabano

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Mistissini has held elections for Chief and Michael Petawabano has been duly elected according to local laws and regulations for a term of four (4) years;

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 23 of the Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government the term of the Chief of a Community shall coincide with the term on the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby formally recognize the membership of Chief Michael Petawabano as member of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term of four (4) years coinciding with the mandate of Chief of the Cree Nation of Mistissini.

- **Community Representative for Waskaganish**

The Cree Nation of Waskaganish held elections for Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and elected Raymond Jolly for a three-year term.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Daniel Mark-Stewart, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-23: Board/Council Membership – Raymond Jolly

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Waskaganish has held elections for Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and Raymond Jolly has been duly elected according to local laws and regulations;

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 23 of the Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government the term of a Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government is established at three (3) years;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby formally recognize the membership of Raymond Jolly as member of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term of three (3) years.

Raymond Jolly expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to sit on the Board/Council, especially that he is a youth. He acknowledged the women in leadership and encouraged the youth to pursue any opportunities that may cross their paths.

Chief Michael Petawabano expressed his gratitude to the people of Mistissini for their vote of confidence and that he will serve them to the best of his ability.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acknowledged Michael Petawabano's election as Chief and his contribution to the Cree Nation Government as Deputy Executive Director. She also acknowledged Raymond Jolly's election as a representative to the Board/Council and his encouraging words to the youth.

vi. **Adoption of Minutes of June 1st and 2nd, 2022**

Paul John Murdoch, Legal Counsel for Corporate Services reviewed the minutes of June 1st and 2nd, 2022 for the members.

On a motion duly made by Chief Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio the Board/Council adopted:

Resolution 2022-24: Adoption of Minutes of Meetings of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on June 1st and 2nd, 2022

Adrian Gunner-Neeposh, Grand Chief of the Cree Nation Youth Council acknowledged the former Youth Grand Chiefs who are present at this meeting, and Raymond Jolly, a youth who was elected as a representative of the Board/Council. Adrian provided an update on the structure and introduced the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and team of CNYC. He also provided an update on the current and future activities of the CNYC.

Grand Chief thanked the Youth Grand Chief for his presentation. She also acknowledged the observers from Cree entities and informed them that they are welcome to present to the Board/Council and give a three-week notice to Corporate Services.

2. Governance

Leadership Update – Deputy Grand Chief

Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee acknowledged the Directors of the Cree Nation Government, Bill Namagoose and Michael Petawabano and the Chairpersons of the Cree regional entities for their support during the first year of his tenure as Deputy Grand Chief.

Deputy Grand Chief mentioned that he and Grand Chief met and reviewed their campaign platforms which included preservation of Cree territory from excess development, and preservation of language and culture. He acknowledged the support of Irene Neeposh, representative for Waswanipi and the negotiators Richard Shecapio and Stella Masty.

He also mentioned the Cultural Baseline Study which will be presented following receipt of the report on the feasibility studies from the Grand Alliance.

Deputy Grand Chief also gave a brief summary on the mission and purpose of the Cree Nation Research Institute. He informed the members that consultation tours will take place in the communities of Eeyou Istchee with the participation of the Cree entities, and which will naturally touch base on Capacity Building.

Deputy Grand Chief concluded his update by informing the members that the issues he worked on in his first year as Deputy Grand Chief are in the 2021-2022 Annual Report.

Grand Chief thanked Deputy Grand Chief for his presentation and informed the members that a full report of activities for the 2021-2022 fiscal year will be presented at the Annual General Assembly.

She thanked the members for their support in creating Corporate Services to better serve the Board of Directors/Council members of the GCCEI/CNG. She also expressed her gratitude to Paul John Murdoch who played an important role in the creation of Corporate Services and act as Corporate Counsel therein. She also thanked the members for their support in engaging the negotiators, Richard Shecapio and Stella Masty who both bring expertise in their respective files.

She informed the members that a review of the Income Security Program is required and the creation of a Cree Justice System (Cree Principle of Law).

She also informed the members that they need to work on Governance and relations with other Aboriginal Nations in Quebec.

She also acknowledged Matthew Swallow and Bill Namagoose for the allocation of funds to Cree Language & Culture, CNYC, CWEIA, Nishiiyuu and Elders.

She thanked the Directors of the GCCEI/CNG for their reports and keeping them apprised of activities in their respective departments. She also thanked the Board/Council members for their support not only in creating of Committees to support specific files, such as the Moose Management file and the Policing Committee, but also general support to better serve the Cree Nation.

Grand Chief stated that being in leadership is challenging, and having an understanding family makes it easier to manage. She also thanked the Deputy Grand Chief for his support and responsibility in his role.

Leadership Update – Grand Chief

Grand Chief gave an update on the Papal visit in July 2022. She was invited by Regional Chief of the AFNQL to participate as a provincial delegate for Quebec. She provided a summary and her personal reflections of the visit to the members and expressed her support to residential school survivors. She acknowledged the Cree delegation Elder Clara Napash, Marie-Louise and George Pachanos, and Allison MacLeod. Grand Chief also acknowledged the other nations of Quebec for their participation.

She encouraged the members to think about this and to come up with a plan and a strategy to help local community members move forward with a healing process.

Grand Chief informed the members that Rodney Mark, Director of Social and Cultural Development will continue to work on the residential school file, and more particularly on the Fort George and La Tuque residential schools.

Moose Sports Hunt – Zone 17

Grand Chief gave a brief update on the Moose management plan in Zone 17. The Chiefs of the most impacted communities shared their concerns and comments, and the general consensus was to support local trappers in their respective communities and that moose hunting in zone 17 will be limited to JBNQA beneficiaries.

Deputy Grand Chief provided a summary of the activities of the GCCEI/CNG concerning the decline of the moose population in Zone 17. He informed that members are working on creating a moose management system in order to protect the moose population.

Grand Chief reiterated that moose sports hunting is prohibited to non JBNQA beneficiaries.

She also mentioned that she was disappointed how the MNA of the Provincial Government, Denis Lamothe announced the closure of negotiations between the Jamesiens hunters and the Cree Nation. She mentioned that she did not appreciate the statements shared by Mr. Lamothe, and how he disrespected the JBNQA and did not wait for the HFTCC to provide the appropriate outcome. She also believes that Mr. Lamothe owes an apology to the members of the Cree Nation of Waswanipi for blaming them for an inability to reach a consensus on the outcome of sharing for moose harvest in our region when it was the intention of the CNG to work with the Jamesiens to find a solution and respect the outcome of the tallyman's decisions in what to do for the status of Zone 17. She stated that Mr. Lamothe did not follow protocol and apologized to the Cree Nation of Waswanipi if they felt any negative impacts from those statements. Grand Chief stressed that she does not support the statements made by Mr. Lamothe.

She expressed her discontent for the lack of response from the Quebec Government regarding the statements made by Mr. Lamothe.

She informed the members that the Cree Nation will continue to work in unity with the Jamesiens, our neighbors who live in the territory, to seek solutions for moose sports hunting in Zone 17.

She thanked the Chiefs for accommodating them on their consultation tour and move forward in establishing a Cree moose management plan.

Report from Executive Director

Bill Namagoose, Executive Director presented his report and is attached to these minutes.

Chief Marcel Happyjack asked if the \$75 million for housing is additional to the \$200 million already allocated for the Cree Nation Housing Strategy.

Bill confirmed that the \$75 million is in addition to the \$200 million already committed to the Cree Nation Housing Strategy.

Chief Clarke Shecapio recommended Housing Maintenance Warehouses be included in the budget process.

Chief Michael Petawabano recommended the creation of Real Estate development in the Cree Nation.

Grand Chief stated that she will ask John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services for a plan or strategy to review cost of housing construction and creation of private businesses to form a Real Estate development approach in the Cree Nation to be presented at a future Board/Council meeting.

Chief Robbie Kawapit requested support for transportation of material for housing.

Grand Chief informed Chief Kawapit that his request will be reviewed at the next workshop session of the Regional Economic Planning and Housing Strategy; how to support the Whapmagoostui First Nation concerning the high cost of housing construction due to transportation costs.

The Board/Council issued a Directive to John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services October Board/Council to develop a plan or strategy to address the cost of housing and to facilitate the development of private housing (real estate) in Eeyou Istchee for presentation at the Board/Council meeting scheduled for October 26th and 27th, 2023. (**Directive 2022-01**)

The Directive should be executed paying particular attention to addressing the transportation costs for the community of Whapmagoostui.

A lunch break was called at 12:24 p.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

Quebec Relations

Richard Shecapio presented the status report on Cree Quebec relations and is attached to these minutes.

Richard mentioned that there are other Cree Quebec Relations files that are in progress such as the Regional Government file, CBHSSJB with MSSS, and CSB with MEES, and will be presented by the respective Chairpersons at a future Board/Council meeting.

Deputy Grand Chief stated that he and Richard agreed to review exploration activities in Eeyou Istchee that has an impact on the tallyman.

3. Finance and Administration

Matthew Swallow, Treasurer presented his memorandum regarding the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2022, which is attached to these minutes.

Following the Treasurer's presentations, the auditors presented the financial statements to the members.

- Cree Heritage Fund Foundation Inc. & General Partner of Eenou Eeyou Limited Partnership
- Eenou Eeyou Limited Partnership
- Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)
- Cree Nation Government

Irene Neeposh asked that if the surplus is going towards salaries. Bill Namagoose responded that it is O & M money that is being reallocated.

Grand Chief mentioned that there are learning opportunities that the Board/Council need, and that there would be a joint meeting between the DOs and Treasurers and Board/Council that would include a financial questioning session with the Treasurer and the auditors to help them be better prepared to have discussions when presented with questions from the members.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Frank Atsynia, the Board/Council adopted:

Resolution 2022-25: 2021-2022 Adoption of Financial Statements

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed the 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statements of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and further mandate the Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty and Deputy Grand Norman A. Wapachee 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.

Innu Visit

Grand Chief referred to the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed between the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee and the Innu Nation of Quebec. She informed the members that she met with the Innu Nation chiefs who extended an invitation to the Cree Chiefs to visit Innu territory, Shefferville.

Grand Chief also extended an invitation to the Innu and Naskapi Nation Chiefs to Eeyou Istchee in January 2023 to coincide with the unveiling of the caribou jacket that is an exhibit at the Anischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute in Ouje-Bougoumou.

4. Report of Resolutions from 2020/2021 Annual General Assembly

Paul John Murdoch reviewed report on the resolutions that were adopted at the 2020/2021 Annual General Assembly and is attached to these minutes. The Grand Chief informed the members that resolutions will be tabled at the Annual General Assembly to be held August 30, 31 and September 1, 2022 in Waskaganish.

She also mentioned that a special recognition would be held in honour of Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, for his retirement as part of the Assembly.

Chief Daisy House acknowledged Paul John's presentation and stated that it is useful information especially concerning the numerous agreements that were signed, to be informed of the status and to know how to move forward.

Chief House mentioned that the Deputy Youth Grand Chief does not receive a salary. She also mentioned that the EEPF Chairperson is remunerated only when attending meetings. There are probably others, but these are two examples that should be reviewed.

Grand Chief informed the members that the Executive Committee had adopted a resolution approving the position of Deputy Youth Grand Chief.

She also informed the members that for transparency and accountability, they are working on a process on how to report on discussions and decisions made at CNG meetings so that the members of Eeyou Istchee are informed and how they can access this information. The members held an in-camera session, and there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

The members reconvened on August 4th, 2022 at 9:30 am.

5. Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay and presented the items of Treaty and Legislative Framework of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay Memorandum of Understanding and Revision Process, MOU Update, the Awash-Ushiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Taskforce and Youth Traditional Healing Gathering in Eastmain.

Daniel St-Amour joined the meeting and presented Funding Agreement with the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay for the Office of the Commissioner of the Cree Language.

On a motion duly made by Chief Christina Gilpin and seconded by Raymond Jolly the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-26: Funding Agreement with the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay for the Office of the Commissioner of the Cree Language

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government enacted An Act respecting the Cree language of Eeyou Istchee (Bill 1) in September 2019, which aims to support and promote the use of the Cree language;

WHEREAS Bill 1 provides for the establishment of the “Office of the Commissioner of the Cree Language” consisting of a Cree Language Commissioner and employee (Office);

WHEREAS the CBHSSJB wishes to support create efforts to reclaim, revitalize, maintain and strengthen the Cree language, including in view of enhancing the use of Cree in its operations and its delivery of services, and ensuring cultural safety for its Cree clients;

WHEREAS the CBHSSJB wishes to contribute to funding these Cree efforts by supporting the Office for an initial period of up to five years, in conjunction with other Cree entities such as the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government, the BOC and Cree School Board; and

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby authorizes the signing of the “Agreement for the Funding of the Office of the Commissioner of the Cree Language” with the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay.

Mr. Wapachee and Mr. St-Amour provided a presentation on the CBHSSJB Awash-Ushiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Commissioners.

On a motion duly made by Robbie Tapiatic and seconded by John S Matoush the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-27: CBHSSJB Awash-Ushiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Commissioners

WHEREAS the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (“CBHSSJB”) established the CBHSSJB Awash-Ushiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Task Force (“Task Force”) in April 2021 and its mandate is to assist the CBHSSJB to explore options to better adapt youth protection, and youth criminal justice matters under the authority of the CBHSSJB, to the specific needs and realities of the Cree context;

WHEREAS, in view of the interests and responsibilities of different Cree entities in relation to these youth protection and youth criminal justice matters, the Task Force is instructed by its Terms of Reference to seek their collaboration, including the Cree Nation Government: (i) Department of Justice and Correctional Services; (ii) Department of Child and Family Services; (iii) Eeyou Eenou Police Force; and (iv) Department of Social and Cultural Development;

WHEREAS the mandate of the Task Force is also relevant to discussions between the CBHSSJB, the Cree Nation Government and the Government of Québec relating to the legislative framework applicable to the CBHSSJB, which discussions are addressed by a proposed Memorandum of Understanding that was approved in July 2021 by the CBHSSJB Board of Directors and in August 2021 by the Board-Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (“BoardCouncil”);

WHEREAS part of the mandate of the Task Force includes considering and advising the CBHSSJB on points of significant concern in Eeyou Istchee regarding youth protection and youth criminal justice matters under the authority of the CBHSSJB, as well as on proposed guiding principles to address these concerns;

WHEREAS the CBHSSJB has recently approved a process and budget for the identification and engagement of two external, Creespeaking support persons with relevant knowledge and experience to assist the Task Force with these parts of its mandate by carrying out consultation and engagement sessions on these topics in each of the Cree communities served by the CBHSSJB and reporting to the Task Force with respect thereto, referring to these resource persons as “AwashUschiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Commissioners”;

WHEREAS the Board-Council wishes to express its support for this consultation and engagement process by the AwashUschiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Commissioners for the purposes set out above;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby expresses its support for this consultation and engagement process in the Cree communities served by the CBHSSJB, in order to assist the Task Force in carrying out its mandate as set out above; and

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby encourages and recommends Cree First Nations to collaborate with the CBHSSJB and with the AwashUschiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Commissioners with respect to this consultation and engagement process in their respective communities for this purpose.

6. Director Eenou Eeyou Police Force

The Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government received a presentation from the Director of Human Resources on the selection process that had been followed for the identification of a new Eenou Eeyou Police Director.

On a motion duly made by Chief Marcel Happyjack and seconded by Frank Atsynia the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-28: Police Director of Eenou Eeyou Police Force

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has undertaken a recruitment campaign and an evaluation process for the identification of a Director of the Eenou Eeyou Police Force;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Cree Nation Government hereby confirmed the nomination of Shannon Nakogee as Director of the Eenou Eeyou Police Force subject to the applicable working conditions and salary scale for a term of at least five (5) years.

7. Executive Director

The Board/Council discussed the results recruitment process and the results of the meeting the former evening and on a motion duly made by Chief Robbie Kawapit and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-29: Executive Director/Director General of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government

WHEREAS Bill Namagoose, Executive Director has announced his retirement to take effect January 9th, 2023, and the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has undertaken measures to identify candidates;

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 29. of the Act respecting the Cree Nation Government, C. G-1.031 the Board/Council that has the authority for the nomination and designation of the Executive Director/Director General of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates and designates Davey Bobbish as Executive Director/Director General of Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government effective January 9th, 2023 and further authorize their earliest engagement as Prospective Executive Director/Director General to work under the supervision of the current Executive Director/Director General subject to the applicable working conditions, salary scale with a probationary period of twelve (12) months beginning January 9th, 2023.

8. Calendar of Regular Meetings

The members reviewed the proposed 2022-2023 and, on a motion, duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio and seconded by Gaston Cooper the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-30: Adoption Of 2022-23 Calendar of Meetings for the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed the proposed 2022-2023 Calendar of regular meetings for the Executive Committee, the Board/Council and Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the 2022-2023 Calendar of regular meetings for the Executive Committee, the Board/Council and Annual General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government.

9. Housing Subsidy Rates

The Board/Council members reviewed the recommendations from the Executive Committee in regard to the Local Government Program 1.3a – Revision of Community Grouping in Subsidy Table and on a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by Chief Michael Petawabano the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-31: Local Government Program 1.3a – Revision of Community Grouping in Subsidy Table

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed proposed changes to the Local Government Program 1.3a;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the following community groupings in the Local Government Program 1.3A – Community Private Housing Initiative, as present the 23rd day of June, 2022 to the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government:

- 1) Chisasibi, Nemaska, Eastmain, Waskaganish, Wemindji;
- 2) Mistissini, Ouje-Bougoumou, Waswanipi;
- 3) Whapmagoostui

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government further authorizes the retro-active application the effect of amending the community groupings to the beginning of the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

10. Eeou Eeyou Police Commission

The members consider a request from the Cree Nation of Chisasibi in the nomination of a representative to the Eeou Eeyou Police Commission and on a motion duly made by Chief Michael Petawabano and seconded by Chief Marcel Happyjack the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-32: Nomination To Eeyou Eeou Police Commission - Samuel House

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed a recommendation from the local council of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi concerning representation from Chisasibi on the Eeyou Eeou Police Commission;

WHEREAS the proposed candidate recommended by the Cree Nation of Chisasibi has completed the necessary background checks for eligibility to the Eeyou Eeou Police Commission.

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates Samuel House to the Eeyou Eenou Police Commission effective August 10th, 2022.

11. Eeyou Istchee Sports and Recreation Association

Raymond Shanoush and John Gosset joined the meeting and review a presentation entitled, “Eeyou Istchee Sports and Recreation Association; Presentation to the Cree Nation Government 2022”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

The Board/Council issued a Directive to Rodney Mark, Director of Social and Cultural Development to work with the Eeyou Istchee Sports and Recreation Association and explore the options for the sources of funding for a possible Department to address the sports and recreation initiatives in Eeyou Istchee (**Directive 2022-02**).

12. Cultural and Social Development Plan

Deputy Grand Chief Norman A. Wapachee tabled and reviewed a presentation entitled, “Cultural Baseline Study proposed framework Phase 1”, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Raymond Jolly inquired if there was a strategy for targeting specific age groups such as the youth. The Deputy Grand Chief Norman A. Wapachee explained that the initiative would be driven with an Advisory Committee which it was hoped would be composed of representatives from groups such as the Youth.

Chief Michael Petawabano stated that it was important to ensure community representation as well as often specific groups such as youth and elders are represented at the local level.

The Board/Council issued a Directive to Matthew Swallow, Treasurer to identify sources of funding for Phase 1 of the Cultural Baseline Study presented by the Deputy Grand Chief on August 4th, 2022 (**Directive 2022-03**).

13. Audio Visual Team for the Cree Nation Government

Mike Reid joined the meeting and explained the beginning of the Cree Nation Government Stream Team and the challenges in recruiting young Cree community members to take over the exercise in the future. Mike Reid explained that he would be retiring and was asking for the assistance of administration and leadership in identifying candidates that could work with Nick Diamond to manage the service into the future. The leadership thanked Mr. Reid for his service and initiative.

The Board/Council issued a Directive to the Management Committee to address how the training proposal of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Audio/Visual team as presented August 4th, 2022 could be addressed (**Directive 2022-04**).

14. Grieve Counselling

Grand Chief Mandy Gull Masty invited Sheila Jolly to address the Board/Council and share her expertise in grieve counseling and share the legacy of Joseph Jolly with the Board/Council members.

15. Other Matters

Chief Marcel Happyjack addressed the Council explaining that it was his last meeting and that he wanted to thank all the leadership that he has had the opportunity to work with.

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


Edna Neeposh, Corporate Secretary

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

1. Corporate Matters

3

Resolution 2022-33: Adoption of Agenda of a Joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 in Quebec City.

Resolution 2022-34: Board/Council Membership – Chief Irene Neeposh and Brant Blackned

Resolution 2022-35: Nomination of Director of Four Pillar Society - Day Scholar Settlement

Resolution 2022-36: COMEX/COMEV Representation

Resolution 2022-37: Cree Nation Trust – Board of Trustees Nominations

Resolution 2022-38: Eeyou Communications Network – Representative for GCCEI

Resolution 2022-39: Cree Naskapi Pension Plan Committee - Nomination

Resolution 2022-40: Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance - Nominations

2. Governance

9

3. Finance and Administration

9

4. Governance (Cont'd)

11

Directive to the Executive Director, Director of Human Resources and the Police Commission of the Eenu Eeyou Police Force to include the assessment of decentralization of the Eenu Eeyou Police Force in the carrying out of the five (5) year audit that should be carried out in regard to the current year of Eenu Eeyou Police Force (Directive 2022-05)

Directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to inform the Cree Trappers' Association of a request to undertake an assessment of the Trapline System to ensure integration of Cree values and traditions and offer the collaboration of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in the carrying out of the exercise (Directive 2022-06).

Directive to the Department of Social and Cultural Development to support the Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association in the pursuit of their development plan (Directive 2022-07).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-11 Board/Council issued a directive to the Department of Department of Capital Works and Services and Department of Commerce and Industry to develop a proposal for the inclusion of the Cree "Entrepreneurs" in the eligibility for accessing the Cree Nation Private Housing Fund (Directive 2022-08).

Directive to the Executive Director and Department of Social and Cultural Development to work with the Eeyou Istchee Sports and Recreation Association in examining the feasibility of creating a Sports and Recreation Department (Directive 2022-09).

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to draft correspondence to the Cree Trappers' Association and the Cree Nation Youth Council offering the collaboration of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in the pursuit of mechanisms, policies or programs and at increasing the possibility for Youth to access Eeyou Istchee in the pursuit of traditional activities (Directive 2022-10).

Directive to the Department of Forestry for the implementation of the wildlife directives under the Forestry Regime in Eeyou Istchee (Directive 2022-11).

Directive to Richard Shecapio with the Cree Quebec Standing Liaison Committee to ensure the establishment of a negotiating table for the modernization of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Economic Security Program (Directive 2022-12).

Directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to send correspondence to the Cree Trappers Association offering the collaboration of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in the request from the AGA to undertake an Acknowledgement and reaffirmation of the Cree harvesting practices (Directive 2022-13).

Directive to Corporate Services under the Supervision of the Office of the Grand Chief and the Executive Director for the development of policies or procedures for managing potential conflicts between the activities and roles of governance and the private business opportunities (Directive 2022-14).

Directive to the Department of Capital Works and Services to ensure that Special Needs Concerns are properly integrated into housing programs administered through the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (Directive 2022-15).

Directive to the Director of Quebec Relations and Canada Relations to ensure that the community of Whapmagoostui has access to the same fuel subsidies as are available to municipality of Kuujjuarapik (Directive 2022-16).

Directive to Capital Works and Services to ensure the availability and the awareness of the importance of spaces in communities designated exclusively for Youth activities (Directive 2022-17).

Directive to the Management Committee, Finance Department and the Social and Cultural Development Department to undertake an exercise of examining the feasibility of permanent funding for a salaried position for the Deputy Youth Grand Chief (Directive 2022-18).

Directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to initiate discussions with the Cree Nation Youth Council to determine the most appropriate policy or procedure for ensuring the participation of youth in the approval or renewal of Agreements signed on behalf of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (Directive 2022-19).

Directive to the Management Committee, Finance Department and the Department of Social and Cultural Development in the examination of the feasibility of re-establishing the Youth Department of the Cree Nation Government (Directive 2022-20).

Resolution 2022-41: CMHC Contribution Agreement Re \$75 Million to Support the construction of 750 Social Housing Units In 2022-2028

1. Corporate Matters

i. Opening Prayer

The Opening prayer was recited by Chief Daisy House.

ii. Notice and Quorum

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the Law and regulations and there being a quorum, the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 9:50 a.m.

Present: Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty
Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee
Chief Irene Neeposh
Chief Clarke Shecapio
Chief Michael Petawabano
Chief Daisy House
Chief Kenneth Cheezo
Chief Christina Gilpin
Chief Curtis Bosum
Chief Clarence Jolly
Chief Robbie Kawapit

Raymond Jolly
John S. Matoush
Robbie Tapiatic
Daniel Mark-Stewart
Frank Atsynia
Gaston Cooper
John Henry Wapachee
John Mamianskum

Also present: Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt
Jean-Denis Cananasso
Chief Allan Jolly (Virtual)
Michael Jolly (Virtual)

iii. Chairperson and Secretary

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acted as Chairperson and Edna Neeposh acted as Secretary.

Grand Chief welcomed the Directors of Operations/Directors General and Treasurers of the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee.

iv. Agenda

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty reviewed the agenda, and the following items were added:

- Community Access Roads (Chief Clarke Shecapio)

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Gaston Cooper, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-33: Adoption of Agenda of a Joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 in Quebec City.

v. New Members: Chief of Waswanipi

The Cree Nation of Waswanipi held elections for Chief and elected Irene Neeposh for a four-year term.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by John S. Matoush, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-34: Board/Council Membership – Chief Irene Neeposh and Brant Blackned

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Waswanipi has held elections for Chief and Irene Neeposh has been duly elected according to local laws and regulations for a term of four (4) years;

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 23 of the Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government the term of the Chief of a Community shall coincide with the term on the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Wemindji has held elections for Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and Brant Blackned has been duly elected according to local laws and regulations;

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 23 of the Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government the term of a Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government is established at three (3) years;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby formally recognize the membership of Chief Irene Neeposh as member of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term of four (4) years coinciding with the mandate of Chief of the Cree Nation of Waswanipi;

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby formally recognize the membership of Brant Blackned as member of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term of three (3) years.

Chief Irene Neeposh expressed her gratitude to the community of Waswanipi for their vote of confidence and the opportunity to serve them as their Chief. She also expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to be a member of the Board/Council, especially to be part of a nation-building team that serves the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee.

vi. **Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs and Inuit Relations**

Grand Chief welcomed Minister Ian Lafrenière and his staff to the meeting. She briefed him on the ongoing projects of the Cree Nation, such as the Grande Alliance, Culture and Language, and the Income Security Program. She mentioned that she would like to hear about the working relations between the Government of Quebec and the Indigenous Nations in Quebec, and support for the residential school file.

Minister Lafrenière addressed the members of the meeting. He updated the members on the intentions of his ministry in his new mandate and expressed that a continued collaboration and a Nation-to-Nation approach with the Cree Nation will remain a priority for the Government of Québec. He also expressed his continued support to the residential school file.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

The members brought the following issues, but not limited to, to the Minister's attention: forestry, mining, parks, taxation in Quebec, health care, sports and recreation, establishment of a food network, and protection of language and culture.

Minister Lafrenière acknowledged the comments from the members and assured them that he will raise their concerns to the attention of the ministry.

vii. **Minutes**

The review and adoption of the minutes of the meeting of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 was deferred to the next Board/Council meeting.

viii. **Social Issues** This item was deferred until later in the meeting.

ix. **Appointments**

Day Scholar Settlement Committee

On a motion duly made by Chief Christina Gilpin and seconded by Chief Robbie Kawapit, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-35: Nomination of Director of Four Pillar Society - Day Scholar Settlement

WHEREAS shíshálh Nation and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc commenced a class action in Federal Court on August 15, 2012 known as Gottfriedson et al v. His Majesty the King in Right of Canada and bearing Court File No. T-1542-12 (Reparations Action) for damages for the impact of residential schools on Bands as collectives as well as damages for Day Scholar Survivors and their Descendants;

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) ("GCCEI"), shortly after certification of the class proceeding, joined with the two Nations behind this class action to stand with Chief Shane Gottfriedson and Chief Garry Feschuk and their respective councils;

WHEREAS the claims of the Day Scholars Survivor Class and Descendant Class was settled in 2021;

WHEREAS the Reparations Action is scheduled to proceed to a common issues trial on the issue of liability commencing on September 20, 2022, in Federal Court;

WHEREAS there are now a fixed number of class members of 325 First Nations who have opted into the Class Action (including the two Representative Plaintiff First Nations);

WHEREAS the Government of Canada offered to settle the case by way of oral offer on Sunday, September 11, 2022, and confirmed with a written offer on September 14, 2022;

WHEREAS if there is a settlement, it is foreseen that settlement funds will be handled by a not-for-profit entity which will be responsible for the investment and disbursement of the funds to the band class members;

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

WHEREAS it is foreseen that the not-for-profit entity will be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of one Director named by each of the GCCEI, shíshálh Nation and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc plus one Director representing each of four regions in Canada – that is, British Columbia, the Prairie provinces, the Eastern provinces (Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes) and the North, as well as one Director named by Canada for a total of eight Directors;

WHEREAS the GCCEI will be entitled to name one of the Directors of the said not-for-profit Entity;

WHEREAS it is foreseen that the three Directors named by the GCCEI, shíshálh Nation and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc will form an interim Board for a period limited to one year, or until the remaining Directors are appointed so that the Board is fully constituted, whichever comes first;

WHEREAS the interim Board of Directors will have a mandate limited to the receipt and investment of settlement funds but will not disburse such funds unless authorized by Court order;

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has recominationed the appointment of Roderick Pachano;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby appointment of Roderick Pachano to be its Director on the Board of the not-for-profit entity for a period of three years or until replaced and that it is understood that for the first year, or until the remaining Directors are appointed and the Board is fully constituted, whichever comes first, Roderick Pachano will act as the interim Director representing the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government.

COMEX/COMEV Representation

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-36: COMEX/COMEV Representation

WHEREAS since the retirement of Brian Craik there has been a vacancy on the Examination Committee, the Evaluation Committee under Section 22 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement and the resulting Joint Review Committees with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency;

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has made a recommendation for filling the vacancy;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby names Lucas Del Vecchio to the Examination Committee and the Evaluation Committee under Section 22 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement and the resulting Joint Review Committees with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Cree Nation Trust

On a motion duly made by John S. Matoush and seconded by Chief Michael Petawabano, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-37: Cree Nation Trust – Board of Trustees Nominations

WHEREAS there is currently a vacancy on the Board of Trustees of the Cree Nation Trust have come to term;

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government pursuant to the Trust Deed is entitled to make appointments to the Board of Trustees of the Cree Nation Trust in the name of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee);

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates Davey Bobbish to the Board of Trustees for a period of six (6) years pursuant to article 6.1 and 6.4 of the Cree Nation Trust Deed with Ted Moses, Albert Rondeau, Katherine Moses, Matthew Swallow, Bill Namagoose and George Wapachee whose terms are confirmed as staggered pursuant to article 6.4 of the Cree Nation Trust Deed.

Eeyou Communications Network – Representative for GCCEI

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Gaston Cooper, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-38: Eeyou Communications Network – Representative for GCCEI

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby confirms the nomination of Melissa Saganash as a replacement for Michael Petawabano on the Board of Directors of the Eeyou Communications Network and further confirms the nomination of Donald Nichols to the Board of Directors of the Eeyou Communications Network.

Pension Plan Committee – Representative for CNG

Bill Namagoose was recommended to sit on the Pension Plan Committee who agreed to the nomination.

Chief Christina Gilpin asked if an alternate can be named on the Pension Plan Committee when Bill Namagoose retires. Bill clarified that the member is the Treasurer of the employer.

Daniel Mark-Stewart asked if nominations to committees and boards could be discussed at the Board/Council level rather than recommendations from the Executive/Executive Committee.

Grand Chief stated that in the past, the recommendations and appointments were adopted only at the Executive Committee level. Now, the recommendations from the Executive Committee that are presented to the Board/Council are open for discussion, approval, and can also be overturned.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

The Board/Council then had a general discussion on how appointments and nominations to boards, committees and other bodies can be tracked.

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio seconded by Gaston Cooper, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-39: Cree Naskapi Pension Plan Committee - Nomination

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has received a recommendation from the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government for a nomination to the Pension Plan Committee of the Cree Naskapi Pension Plan;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates Bill Namagoose to represent the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government on the Cree Naskapi Pension Plan Committee.

Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance

Chief Michael Petawabano mentioned that we should understand that the purpose of SCNATEA is supporting businesspeople in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region. He also suggested changing the terms and reference of their mandate should be considered, and also ensure that it is serving the purpose that CNG is contributing to.

Grand Chief clarified the membership on the SCNATEA; Ted Moses being the President, three Cree members, and three vacant seats that need to be filled. She mentioned that about 3 years ago, there was a review of the mandate to enhance relations with Cree Nation. She, however, is open to inviting Ted Moses and Chantal Hamelin, Director General to a future Board/Council meeting to review the mandate and purpose of SCNATEA.

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Chief Irene Neeposh, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-40: Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance - Nominations

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has concerned candidates for filling the vacancies to the Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates Sheena Costain, Stephane Petawabano and Raymond Jolly to the Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Cree Development Corporation

Davey Bobbish, former President of the Cree Development Corporation (CDC) and Prospective Executive Director of the GCCEI/CNG provided a status update on the Cree Development Corporation. He submitted his resignation from CDC in August and started his new position of Executive Director with GCCEI/CNG. Kathy Moses Blackned was appointed as Interim President of CDC until the position is filled in December 2022.

A lunch break was called at 12:00 p.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

2. Governance

Executive Director Report

Bill Namagoose presented the document entitled, “Report of the Executive Director” of which a copy is attached hereto.

Bill Namagoose mentioned that Davey Bobbish is currently in transition to replace him as Executive Director.

Davey Bobbish updated the members on the status of his position as the prospective Executive Director. He mentioned that he is also acting as the Interim Deputy Executive Director, replacing Michael Petawabano who is now Chief of Mistissini. He expressed his gratitude for the support received from Chiefs, DOs and Treasurers, Grand Chief, Deputy Grand Chief and Directors. He stated he is looking forward to working with everyone involved in serving the Cree Nation.

Chief Daisy House asked if there is a report of all the projects completed in the communities, and the 10-year report for the EMR. She also asked if an orientation can be provided to new Chiefs and Board/Council representatives regarding the JBNQA. She mentioned that it is an extensive agreement, and impossible to read everything.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty stated that Corporate Services will provide an orientation on files and assessment of the agreements to the Board/Council members at the next meeting. She mentioned that the financial and distribution formula, and process of the agreements will be reviewed. She also mentioned that Corporate Services will also provide orientation and training on the obligations and duties of the members of the Board/Council.

Grand Chief mentioned that the Environment department was given a directive to host a session with the coastal communities who are impacted by the EMR.

Bill Namagoose explained the process that was used during the negotiations of the new relationship Agreement. A costing table was used and was based on needs, and not per capita.

3. Finance and Administration

Financial Planning Cycle

Bill Namagoose presented the document entitled, “Implementation of the NRA and PdB including the Cree Nation Project Planning Approval Process” of which a copy is attached.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty encouraged the Chiefs to collaborate with their respective Directors of Operations and Treasurers to present their communities' needs and priorities to be presented at the next Board/Council meeting. She also mentioned that the Financial Administration Bylaw has been in effect for approximately seven years and needs to be evaluated.

At this time, the DOs and Treasurers introduced themselves. Grand Chief then opened the floor for questions concerning Bill's presentation.

Chief Clarke Shecapio asked how the Paix des braves money is being spent. He mentioned that a five-year flexibility funding plan for all communities' priorities should be considered.

Chief Curtis Bosum recommended that pavement in the communities should be a priority, due to members' medical conditions.

Gaston Cooper raised concern that some entities are being overlooked on the list of priorities for NRA funding although they are part of the JBNQA, and other entities that are not on the JBNQA, such as CWEIA and Niishiyuu. He asked if there is a process for these entities to request funding for capital projects and additional services.

Bill Namagoose explained that five-year plans can be made but five-year financial commitments cannot be made on the Paix des Braves and New Relationship Agreement. He further explained that the financial contribution for the entities is from the Federal Government and can be adjusted according to their needs.

John Henry Wapachee recommended a review of Residential lots, Capital Planning Procedures, Procurement Process.

Chief Michael Petawabano recommended building shelters for men should be considered, warehouses for construction purposes, cottage lots outside of community in Category 1 Lands, review of Procurement bylaw. Planning Process for lots, especially with Cree Health Board and Cree School who are taking up a lot of lot space.

Bill Namagoose responded that men's shelter (almshouses in JBNQA) can be discussed, and warehouse can be financed.

Grand Chief asked Chief Michael Petawabano to submit a letter concerning cottage lots.

Chief Kenneth Cheezo expressed the need to have a mini mall built that will increase the economic development aspect in the community. He also mentioned that training centers should be built in the communities.

Grand Chief acknowledged that all communities need more commercial space and can be discussed to be included in the funding in collaboration with the Board of Compensation.

Chief Christina Gilpin mentioned housing for non-resident employees, and more particularly the \$117,000 Capital A-Base for each housing unit. CNG absorbs the entire cost of the housing unit, and she asked if that could also be considered for the communities for their transit workers.

She also expressed her support for a warehouse in Wemindji for Whapmagoostui to store their materials/supplies while waiting for the barge to go to Whapmagoostui.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Daniel Mark-Stewart referred to a resolution that was passed at the AGA in Waskaganish regarding housing for special needs. He recommended having this considered as a Priority 1 issue.

Grand Chief informed Daniel that this will be discussed at a meeting with the CBHSSJB and CSB. She also mentioned that a directive was issued to John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services, to ensure that we are in conformity with the needs of the communities.

Grand Chief thanked everyone for their questions, concerns and recommendations and mentioned that it is good information for the DOs and Treasurers who are present at this meeting. She also stated that the issues raised could be used for the next financial planning cycle.

Social Issues in the Communities

Grand Chief expressed her concern that the youth are encountering social issues related to alcohol and drugs, deaths, and suicides deriving from anxiety, mental health, bullying, sexual abuse, murder, poverty, and homelessness. She also mentioned that elder abuse is rising. Grand Chief recommended that the CNG in collaboration with local leadership, CBHSSJB and CSB need to acknowledge these matters and plan a process to battle the impact of social issues.
CBHSSJB

Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson and Daniel St. Amour, Executive Director presented the document entitled, "CBHSSJB Update to CNG Joint Session," of which a copy is attached hereto.

Chief Clarke Shecapio expressed his concern about the lack of medical staff in his community. He recommended that CNG support the CBHSSJB in negotiations with MSSS to establish permanent medical staff in the communities.

Daniel St. Amour informed the members that there is a plan in place through the Armed Forces, where Doctor Assistants can be recruited to the communities that was based on approval from MSSS. There will also be more employment opportunities for auxiliary nurses and other medical staff.

Chief Clarke Shecapio recited the closing prayer.

The meeting recessed at 5:27 p.m. and reconvened on October 27, 2022 at 9:40 a.m.

Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt recited the opening prayer.

4. Governance (Cont'd)

Cree-Quebec Relations Report

In the absence of Richard Shecapio, Negotiator, Paul John Murdoch presented the Cree-Quebec Relations Report.

Annual General Assembly Resolutions

Paul John Murdoch reviewed the resolutions that were adopted at the 2021-2022 Annual General Assembly held in Waskaganish on August 30th, 31st and September 1st, 2022, of which a copy is attached hereto.

The Board/Council reviewed the recommendations on Directives and issued the following Directives:

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-08 Board/Council issued a directive to the Executive Director, Director of Human Resources and the Police Commission of the Eenu Eeyou Police Force to include the assessment of decentralization of the Eenu Eeyou Police Force in the carrying out of the five (5) year audit that should be carried out in regard to the current year of Eenu Eeyou Police Force (**Directive 2022-05**)

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-09 Board/Council issued a directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to inform the Cree Trappers' Association of a request to undertake an assessment of the Trapline System to ensure integration of Cree values and traditions and offer the collaboration of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in the carrying out of the exercise (**Directive 2022-06**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-10 Board/Council issued a directive to the Department of Social and Cultural Development to support the Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association in the pursuit of their development plan (**Directive 2022-07**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-11 Board/Council issued a directive to the Department of Department of Capital Works and Services and Department of Commerce and Industry to develop a proposal for the inclusion of the Cree "Entrepreneurs" in the eligibility for accessing the Cree Nation Private Housing Fund (**Directive 2022-08**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-12 Board/Council issued a directive to the Executive Director and Department of Social and Cultural Development to work with the Eeyou Istchee Sports and Recreation Association in examining the feasibility of creating a Sports and Recreation Department (**Directive 2022-09**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-13 Board/Council issued a directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to draft correspondence to the Cree Trappers' Association and the Cree Nation Youth Council offering the collaboration of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in the pursuit of mechanisms, policies or programs and at increasing the possibility for Youth to access Eeyou Istchee in the pursuit of traditional activities (**Directive 2022-10**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-14 Board/Council issued a directive to the Department of Forestry for the implementation of the wildlife directives under the Forestry Regime in Eeyou Istchee (**Directive 2022-11**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-15 Board/Council issued a directive to Richard Shecapio with the Cree Quebec Standing Liaison Committee to ensure the establishment of a negotiating table for the modernization of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Economic Security Program (**Directive 2022-12**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-16 Board/Council issued a directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to send correspondence to the Cree Trappers Association offering the collaboration of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in the request from the AGA to undertake an Acknowledgement and reaffirmation of the Cree harvesting practices (**Directive 2022-13**).

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-17 Board/Council issued a directive to Corporate Services under the Supervision of the Office of the Grand Chief and the Executive Director for the development of policies or procedures for managing potential conflicts between the activities and roles of governance and the private business opportunities (**Directive 2022-14**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-18 Board/Council issued a directive to the Department of Capital Works and Services to ensure that Special Needs Concerns are properly integrated into housing programs administered through the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (**Directive 2022-15**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-19 Board/Council issued a directive to the Director of Quebec Relations and Canada Relations to ensure that the community of Whapmagoostui has access to the same fuel subsidies as are available to municipality of Kuujuarapik (**Directive 2022-16**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-20 Board/Council issued a directive to Capital Works and Services to ensure the availability and the awareness of the importance of spaces in communities designated exclusively for Youth activities (**Directive 2022-17**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-21 Board/Council issued a directive to the Management Committee, Finance Department and the Social and Cultural Development Department to undertake an exercise of examining the feasibility of permanent funding for a salaried position for the Deputy Youth Grand Chief (**Directive 2022-18**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-22 Board/Council issued a directive to the Office of the Grand Chief to initiate discussions with the Cree Nation Youth Council to determine the most appropriate policy or procedure for ensuring the participation of youth in the approval or renewal of Agreements signed on behalf of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government (**Directive 2022-19**).

Upon review of AGA Resolution 2022-23 Board/Council issued a directive to the Management Committee, Finance Department and the Department of Social and Cultural Development in the examination of the feasibility of re-establishing the Youth Department of the Cree Nation Government (**Directive 2022-20**).

Grand Chief informed the members that the directives will be posted on the CNG platform, and a status report will be tabled on a quarterly basis.

CMHC Contribution Agreement

Bill Namagoose provided a summary of the CMHC Contribution Agreement regarding the \$75 million to support the construction of 750 social housing units in 2022-2028.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-41: CMHC Contribution Agreement Re \$75 Million to Support the construction of 750 Social Housing Units In 2022-2028

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully negotiated \$200 million in funding from the Government of Canada to support the construction of 750 new social housing units in the Cree communities for low-income families;

WHEREAS each Cree First Nation is required to build an allocated number of new housing units in accordance with the Community Social Housing Program approved by the Cree Nation Government in March 2022;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has continued to explore different options to secure additional funding, including for the remaining balance required to build and maintain these new social housing units, and to support other elements of the comprehensive Cree housing proposal previously submitted to Canada;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully negotiated a funding contribution of \$75 million from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) under the National Co-Investment Fund to support the construction of the said 750 social housing units, representing an additional contribution of up to \$100,000 per housing unit;

WHEREAS on July 13, 2022, the Cree Nation Government and CMHC executed a Letter of Intent, which sets out some of the key terms and conditions of CMHC's funding contribution;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government and CMHC are now required to execute a Contribution Agreement setting out in details the terms and conditions of CMHC's funding contribution, including obligations of the Cree Nation Government and the Cree First Nations;

WHEREAS the Executive Committee has reviewed the CMHC Contribution Agreement, appended hereto and recommended it for approval;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby approves the CMHC Contribution Agreement, substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby authorizes and instructs the Executive Director, the Treasurer and/or the Director of Capital Works and Services to:

- (a) sign the CMHC Contribution Agreement for and on behalf of the Cree Nation Government;
- (b) request advances in accordance with the CMHC Contribution Agreement and transfer such advances to each Cree First Nation for the construction of their respective housing units in accordance with the Community Social Housing Program and the terms and conditions of an administrative agreement to be executed between the Cree Nation Government and each Cree First Nation; such administrative agreement to reflect, among others, the terms and conditions of the CMHC Contribution Agreement so as to enable the Cree Nation Government to meet its obligations under the CMHC Contribution Agreement; and

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

- (c) pursue discussions with the Government of Canada and CMHC's senior management to seek amendment of the CMHC Contribution Agreement so as to ensure consistency with the special Cree-Canada relationship and the status and capacity of the Cree Nation Government; and
- (d) do all things useful or necessary to carry out the foregoing resolution;

Social and Cultural Development

Miyupimaatsiun Committees

Rodney Mark, Director of Social and Cultural Development presented the document entitled, "Presentation for Miyupimaatsiun Committee Gathering" of which a copy is attached hereto.

Commerce and Industry

Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement

Anthony MacLeod, Director of Commerce and Industry presented the document entitled, "Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement Status Report" of which a copy is attached hereto.

Moose Guidelines

Isaac Voyageur, Director of Environment and Remedial Works Department and Nadia Saganash presented the document entitled, "Proposed Cree Guidelines for Conservation of Moose" of which a copy is attached hereto.

Isaac Voyageur confirmed that all communities are required to report the number of moose harvested on their traplines. He also confirmed that the statistics will be made available when the report for the number of moose harvested is completed.

Chief Clarke Shecapio asked if the Government of Quebec is doing their part in preserving the moose population. Nadia confirmed that they are still waiting for Quebec's support and commitment.

Grand Chief informed the members that the Wildlife component under the Environment was changed, and a new Minister was appointed to oversee the file. She further informed the members that she will ask Richard Shecapio, Negotiator, to provide a summary report on the discussions as part of the Cree-Quebec Relations table.

Daniel Mark-Stewart recommended to teach the youth to harvest other wildlife to maintain the traditional way of life during the efforts to preserve the moose population.

Grand Chief informed the members that an invitation will be extended to McGill and MFFP to make a presentation on moose surveying to the Board/Council.

A Lunch break was called from 12:20 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Environment

Abandoned Mine Sites Clean-Up Report

Isaac Voyageur, Director of Environment and Remedial Works Department and Adario Masty, Coordinator of AMSC presented the document entitled, "Abandoned Mining Exploration Sites in the Eeyou Istchee Clean-Up Report" of which a copy is attached hereto.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Robbie Tapiatic asked if AMSC is working with Hydro Quebec with the clean-up of the abandoned mine sites. He also mentioned waste flowing in James Bay due to erosion caused by the diversion of rivers and asked if there are resources to help with the clean-up. Isaac confirmed that Kristine Frank, Environmental Advisor, ERW and Midline Canada are available to assist with the clean-up.

Chief Daisy House asked about the 5-year plan mentioned in the report and asked if there will be an extension. She mentioned that some of the tallymen are young and are unaware of the history of the trapline or locations of exploration camps. She asked who they would contact locally.

Adario confirmed that there will be another cleanup plan. He also mentioned that the contacts are the Local Environment Administrators and the Cree Trappers' Association.

Isaac stated that although there is an extensive list of abandoned mine sites, it is still open to report additional abandoned mine sites that are discovered on the traplines.

It was explained that there would be continued reporting on the clean-up of sites as work continued.

Raymond Jolly recommended actions be taken to ensure the participation of local entrepreneurs in the industry.

The Grand Chief informed the members that the agreement governing the funding of the clean-up of abandoned mine sites was subject to the Cities and Towns Act. The Board/Council issued a Directive to Paul John Murdoch to provide a report on how the preferential provisions under the Cree Nation Prioritization Agreement could be applied in the context of the Agreement for the Clean Up of Abandoned mine sites which was subject to the Quebec Cities and Towns Act (**Directive 2022-21**).

Community Access Roads

Chief Clarke Shecapio stated that there was previous discussion on paving of the access roads to the coastal communities. He would like to see the file moving forward without having to wait for the Grand Alliance.

A directive was issued to Davey Bobbish to research processes for this file.

Grand Chief also mentioned that the negotiating teams will be asked to extract the community access roads file from the Grand Alliance to expedite the process.

Davey Bobbish provided a brief update on the Grande Alliance concerning the community access roads.

Chief Robbie Kawapit stated that it is difficult for Whapmagoostui without an access road, especially for the transportation of construction material. He asked for support for transportation costs.

A directive to Davey Bobbish to meet with Chief Kawapit to review Whapmagoostui's request for support.

John Henry Wapachee raised concern about the Route du Nord. The road is used by Crees and is not properly maintained and is dangerous. He requested that this matter should be brought to SDBJ.

A break was called at 3:05 p.m. to reconvene at 3:20 p.m.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Capital Works and Services

Cree Nation Housing Strategy

John Longchap, Director of CWS presented the document entitled, "Special Community Social Housing Program (Program Structure 1.3B) and CMHC-NHCF Subsidies Actions for 2023-2024" of which a copy is attached hereto.

Chief Robbie Kawapit stated that there is only a small area of land that is suitable to build houses in Whapmagoostui. He stated that due to the rocky landscape, it could possibly cause problems to the water and sewage lines, especially in cold temperatures. He recommended that a feasibility study be done to ensure that the land is suitable to build houses. He also mentioned that the construction costs might be higher than the southern communities due to the landscape and should be considered in future funding allocations.

John Longchap stated that the water and sewage lines is a different project from housing. He acknowledged that building houses on bedrock is more expensive, and there is a budget for the lots that are required for housing.

At this time, Grand Chief opened the floor to the DOs and Treasurers to share their comments on the housing policy for the Housing Strategy at the local level. She also encouraged them to convey what kind of information or resources they are seeking to help them in their roles relative to the Housing Strategy Policy.

Kathy Moses, Director General for Wemindji mentioned that there is no interest from construction companies to build houses in Wemindji. Out of 10 invitations for construction bids, only one bid was received. This is mainly due to lack of accommodation. Affordability is the biggest issue for homeowners because the grants are too low, and the cost of housing is too high. She also mentioned that the subsidies for the water and sewage connections have not been indexed for at least 15 years.

Chief Daisy House mentioned that the cost of housing is extremely high, and these are social housing units that we want to build.

Bessie House, Director General for Chisasibi mentioned that there is no interest from construction companies to build one house. The cost of building a house is extremely high, and the CNC has to absorb the cost overruns, and are now looking at building prefabricated housing instead of stick-built, which is not as expensive.

Chief Robbie Kawapit mentioned that he was Treasurer for Whapmagoostui about 10 years ago. There was discussion on how to decrease the cost of housing construction in Eeyou Istchee. There was a suggestion to make a bulk purchase for all the communities. He also shared methods that can be used to save on costs, such as purchasing from suppliers who will not charge taxes. He also mentioned that they don't have a warehouse to store their construction material and end up being unusable due to weather damage. He also mentioned that the material is damaged during transportation due to being transferred from ground, air, and marine transportation. Chief Kawapit mentioned that he will enter discussions with Chief Christina Gilpin concerning the construction of a warehouse in Wemindji to store their material prior to being shipped to Whapmagoostui.

Consideration would be given to the creation of a working group with DOs/Treasurers, to establish five-year cost saving measures on housing projects in their communities.

Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government, Directors of Operations and Treasurers held on October 26th and 27th, 2022 at the Hotel Plaza, in Quebec, Quebec.

Chief Christina Gilpin mentioned that various housing programs were initiated in Eeyou Istchee, such as the Rapid Housing Initiative, Modular Homes, and Pre-Fab, with the concept of saving the cost of housing construction. She stated that the cost of assembling these units by the construction companies is still very high and eliminates the employment opportunity for local labourers.

John Longchap mentioned that he will provide more information on the matters brought to this meeting following their meeting with the DOs and Treasurers that is scheduled for the following week.

Chief Clarke Shecapio recommended that the interest rate should also be considered in the discussions.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer

Chief Clarence Jolly recited the closing prayer.


Edna Neeposh, Corporate Secretary

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

1. Corporate Matters

Resolution 2022-42: Adoption of Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022

Resolution 2022-43: Renewal of Membership to the Board/Council – John Henry Wapachee

Resolution 2022-44: Membership to Board-Council – Romeo Saganash

Resolution 2022-45: Adoption of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 and October 26th and 27th, 2022

Resolution 2022-46: Nomination to Eeyou Eenou Police Commission – Elmer Georgekish

2. Governance

Resolution 2022-47: Additional O&M Funding for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 :

Resolution 2022-48: Additional Funding for Community Infrastructure for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

Resolution 2022-49: Transfer of Federal Funding for Childcare

Resolution 2022-50: Resolution to Merge the James Bay Cree-Naskapi Quebec Pension Plan into the James Bay Cree-Naskapi Pension Plan

3. Finance and Administration

Resolution 2022-51: Funding Allocations 2023-2024

Resolution 2022-52: 2023-2024 Consolidated Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Budget

4. Human Resources

5. Governance (Continued)

Resolution 2022-53: Chief Executive Officer of the Cree Development Corporation

Resolution 2022-54: Recognition of the Retirement of Bill Namagoose, Executive Director

Resolution 2022-55: Senior Management Salary Scale Review

Free and Informed Consent and imposed sterilization Among First Nation and Inuit Women in Qubec

Calendar of Meetings

CBHSSJB – Update

Report on Special Needs

Resolution 2022-56: 2023 Year of Social Solidarity

Going Home – The untold Story of Nemaska Ennouch

Resolution 2022-57: Wildlife Protection Assistant Training Program

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

Resolution 2022-58: Memorandum of Understanding on the Harvest of Caribou in Cree Traditional Territory of Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee

Innu Visit

La Grande Alliance

Resolution 2022-59: Support for Comprehensive Community Engagement in the Feasibility Studies Carried Out Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Cree-Quebec Sustainable Infrastructure Development Program in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Region

6. Social and Cultural Development

Cree Nation Youth Council – Update

7. Capital Works Services

Resolution 2022-60: Amendment of Special Community Social Housing Program 1.3B

8. Miyuuhpichinaausuwin Services – Support Department

9. Environment and Remedial Works

10. Other Matters

Resolution 2022-61: Nomination to Board of Directors of the Société de Développement de La Baie James (SDBJ)

11. Commerce and Industry

Resolution 2022-62: Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement

12. Next Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

1. Corporate Matters

i. Opening Prayer

The Opening prayer was recited by Paul John Murdoch.

ii. Notice and Quorum

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the Law and regulations and there being a quorum, the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty	
Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee	
Chief Irene Neeposh	Romeo Saganash (Virtual)
Chief Clarke Shecapio	Raymond Jolly
Chief Michael Petawabano	John S. Matoush
Chief Daisy House	Robbie Tapiatic
Chief Kenneth Cheezo	Daniel Mark-Stewart
Chief Christina Gilpin	Brant Blackned
Chief Curtis Bosum	Gaston Cooper
Chief Clarence Jolly	John Henry Wapachee
Chief Robbie Kawapit	John Mamianskum

Also present:

- Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt
- Jean-Denis Cananasso
- Chief Allan Jolly
- Michael Jolly

iii. Chairperson and Secretary

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acted as Chairperson and Edna Neeposh acted as Secretary.

iv. Agenda

Paul John Murdoch reviewed the agenda and the following item was added:

- Nursing Situation in the Communities (Chief Clarke Shecapio)

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-42: *Adoption of Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022*

WHEREAS the Board/Council reviewed the draft agenda for a meeting held on December 7th, and 8th, 2022 adding the item of Nursing Situation in the Communities.

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the amended agenda for the meeting of December 7th and 8th, 2022.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

v. **New Members**

Representative – Cree Nation of Nemaska

The Cree Nation of Nemaska held elections for Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and re-elected John Henry Wapachee for a three-year term.

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by John S. Matoush, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-43: *Renewal of Membership to the Board/Council – John Henry Wapachee*

WHEREAS on November 2nd, 2022 John Henry Wapachee was duly elected as Cree Nation Government representative by the Cree Nation of Nemaska according to local laws and regulations pursuant to article 24 of the *Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government*.

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby recognizes the membership of John Henry Wapachee as member of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a renewed term of three (3) years in accordance with article 23 of the *Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government*.

Representative – Cree Nation of Waswanipi

The Cree Nation of Waswanipi held elections for Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and elected Romeo Saganash for a three-year term.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Michael Petawabano, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-44: *Membership to Board-Council – Romeo Saganash*

WHEREAS on November 7th, 2022 Romeo Saganash was duly elected as Cree Nation Government representative by the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi according to local laws and regulations pursuant to article 24 of the *Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government*.

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby recognizes the membership of Romeo Saganash as member of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term of three (3) years in accordance with article 23 of the *Act Respecting the Cree Nation Government*.

Grand Chief provided a summary on the high rates of hotels in Val d'Or during the Senior Hockey and Broomball Tournament. She mentioned that she had discussions with the Mayor of Val d'Or and the President of EISRA, and a Press Release will be released shortly.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

She also expressed her concern about the photo of Carey Price holding a gun that circulated on social media. She mentioned that Canada did not consult with Indigenous groups on the impacts of Bill C-21. The Cree Nation Government will submit a brief to Canada concerning the proposed amendments to the Bill.

Grand Chief also introduced the new Deputy Executive Director, Melissa Saganash.

Grand Chief briefed the members on Premier Legault's Inaugural Speech of 43rd legislature on November 30, 2022 and mentioned some of his priorities, being Environment, Economy, Health, Bill-96 and Relations with Indigenous People. She shared her reflections on the statements made by Premier Legault, especially concerning the reconciliation with Indigenous Nations of Quebec, and more particularly the Premier's statement concerning the development of another hydro-electric project in northern Quebec. Other than the upgrade of the current infrastructure, Quebec has not consulted with the Cree Nation Government concerning another potential hydro-electric project. Grand Chief stated that she will approach the Quebec Government to have a dialogue with the Cree Nation Government to ensure that the people are consulted and involved in this process, and strongly encouraged the Cree Nation members of Eeyou Istchee for their input. Grand Chief informed the members that a formal presentation will be brought to this table in the future.

vi. **Orientation by Corporate Services**

Paul John Murdoch, Legal Counsel for Corporate Services provided an orientation to the members, a copy of which is attached hereto.

vii. **Minutes**

Paul John Murdoch, reviewed the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 and October 26th and 27th, 2022.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-45: *Adoption of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 and October 26th and 27th, 2022*

WHEREAS the Board/Council reviewed the draft minutes of meetings held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 and October 26th and 27th, 2022

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the minutes of meetings held on August 3rd and 4th, 2022 and October 26th and 27th, 2022.

viii. **Nominations**

- Eeyou Eenou Police Commission – Wemindji

On a motion duly made by Chief Michael Petawabano and seconded by Chief Clarence Jolly, the members adopted:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

RESOLUTION 2022-46: *Nomination to Eeyou Eenou Police Commission – Elmer Georgekish*

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed a recommendation from the local council of the Cree Nation of Wemindji concerning representation from Wemindji on the Eeyou Eenou Police Commission;

WHEREAS the proposed candidate recommended by the Cree Nation of Wemindji has completed the necessary background checks for eligibility to the Eeyou Eenou Police Commission.

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby nominates Elmer Georgekish to the Eeyou Eenou Police Commission for a term of three (3) years as per Section 82 of the Cree Nation Government Policing Law.

ix. **Summary of Executive Committee Decisions**

Grand Chief informed the members that a summary of Executive Committee decisions are available on the Teams portal. Paul John Murdoch provided a summary of the Executive Committee decisions made at the last meeting.

At this time, a break was called to reconvene at 10:55 am

2. Governance

Executive Director Report

Bill Namagose presented the document entitled, "Report of the Executive Director GCC(EI)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council Meeting December 7-8, 2022," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Additional O & M Funding for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 (Amendment #2)

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by Chief Irene Neeposh, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-47: *Additional O&M Funding for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024*

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully secured additional funding for Operations and Maintenance of \$8,024,443 for 2022-2023 and \$8,330,493 for 2023-2024;

WHEREAS this additional O&M funding includes an amount of \$335,200 each year to support water operators in Cree communities, which was previously administered through a separate contribution agreement with Indigenous Services Canada;

WHEREAS this additional O&M funding shall be provided by Canada to the Cree Nation Government as a grant through an amendment of the Operations and Maintenance Funding Transfer Payment Agreement;

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government will report on this additional O&M funding as part of the annual report to Canada pursuant to section 4.13 of the Federal New Relationship Agreement;

WHEREAS an amendment of the Operations and Maintenance Funding Transfer Payment Agreement (Amendment #2) related to this additional O&M funding for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 was reviewed at this meeting and is appended to this resolution;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government ("Board/Council") hereby approves an amendment of the Operations and Maintenance Funding Transfer Payment Agreement (Amendment #2) substantially in the form appended hereto;

THAT the Grand Chief / Chairperson and such other persons as the Grand Chief may designate be and are hereby authorized to sign the amendment of the Operations and Maintenance Funding Transfer Payment Agreement (Amendment #2) for and on behalf of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government substantially in accordance with the draft of such amendment appended hereto.

Additional Funding for Community Infrastructure for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 (Amendment #4)

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by Robbie Tapiatic, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-48: Additional Funding for Community Infrastructure for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully secured from Canada additional funding of \$2,571,133 for 2022-2023 and \$1,630,300 for 2023-2024 to support community infrastructure in the Cree communities;

WHEREAS these amounts are comprised of a standing allocation of \$1,630,300, initially provided under Canada's Gathering Strength Program, and so far for 2022-2023, an additional amount of \$940,833 from a special funding envelope set aside in the Federal Budget 2017 to address critical infrastructure gaps in First Nation communities across Canada;

WHEREAS this additional capital funding will be provided by Canada to the Cree Nation Government as a grant through an amendment of the Agreement regarding Annual Capital Grants to the Quebec Cree Communities for Fiscal Years 2018-2019 to 2027-2028;

WHEREAS an amendment of the Agreement regarding Annual Capital Grants to the Quebec Cree Communities for Fiscal Years 2018-2019 to 2027-2028 (Amendment #4) related to this additional capital funding has been reviewed at this meeting and is appended to this resolution;

IT IS RESOLVED:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government (“Board/Council”) hereby approves an amendment of the Agreement regarding Annual Capital Grants to the Quebec Cree Communities for Fiscal Years 2018-2019 to 2027-2028 (Amendment #4) substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Executive Director be and is hereby authorized to sign the amendment of the Agreement regarding Annual Capital Grants to the Quebec Cree Communities for Fiscal Years 2018-2019 to 2027-2028 (Amendment #4) for and on behalf of the Cree Nation Government substantially in accordance with the draft of such amendment appended hereto.

Transfer of Federal Funding for Childcare (Amendment #3)

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-49: Transfer of Federal Funding for Childcare

WHEREAS for many years, the Cree Nation Government has requested that federal childcare funding be transferred through a grant funding agreement with the Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) in order to streamline funding, reporting and other administrative requirements;

WHEREAS this funding is currently administered by the department of Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and transferred to the Cree Nation Government through a contribution agreement with a high level of reporting and administrative requirements;

WHEREAS Canada has finally secured the authority to transfer this federal childcare funding to the Cree Nation Government through an existing grant funding agreement with CIRNAC;

WHEREAS for this purpose, an amendment of the Funding Transfer Payment Agreement regarding Sections 4.11 and 4.12 of the New Relationship Agreement (Amendment #3) has been reviewed at this meeting and is appended to this resolution;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government (“Board/Council”) hereby approves an amendment of the Funding Transfer Payment Agreement regarding Sections 4.11 and 4.12 of the New Relationship Agreement (Amendment #3) substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Executive Director be and is hereby authorized to sign the amendment of the Funding Transfer Payment Agreement regarding Sections 4.11 and 4.12 of the New Relationship Agreement (Amendment #3) for and on behalf of the Cree Nation Government substantially in accordance with the draft of such amendment submitted to this meeting and appended hereto.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

Cree Naskapi Pension Plan Merger

Bill Namagoose provided a summary of the Cree Naskapi Pension Plan Merger a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Chief Kenneth Cheezo, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-50: *Resolution to Merge the James Bay Cree-Naskapi Quebec Pension Plan into the James Bay Cree-Naskapi Pension Plan*

WHEREAS the Federal Participating Employers sponsor the James Bay Cree-Naskapi Pension Plan ("the Federal Plan") and the Federal Participating Employers may jointly amend the rules of the Federal Plan;

WHEREAS the Quebec Participating Employers sponsor the James Bay Cree-Naskapi Quebec Pension Plan ("the Quebec Plan") and the Quebec Participating Employers may jointly amend the rules of the Quebec Plan;

WHEREAS Cree Nation Government is a Federal Participating Employer in the Federal Plan;

WHEREAS subject to approval by the regulatory authorities, the Quebec and Federal Participating Employers wish to merge the Quebec Plan into the Federal Plan effective December 31,2022 by way of a transfer of assets from the Quebec Plan to the Federal Plan, representing all assets and liabilities accrued under the Quebec Plan up to December 31, 2022;

WHEREAS the Quebec Participating Employers wish to amend the Quebec Plan text as of December 31,2022 to give effect to the foregoing;

WHEREAS the Federal Participating Employers wish to amend and restate the Federal Plan text as of December 31,2022 to give effect to the foregoing and to reflect other amendments previously adopted by the Federal Participating Employers and the Quebec Participating Employers;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT subject to the provisions of any applicable legislation, regulations and administrative rules of applicable regulatory authorities and to the receipt of required approvals of the regulatory authorities, effective December 31,2022:

1. All of the assets and liabilities of the Quebec Plan in respect of period of service up to December 31,2022 will be transferred to the Federal Plan;
2. Effective on January 1,2023 members who were accruing benefits under the Quebec Plan on December 31,2022 will commence to accrue benefits under the Federal Plan in the same amount and on the same terms as are provided under the Quebec Plan in effect on December 31,2022;
3. As of December 31, 2022, members, former members, retired members and other persons entitled to benefits under the Quebec Plan (the "Transferred Members") will become members, former members, retired members or other persons entitled to benefits, as applicable, of the Federal Plan;

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4. As of December 31, 2022, the benefits provided for each group of Transferred Members under the Federal Plan shall be based on the existing provisions of the Quebec Plan, including all amendments to the Quebec Plan approved by the Quebec Participating Employers before the merger for each group of Transferred Members;
5. The amended and restated version of the Federal Plan text, as of December 31, 2022, shall reflect the foregoing resolutions;
6. Authority be granted to the Retirement Committee of the Federal Plan to take all actions required to implement these measures.

Cree Quebec Relations

Richard Shecapio, Negotiator provided a summary of the files that he is working on, and more particularly natural resources development that involve forestry, mining, energy, and other related issues, such as the Grande Alliance. He mentioned that the wildlife directives are outstanding.

Chief Clarke Shecapio mentioned that a portion of Waskaganish territory is impacted by forestry and is not covered by Chapter 3 of the Paix des Braves. He was very concerned that impacted tallyman were not provided any of the mechanism to participate in the management of forestry activities comparable to other traplines. He requested that an understanding or an agreement be developed.

Grand Chief acknowledged Chief Shecapio's request and reassured him that the issue will be tabled at the next meeting of the forestry table.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. to reconvene at 1:32 p.m.

3. Finance and Administration

- Funding Allocations for 2023-2024

Davey Bobbish, Presumptive Executive Director acknowledged the services of the outgoing Executive Director, Bill Namagoose. Davey then presented the Funding Allocations for 2023-2024 a copy of which is attached hereto.

Robbie Tapiatic expressed his concern on the allocations to the youth and elders. Davey Bobbish explained that they have a deferred revenue of 1.3 million dollars. He further explained that the youth submitted a 3-year plan that will be used for future allocation of funds.

Davey also mentioned that the Nishiyu Council had wanted to make a presentation to this meeting but missed the deadline for funding. Davey however stated that they will be considered in next planning cycle.

Chief Michael Petawabano expressed his concern about the shortage of EEPF personnel in the communities. This forces the communities to hire additional security personnel to work in collaboration with EEPF at their communities' expense. He recommended that additional funds be allocated to EEPF operations for the safety and well-being of community members.

He also expressed his concern about the amount of money that has been spent on the Cree Customary Adoption file. He stated that the file has been ongoing for several years and has not seen one Cree customary adoption. He asked if CNG will keep allocating funds to the file.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

Chief Petawabano also recommended that the entities who were allocated funds produce financial reports.

Grand Chief responded to Chief Petawabano's concerns and agreed that discussions in collaboration with the communities need to take place concerning the police operations.

She also mentioned that she spoke to James Bobbish concerning the Cree Customary Adoption file who confirmed that there are two communities who are currently in court and are encountering difficulties due to lack of collaboration with the Miyupimaatisiun committees. She encouraged the communities to ensure that their respective Miyupimaatisiun committees are active in order to have better coordination for Cree adoptions.

Grand Chief agreed that the entities who were allocated funds should produce financial reports.

Chief Irene Neeposh recommended more flexibility in funding allocations especially related to housing. The CNG recommends building social housing units and this process does not help the members to achieve financial independence.

Grand Chief explained that there is flexibility for private housing however, additional internal discussions are required on the social housing as it is an agreement with Canada.

Raymond Jolly inquired in the method that is used for the funding allocations to entities and associations. Matthew Swallow, Treasurer explained that the amounts are CNG contributions. The entities and associations have other sources of funding from their respective agreements with other funding sources.

Matthew Swallow presented the document entitled, "Recommended 2023-2024 Consolidated budget of Cree Nation Government/Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) Presented to the Council/Board, December 7 & 8, 2022" a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Michael Petawabano expressed his concern on the recommendation to build a halfway house in Val d'Or. He recommended that it be built in a Cree community.

Donald Nicholls, Director of Justice and Correctional Services explained that the reason Val d'Or was chosen to build the halfway house is that the people who will use the services need to be monitored and have to go through programming that will be provided by professionals such as psychologists and social workers. The CBHSSJB does not have these types of professional services to support a halfway house in a Cree community.

Chief Michael Petawabano reiterated his recommendation to build the halfway house in a Cree community, and hire the professionals required to provide the services therein.

Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee who is part of the justice file explained the process for individuals who utilize the services of the halfway house. He stated that there needs to be more discussions on how to manage the justice system in the Cree Nation to better address the social issues in the communities.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

Grand Chief mentioned that the decisions and recommendations of the justice committee should be respected, until the professional services needed in the halfway house can be provided in a Cree community. She also recommended that Donald Nicholls produce a comprehensive profile to better understand the needs of the service.

Daniel Mark-Stewart mentioned that there are Cree beneficiaries who utilize the services of the Friendship Centers in urban southern cities and recommended to allocate funding to these Friendship Centers. He also recommended to build a foundation to support youth activities.

Grand Chief mentioned that CNG in collaboration with the CBHSSJB, CSB, BOC and CNYC are in the process of structuring the Eeyou/Eenou Community Foundation and will present a report to the Board/Council in the future.

Davey Bobbish explained that Section 28 of the Paix des Braves stipulates funding for the Friendship Centers outside of Eeyou Istchee. He agreed that funding for these particular Friendship Centers should be considered in future funding allocations.

On a motion duly made by Chief Kenneth Cheezo and seconded by Chief Clarence Jolly, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-51: Funding Allocations 2023-2024

WHEREAS the estimated allocation from the Cree Nation Trust is one hundred and nine million nine hundred and eighteen thousand three hundred and eighty-six Dollars (\$109,918,386.00) from the funds reserved under the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee to fund the obligations of Canada under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement assumed by the Cree;

WHEREAS the funds payable by the Government of Quebec under the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec to the Cree Heritage Fund Foundation as the Recipient of Funding under said Agreement is estimated at one hundred and seven million six hundred and seventy two thousand nine hundred and thirty six dollars (\$107,672,936.00) for the 2023/2024 fiscal year to allow the Cree to fund the obligations of Quebec under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement assumed by the Cree through the New Relationship Agreement;

WHEREAS the Directors of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have reviewed programs and projects allocation proposals developed by the Executive Director, Director Generals and the Treasurers of Eeyou Istchee for 2023-2024 funds made available pursuant to the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Agreement Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec and the Agreement Concerning a New Relation Between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee;

IT IS RESOLVED:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

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

- **2023-2024 Consolidated GCCEI/CNG Budget**

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by John Henry Wapachee, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-52: *2023-2024 Consolidated Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Budget*

WHEREAS the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed the recommended consolidated budgets for 2023/2024 Fiscal year of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts and approves the Consolidated 2023/2024 Budgets of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government as presented this 7th day of December 2022.

The meeting recessed at 4:10 p.m. to reconvene on December 8, 2022 at 9:43 a.m.

At 4:30 p.m., the members held an in-camera session.

4. Human Resources

The Board/Council held an *in-camera* session to discuss several human resource management issues.

5. Governance (Continued)

- **Chief Executive Officer of the Cree Development Corporation**

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by Chief Irene Neeposh, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-53: *Chief Executive Officer of the Cree Development Corporation*

WHEREAS the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government is the sole shareholder of the Cree Development Corporation (hereinafter “CDC”) created pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Quebec and the Crees of Quebec to replace the James Bay Native Development Corporation (hereinafter “SODAB”) create pursuant to Section 28 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement;

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WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the CDC/SODAB with the assistance of the Deputy Grand Chief and the Human Resource Department of the Cree Nation Government have undertaken a recruitment campaign and interviews for the purpose of hiring a new Chief Executive Officer and have adopted a Resolution approving the candidacy of George E. Pachano;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby confirm their support to the Board of Directors of CDC/SODAB in the nomination of George E. Pachano as the Chief Executive Officer of the CDC/SODAB.

- **Retirement Package – Executive Director**

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarence Jolly, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-54: *Recognition of the Retirement of Bill Namagoose, Executive Director*

WHEREAS Bill Namagoose, Executive Director announced his retirement as Executive Director of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government after thirty-five (35) years of loyal service;

WHEREAS the people and the leadership of Eeyou Istchee will always be grateful for the personal sacrifice and the dedication to which Bill Namagoose committed himself to the defense of Cree Rights and the recognition of the Right to self-government of the Eeyouch of Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS the Executive Committee upon a submission from the Treasurer of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government have identified compensation measures appropriate for the recognition of the invaluable leadership and years of service of Mr. Bill Namagoose.

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby authorize Matthew Swallow, Treasurer to disburse the compensation measures to Bill Namagoose in accordance with the schedule attached hereto as presented this 7th day of December, 2022.

A directive was issued to Davey Bobbish to develop a policy for long-standing employees of CNG.

- **Senior Management Salary Scale Review**

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-55: *Senior Management Salary Scale Review*

WHEREAS the salary scales of grade 12 for the position of Treasurer and grade 13 for the position of Executive Director have not been reviewed or adjusted for a number of years;

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WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government has reviewed an assessment carried out by an independent firm and has developed a proposed adjusted salary scale for the grade 12 and 13 positions;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/ Cree Nation Government hereby approve the application and implementation of the attached Schedule of salary scales for the grade 12 for the position of Treasurer and grade 13 for the position of Executive Director to be applied as of the current fiscal year more particularly as of April 1st, 2022.

There being no further business to discuss, the in-camera session adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on December 8, 2022 at 9:43 a.m.

Free and Informed Consent and Imposed Sterilization Among First Nation and Inuit Women in Quebec

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty presented the document from the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission entitled, "Free and Informed Consent and Imposed Sterilization Among First Nation and Inuit Women in Quebec," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Calendar of Meetings

Paul John Murdoch reviewed the calendar of meetings for the EIJB RG and the GCCEI/CNG. Grand Chief informed the members that the GCCEI/CNG will resume joint meetings with the EIJB RG in the Jamésien municipalities. She mentioned that she and the Chairperson of EIJB RG, Manon Cyr will make a request to the Government of Quebec to have four in-person meetings and two virtual meetings per year.

CBHSSJB - Update

Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the CBHSSJB presented the document entitled, "Update: Awash-Ushiniichisuu Shikascheimuun Task Force, presentation to Board/Council," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Irene Neeposh mentioned the incident involving a youth in Waswanipi shortly following her election. She mentioned that this incident directed her to focus on youth issues in her community. She expressed her concern on the structure of the CBHSSJB and more particularly social services and youth protection and the services therein and recommended to build a workforce to support families.

Chief Clarke Shecapio recommended to establish a plan to support the frontline workers to better serve the communities.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acknowledged the comments of the members, and the CBHSSJB's initiative to create the Commission for Youth Protection and to amend the Youth Protection Act in accordance with Cree customs and culture to respond to the needs of the families and not the justice system. She expressed CNG's support to CBHSSJB's initiatives, and her concerns that the CBHSSJB and CSB are under the authority of the Quebec Government and

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would prefer that they be under the authority of the Cree Nation Government. She encouraged the Chiefs to show the same support.

Report on Year of Special Needs

Stella Masty, Negotiator presented the document entitled, "Update on the Multi-Sector Approach to Supporting Individuals with Special Needs," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Sarah Pashagumskum, Chairperson of the Cree School Board provided a brief report on the Special Needs Symposium that was held the previous week.

A break was called at 11:00 a.m. to reconvene at 11:20 a.m.

Chief Clarke Shecapio mentioned that there is a shortage of staff in Youth Protection in Waskaganish. He expressed his disappointment when he hears that Youth Protection is breaking up families, when in fact, they need support. He asked the CBHSSJB how support can be provided to the professionals to better serve the communities.

Bertie Wapachee mentioned that not all communities face the same social issues and acknowledged the shortage of staff in the communities.

Chief Irene Neeposh encouraged particular attention to diagnosis of special needs. She mentioned that Bill 96 is a barrier to recruiting professionals in the Cree communities.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty explained that Eeyou Istchee is not governed by Bill 96. She mentioned that she had brought this matter to the attention of Minister Lafrenière and informed him that the application is causing barriers in the employment field. She informed the members that this is an ongoing dialogue.

Grand Chief also acknowledged Chief Neeposh's recommendation that particular attention be given to diagnosis of special needs in a Cree setting.

Sarah Pash mentioned that there is a backlog on diagnosis and assessment of special needs within the CSB and is an issue that requires more discussion.

Grand Chief acknowledged the collaborative work of the CBHSSJB, CSB, and the CNG on this file, and mentioned that the communities need to take part in this initiative. She encouraged the communities to provide training sessions and hold special needs symposiums in their communities to show their support to their respective members and their families.

Bertie Wapachee expressed his support to the declaration and acknowledged the work of the CSB and CNG relating to the Year of Social Solidarity. He sought the members' support in this project and encouraged them to work in unity on social issues facing Eeyou Istchee. He stated that to start off the year, the CBHSSJB will provide statistics of the services they provide to the communities.

Sarah Pash, Chairperson of the CSB expressed her gratitude for the collaboration at the tripartite table regarding Social Solidarity and looks forward to the involvement of all communities to be part of this process in partnership.

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Grand Chief presented the document entitled, “2023 Eeyou Istchee Year of Social Solidarity – Empowering Individuals to further strengthen our Nation,” a copy of which is attached hereto. 2023 will be the year to focus on rebuilding and fostering Social Solidarity within the Cree Nation.

She encouraged the Cree Leadership to practice Cree unity when faced with social issues. She also emphasized that it is not the work of the Cree Leadership to solve social issues, but the Cree Nation members to be part of the solution.

On a motion duly made by Chief Kenneth Cheezo and seconded by Chief Curtis Bosum, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-56: 2023 Year of Social Solidarity

WHEREAS the Board/Council has determined that 2023 will be the year to focus on rebuilding and fostering social solidarity within the Cree Nation while emphasizing two specific themes:

1. Importance of Diversity
2. Interdependence

WHEREAS the 2023 Year of Social Solidarity will build on the shared core cultural values and principles such as respect and honor for one another and will lead to concerted and collective actions;

WHEREAS 2023 will be a year to reach an active consensus with the Cree Nation which will empower people to improve physical, spiritual, mental and emotional health thereby strengthening the Cree Nation;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government in accordance with the recital above declares 2023 the Year of Social Solidarity.

All Cree Chiefs declared their support for the 2023 Year of Social Solidarity.

Grand Chief thanked the Chiefs for declaring their support to the 2023 Year of Social Solidarity and informed them that discussions will begin at the next Board/Council meeting.

Grand Chief acknowledged the services of Mike Reid who is retiring after many years of IT services to the Board/Council meetings and transferring knowledge to his young colleagues. Grand Chief presented a gift to Mike.

A lunch break was called at 12:15 p.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

In the absence of the Grand Chief, Deputy Grand Chief acted as Chairperson of the meeting.

Going Home – The Untold Story of Nemaska Eenouch

George Wapachee, Director General of the Cree Nation of Nemaska introduced the book entitled, “Going Home – The Untold Story of Nemaska Eenouch” and provided a history of the Nemaska Eenouch and a summary of the history book.

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Wildlife Protection Assistant Training Program

Nadia Saganash, Senior Advisor Cree-Quebec Governance Agreement Implementation and Patrick Lachapelle and François Payette, Pedagogical Counsellors from Cégep de St-Félicien presented the document entitled, “Wildlife Protection on Cree Land (CLT.00),” a copy of which is attached hereto. Nadia acknowledged the support of the representatives of Environment Canada, Mr. Alexandre-Guy Côté and Yves Raymond who joined virtually for the presentation.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio, the members adopted:

Resolution 2022-57: Wildlife Protection Assistant Training Program

WHEREAS in the last 3 years the Cree Trappers Association and the Cree Nation Government has been collaborating with Environment Canada (ECCC) and Cegep Saint-Felicien who took on the initiative to develop an adapted Wildlife Protection Training Program for the Cree territory;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby support the Attestation of Collegial Studies (ACS) – Wildlife Protection on Cree Territory training program and the next phases for its implementations presented this 8th day of December 2022.

MOU – Caribou

Nadia Saganash presented the document entitled, “Maamuu Nisituhtimuwin Traditional Mutual Understanding on the Harvest of Caribou in Cree Traditional Territory of Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee Between the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee and the Innu Nation in Quebec,” of copy of which is attached here.

Chief Clarke Shecapio asked for the number of guaranteed level of harvest for the Crees with the understanding that the Innu is at 300. Nadia confirmed that according to the JBNQA, the guaranteed level of harvest for the Cree is 830 caribou which includes the 300 for the Innu.

Gaston Cooper mentioned that since there is a limit to harvest moose in Zone 17, he asked if the Cree could harvest moose in Innu territory in exchange for caribou. Nadia replied that it could be considered in the discussions.

Romeo Saganash asked if Section 24 of the JBNQA, the system of traplines is recognized and upheld in this new agreement. Nadia replied that it does not only recognize and uphold the system, but it also strengthens the role of the tallyman because nothing will happen without their consent. She mentioned that this understanding has not been challenged by Quebec.

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio and seconded by Raymond Jolly, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-58: Memorandum of Understanding on the Harvest of Caribou in Cree Traditional Territory of Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee

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WHEREAS the Crees of Eeyou Istchee constitute an Indigenous society and nation and in the exercise of their right of self-determination and self-government, have maintained their own traditional land and wildlife management system;

WHEREAS the Cree traditional land and wildlife management system is strong and efficient, and based on fundamental principles and values that govern our practices and ensure respect for the land and good management of our harvest on populations;

WHEREAS the Cree traditional system of land and wildlife management recognize the leadership role and responsibilities of the Cree nations, the tallymen and land users to maintain the traditional land and wildlife management system as well as conservation efforts needed to sustain the health of wildlife populations;

WHEREAS the caribou population is a shared resources amongst several indigenous nations in northern Quebec and have mutual responsibilities and interests with respect to the conservation, management and harvest of the caribou

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Chisasibi and the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee have acknowledge the request of the Innu Nation in Quebec for a mutual understanding to hunt caribou in the traditional territory of Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee for this coming 2022-2023 winter season;

WHEREAS in accordance with traditional practices the Cree Nation of Chisasibi and the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee have met with all concerned tallymen which have guided the development of an Understanding on the harvest of caribou in Cree traditional territory of Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee between the Cree of Eeyou Istchee and the Innu Nation in Quebec.

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby authorizes Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty to sign the Understanding on the harvest of caribou in Cree traditional territory of Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee between the Cree of Eeyou Istchee and the Innu Nation in Quebec.

A break was called at 3:25 p.m. to reconvene at 3:45 pm.

Innu Visit

Deputy Grand Chief Norman A. Wapachee provided a status update on the Innu Visit that will take place in January 2023.

La Grande Alliance

Christopher Herodier, CIO for Chisasibi on La Grand Alliance presented the document entitled, "Feasibility Studies Potential Transportation Infrastructure Program Status Report," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Michael Petawabano inquired the possibility of having an airport for his community included in the study.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

Paul John Murdoch informed the members that there are discussions on airports between the Cree Development Corporation and SDBJ, and that the Chief Executive Officer of the CDC/SODAB could be asked to meet with the community to discuss the matter with the community.

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Clarke Shecapio, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-59: *Support for Comprehensive Community Engagement in the Feasibility Studies Carried Out Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Cree-Quebec Sustainable Infrastructure Development Program in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Region*

WHEREAS on February 17th, 2020, the Government of Quebec and the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Cree-Quebec Sustainable Infrastructure Development Program in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Region* (hereinafter MOU) for the purpose of ensuring Cree participation in the design of protected area networks and transportation infrastructure that will shape the future of Eeyou Istchee with the purpose of achieving a balance between preservation of the traditional way of life and participation in economic development;

WHEREAS the carrying out of the studies and the ability to secure community participation and engagement was severely challenged due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the period identified for carrying out the studies required extension by Resolution of the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government on March 24th, 2021, for additional twelve (12) months;

WHEREAS any action or initiative arising from the feasibility studies carried out pursuant to the MOU can only come from the communities, community members or community based organization of Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS constant comprehensive community engagement is necessary for the validation and legitimacy of the feasibility studies carried out pursuant to the MOU;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government (“Board/Council”) hereby support and approve the initiative of the Cree Development Corporation through Community Information Officers to carry out a minimum twelve (12) months information campaigns for the purpose of promoting and maintaining community engagement in the feasibility studies carried out pursuant to the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Cree-Quebec Sustainable Infrastructure Development Program in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Region*;

6. Social and Cultural Development - Cree Nation Youth Council – Update

Youth Grand Chief Adrian Gunner and Deputy Youth Grand Chief Jordan Mastly presented the document entitled, “Youth Sector Update,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

7. Capital Works and Services - Cree Nation Housing Strategy

Bill Namagoose presented the document entitled, “Program Structure – Local Government Program 1.3B (Approved by the Cree Nation Government on March 23, 2022) First proposed revision for approval in December 2022 1.3B Local Government Program: Special Community Social Housing,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarke Shecapio and seconded by Chief Kenneth Cheezo, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-60: Amendment of Special Community Social Housing Program 1.3B

WHEREAS in March 2022, the Cree Nation Government approved the Special Community Social Housing Program to support, facilitate and coordinate the construction of 750 new social housing units in the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government expects to receive a base amount of at least \$180 million from a new envelope for housing announced in the Federal Budget 2022;

WHEREAS this new funding should be used, among others, to further support the construction of the new 750 social housing units by increasing the original subsidy by thirty percent (30%), for a total allocation of \$60 million, in order to offset at least in part the higher costs of construction for the said units;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government shall receive a special contribution of \$75 million from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) pursuant to a successful application by the Cree Nation Government under the National Co-Investment Fund to support the construction of 750 new social housing units in the Cree communities;

WHEREAS an amendment to the said Program was reviewed at this meeting and is appended to this resolution;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government (“Board/Council”) hereby approves an amendment of the Special Community Social Housing Program 1.3B substantially in the form appended hereto;

THAT the Executive Director be and is hereby authorized to do all things useful or necessary to carry out the foregoing resolution.

8. Miyuuhpichinaausuwin Services – Support Department

Kelly Pepabano, Director of Miyuuhpichinaausuwin Apatisiwiin and Christine Duff, Coordinator of Childcare Operations presented a briefing sheet to the Board/Council concerning a request for formal support from Chiefs and their Councils to local childcare centres’ boards of directors, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

They also requested support on the Childcare Centers evaluation that they would like to carry out by conducting a community tour of all the childcare centers in Eeyou Istchee and facilitating a community dialogue on the impacts of the childcare services in the communities. All communities will have a chance to share their views on childcare and where they see childcare in 10-20 years. Following their tour and evaluation of the childcare centers, they will provide a report to the members. A briefing sheet of the request is attached hereto.

9. Environment and Remedial Works

Paul John Murdoch conducted a first reading and presented the document entitled, "The Proposed Law Concerning the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Program," a copy of which is attached hereto.

10. Other Matters

Société de Développement de La Baie James (SDBJ) - Appointment of Board of Directors

On a motion duly made by Chief Curtis Bosum and seconded by Chief Irene Neeposh, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-61: *Nomination to Board of Directors of the Société de Développement de La Baie James (SDBJ)*

WHEREAS section 174(a) of the Agreement on Governance in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory provides that the board of directors of the SDBJ shall be composed of seven (7) members including the chief executive officer, who shall be appointed by Québec taking into account the recommendations of the Cree Nation Government regarding the appointment of three (3) of these members and the chief executive officer;

WHEREAS, in the same regard, section 8 of the James Bay Region Development Act provides that the affairs of the SDBJ shall be administered by a board of directors composed of seven members, including the chief executive officer, appointed by the Government, taking into account the recommendations of the Cree Nation Government with respect to the appointment of three of the members;

WHEREAS it is appropriate for the Cree Nation Government to submit its recommendations to the Government of Québec regarding the appointment of three of the directors;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby rescind all previous nominations and nominate Mr. Gaston Cooper, Anthony MacLeod and Daniel Mark-Stewart to the Board of Directors of the Société de développement de la Baie James as per the Agreement on Governance in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

11. Commerce and Industry

Anthony MacLeod, Director of Commerce and Industry presented the document entitled, “Cree Nation Prioritization Agreement,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by Gaston Cooper, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2022-62: *Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement*

WHEREAS the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee have suffered from the colonial and isolationist laws, regulations and policies which have governed access to economic opportunities and procurement in Eeyou Istchee since the assumption of jurisdiction by Federal and Provincial Governments;

WHEREAS Section 28 of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement contains provisions in relation to the prioritization and preferential employment and contracting commitments of the signatories of the James Bay Northern Quebec, more specifically Sub-Section 28.10.3 and Sub-Section 28.10.4 which is yet to be implemented to the satisfaction of the Cree leadership or in a manner that reflects the spirit and intent of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government and the Local Governments of Eeyou Istchee the Cree Nation has an opportunity to demonstrate how the principles of Section 28 can be implement while balancing and respecting principles of sound governance and the maximization of public funds;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement is based on ensuring that the benefits under the Agreement are reserved for enterprises that invest in the development of the communities of Eeyou Istchee and the development of human resources in Eeyou Istchee in a manner that is respectful of Cree values, culture and visions;

WHEREAS the implementation of the Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement calls for an implementation that is respectful of the authority and obligation of local governments to manage and regulate economic activities in their communities in manner that ensures maximum local participation in local employment and contracting opportunities;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement for the first time in Canadian History will provide economic solidarity and unity among First Nations communities where there is a commitment to support and prioritize one another;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby authorizes the Grand Chief and or Deputy Grand Chief to sign the Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement and ensure that the application of the Agreement in a community of Eeyou Istchee shall be subject to the approval of the Agreement by local Government of that Community;

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on December 7th and 8th, 2022 in the Chopin Conference Room at the Hilton Lac Leamy, in Gatineau, Quebec.

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government further mandates amendment of pre-existing Agreements which define a Cree Enterprise or Commercial activity for the purpose of regulating access to contracting opportunities, in a manner compatible with the Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement subject to the prior approval of any local Government which is a signatory to said Agreement;

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government immediately orders the review of all procurement policies, regulations and laws to ensure compatibly with the obligations of the Cree Nation Government under the Cree Nation Economic Prioritization Agreement;

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board/Council will be held on February 1st and 2nd, 2023 in Mistissini, Quebec.

Deputy Grand Chief made his closing remarks and thanked the members for their participation in Board/Council meetings, and the Directors for their contributions to the Cree Nation Government, the entities and all the presenters to the Board/Council.

Chief Clarke Shecapio, on behalf of the Cree Nation of Waskaganish and the entire Cree Nation acknowledged the services of Bill Namagoose to the Cree Nation for over 35 years.

Bill expressed his gratitude for the acknowledgement and thanked the Cree Nation for the opportunity to serve them.

The closing prayer was recited by Chief Clarke Shecapio.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.


Edna Neeposh, Corporate Secretary

1.	Corporate Services	2
	<i>Resolution BC-2023-01: Adoption of Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on February 1st, 2023</i>	
	<i>Resolution BC-2023-02: Adoption of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council Held on December 7th and 8th, 2022;</i>	
2.	Governance	3
	<i>IRS Bands Settlement Agreement</i>	
	<i>Executive Director Report</i>	
	<i>Leadership Meeting – Cree and Innu</i>	
3.	Apatisiwin Skills Development	4
4.	Governance Continued	4
	<i>Free and Informed Consent and Imposed Sterilization Among First Nations and Inuit Women in Quebec - (Suzy Basile – QUAT)</i>	
5.	Environment and Remedial Works	4
	<i>Proposed Law Regarding the Cree Traditional Activities Program (Second Reading)</i>	
	<i>James Bay Lithium</i>	
6.	Governance (Continued)	5
	<i>2023 Year of Social Solidarity</i>	
7.	Social and Cultural Development	6
	<i>Cultural Baseline Study</i>	
8.	Next Meeting	6

1. Corporate Matters

i. Opening Prayer

The Opening prayer was recited by Chief Robbie Kawapit.

ii. Notice and Quorum

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the Law and regulations and there being a quorum, the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 10:00 a.m.

Present:

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty	
Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee	
Chief Irene Neeposh	Romeo Saganash (Virtual)
Chief Michael Petawabano	John S. Matoush
Chief Daisy House	Robbie Tapiatic
Chief Kenneth Cheezo	Daniel Mark-Stewart
Chief Christina Gilpin	Brant Blackned
	Gaston Cooper
Chief Clarence Jolly	John Henry Wapachee
Chief Robbie Kawapit	John Mamianskum
	Raymond Jolly

Also present:

- Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt
- Jean-Denis Cananasso
- Chief Allan Jolly
- Michael Jolly
- Deputy Chief Lance Cooper (Ouje-Bougoumou)

iii. Chairperson and Secretary

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acted as Chairperson and Edna Neeposh acted as Secretary.

iv. Adoption of Agenda

It was agreed to defer the items under Capital Works and Services.

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Chief Clarence Jolly, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION BC-2023-01: *Adoption of Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on February 1st, 2023*

WHEREAS the Board/Council reviewed the draft agenda for a meeting held on February 1st, 2023;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the amended agenda for the meeting of February 1st, 2023.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on February 1st, 2023, at the Neoskweskau Memorial Complex in Mistissini, Eeyou Istchee

v. **Adoption of Minutes**

On a motion duly made by Chief Irene Neeposh and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION BC-2023-02: *Adoption of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council Held on December 7th and 8th, 2022;*

WHEREAS the Board/Council reviewed the draft minutes of a meeting held on December 7th and 8th, 2022;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the minutes of a meeting held on December 7th and 8th, 2022.

vi. **Appointments**

CEO of Cree Development Corporation

George E. Pachano, the newly appointed CEO of the Cree Development Corporation addressed the members and informed them that he is in the orientation stage. He provided a summary of the files that he will work on and gave an update on La Grande Alliance.

Cree Representative – Government of Quebec Société du Plan Nord

Grand Chief informed the members of the recommendation of Melissa Saganash as a Cree Representative to the Government of Québec's Société du Plan Nord Board of Directors, to replace Michael Petawabano.

2. Governance

IRS Bands Settlement Agreement

Matthew Coon Come joined the meeting virtually and provided a summary and update on the IRS Bands Settlement Agreement. Additional information can be obtained at bandreparations.ca.

Executive Director Report

Davey Bobbish, Executive Director presented the document entitled, "Report of the Executive Director GCC(EI)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council Meeting February 1-2, 2023," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Leadership Meeting – Cree and Innu

Grand Chief provided a summary of the history of the relationship between the Cree and Innu, concerning the Memorandum of Understanding of the harvest of Caribou. Grand Chief stated that the Innu invited the Cree to have open discussions and work together on other issues that are of interest to both Nations.

Tina Petawabano, Director of Federal and Indigenous Relations presented the document entitled, "Debriefing – Leadership Meeting between the Cree and Innu, Matimekush Lac-John, January 24, 2023," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Daisy House provided a summary of the trip to Matimkush Lac-John and the Memorandum of Understanding of the harvest of Caribou in Chisasibi territory. Chief House also informed the members that the Innu Nation will visit Chisasibi in the summer of 2023.

Robbie Tapiatic expressed his support to the MOU, however recommended a moratorium on the harvesting of caribou soon to preserve the population for future generations.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. to reconvene at 1:15 p.m.

3. Apatisiwin Skills Development

Abel Trapper, Director of ASD presented the document entitled, “Apatisiwin Skills Development Update,” a copy of which is attached hereto. The following was highlighted in the presentation.

1. Policy on Programs
2. Capacity Building 2021, Eeyou Istchee: A Socioeconomic Profile
3. Cree Bursary Program

The members recommended to encourage the youth to pursue their education in various professional and management fields, and that the CSB and Cree Entities work together, and share information related to employment opportunities and programs of study.

4. Governance (Cont'd)

Free and Informed Consent and Imposed Sterilization Among First Nations and Inuit Women in Quebec - (Suzy Basile – QUAT)

Suzy Basile, Ph.D. Professor and Canada Research in Indigenous Women Issues holder and Patricia Bouchard PHD Student, School of Indigenous Studies, at UQAT presented the document entitled, “Free and Informed Consent and Imposed Sterilization Among First Nations and Inuit Women in Quebec,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

Suzy Basile mentioned that there will be a Phase 2 of the research and may have further discussions with CWEIA and the CBHSSJB.

Chief Clarence Jolly recommended to offer CNG position on the presentation from UQAT, including future matters that are presented to the Board/Council.

Grand Chief acknowledged Chief Jolly’s recommendation and encouraged the members to discuss the information presented at Board/Council meetings to the local level for their members’ input before a position at the regional level is proposed.

5. Environment and Remedial Works

Proposed Law Regarding the Cree Traditional Activities Program (Second Reading)

Paul John Murdoch Paul John Murdoch conducted a second reading and presented the document entitled, “The Proposed Law Concerning the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Program,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

James Bay Lithium

Paul John Murdoch provided an update on the status of the assessment of the James Bay Lithium Project. He explained that although the project may have received Federal authorization the more significant authorization from the Provincial Government remained to be completed. He explained that there was still much work to be done with the impacted family and the Cree Nation of Eastmain before the mine could receive authorization. He also explained that the project was still the subject of discussions between the Community, Cree Nation Government and the Company for the conclusion of an Impact Benefit Agreement and no one could take it for granted at this time that the project would receive authorization or be feasible considering the conditions that could be placed on the project.

6. Governance (Continued)

2023 Year of Social Solidarity

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty mentioned that the Chiefs declared their support to the 2023 Year of Social Solidarity at the December Board/Council meeting.

Grand Chief encouraged the Chiefs to contribute in the Year of Social Solidarity by creating prevention programs, awareness campaigns for social issues such as bullying, violence against women, domestic and family violence and other social issues affecting their communities.

Prior to his presentation, Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the CBHSSJB recommended that the Chiefs also declare their support to the 2023 Year of Social Solidarity at the local level.

Bertie and Daniel St-Amour, Executive Director presented the document entitled, "Update to CNG – Year of Social Solidarity," and focused on the, Statement of Intent to Enter into a Partnership Agreement between the Cree First Nations of Eeyou Istchee and the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (CBHSSJB)," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Irene Neeposh mentioned that employees of regional organizations are unable to engage in community discussions concerning social issues because they must work and recommended that if we want to work on Social Solidarity, employees should be given time off to participate in these sessions, with pay.

Chief Christina Gilpin Wemindji asked what the expectations of the Year of Social Solidarity are and recommended to focus on a conclusion and provide a report at the end of 2023.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty informed the members of the Miyupimaatisiun Committee Gathering that will be held on February 21 to 23, 2023 in Montreal and encouraged them to attend and share their communities' ideas on the Year of Social Solidarity. It was also recommended to hold regular follow-up Zoom meetings to share information and updates on the communities' activities. She also informed the members that there will be a report at the end of 2023.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on February 1st, 2023, at the Neoskweskau Memorial Complex in Mistissini, Eeyou Istchee

7. Social and Cultural Development

Cultural Baseline Study

Deputy Grand Chief Norman A. Wapachee provided a summary and update on the Cultural Baseline Study and informed the members that a report will be available at the end of March 2023.

8. Next Meeting

Grand Chief informed the members that the meetings with the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government will resume and will be held in Eeyou Istchee and the Jamesi n towns, alternately.

The next meeting of the Board/Council will be held on March 29th and 30th, 2023 in Chibougamau, Quebec.

Chief Clarence Jolly informed the members that elections will be held in Nemaska and that this is his last Board/Council meeting on this term. He expressed his appreciation to the members for the support and experience during the last 4 years.

The closing prayer was recited by Chief Clarence Jolly.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.


Edna Neeposh, Corporate Secretary

1. Corporate Matters	2
<i>Resolution BC-2023-03: Adoption of Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on March 29th and 30th, 2023</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-04: Board-Council Membership – Stanley George</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-05: Board-Council Membership – Chief Clarence Jolly</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-06: Adoption of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council held on February 1st, 2023;</i>	
<i>Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association</i>	
2. Governance	4
<i>Report of Executive Director</i>	
<i>Update of Cree Nation Youth Council</i>	
<i>Cree Naskapi Commission</i>	
<i>Election Bylaw Committee</i>	
<i>Inter-Band Games</i>	
<i>Bill 79</i>	
3. Capital Works and Services	5
<i>Resolution BC-2023-07: Additional O&M Funding and related Allocations for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-08: Housing O&M/Capacity Plan and related Funding Allocations for 2023-2024</i>	
<i>New Funding for Social Housing from Federal Budget 2022</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-09: Housing Renovation Plan and related Funding Allocations for 2023-2024</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-10: CMHC Contribution Agreement for Renovation of Social Housing Units</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-11: Changes to Program 1.3 and 1.3B re Social Housing</i>	
<i>Resolution BC-2023-12: Changes to Program 1.3A re Private Housing</i>	
4. Environment and Remedial Works	12
<i>Resolution BC-2023-13: Proposed Law Regarding the Cree Traditional Activities Program</i>	
5. Governance (Continued)	22
<i>Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay</i>	
6. Social and Cultural Development	22
7. Governance (Continued)	23
<i>Language Commission Update</i>	
<i>Funding Agreement on Languages – Signing Ceremony</i>	
<i>Cree School Board – Update</i>	
<i>Election Laws and Regulations Review Committee</i>	
<i>Cree Naskapi Commission Review Committee</i>	
8. Environment and Remedial Works (Cont'd)	25
<i>Protected Areas</i>	
9. Governance (Continued)	25
<i>Secretariat Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance (SCNATEA)</i>	

1. Corporate Matters

i. Opening Prayer

The Opening prayer was recited by Chief Allan Jolly.

ii. Notice and Quorum

Notice having been delivered in accordance with the Law and regulations and there being a quorum, the meeting was duly constituted and commenced at 9:48 a.m.

Present:

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty	
Deputy Grand Chief Norman Wapachee	
Chief Irene Neeposh	Romeo Saganash (Virtual)
Chief Michael Petawabano	John S. Matoush
Chief Daisy House	Robbie Tapiatic
Chief Christina Gilpin	Daniel Mark-Stewart
Chief Clarence Jolly	Brant Blackned (Virtual)
Chief Robbie Kawapit	Gaston Cooper
John Henry Wapachee	
Raymond Jolly	

Also present: Chief Annie Mapachee-Salt
Chief Allan Jolly
Kelly Kitchicappo
Samson Wischee, Deputy Chief (Waskaganish)
Lance Cooper, Deputy Chief (Ouje-Bougoumou)

iii. Chairperson and Secretary

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acted as Chairperson and Edna Neeposh acted as Secretary.

iv. Adoption of Agenda

- John Matoush added Inter-Band Games

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Chief Michael Petawabano, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION BC-2023-03: *Adoption of Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on March 29th and 30th, 2023*

WHEREAS the Board/Council reviewed the draft agenda for a meeting held on March 29th and 30th, 2023;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the amended agenda for the meeting of March 29th and 30th, 2023.

v. **New Members**

Cree Nation of Whapmagoostui

The Cree Nation of Whapmagoostui held elections for Community Representative to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government and elected Stanley George for a three-year term.

On a motion duly made by Daniel Mark-Stewart and seconded by John Henry Wapachee, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2023-04: Board-Council Membership – Stanley George

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Whapmagoostui held elections for community representation to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby recognizes the election of Stanley George as the community representative of Whapmagoostui to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term of three (3) years as per the General Laws of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government.

Cree Nation of Nemaska - Chief

The Cree Nation of Nemaska held elections for Chief and re-elected Chief Clarence Jolly for a four-year term.

On a motion duly made by Gaston Cooper and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION 2023-05: Board-Council Membership – Chief Clarence Jolly

WHEREAS the Cree Nation of Nemaska held elections for Chief;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby recognizes the election of Chief Clarence Jolly of the Cree Nation of Nemaska and resulting membership to the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council for a term corresponding to the local term of Chief as per the General Laws of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government.

vi. **Adoption of Minutes**

Paul John Murdoch reviewed the minutes of a meeting of the Board/Council held on February 1st, 2023.

On a motion duly made by Chief Christina Gilpin and seconded by Chief Irene Neeposh, the members adopted:

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on March 29th and 30th, 2023 at the Club de Golf Chibougamau-Chapais in Chibougamau, Quebec

RESOLUTION BC-2023-06: *Adoption of Minutes of a Meeting of the Board/Council held on February 1st, 2023;*

WHEREAS the Board/Council reviewed the draft minutes of a meeting held on February 1st, 2023;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government hereby adopts the minutes of a meeting held on February 1st, 2023 as corrected.

Paul John Murdoch presented the document entitled, "Summary of Executive Committee Decisions: March 16th, 2023 Report to Cree Nation Government March 28th, 2023," a copy of which is attached hereto.

He furthermore informed the members that Corporate Services will present resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee at future Board/Council meetings and will remain a standing item on the Board/Council agenda.

Chief Allan Jolly introduced Deputy Chief Kelly Kitchiicappo who will join the Board/Council meetings as an Observer for MoCreebec.

Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association

Gaston Cooper, Executive Director of CNACA presented a summary of the Cree Knowledge Festival that was recently held in Chisasibi.

2. Governance

Report of Executive Director

Davey Bobbish, Executive Director presented the report entitled, "Report of the Executive Director GCC(EI)/Cree Nation Government Board/Council Meeting March 29-30, 2023," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Cree Nation Youth Council

Youth Grand Chief Adrian N. Gunner presented the document entitled, "Youth Sector Update Presented by: Youth Grand Chief - Adrian N. Gunner Presented to: GCCEI/CNG Council Board – March 29, 2022," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Robbie Tapiatic informed the Youth Grand Chief that the Innu Nation is interested in engaging in a relationship with the Cree as part of Nation to Nation building and will provide contact information to the CNYC to pursue this exchange.

A break was called at 10:50 a.m. to convene at 11:17 a.m.

Cree Naskapi Commission

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty acknowledged The Late Richard Saunders who was a long-time serving Commissioner and for his contribution to the Cree Naskapi Commission.

The Grand Chief also presented a summary of the governance work that has started. She also gave an update on the Cree Naskapi Commission and mentioned an advisory document she received from the commission to use moving forward.

The CNG met with Naskapi Nation during the Innu visit who requested a review of the Cree Naskapi Commission and its mandate.

Grand Chief recommended creating a Working Committee Table and appointing two representatives to the Table and appointing two members to the Cree Naskapi Commission.

Election Bylaw Committee

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty informed the members that she had asked Corporate Services to oversee the CNG Election Bylaw, the structure and status therein. She recommended the creation of a working committee to work with Corporate Services.

Lunch Break 11:48 a.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

Inter-Band Games

Chief Michael Petawabano provided a summary of the Inter-Band Games that will be held in Mistissini in July 2023. He stated that Mistissini committed \$200,000 and requested sponsorship from the communities.

Bill 79

Anne Panasuk, Special Advisor and Francoise Rupertouse (Virtual) from Soutien aux familles d'enfants autochtones disparus ou décédés presented the document entitled, "To Return Dignity and Justice to the Families," concerning bill 79 - an act to authorize the communication of personal information to the families of Indigenous children who went missing or died after being admitted to an institution, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty informed the members the presentation will be posted on social media and the Cree Nation Government website if they wish to learn more about Bill-79 or if they want to use their services.

3. Capital Works and Services

Additional O & M Funding

John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services presented the document entitled, "Operations and Maintenance (O & M) – Additional Funding," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Daniel Mark-Stewart recommended consulting the communities prior to the allocation of funds. Grand Chief informed the members that the recommendations are made at the DOs and Treasurers meetings and require ratification by the Board/Council.

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarence Jolly and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

Resolution BC-2023-07: Additional O&M Funding and related Allocations for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully secured additional funding for Operations and Maintenance of \$31.5 million for the years 2020-2021 to 2023-2024 to support the operation and maintenance of certain types of community infrastructure, particularly water and wastewater systems;

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WHEREAS federal officials have indicated that Canada is expected to continue to provide comparable amounts each year until 2027-2028, for an estimated additional amount of up to \$33 million for those years, although such additional amount will be confirmed once subsequent amendments of the *Operations and Maintenance Funding Transfer Payment Agreement* are executed with Canada;

WHEREAS in total, the Cree Nation Government could possibly receive up to \$64.5 million of additional O&M funding for the 8-year period of 2020-2021 to 2027-2028, subject to confirmation;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government must report on this additional O&M funding as part of the annual report to Canada pursuant to section 4.13 of the Federal New Relationship Agreement;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government is proposing a plan for the use of this additional O&M funding for the period 2022-2023 to 2027-2028, developed in collaboration with the Cree communities, and reviewed at this meeting ("**Additional O&M Funding Plan**");

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government ("**Board/Council**") hereby approves the Additional O&M Funding Plan substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Board/Council hereby approves, as part of the said Additional O&M Funding Plan, an allocation of \$750,000 for 2022-2023 and \$13,340,649 for 2023-2024, as follows:

	2022-2023	2023-2024
Chisasibi		1,200,122
Eastmain		1,005,000
Mistissini		950,122
Nemaska		910,122
Ouje-Bougoumou		910,122
Waskaganish		1,200,122
Waswanipi		775,000
Wemindji		1,180,122
Whapmagoostui	750,000	1,580,603
Regional		3,629,314
Total 2023-2024	\$750,000	\$13,340,649

THAT this and subsequent allocations of funding to the Cree communities under the Additional O&M Funding Plan shall be subject to rules to be developed by the Cree Nation Government and approved by the Board/Council;

THAT the Executive Director and the Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and/or useful to carry out the foregoing resolution.

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On a motion duly made by Chief Clarence Jolly and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

Resolution BC-2023-08: *Housing O&M/Capacity Plan and related Funding Allocations for 2023-2024*

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully secured from Canada additional funding of \$228 million to further support the Cree Nation Housing Strategy;

WHEREAS this additional funding is part of a new funding envelope for housing announced in the Federal Budget 2022;

WHEREAS this additional funding shall be allocated in accordance with a Revised Action Plan submitted to and accepted by Canada, which takes into account a proposal and information provided previously to Canada, as well as the allocation by Canada based on identified needs in three (3) broad categories: (i) suitability, (ii) adequacy, and (iii) O&M and capacity support;

WHEREAS under the Revised Action Plan, the Cree Nation Government is proposing to set aside an amount of \$60 million to support over ten (10) years the O&M and capacity needs for the new 750 social housing units to be built under the Special Community Social Housing Program (“**Housing O&M/Capacity Plan**”);

WHEREAS the said Housing O&M/Capacity Plan was developed in collaboration with the Cree communities, and has been reviewed at this meeting;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government (“**Board/Council**”) hereby approves the Housing O&M/Capacity Plan substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Board/Council hereby approves, as part of the said Housing O&M/Capacity Plan, an allocation of \$5,077,306 for 2023-2024, as follows:

Chisasibi	865,031
Eastmain	282,988
Mistissini	877,442
Nemaska	292,535
Ouje-Bougoumou	290,626
Waskaganish	858,348
Waswanipi	543,942
Wemindji	532,485
Whapmagoostui	282,988
<u>Regional</u>	<u>250,920</u>
Total 2023-2024	\$5,077,306

THAT this and subsequent allocations of funding to the Cree communities under the Housing O&M/Capacity Plan shall be subject to rules to be developed by the Cree Nation Government and approved by the Board/Council, which shall at least require the charging and collecting of appropriate rent, as well as the occupation of units by low-income Cree individuals only;

THAT the Executive Director and the Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and/or useful to carry out the foregoing resolution, including the reallocation of funds under the Federal New Relationship Agreement previously allocated to support the costs of one housing inspector in each community (total of \$771,480)

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and three regional positions (total of \$250,920), which costs are thenceforth supported by funding set aside under the Housing O&M/Capacity Plan.

New Funding for Social Housing from Federal Budget 2022

John Longchap presented the document entitled, "Housing – Funding Allocation from Federal Budget 2022," a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarence Jolly and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

Resolution BC-2023-09: *Housing Renovation Plan and related Funding Allocations for 2023-2024*

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully secured from Canada additional funding of \$228 million to further support the Cree Nation Housing Strategy;

WHEREAS this additional funding is part of a new funding envelope for housing announced in the Federal Budget 2022;

WHEREAS this additional funding shall be allocated in accordance with a Revised Action Plan submitted to and accepted by Canada, which takes into account a proposal and information provided previously to Canada, as well as the allocation by Canada based on identified needs in three (3) broad categories: (i) suitability, (ii) adequacy, and (iii) O&M and capacity support;

WHEREAS under the Revised Action Plan, the Cree Nation Government is proposing to set aside an amount of \$61 million to support over three (3) years the renovation of 750 existing social housing units based on the 2015 Housing Study conducted by the Cree Nation Government ("**Housing Renovation Plan**");

WHEREAS the said Housing Renovation Plan was developed in collaboration with the Cree communities, and has been reviewed at this meeting;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government ("**Board/Council**") hereby approves the Housing Renovation Plan substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Board/Council hereby approves, as part of the said Housing Renovation Plan, an allocation of \$20,333,333 for 2023-2024, as follows:

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Chisasibi	4,424,817
Eastmain	777,139
Mistissini	3,995,424
Nemaska	1,013,042
Ouje-Bougoumou	1,155,298
Waskaganish	3,195,845
Waswanipi	2,544,983
Wemindji	1,764,646
<u>Whapmagoostui</u>	<u>1,462,139</u>
Total 2023-2024	\$20,333,333

THAT this and subsequent allocations of funding to the Cree communities under the Housing Renovation Plan shall be subject to rules to be developed by the Cree Nation Government and approved by the Board/Council;

THAT the Executive Director and the Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and/or useful to carry out the foregoing resolution.

CMHC Contribution Agreement for Renovation of Social Housing Units

On a motion duly made by Chief Clarence Jolly and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

Resolution BC-2023-10: CMHC Contribution Agreement for Renovation of Social Housing Units

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has successfully secured from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) a contribution of up to \$11.25 million under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund to support the renovation of 750 existing social housing units in the Cree communities;

WHEREAS this funding would be allocated to the Cree communities over 3 years, starting in 2023-2024, for them to carry out the required renovations in compliance with the requirements set out in a Contribution Agreement between CMHC and the Cree Nation Government, including:

- 1) at least a 25% reduction in Energy Efficiency (EE) and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) at a portfolio level relative to past or pre-repair levels;
- 2) at least 20% of units within portfolio are accessible either at time of execution of Contribution Agreement or by the end of the 3-year Repair Period;
- 3) CMHC contribution funding for each unit cannot represent more than 40% of total investment for repair costs;
- 4) the repaired units will be maintained as affordable social housing units for a period of at least twenty (20) years;

WHEREAS it is proposed that the CMHC contribution be allocated over three years in accordance with a renovation plan based on the 2015 Housing Study conducted by the Cree Nation Government, which renovation plan has been reviewed at this meeting;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government (“**Board/Council**”) hereby approves a Contribution Agreement with CMHC for a contribution of up to \$11.25 million under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund to support the renovation of 750 existing social housing unit in the Cree communities substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Board/Council hereby approves, subject to the terms and conditions of the aforementioned Contribution Agreement with CMHC, the following allocations:

	Units Y1 2023-2024	Units Y2 2024-2025	Units Y3 2025-2026	Total Units	Allocations
Chisasibi	59	59	60	178	2,670,000
Eastmain	14	14	13	41	615,000
Nemaska	13	13	14	40	690,000
Ouje-Bougoumou	15	15	16	46	690,000
Waskaganish	34	34	34	102	1,530,000
Waswanipi	31	31	32	94	1,410,000
Wemindji	23	23	24	70	1,050,000
Whapmagoostui	15	15	16	46	690,000
Total 2023-2024	248	248	254	750	\$11,250,000

THAT the Executive Director and the Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and/or useful to carry out the foregoing resolution, including:

- 1) the signing of a Contribution Agreement with CMHC substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto; and
- 2) the signing of a contribution agreement with each Cree First Nations to enable the Cree Nation Government to comply with its obligations and undertakings under the Contribution Agreement with CMHC.

Proposed Changes to Programs 1.3 and 1.3B re Social Housing Program 1.3A re Private Housing

John Longchap, Director of Capital Works and Services presented the document entitled, “Proposed Changes to Programs 1.3 and 1.3B re Social Housing Program 1.3A re Private Housing,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

Changes to Program 1.3 and 1.3B re Social Housing

On a motion duly made by Chief Daisy House and seconded by Chief Christina Gilpin, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION BC-2023-11: Changes to Program 1.3 and 1.3B re Social Housing

WHEREAS in December 2022, the Cree Nation Government set aside \$60 million to increase by thirty percent (30%) the subsidies under the Special Community Social Housing Program 1.3B to enable the Cree communities to continue the construction of their share of the new 750 units without having to incur any new debt;

WHEREAS given the new subsidy levels under Program 1.3B, the high cost of borrowing, and the fact that funds remain available to support social housing, it is suggested that the Special Community Social Housing Program 1.3B be amended to clarify that communities must use their own funds to cover any balance required for the construction of housing units, and they should not incur any debt, as no O&M funds are set aside to cover debt repayment and this will become an unnecessary burden over time;

WHEREAS it is also suggested that the Community Social and Rental Housing Program 1.3 be amended to remove certain restrictions and provide to the communities more flexibility and responsibility on the use of their A-Base funding;

WHEREAS changes to the Programs 1.3 and 1.3B have been reviewed at this meeting;

IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and Council of the Cree Nation Government (“**Board/Council**”) hereby approves changes to the Programs 1.3 and 1.3B substantially in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto in regards to the removal of certain restrictions and provide to the communities more flexibility and responsibility on the use of their A-Base funding;

THAT the Executive Director and the Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and/or useful to carry out the foregoing resolution.

Changes to Program 1.3A re Private Housing

On a motion duly made by John Henry Wapachee and seconded by Chief Clarence Jolly, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION BC-2023-12: Changes to Program 1.3A re Private Housing

WHEREAS on May 27, 2020, the Cree Nation Government approved the Special Community Private Housing Program 1.3A;

WHEREAS on May 26, 2021, the Cree Nation Government approved a first revision of the Program 1.3A to provide an additional subsidy amount for a subsequent expansion of living area (e.g. finishing a basement), and to modify the indexation of the subsidy amounts to reflect the increase or decrease in the cost of residential construction;

WHEREAS community members have requested other changes, including that Program 1.3A be opened to smaller units to enable people with smaller budget to qualify for single detached units;

WHEREAS it is suggested that technical changes be made to the indexation formula in order to reflect changes in Statistics Canada’s reporting system (different table numbers), and to use earlier quarters to compare annual inflation (September-December instead of January-March) in order to produce earlier each year an updated subsidy grid with new indexed amounts;

WHEREAS changes to the Program 1.3A have been reviewed at this meeting;

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IT IS RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government (“Board/Council”) hereby approves changes to the Program 1.3A a revision of the Special Community Private Housing Initiative, Program 1.3A in regard to the eligible square footage and the indexation of the subsidy rate in the form reviewed at this meeting and appended hereto;

THAT the Executive Director and the Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to do all things useful or necessary to carry out the foregoing resolution.

A break was called at 4:10 p.m. to reconvene at 4:35 p.m.

At 4:35 p.m., the members held an in-camera session.

The meeting recessed at 6:00 p.m. to reconvene on March 30, 2023 at 9:50 a.m.

4. Environment and Remedial Works

Proposed Law Regarding the Cree Traditional Activities Program (Third Reading)

Paul John Murdoch conducted a third reading and presented the document entitled, “The Proposed Law Concerning the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Program,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

On a motion duly made by Chief Michael Petawabano and seconded by Chief Robbie Kawapit, the members adopted:

RESOLUTION BC-2023-13: Proposed Law Regarding the Cree Traditional Activities Program

WHEREAS the Agreement regarding Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec executed in 2005 (“2005 Enhancement Agreement”) expired in 2012;

WHEREAS the Cree Regional Authority (as it then was, now the Cree Nation Government) adopted the Forestry Programs Law in 2005 and amended it in 2008 and 2011 in order to provide for various roles and responsibilities with respect to the management of the 2005 Enhancement Agreement, among other things;

WHEREAS the 2005 Enhancement Agreement was replaced by the Agreement regarding Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec executed in 2013 (“2013 Enhancement Agreement”);

WHEREAS the Agreement to resolve the Baril-Moses Forestry Dispute between the Cree Nation Government and the Gouvernement du Québec executed in 2015 (“2015 Baril-Moses Resolution Agreement”) provided that the term of the 2013 Enhancement Agreement shall be extended until March 31, 2021;

WHEREAS a successor agreement to the 2013 Enhancement Agreement was executed in 2022 for the period 2021-2026 (“Enhancement Agreement”);

WHEREAS it is deemed appropriate to replace the Forestry Programs Law adopted in 2005 and amended in 2008 and 2011 by the present Law;

WHEREAS the Cree Nation Government has consulted Québec with respect to the present Law in conformity with the Enhancement Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE the Cree Nation Government adopts this Law, as follows:

I. SHORT TITLE

1. This Law may be cited as the Cree Nation Government Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Program Law.

II. REPEAL OF PREVIOUS LAW

2. The Forestry Programs Law adopted in 2005 and amended in 2008 and 2011 is repealed.

III. INTERPRETATION

3. The Preamble forms an integral part of this Law.
4. In this Law, the masculine includes the feminine, the singular includes the plural and vice versa.
5. This Law:
 - a) is to be construed as upholding the rights of Indigenous peoples recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, and not as abrogating or derogating from them;
 - b) must in no way be construed as having the effect of a repeal, dispensation or negation of an aboriginal right, a treaty right or other right;
 - c) is also a by-law under the Act respecting the Cree Nation Government (CQLR, c. G-1.031).
6. For the purposes of this Law:
 - a) “Community Enhancement Proposal” refers to a project submitted on behalf of an Eligible Community and which may benefit multiple traplines or an Eligible Community as a whole;
 - b) “Community Officers” means individuals who have been appointed as Community Forestry Programs Officers by an Eligible Community;
 - c) “Community Submission” means the submission of an Eligible Community to the Cree Nation Government under this Law and which includes various Land User Project Proposals as well as Community Enhancement Proposals;
 - d) “Council” means the Council of the Cree Nation Government;

- e) “Director of Forestry” means the person holding the position of director of the Department of Forestry of the Cree Nation Government;
- f) “Eligible Community” means one of the following: the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation, the Cree Nation of Mistissini, the Cree Nation of Nemaska, the Crees of the Waskaganish First Nation or the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi;
- g) “Eligibility Criteria”: means the criteria set out in the Enhancement Agreement, this Law and any policies adopted thereunder, that must be met for a project to be eligible for funding;
- h) “Enhancement Agreement” means the Agreement regarding Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement between the Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec, effective as of April 1st, 2021, and any successor agreement, as applicable;
- i) “Executive Committee” means the Executive Committee of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government;
- j) “Designated Cree Nation Government Officer” means any person or persons designated by the Director of Forestry to carry out the functions set out herein;
- k) “Immediate Family” means a person’s spouse, parents, children, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandchildren and any other person who normally resides in the same home as that person;
- l) “Land User” means a Cree beneficiary whose trapline is associated with one of the Eligible Communities, including Cree tallymen, Cree land users, such as beneficiaries of the Economic Security Program for Cree Hunters, and other members of Eligible Communities;
- m) “Land User Project Proposal” means a project proposal submitted by a Land User to an Eligible Community and which was included in a Community Submission;
- n) “Recipient of Funding” means an Eligible Community which has concluded the required Project Funding Agreement with the Cree Nation Government in conformity with this Law;
- o) “Trapline” means a Cree trapline located in the territory of Chapter 3 of the Agreement concerning a New Relationship between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec or in the territory contemplated by the 2015 Baril-Moses Resolution Agreement;
- p) “Treasurer” means the Treasurer of the Cree Nation Government.

IV. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. FORESTRY CREE TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

7. The Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee is hereby established. The Council shall appoint on such Committee as many voting members as it deems necessary, for the duration it determines. The Director of Forestry, or his designated representative, shall participate in the meetings of this Committee, without voting rights.
8. The Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee shall:
 - a) in collaboration with the Director of Forestry, oversee the implementation of the Enhancement Agreement, including to ensure that it is implemented in accordance with its terms and conditions;
 - b) decide on appeals of the decisions of the Forestry Department as set out in section 18 of this Law;
 - c) recommend to the Executive Committee of the Cree Nation Government, for adoption, policies related to the implementation of the Enhancement Agreement or this Law, as required;
 - d) ensure, every year, the application of the criteria set out in the Enhancement Agreement with respect to equitable funding distribution including with respect to the following:
 - i. the eligibility of Land User Project Proposals for traplines where forestry is conducted during that year or in the previous five (5) years and for traplines where forestry is planned within the current five-year period, as set out in the Enhancement Agreement;
 - ii. the amount available per trapline, in view of the total funding, of the quantity of traplines where forestry is conducted during that year or in the previous five (5) years and for traplines where forestry is planned within the current five-year period and of the maximum cap per trapline per year set out in the Enhancement Agreement;
 - iii. the decisions of the Eligible Communities with respect to the following:
 - a. the possibility to set a maximum cap for traplines which is lower than the cap set out in the Enhancement Agreement;
 - b. the possibility to allocate to the following projects any annual funding that remains further to the distribution of funding among Cree traplines where forestry is conducted during that year or in the previous five (5) years and is planned within the current five-year period, as set out in the Enhancement Agreement, and with respect to their level of priority:
 1. Community Enhancement Proposals (i.e. projects which benefit multiple traplines or the community as a whole);
 2. projects that address the needs of trappers and traplines where forestry has been carried out in the years prior to the previous five (5) years;
 - e) make recommendations regarding the approval of Land User Project Proposals or Community Enhancement Proposals, as required;

- f) report from time to time to the Executive Committee and the Council, including upon request;
- g) carry out the other tasks contemplated by this Law; and
- h) carry out any other functions as determined by the Executive Committee or the Council.

B. DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY

- 9. The Director of Forestry shall ensure the implementation of this Law.
- 10. In addition, the Director of Forestry shall:
 - a) in collaboration with the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee, oversee the implementation of the Enhancement Agreement, including to facilitate its evaluation and renewal by the parties thereto;
 - b) ensure that the Forestry Department issues the required approvals for each project, when approved, including Land User Project Proposals and Community Enhancement Proposals submitted as part of a Community Submission under this Law;
 - c) determine if each project meets the eligibility requirements and whether or not each project should be approved, with or without the required adaptations, or delegate these decisions to another officer of the Forestry Department;
 - d) ensure the preparation and submission to the Government of Québec of the financial and activity reports contemplated by the Enhancement Agreement, as applicable;
 - e) provide directions to the Designated Cree Nation Government Officer to ensure the administration of the Enhancement Agreement;
 - f) recommend new policies or amendments to existing policies relating to the implementation of this Law or the Enhancement Agreement;
 - g) carry out the other tasks contemplated by this Law.

C. ADMINISTRATION OF ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENT

- 11. The Director of Forestry may delegate the following functions to a Designated Cree Nation Government Officer:
 - a) oversee and be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Enhancement Agreement;
 - b) decide on the approval for each projects, including Land User Project Proposals and Community Enhancement Proposals submitted as part of a Community Submission under this Law;

- c) ensure that Community Officers understand the requirements for the submission of Land User Project Proposals to the concerned Eligible Community, for inclusion in a Community Submission, as well as the requirements for Community Enhancement Proposals;
 - d) assist in the development of Community Submissions;
 - e) facilitate the receipt of Community Submissions;
 - f) ensure that projects contained in Community Submissions, including Land User Project Proposals and Community Enhancement Proposals, meet all requirements under the present Law, the policies made to implement this Law, if any, and the Enhancement Agreement, including during their implementation;
 - g) facilitate the realization of the projects contained in a Community Submission and that are approved under this Law; and
 - h) further to coordination with Québec in accordance with the Enhancement Agreement, conduct random annual monitoring spot checks as further verification of project completion.
12. A Designated Cree Nation Government Officer shall initial all projects contained in a Community Submission and which are eligible under this Law and shall submit such proposals for approval.
13. The responsibilities of a Designated Cree Nation Government Officer shall be carried out in collaboration with the Community Officers.

D. COMMUNITY OFFICERS

14. The functions and tasks of a Community Officer appointed by an Eligible Community shall include the following:
- a) ensure that Community Submissions, including each Land User Project Proposal and Community Enhancement Proposal contained therein, meet the Eligibility Criteria prior to their submission to a Designated Cree Nation Government Officer;
 - b) assist Land Users and community officials in the preparation of Land User Project Proposals, including by providing assistance relating to environmental requirements for a given project;
 - c) liaise with the Council of the concerned Eligible Community regarding Community Submissions and the implementation of related projects;
 - d) plan, in collaboration with the Council of the Eligible Community, the types of projects to be included in Community Submissions as set out in paragraph 8.d)iii of this Law;

- e) ensure the availability of the resolutions of the Eligible Community concerning the types of projects and maximum cap per trapline as set out in paragraph 8.d)iii of this Law, including ensuring the transmission of such resolutions to a Designated Cree Nation Government Officer;
- f) ensure the resolution of any local disagreement with respect to the implementation of the Enhancement Agreement, or ensure the referral of the disagreement to the Council of the Eligible Community for final decision.

V. PROJECT APPROVALS, APPEAL PROCESS AND PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENTS

A. LAND USER PROJECT PROPOSALS AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROPOSALS

15. Land User Project Proposals and Community Enhancement Proposals must:

- a) Form part of a Community Submission transmitted by an Eligible Community to a Designated Cree Nation Government Officer and meet the Eligibility Criteria;
- b) Include a written undertaking confirming the commitment of the Land User or the Eligible Community, as the case may be, to ensure the maintenance of the equipment and infrastructure used during the project, as applicable;
- c) Include a written undertaking of the Land User or the Eligible Community, as the case may be, confirming that all necessary permits and authorizations have been or will be obtained before the commencement of the proposed project;
- d) Include a description of the project including its purpose, nature and location, its scope (e.g. number of traplines or Land Users involved in the project, as applicable), its costs, and the portion of its costs covered under another program or otherwise, the entity or individual responsible for its implementation and the nature of the Cree employment, contract and in-kind contribution; and
- e) Include any other information determined by the Director of Forestry or the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee.

B. PROJECT APPROVAL

16. Each project contained in a Community Submission, including Land User Project Proposals and Community Enhancement Proposals, is subject to the confirmation of its eligibility by the Forestry Department. Thereafter, the Forestry Department may approve such projects, with or without the required adaptations, upon recommendation of a Designated Cree Nation Government Officer. The Director of Forestry shall coordinate with the Treasurer to ensure that funds are available for such projects, with the required adaptations, as the case may be, prior to approval thereof.

17. A Land User Project Proposal and a Community Enhancement Proposal may only be approved if:

- a) It conforms with the Enhancement Agreement, the present Law, the policies made thereunder, if any, and the Eligibility Criteria;
- b) It is not subsidized in its entirety by another program;
- c) The Eligible Community that has submitted the Land User Project Proposal or Community Enhancement Proposal, or the concerned Land User, has confirmed in writing that all necessary permits and authorizations have been or will be obtained before the commencement of the proposed project, the whole in accordance with the policies made under this Law, and has complied with any other requirement indicated by the Director of Forestry or the Treasurer.

C. APPEALS

- 18. The decision of the Forestry Department regarding the approval of a project contained in a Community Submission may be appealed to the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee by any interested person.
- 19. The decisions of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee denying the eligibility of a project contained in a Community Submission may be appealed to the Executive Committee of the Cree Nation Government by any interested person. The decision of the Executive Committee is final and may not be the subject of judicial review.

D. PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT

- 20. Any funding contribution to be provided to an Eligible Community for a Community Submission approved under this Law shall be subject to the conclusion of a funding agreement between the Cree Nation Government and such Eligible Community, which shall be in the form determined by the Treasurer ("Project Funding Agreement"). The Project Funding Agreement shall include:
 - a) the level of contribution;
 - b) the payment schedule (i.e. 70% of total funding upon signature of agreement and remaining 30% upon receipt and approval by the Cree Nation Government of required documentation, including activity and audited financial reports);
 - c) the description of the approved projects;
 - d) the conditions and modalities of funding, including with respect to the use of the funds during the same fiscal year and any requirement to obtain permits such as environmental permits;
 - e) reporting requirements; and
 - f) the undertakings of the parties.
- 21. The Project Funding Agreements shall, at a minimum, contain provisions compatible with the Enhancement Agreement, this Law and the policies made thereunder.

22. The Project Funding Agreements may provide, at the discretion of the Cree Nation Government:
- a) for the use by an Eligible Community of an amount of up to ten percent (10%) of the annual funding disbursed to that community for the purpose of administration fees, including verification, monitoring and production of reports;
 - b) reporting requirements relating to the use by the Eligible Community of the amount provided for administration fees;
 - c) the obligation for the Eligible Community to remit to the Cree Nation Government the amount provided for administration fees where such amount or a portion thereof was not used by the Eligible Community or was used for expenditures that are not eligible under the Project Funding Agreement.
23. Prior to its conclusion, a Project Funding Agreement shall be subject to an approval of the Treasurer, the Management Committee of the Cree Nation Government or its Executive Committee, as the case may be, in accordance with the Financial Authority Law of the Cree Nation Government, as amended from time to time.

VI. AUDITING AND REPORTING

24. The Cree Nation Government shall have the same powers vis-à-vis the Recipient of Funding as the powers of the Government of Québec vis-à-vis the Cree Nation Government under the Enhancement Agreement, with respect to auditing and reporting, with such adaptations as may be necessary.

VII. CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

25. Any person, in exercising his powers and discharging his duties under this Law, shall avoid or duly disclose any situation in which he may be, or be perceived to be, in conflict of interest.
26. For the purpose of this Law, a conflict of interest arises in any situation where:
- a) a person's interest comes into conflict with the interests of the Cree Nation Government, or
 - b) as a result of his interest, a person may be reasonably perceived to come into conflict with the interests of the Cree Nation Government, or
 - c) a person's ability to act in the best interests of the Cree Nation Government may be compromised or may be perceived to be compromised.
27. For the purpose of this Law, the interest of
- a) a corporation, person, body, partnership, or joint venture in which a person referred to in section 25 is involved in a manner described in Appendix A, and
 - b) a member of the Immediate Family of a person referred to in section 25, are deemed to be an interest of a person referred to in section 25, as the case may be.

28. The disclosure of the conflict of interest required under section 25 shall be made to the members of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee. Any person who may be, or be perceived to be, in a conflict of interest in relation to a specific matter shall not take part in deliberations, decisions or discussions in relation that matter.
29. Where a disagreement arises as to whether a person has a conflict of interest in relation to a specific matter, the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee shall decide by vote whether the person is in conflict of interest or may be reasonably perceived as such. In case of a tie, the Executive Director of the Cree Nation Government shall decide the matter.
30. In the event that all voting members of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee are, or could be perceived to be, in a conflict of interest in relation to a specific matter, the decision of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee may be taken by the Cree Nation Government Management Committee.
31. The Deputy Executive Director or the Treasurer may take a decision which should normally be taken by the Director of Forestry, if he is in a conflict of interest.

VIII. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION

32. In implementing this Law,
 - a) The Director of Forestry, the members of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee or of the Executive Committee in exercising their powers and discharging their duties shall act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Cree Nation Government and exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances;
 - b) Subject to the foregoing, the Director of Forestry, the members of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee or of the Executive Committee shall not be liable for their acts, receipts, neglects or defaults, for any loss, damage or expense of the Cree Nation Government, or for any loss or damage occasioned by any error of judgment or oversight, or for any other loss, damage or misfortune which shall happen in the execution of the duties of their office or in relation thereto.
33. The Cree Nation Government shall indemnify the Director of Forestry, the members of the Forestry Cree Traditional Activities Enhancement Committee or of the Executive Committee, including the individuals that held these positions in the past, or a person who acts or acted at the request of the Cree Nation Government, and his heirs and legal representatives against all costs, charges and expenses, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, reasonably incurred by him in respect of any civil, criminal or administrative action or proceedings to which he is made a party by reason of having carried out a function under this Law or holding a position under this Law if:
 - a) He acted honestly and in good faith with a view of the best interests of the Cree Nation Government; and

- b) In the case of a criminal or administrative action or proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, he had reasonable grounds for believing that his conduct was lawful.

IX. ADOPTION AND PUBLICATION

34. This Law is made by means of the adoption of a resolution of the Council of the Cree Nation Government.
35. Within one week after this Law has been made by the Council of the Cree Nation Government, a copy of this Law shall be posted on the website of the Cree Nation Government and at a public place designated by the Cree Nation Government on the Category IA land of each Cree First Nation.

X. AMENDMENTS

36. Any amendment to this Law shall be made in conformity with the Enhancement Agreement.

XI. COMING INTO FORCE

37. This Law comes into force on the day of its adoption by resolution of the Council.

5. Governance (Continued)

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay – Update

Daniel St. Amour, Executive Director and Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson of the CBHSSJB presented an update for members on the announcement of the reform of the health system, Bill 15 An act to make the health and social services system more effective, to change the law for health and social services for Quebec. He stated that although the Board of Directors of MSSS will change, he reassured the members that the CBHSSJB Board of Directors is not impacted by this change. The limits of Region 18 will remain the same, and so will the process of our agreements, as well as the SRP and the corridor of services. The services of the Union will however change, especially concerning seniority. In summary, CBHSSJB is not severely impacted.

6. Social and Cultural Development

Cultural Baseline Study

Deputy Grand Chief introduced Catherine Lussier, Social Anthropologist to oversee the literature review of the Cultural Baseline Study. Catherine presented the document entitled, “Cultural Baseline Study – Phase 1 Progress Report,” a copy of which is attached hereto.

Chief Daisy House inquired into the accuracy of academic works mentioned in the report. She mentioned the importance of communicating with Cree experts, such as elders and land-users for the research.

Deputy Grand Chief acknowledged the comments of the members and mentioned that the relocation of some villages due to resource development will be included in the study. He also mentioned the recommendation of renaming of the 'Youth-Elders Relations' to 'Access to Culture' to easily access the transfer of knowledge.

Chief Allan Jolly mentioned that MoCreebec Eeyoud were displaced and should be included in the Cultural Baseline Study.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty informed the members that the Cultural Baseline Study is to show how we lived before the signing of the JBNQA in 1975. Future phases of the study will include interviews with our experts, the Elders who will share their knowledge and experience, and to show the difference in our lifestyle between then and now.

She acknowledged the contribution of the Deputy Grand Chief and his team on this challenging file to exhibit our history.

Deputy Grand Chief stated that he will instruct his staff to consider creating a website to have more contributions from members.

A break was called at 11:15 a.m. to reconvene at 11:37 a.m.

7. Governance (Continued)

Language Commissioner Update

Jamie Moses, Language Commissioner provided an update on the Federal funding received and encouraged the Chiefs to submit their funding requests to the Federal Government for the Cree Language initiative.

He also informed the Chiefs of an invitation from the Quebec Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs and Inuit Relations to participate in the creation of a law for the preservation of the Cree Language.

Jamie then presented the document entitled, "Language Update," a copy of which is attached hereto.

John S. Matoush recommended including the members of the Economic Security Program in this initiative, the preservation of the Cree Language. He also encouraged that the programs run by the communities be land-based as that is where the language comes from.

Raymond Jolly expressed his concern about the current state of the Cree language and inquired if there is a plan to share the statistics to the members of the Cree Nation.

Jamie stated that it is the responsibility of the communities on how they want to preserve the Cree language, however they will provide resources and toolkits to the communities. He furthermore stated that it will be a challenge to reinstate our language and culture, but there are means and resources on how to succeed in doing so.

The members held an in-camera session from 12:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:40 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on March 29th and 30th, 2023 at the Club de Golf Chibougamau-Chapais in Chibougamau, Quebec

Funding Agreement on Languages – Signing Ceremony

A Signing Ceremony was held between the Cree Nation Government, Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay, Cree School Board, and the Board of Compensation to provide financial support to the Office of the Cree Language Commissioner to support the department in expanding its resources for new employment opportunities and to ensure the protection of our language.

A break was called at 2:10 p.m. to reconvene at 2:20 p.m.

Cree School Board – Update

Sarah Pash, Chairperson of the Cree School Board presented the document entitled, “Information on the Cree School Board RGA Tour,” concerning the 4th Regional General Assembly, a copy of which is attached hereto.

She informed the members of the Post Secondary Student conference that on April 21, 22 and 23, 2023 at the Shaw Centre in Ottawa, Ontario.

A break was called at 3:20 p.m. to reconvene at 3:30 p.m.

Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty mentioned that the Board/Council held an in-camera session where they had discussions on the Energy file. She informed the members that a mandate was issued to Anthony MacLeod, Director of Commerce and Industry to oversee the Renewable Energy file.

Grand Chief also mentioned the previous discussions and reviewed the creation and mandate of the Election Regulation and Law Review Committee.

Election Laws and Regulations Review Committee

Composition:

- Davey Bobbish, Executive Director
- Returning Officer of the Cree Nation
- Corporate Services
- John Henry Wapachee

Mandate:

Review the current laws, regulations and policies in relation to and affecting the election laws of the Grand Council (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government with a view to proposing amendments or additions for the purpose of modernizing the elections rules and procedures while ensuring the integrity of the democratic process of the Cree Nation.

The Committee will be required to table a report with recommendations to the Board/Council no later than July 18th, 2023.

In the carrying out of the mandate the Committee would be expected to:

- Consult former returning officers at the local or regional levels as deemed appropriate;
- Consult the elections procedures of other jurisdictions;
- Consult any entity that can assist in ensuring that Cree values and principles are integrated into the elections laws of the Grand Council (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on March 29th and 30th, 2023 at the Club de Golf Chibougamau-Chapais in Chibougamau, Quebec

Grand Chief also mentioned the discussion and reviewed the creation and mandate of the Cree Naskapi Commission Review Committee.

Cree Naskapi Commission Review Committee

Composition:

- Philip Awashish
- Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty
- Representative named by the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach
- Daniel Mark-Stewart

Mandate:

Review the origin, purpose and mandate of the Cree Naskapi Commission with a view to providing recommendations on how the mandate of the Cree Naskapi Commission can be amended to reflect the evolution of self-governance for the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee.

The Committee will be required to table an interim report within twelve (12) months for the purpose of providing the Board/Council of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government an opportunity to verify the direction of recommendations.

In the carrying out of the mandate the Committee would be expected to:

- Consult with the current members and former members of the Cree Naskapi Commission;
- Consult with the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach

8. Environment and Remedial Works (Cont'd)

Protected Areas

In the absence of Chantal Otter Tetreault, Manager of Protected Areas, Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty tabled the document entitled, "ESIA: Process update and next steps – February 2023, GNC Protect Areas Session in Gatineau - Collaboration with Direction des aires protegees MELCCFP," a copy of which is attached hereto.

Grand Chief informed the members that the Protected Areas Team will conduct a tour of the five affected communities during their local annual assemblies.

9. Governance (continued)

Secretariat Cree Nation Abitibi-Temiscamingue Economic Alliance (SCNATEA)

Dr. Ted Moses, President summarized the history, intent, and the activities of the SCNATEA.

Chantal Hamelin, Director General presented the report of the SCNATEA, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Stella Masty, Negotiator provided information on the SCNATEA event; Forging the Path Forward that will be held on June 7, 8 & 9, 2023 in Val d'Or, Quebec that will focus on the economy of Eeyou Istchee.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Council of the Cree Nation Government held on March 29th and 30th, 2023 at the Club de Golf Chibougamau-Chapais in Chibougamau, Quebec

Grand Chief informed the members that the GCCEI/CNG will participate in the United Nations Permanent Forum for the Decade of Indigenous Languages that will be held in April.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

The closing prayer was recited by Samson Wischee.


Edna Neeposh, Corporate Secretary