



CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION
ACTIVITY REPORT
2014 - 2015

When I'm Gone


When I come to the end of my journey
And I travel my last weary mile
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned
And remember only the smile

Forget unkind words I have spoken
Remember some good I have done
Forget that I ever had heartache
And remember I've had loads of fun

Forget that I've stumbled and blundered
And sometimes fell by the way
Remember I have fought some hard battles
And won, ere the close of the day

Then forget to grieve for my going
I would not have you sad for a day
But in summer just gather some flowers
And remember the place where I lay

And come in the shade of evening
When the sun paints the sky in the west
Stand for a few moments beside me
And remember only my best



*In Loving Memory of James Masty
July 11, 1965–November 20, 2014*

The late David Mianscum

Known to many as 'Injebich' the late David Mianscum was one of the few remaining true hunters and trappers of Eeyou Istchee. Having been raised on the land, David grew up mastering the hunting techniques and skills passed on from generation to generation. A truly remarkable hunter, trapper, and fisherman, David enjoyed teaching what he had learned and acquired to his own children, grandchildren, friends, and to anyone wishing to learn the Cree way of life. For this he will always be highly regarded!

On October 27, 2014, on his birthday, Mr. David Mianscum passed away while out on the lake. How ironic that he would take his last breath while boating on Lake Mistassini; the lake that he enjoyed and loved so much!

An exceptional hunter and fisherman, 'Injebich' will be greatly missed by his home community of Mistissini and his many friends from all walks of life!



*In Loving Memory of David Alfred Mianscum
October 27, 1947–October 27, 2014*

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◆ MISSION STATEMENT

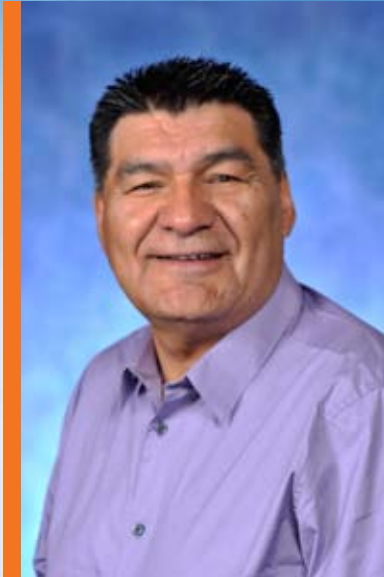
To maintain, promote, preserve and enhance the EEYOU (traditional way of life) for its members and the EEYOU ISTCHEE (Cree Nation) through:

1. Developing and implementing programs that benefit member's living conditions in the bush and undertaking the responsibilities set out in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and the Incorporation documents of the Association.
2. Advocating for sustainable wildlife harvesting and greater stability in the wild fur industry.
3. Promoting and maintaining bush survival techniques and reviving traditional tools, methods and systems for hunting, fishing and trapping while showing respect for the land, all living things and each other.
4. Partnering, and strengthening relationships with other EEYOU organizations and institutions to promote traditional EEYOU values and preserve the EEYOU language and way of life.

In pursuing this mission, the CTA will continually balance the opportunities that modern ways can offer to its members with the guidance that traditional EEYOU values and EEYOU governing systems provide.

CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

◆ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is with great pleasure that I present our honorable members the 2014-2015 CTA Annual Report.

2014-2015 has been my first term as a President of the Cree Trappers' Association and I am truly honored to serve the members of the Association in that capacity.

As the President, I will continue to do everything possible to protect, promote, and maintain the Cree culture, and the way of life in Eeyou Istchee. I have always believed that the Cree principles and values are the essential factors that have kept the Cree people together in times past. These same principles and values need to be passed to the younger generations in keeping our identity as Cree people. And these principles and values should continue to remain as the driving force in all the endeavors of the Association.

This past year was marked by very unfortunate events that had huge impacts on the Association and the entire Cree Nation. The Association felt the impact of the passing away of one of its own directors; the late James Masty. The late Mr. Masty served his community of Whapmagoostui, and the Cree Trappers' Association, as member and director for many years. His years of service and contributions will never be forgotten.

The late David Mianscum, the highly respected member from Mistissini also passed away in this same year. Another huge loss and tragedy felt across the Cree Nation, and all parts of the country, was the unfortunate fire incident that took the lives of the five great hunters. The late David Mianscum, and the 5 great hunters were all very instrumental in promoting the principles, values, and the Cree way of life that has sustained the Cree people for thousands of years. The Cree Trappers' Association will continue to stand with families of these departed friends and close associates.

On the management side, and as the new President of CTA, I am grateful for the involvement of our Directors, CTA Executive and Management in setting a vision for the next three years. Through the course of this year, we were able to go through a Strategic Planning session. The session allowed us to identify priorities, goals and objectives that will guide the Association, at least, for the next three years.

I am also thankful for all those involved in the revision of the CTA policies. And I am pleased to say that the revised policies were presented and approved by the CTA Directors in December 2014. I would encourage the members to go through this annual report, as time and space does not allow me to highlight the accomplishments, as well as the present activities the Association is working on, and involved in.

Finally, I just want to say how much I appreciate the efforts, dedication, and commitment of the CTA Executive, Management, and the support staff, in making this annual report a success. I am also very grateful to the Eeyou/Eenou of Eeyou Istchee for standing with the Cree Trappers' Association.

God bless!

Willie K. Gunner
President,
Cree Trappers' Association

CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Wachiya, to the Membership of Cree Trappers Association and People of Eeyou Istchee.

I was elected as Vice President August 14, 2014. This report is the first annual report of my three year term. I am proud and honoured to be a participant in this 2014-15 Cree Trappers Association annual report.

There has been much activity in the past seven months, three files that have moved to my satisfaction are:

1) The Eeyou Marine Region Off-Shore Islands Agreement is being implemented, employees have been hired and more will be hired in the future. Local offices have been set up, meetings have been held, work plans have been developed and finally a financial agreement was signed December 15, 2014 between the Eeyou Marine Region and the Cree Trappers Association. Implementation of this financial agreement is the Associations next challenge.

2) The Cree Trappers Association's Policies and Procedures Manual has been developed and accepted by the Board of Directors on December 11, 2014. The next step is to inform the Cree Trappers Association Staff and Executive of these policies and procedures, so full implementation can begin.

3) The Cree Trappers Association now has a three year Strategic Plan. The document has been developed very recently and now ready to be presented to the Board of Directors for approval so that we can start the implementation.

The Cree Trappers Association Regional office building in Eastmain was officially opened November 26, 2014. It is well staffed and now has an Executive member at the office.

The Treasurer's position is no longer elected but has been made a staff position. The new Treasurer Alan House works from the Eastmain office. I would like to thank Simeon Pash for his many years of service as the former elected Treasurer.

The Budget for 2014-15 has been prepared and submitted to the different funding parties. The amounts approved are similar to past years with a slight cost of living increase.

The Association has two mandates from CTA General Assembly: A Youth Trappers Education Program, there has been a major movement of this file involving Niskamoon and Cegep de St-Felicien, we may have a pilot project in place by the fall of 2015, if financial commitments can be secured. The Trapline Cabin insurance program is also under review and discussions are ongoing.

There is a new method of fur sales. All fur is now sold under the individual trappers' name. The March 2015 North Bay Fur Auction results were positive and trappers should receive their second fur checks during the summer.

Some of the Wildlife management issues that have been assigned to me are the migratory caribou, woodland caribou and polar bear files.

In closing as Vice President I am meeting different people and making new colleagues. To date I am enjoying this new journey of discovery. I will be using some of my strongest assets which are hunting, fishing, and trapping knowledge as well as my Cree language skills.

Hunt and travel safely. Take care of your families, communities and take care of the Land which sustains us.

Fred L. Tomatuk
*Vice-president,
Cree Trappers' Association*

◆ STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Cree Trappers' Association is structured on the following basis:

GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GENERAL MANAGER

OFFICE STAFF

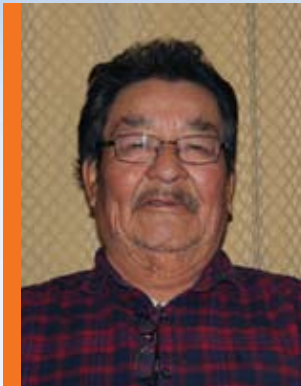
LOCAL OFFICERS

The general meeting is attended by regular members of the Association. However, the rules of the Association allow each village to delegate three representatives to general meetings, the Director of the local association plus two members.

◆ BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Kenny Tanous
NEMASKA



Bobby Neacappo
CHISASIBI



Jacob Dick
WHAPMAGOOSTUI



Ernest Tomatuk
WEMINDJI



Bert W. Moar
WASKAGANISH



Thomas Coon
MISTISSINI



Marjorie Weapenicappo
EASTMAIN



Sidney Ottereyes
WASWANIFI



Anna Bosum
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU

◆ EXECUTIVE



Willie K. Gunner
PRESIDENT



Fred L. Tomatuk
VICE-PRESIDENT



Allan House
SECRETARY-TREASURER
From February 9, 2015



◆ MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Roderick Petawabano
GENERAL MANAGER



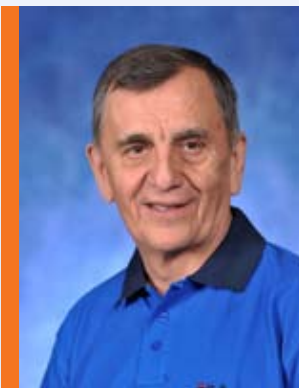
Jean-Baptiste Loon
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR



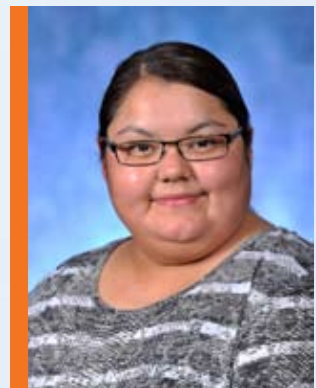
Jacinthe Beaudoin
CONTROLLER



Gordon Louttit
ACCOUNTANT



Ron Zachary
FUR TECHNICIAN



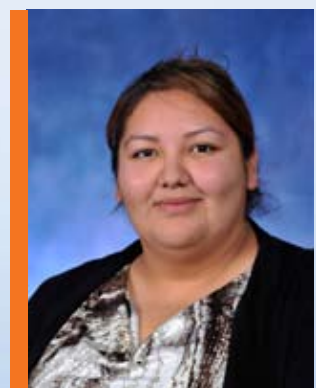
Judy Coon-Come
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



Willie J. Loon
ASSISTANT SPECIAL PROJECT
COORDINATOR



Phyllis Tomatuk
SECRETARY RECEPTIONIST
EASTMAIN



Vanessa Jacob
SECRETARY RECEPTIONIST
MISTISSINI

◆ LOCAL FUR OFFICERS



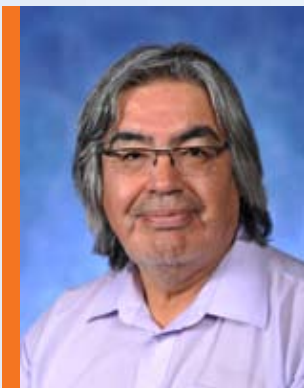
Reggie Bearskin
CHISASIBI



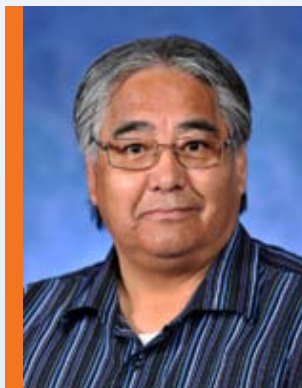
Betty Tomatuk
EASTMAIN



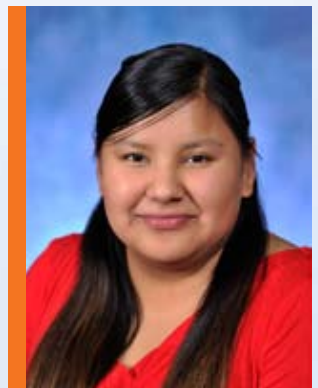
Richard Gunner
MISTISSINI



Steven Neeposh
NEMASKA



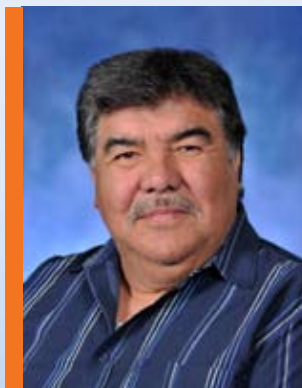
Varley Shecapio-Blacksmith
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU



Karilynn Blackned
WASKAGANISH



Paul Dixon
WASWANUPI



Abraham Matches
WEMINDJI



Lizzie Masty
WHAPMAGOOSTUI

Absent: Lenora Moar, WASKAGANISH, *from October 12, 2014, to June 12, 2015*

◆ STATUS OF CTA AS AN ASSOCIATION

Origin of CTA (JBNQA) in 1975

The establishment of an association for « trappers » was originally contemplated in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) (para. 24.3.24 and sub-section 28.5).

Incorporation in 1978 as a not-for-profit organization

The Cree Trappers' Association was incorporated in 1978 as a corporation without share capital under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act. As such, the CTA is "a body corporate and politic, without share capital, for the purpose of carrying on, without pecuniary gain to its members, objects, to which the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada extends, of a national, patriotic, religious, philanthropic, charitable, scientific, artistic, social, professional or sporting character, or the like objects". Both Québec and Canada required at the time that a "legal entity" be created.

In simpler terms the CTA is a not-for-profit corporate body united to pursue a set of goals common to its members. The goals of the Cree Trappers' Association are enumerated in its incorporation paper (see Annex). These goals were negotiated for and on behalf of Cree trappers, first in Sections 24 and 28 of the JBNQA and subsequently through the joint efforts of Crees, Québec and Canada as part of the feasibility study carried out prior to the incorporation. The CRA negotiated the result of the feasibility study, including the form of incorporation.

The common thread uniting all of the listed goals is the promotion of the rights, interests and values of the Eeyou trappers of Québec as a distinct group. Indeed, the intention driving the establishment of the Cree Trappers' Association as outlined in sub-section 28.5 of the JBNQA is the need for an organization that protects the interests of Cree trappers in Quebec, which are often more specific than the interests of Cree people in Quebec in general. This intention was recently reaffirmed by the Paix des Braves in 2008 and the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Cree of Eeyou Istchee, both of which foresee the continued existence of the CTA as a distinct organization.

Why the choice of a not-for-profit organization:

The choice was made to incorporate the association and because of its "mission" to incorporate it as a not-for-profit organization:

- A not-for-profit corporation has members instead of shareholders.
- The purpose of the corporation is not to make money for members but rather to carry on some activity of a national, patriotic, religious, philanthropic, charitable, scientific, artistic, social, professional or sporting character, or the like.
- The two basic components of a not-for-profit corporation are its Board of Directors and the members.

A not-for-profit corporation carries on activities that are primarily for the benefit of its members.

All not-for-profit corporations have members. Usually membership criteria can be established/defined through a clear common interest, often related to service provision.

The conditions for the membership are established in the by-laws of the organization. In 1978, in the General By-law attached to the incorporation document, the membership was established as follows:

◆ STATUS OF CTA AS AN ASSOCIATION

Members

The members of the Association shall be the Cree beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement engaged in trapping or related activities, or who were engaged in such activities and have since retired, and who have been accepted for admission as members by the Board of Directors of the Association.

If a Cree Band or band council has appointed a trappers' committee, each member of the trappers' committee shall likewise be a member of the Association.

For the purpose of these by-laws, the following are the Cree Bands of Quebec:

*Fort George
Eastmain
Nemaska
Waswanipi*

*Old Factory
Rupert House
Mistassini
Great Whale River*

Role of the Association Members

The Cree Trappers' Association was incorporated to promote the interests of a specific group of people, Eeyou Trappers. Therefore the Association is best able to fulfill its mandate if decisions relating to its internal affairs, including its leadership, are made by the people it is meant to represent.

This is the standard procedure among corporations and associations – important decisions regarding leadership and internal affairs in these organizations are typically, if not always, decided by shareholders or members. In the case of a non profit organization, the members are the decision makers.

The reasoning underlying this form of organization is straightforward and compelling; the direction of an association should be determined by its members because the association exists to promote the common objects of its membership. Because the CTA exists to further the specific interests of trappers it is most likely to be effective if its leadership is chosen by trappers.

The Letter Patent lists the common goals of Cree Trappers' Association and as mentioned before these were negotiated on behalf of Cree trappers prior to the incorporation. They are the following:

- a) to represent and act on behalf of the Cree Trappers of Quebec with respect to problems involved in all sectors of the fur industry in Canada and to protect and defend their interests with respect thereto;
- b) to encourage the conservation of fur-bearing animals as a renewable natural resource and to encourage and promote humane methods of harvesting;
- c) to promote the sale and assist in the orderly collection and marketing of wild furs by its members in all markets of the world;
- d) to act as a regional council, group or association to solve and assist in solving all problems affecting the welfare of the Cree trappers of Quebec ;
- e) to assist the Cree trappers of Quebec through all means permitted by law to affirm, exercise, protect, enlarge and have recognized and accepted their rights, guarantees, claims and interests;

◆ OBJECTIVES OF THE CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

- f) to foster, promote, protect and assist in preserving the way of life, values, activities and traditions of the Cree trappers of Quebec and to safeguard the system of the Cree trappelines;
- g) to advise on methods and means of obtaining and to assist in obtaining the maximum possible benefits and advantages for the Cree trappers of Quebec;
- h) to protect and promote the rights, guarantees, claims and interests of the Cree trappers of Quebec with respect to the effects of development, and to study, organize and implement remedial works and measures, as well as measures relating to the protection and enhancement of wildlife;
- i) to discuss and deal with all governments, public authorities and other agencies, all corporations and persons in relation to the rights, guarantees, claims and interests of the Cree trappers of Quebec and, particularly, with respect to the development and improvement of fur processing management and marketing and the transfer of the Association of appropriate government services and programs related to trapping;
- j) to carry on research and provide or arrange for the provision of training programs and of technical, professional, educational and other assistance to improve the welfare of the Cree trappers of Quebec;

◆ OBJECTIVES OF THE CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

- k) to provide, administer and manage regional services and programs with respect to trapline development, communication, camps, transportation, supplies, all aspects of fur processing, management and marketing, the construction and maintenance of physical facilities and all other activities which may affect or benefit the Cree trappers of Quebec;
- l) to act as a vehicle for the obtaining, management, holding, administration, investment, distribution and placement of funds of or to be used for the benefit of the Cree trappers of Quebec;
- m) to work with other trappers' associations and other native organizations with respect to any common goals, aspirations and pursuits;
- n) to do all such other things as are necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects.

From the incorporation papers of the Association recorded March 31, 1978.



◆ JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUEBEC AGREEMENT

SECTION 28 : JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUEBEC AGREEMENT

28.5 CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

- 28.5.1 As soon as possible, following the execution of the Agreement, feasibility studies respecting the formation of a Cree Trappers' Association shall be undertaken jointly by Canada, Quebec and the Cree Regional Authority.
- 28.5.2 The parties referred to at paragraph 28.5.1 shall examine the possibility of the formation of a Joint Founding Committee involving representation from the Cree communities to assist and participate in the feasibility studies.
- 28.5.3 The feasibility studies shall involve consultation with individual Cree trappers or groups or trappers within each community.
- 28.5.4 The feasibility studies shall, if possible, be completed by July 01, 1976.
- 28.5.5. The feasibility studies respecting the Cree Trappers' Association shall consider and contain recommendations respecting the following matters :
- a) a trapline development program including measures respecting camps, communication and travel facilities;
 - b) improved trapper capability including measures to increase availability of and sources of funds for equipment, supplies and transportation;
 - c) fur marketing and promotion to increase the trappers returns including fur collection services;
 - d) improved biological production including habitat improvement, species rehabilitation and wildlife surveys;
 - e) trappers' training programs, courses on fur grading, marketing and fur depot management;
 - f) transfer to the Association of appropriate government services and programs related to trapping;
 - g) possible development of other sectors of the fur industry;
 - h) program management and administration;

◆ JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUEBEC AGREEMENT

- i) physical facilities necessary for the operation of the Association;
- j) objects, funding and administration of the Cree Trappers' Association including, inter alia, the respective participation of the federal and provincial and Cree governments in funding.

28.5.6 Subject to the results of the feasibility studies and in the event that a Cree Trappers' Association is established, Canada, Quebec and the Cree Regional Authority, in a proportion to be mutually agreed upon shall assist the Association to the extent possible with funding with respect to its objects including :

- a) programs to be operated by the Cree Trappers' Association;
- b) capital funding for physical facilities in each Cree community as well as central facilities, if necessary, and for loan funds;
- c) costs connected with the operation of the Association.

Reprinted from:

The James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and Complementary Agreements, 1991 Edition.



◆ AGREEMENT CONCERNING A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ◆ THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC AND THE CREE OF EYYOU ISTCHEE

Chapter 6 -- ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ASSUMPTION BY THE CREES OF CERTAIN JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUÉBEC AGREEMENT COMMITMENTS

- 6.1 For the period from April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2052, the Crees shall assume the obligations of Québec, Hydro-Québec and the Société d'énergie de la Baie James to the Crees under the provisions of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement set forth in section 6.3 of this Agreement and concerning Economic and Community development.
- 6.2 The assumption by the Crees of the obligations described in paragraph 6.3 of this Agreement for the period from April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2052 is made in consideration of the funding commitments of Québec under Chapter 7 of this Agreement and subject to the payment by Québec to the Crees through the Recipient of Funding of the annual payments provided for in Chapter 7 of this Agreement in accordance with the terms thereof.
- 6.3 The obligations of Québec, Hydro-Québec and the Société d'énergie de la Baie James contemplated by paragraphs 6.1 and 6.2 hereof relate to the following provisions of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement:
- a) Economic development:
 - 28.5 and 24.3.24: Cree Trappers' Association (operation, capital and programs);
 - 28.6: Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association (operation);
 - 28.7: Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association (operation and programs);
 - 28.11.2 a): an Economic Development Agent per community;
 - 28.12: assistance to Cree Entrepreneurs.
- 6.4 The Crees shall carry out the obligations set forth in section 6.3 hereof in accordance with the applicable legislative and regulatory framework of general application such as following applicable construction codes and submitting projects to environmental and social impact assessment where applicable.
- 6.5 The provisions of this Agreement respecting the provisions of Section 8 and 28 of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement described in section 6.3 hereof and the funding thereof do not affect nor are they intended to affect in any manner the obligations and commitments of Canada in the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement including all those set out in Section 8 and 28 thereof.

◆ AGREEMENT CONCERNING A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE CREE OF EYYOU ISTCHEE

On July 16, 2007, an agreement entitled an “Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Cree of Eeyou Istchee”, which includes a financial package of \$1.4 billion over a number of years and would clarify and facilitate the implementation of Canada’s obligations under the JBNQA going forward. The agreement seeks to resolve disputes related to the implementation of the JBNQA outstanding over the last 30 years, and secures mutual agreement between Canada and the Crees on obligations for the next 20 years, with a process to extend that initial timeframe.

Chapter 4.11 of this Agreement deals with the assumption of Canada’s obligations to the Cree Trappers’ Association by the Cree Nation.

4.11 Funding for Certain Cree Associations

The assumptions in relation to the provisions of the JBNQA contemplated by paragraphs, and of this Agreement regarding the CTA, COTA and CNACA are premised on continued annual funding from Canada to the said associations for the Term of this Agreement. In the event such annual funding is not continued for any reason whatsoever, then the assumption of the said undertakings contemplated by paragraphs, and of this Agreement shall cease as of the date such annual funding is not continued, and such undertakings shall be assumed by Canada from that date onward and shall no longer form part of the Assumed Federal JBNQA Responsibilities.



OFFSHORE ISLANDS AGREEMENT

◆ BACKGROUND ON NEGOTIATIONS

1-Powers and functions of CTA under EMRLCA

- a) Acting as a consultative body for its members to the EMRWB with respect to wildlife matters in relation to the EMR.
- b) The recommendation of wildlife management measures in the EMR on behalf of its members.
- c) The control and monitoring of harvesting practices and techniques in the EMR among the Crees, including the use of non-quota limitations.
- d) The allocation and enforcement of basic needs levels and adjusted needs levels among Crees.
- e) Generally, the management of harvesting among the Crees in the EMR; and
- f) Such other matters as may be set out in this Agreement

2-Starting on CTA obligations to EMRLCA(Hiring of new employees)

- Jobs posted where; 5 local EMR officers, for the 5 coastal communities and
- 1 EMR Wildlife Liaison Officer, to work out of Eastmain.
- Posting of new jobs started back in the fall of 2013, a second posting was done in winter January 2014,
- -Interviews for the Wildlife Liaison Officer was conducted in Mistissini
- -Interviews for the Local EMR officers was held in there respective communities, by the local trappers committees, which included communities of Eastmain, Waskaganish, Chisasibi, and Wemindji.
- Waskaganish and Wemindji each had one applicant upon which their Local trappers committee each recommended.
- After interviews in Chisasibi, Local trappers committee don't submit there recommendations.
- After interviews in Eastmain, Only one show up for interview in Eastmain, upon which the Local trappers committee recommended.
- Whapmagoostui was unable to conduct interviews with there applicants.
- Eastmain's applicant decided not to take the job offer.
- Waskaganish's applicant took the job offer, Mr. Sanford Diamond was hired as local EMR officer.
- Wemindji's applicant took the job offer, Mr. George Natawapineskum was hired as local EMR officer.
- Samuel Moses was hired as EMR Wildlife Liaison Officer
- CTA bought office furniture, office supplies and computers, office space for the new employees.

3-Workshop

EMR employees had their first workshop in September 2014. Workshop on starting up a community consultation on research projects

4-Plans for research or other projects

Wemindji EMR local officer started on research a why brant goose is making people sick when they eat them, will be on going to next fiscal year. Wasn't able to get some samples yet.

Waskaganish EMR local officer started a trappers benefit project for the Carleton island trappers, project to be completed in summer 2015.

OFFSHORE ISLANDS AGREEMENT ◆ BACKGROUND ON NEGOTIATIONS

5-Harvest Report in EMR

- Waskaganish, 7 beaver, 1 polar bear
- Eastmain, no reported harvests
- Wemindji, no reported harvests
- Chisasibi, no reported harvests
- Whapmagoostui, no reported harvests
- Harvests of waterfowl are done in spring and fall, waterfowl included are Geese, Snow Geese, Ducks, Goose Brants, Scoters, loons.

6-Waterfowl Pictures



Geese



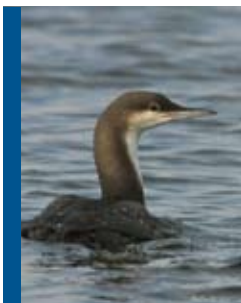
Snow Geese



Brant Geese



Ducks



Loons



Scoters

ROLE AND MISSION OF CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

The Cree Trappers' Association (CTA) was established on March 10, 1978 as stated in Section 28 of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA)*. It is the main institution intended and set up to ensure that the Cree hunting, fishing and trapping way of life could continue even in the context of development in the Territory. It is one of the most important and fundamental concepts of this historic Agreement.

The CTA was conceived at a time when the Cree Nation also known as Eeyou Nation fought to defend its territory, its way of life, its culture and values. At the basis of the idea of an association are the historical bonds between hunting families. So the CTA finds its source in Eeyou indigenous law and custom. Today, the CTA continues to represent the Eeyou trappers, protecting and fostering the traditional way of life and the foundational values, traditions and laws of the trappers and, indeed, of the Eeyou nation.

The CTA is proud to have the responsibility to protect and preserve the Eeyou heritage. Eeyou have a duty to govern themselves and their territory in accordance with Eeyou laws, traditions, customs, practices, values and traditions. Eeyou have a right to govern themselves and their territories and have always done so and particularly have established traditional/customary rules and guidelines regarding the management of Eeyou hunting territories.

Eeyou leaders, individuals and communities have always expressed concerns about the need to protect Eeyou traditions and values. Eeyou hunters and trappers play an important role in this preservation and the CTA as one of their official representatives is key to the process. However, in order to play an effective role the CTA has to receive proper financial and political support.

The Cree Trappers' Association is a service entity set up to maintain and improve the hunting, fishing and trapping way of life of the Cree people. Over 30% of the Cree population still practice the traditional way of life of hunting, fishing and trapping as a full-time occupation. At least 15% of the Cree population still practices this way of life on the part-time or seasonal basis.

Cree hunting, fishing, and trapping are the foundation of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement*, and of the recent new relationships Agreements with Quebec and Canada. Because of the clear nature of the funding obligation in these agreements, resolution of the CTA programs, operations, and capital needs should be straightforward. The Cree trappers were and are at the heart of these treaty agreements, but somehow the CTA and Cree trappers' needs have been neglected in the past. Funding of the CTA is guaranteed in the *JBNQA*, but actual CTA funding has fallen short of its needs each year. The time has come to recognize the importance that the Cree Trappers' Association has for the Cree Nation, and to support the trappers' needs and programs.

UPDATE ON CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

Willie K. Gunner, President & Fred L. Tomatuk, Vice-President are both serving second year of a three-year term as elected Executive Members of the Association (Elections AGA 2014). While Allan House, Secretary/Treasurer has been hired since February of 2015 after members of the General Assembly 2014 approved for Full Time/ permanent basis of the Cree Trappers' Association. The next election year for CTA will take place in the summer of 2017.

The fiscal year 2014-2015 was once again difficult transition for the Newly Elected Executive Members considering the budget they were left with from the previous Executive Committee Members and more likely a rebuilding year for Cree Trappers' Association. Although it was a lengthy process of recruiting and selecting personnel to take up the positions that were left vacant from the previous year(s) the Association was finally back with a full team of Executive Members and Senior Management Staff to carry out the essential services to its members of the Association including a new Office

◆ EXECUTIVE MANDATES

Policies & Procedures was also developed and implemented by the Board of Directors in December of 2014. Furthermore the Executive, Senior Management & Staff have acknowledged this important document. There were also new members at Board of Directors level of the Association this past year as we will be reported and stated later in this report. In addition the Association received an additional mandate in carrying out certain sections from the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement.



Similarly as in the past along with their mandates and functions as elected officials, the Executive are responsible for the general direction, administration and management of the daily affairs of the Association. Among some of these functions the Executive is responsible in the financial affairs of the Association, subject to the control, general direction and authority of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee works as a team in managing the affairs of the Association on a daily basis and assist the other team members of the Association namely the senior and management staff; Roderick Petawabano, the General Manager, Jean Baptiste Loon, Special Projects Co-coordinator, and Ms. Jacinthe Beaudoin, Controller in the overall direction and management of the Association. The Executive and senior management staff hold regular meetings to conduct business in order to administer business in the two offices of CTA, which are, the main administrative office of the Association in the Cree Community of Eastmain and the Fur Depot at the Cree Nation of Mistissini. The Executive also prepares and officiates at all the Board of Directors meetings, special meetings of the Association whenever called for, and the General Assemblies, details of these meetings are listed further in this report. This committee is also responsible in carrying out all directives and mandates given at or derived from the Board of Directors meetings and the General Assemblies as well as Special Board meetings whenever called for. The Executive also assists in the recruitment and hiring of staff whenever it is required both at the regional and community levels. The Executive also assists in the organization of staff training sessions whenever training is required for its staff members and other personnel employed by the Cree Trappers' Association. It also ensures that year end reports are done and completed in a timely manner.

EXECUTIVE MANDATES

As Stated in section 28.5.6 of the JBNQA, "Subject to the results of the feasibility studies and in the event that a Cree Trappers' Association is established, Canada, Quebec and the Cree Regional Authority, in a proportion to be mutually agreed upon, shall assist the Association to the extent possible with funding with respect to its objects including:

- a) programs to be operated by the Cree Trappers' Association;
- b) capital funding for physical facilities in each Cree community as well as central facilities, if necessary, and for loan funds,
- c) Costs connected with the operation of the Association."

Cree Trappers' Association continues to receive financial funding from the Cree/Quebec New Relationship Agreement, the Cree Regional Authority Board of Compensation, and from the Federal Government Cree/Canada Agreement as a tri-partite funding sources as stated above, to provide essential services to its membership. Funding is also received from the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. CTA also receives funds from the CTA paid membership program. Annual funding has also been received from the James Bay Eeyou Compane. These funding arrangements provide the Association with financial resources needed to implement Operations, Programs, and Capital as stated above. These Program, Capital, and Operation funds are utilized for CTA and its members to realize the objects of the Association as specified in the above stated section 28.5 of the JBNQA, which was recently reaffirmed by the *Paix des Braves* Agreement of 2002 and more recently the *Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Cree of Eeyou Istchee*. One of the main powers and functions of CTA in this agreement will be acting as a consultative body for the members of the Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board (EMRWB) with respect to Wildlife management measures.

During the fiscal year 2014-2015 the Cree Trappers' Association received the following funding amounts from:

Federal New Relationship Agreement _____	\$2,474,581
Eenou Eeyou Ltd Partnership _____	\$1,974,674
Cree Regional Authority Board of Compensation, _____	\$306,751
AANDC a Federal Funding Agreement, _____	\$81,880
James Bay Eeyou Compane, _____	\$100,000
Trappers paid Membership, _____	\$114,923
Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board _____	\$276,189
Others _____	\$171,414

With this funding the Association tries to manage and provide the same level of services to its members as in the past and as stated in the objects of the Cree Trapper' Association stipulated in its Letters Patent. CTA was able to disburse approximately forty per cent (40%) of these funds it received to administer its Operations and Administration, administrative offices and Regional Projects administered by the regional CTA offices in Eastmain and Mistissini. The other sixty per cent (60%) was used to cover the costs of Community Projects and Programs at the community and some at the Regional level. The administration funds were used to operate the regional and community operations of the Association. Program funds were utilized by trappers with CTA membership who still maintain their hunting, fishing, trapping activities on the land of the nine Cree communities. And some of these funds were also used for Capital expenditures.

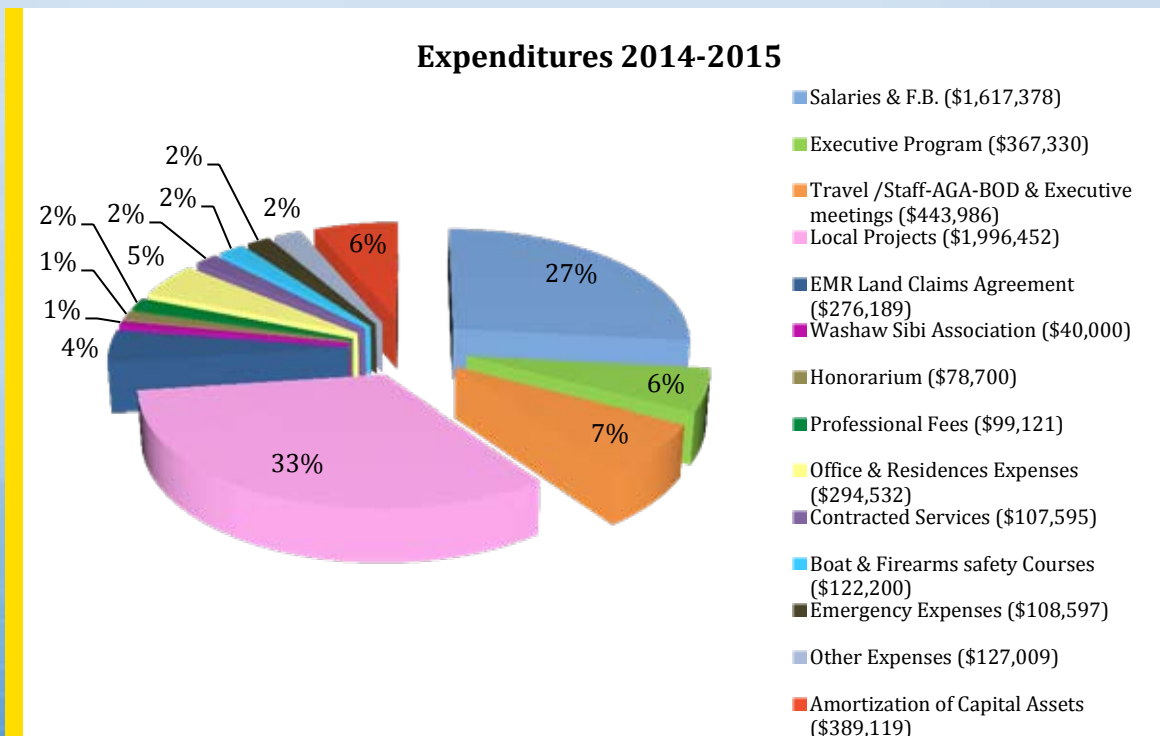
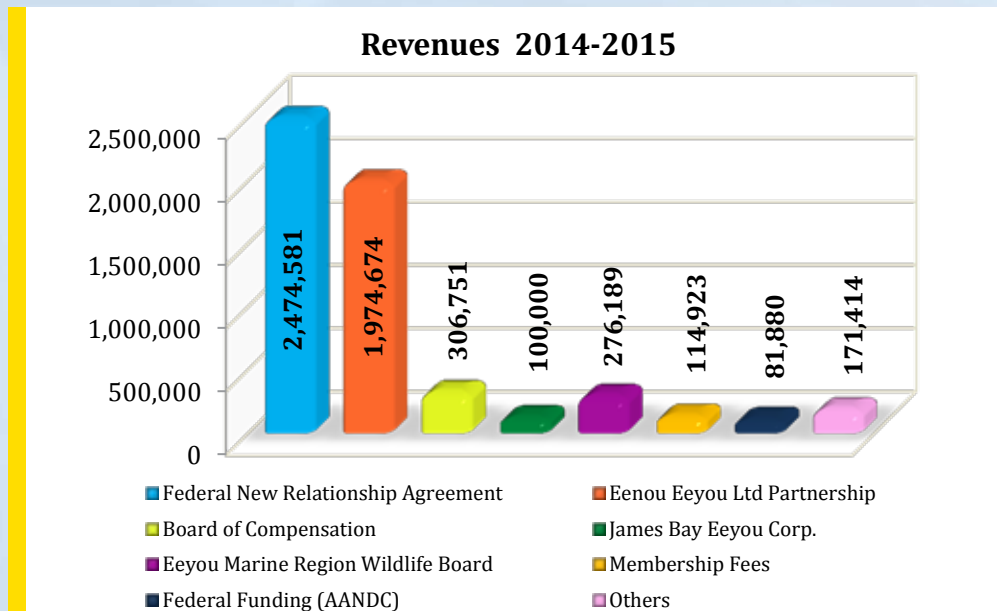
CTA was able to help the Association and its trappers with some of their Capital requirements. Some trapper cabin funds were utilized to assist with their cabin repairs and maintenance programs. The biggest expenditure facing CTA this past year was it had to renew its administrative building in Eastmain which was deteriorating rapidly. At this point in time CTA had no option but to replace the very fast deteriorating building. Expenditures for the new building began in 2012 and have continued this year and will continue on with the Imperial Bank of Commerce. This new building officially opened with a ceremony in November 2014. Although, CTA Staff was more than happy to move into the new building once the construction was completed in the previous year.

EXECUTIVE MANDATES

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

During the year 2014-2015 we managed revenues of 5.5 million dollars. Our expenses were broken down into five main categories which relate to the Administration & Fur Operations, Executive Mandates, Special Projects, Capital expenses and Local Projects & Programs for a total of 6 million dollars. See below a brief overview of the global revenues and expenditures for the year ended March 31, 2015.



WILDLIFE PROTECTION OFFICERS



The Cree Trappers' Association continues to work with and assists Quebec Ministère des Ressources Naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF) in the implementation of section 10.17 of the Paix des Braves Agreement which calls for Quebec to maintain its existing compliment of Game Wardens (Wildlife Protection Officers). To date Quebec is losing the already trained WPO's due to these Officers changing and accepting other employment opportunities elsewhere. The other facture that makes these Officers seeking other employment is that most of these officers are on seasonal contracts and would like full time position employment. And one other important facture is that when these Officers are employed by Quebec their salaries are taxable. These make the number of required positions of Officers needed greater. At the Quebec regional level there was reorganization of different departments being done during the past year, for this reason and among other factures there was no recruiting of new candidates done through during the year of 2013-2014. But still the Wildlife Protection Officers continues to meet with CTA and make an update report on their activities during the year. These reports include what has been accomplished in the Cree territory by the WPOs. The reports include useful information related to any illegal activities, such as Events, Offences, and Warnings. These meetings and reports are very useful and beneficial to both CTA and Quebec's Wildlife Protection Officers which makes it easier for both parties to work together.

In the past few years Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife of Quebec has met with the representatives of the Cree Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Coordinating Committee, and Cree Communities to seek support from CRA, CTA and the Cree Communities for their intention to have Multidisciplinary Wildlife Protection Officers in Northern Quebec. During this past two years involvement from CTA was very limited because Environment Canada, MRNF, and DFO were busy in the development of this Multidisciplinary Wildlife Protection Officers Program in Northern Quebec. This development program is in its final stage and is near completion for final review by all involved. CTA was asked last summer at their General Assembly to review, approve, and assist in this development program.

◆ EXECUTIVE MANDATES

WILDLIFE PROTECTION AUXILIARY OFFICERS

The Cree Trappers' Association also continues to work with and assists Quebec Ministère des Ressources Naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF) in the implementation of section 10.18 of the Paix des Braves Agreement. The implementation calls for Quebec to train and appoint one interested Cree hunter and trapper (normally the Cree tallyman) for the Cree trap-lines in the area of Cree primary interest under section 24 of the JBNQA as Auxiliary Territorial Officer. The primary purpose of this mandate is to improve and regulate the enforcement of hunting, fishing and trapping legislation within each concerned trap-line. These meetings between CTA and Quebec also include updated reports on the status and progress on the training of Tallymen as Wildlife Protection Auxiliary Officers (WPA). There are still some WPA's that require training in meeting the expectations of this important mandate. As stated earlier regarding Quebec's reorganization of its Departments this was put on hold for a time being. But in recent months Quebec has continued to give refresher courses to the already trained WPA's on a regular basis. This will continue in the years to come until all Tallymen are trained as Wildlife Protection Auxiliary Officers.

HUNTING FISHING TRAPPING REGIME

Section 24 of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement.

***Current issues relevant to the Cree Trappers' Association
(Provided by Alan Penn, CNG)***

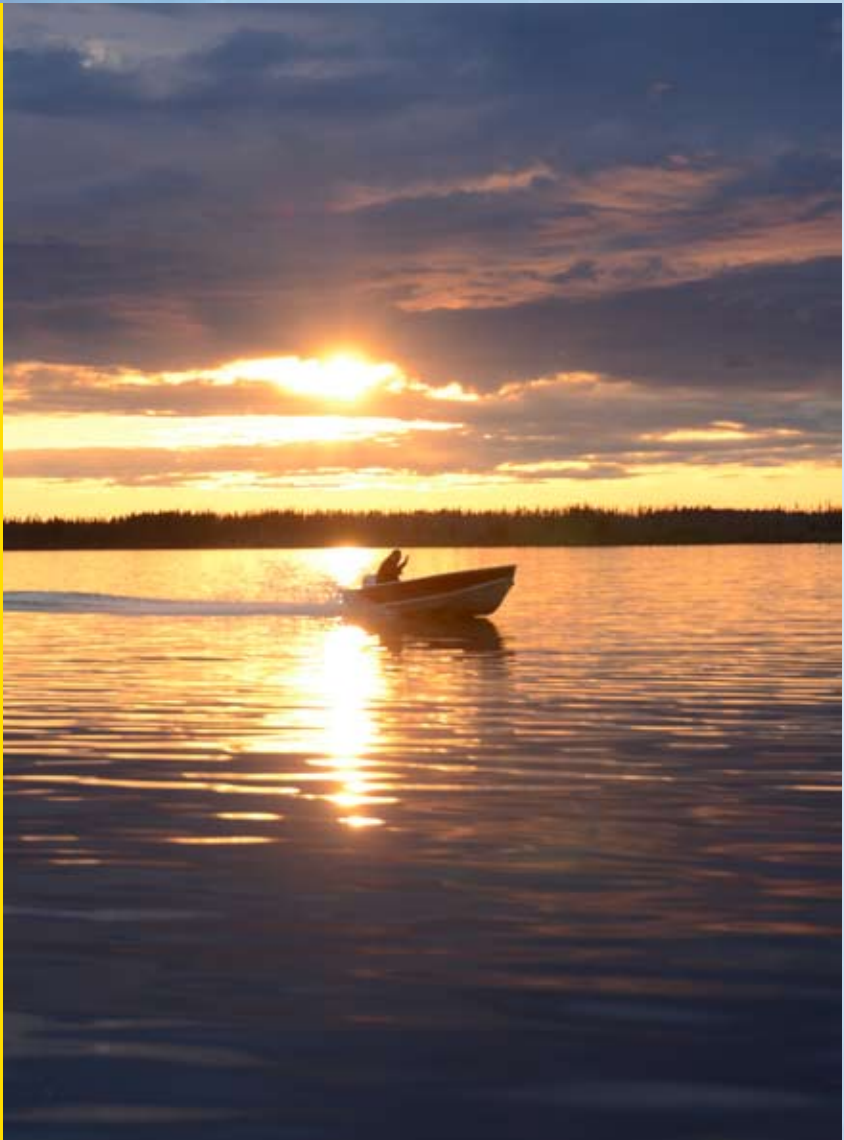


◆ EXECUTIVE MANDATES

The following notes were prepared for the Cree Trappers' Association in order to summarize and review several current wildlife management issues which should be taken into account in the planning of CTA activities in the coming year.

Wildlife management includes a growing range of subjects relevant to the Cree Trappers' Association – and to the Cree population as a whole. The James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement created the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Co-coordinating Committee – and the Cree Nation Government holds three seats on this fourteen-member body, which provides advice and recommendations to governments – including the Cree Nation Government – on wildlife management issues.

The concept of 'wildlife management' is broad and it needs to be re-considered from time to time. It includes aspects of the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi hunting economies, as well as the use of wildlife resources both by non-JBNQA beneficiaries resident in northern Québec, as well as a large number of visitors each year who see opportunities to fish, to hunt, and to take advantage of the protected areas which are now being created in northern Québec. There is as well a growing awareness of both federal and provincial legislation aimed at the conservation of endangered species of wildlife, as well as amphibians, insects and plants.



Cree participation in the activities of the HFTCC is important, as it is the principal forum available for the native parties to the JBNQA to coordinate their respective roles, in particular with the work of the Québec government. It is appropriate, therefore, for the CTA – its executive committee and the board members – to maintain regular contact with the Cree Nation Government appointees on the HFTCC.

The HFTCC, including the Cree representatives, will also need to take into account the role of new government structures which did not exist when the JBNQA was negotiated – the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claim Agreement and the newly created Cree Nation Government (replacing the Cree Regional Authority) with its responsibilities for Category II lands, as well as the joint Eeyou Istchee – Baie James government structure for Category III lands. The Cree Trappers' Association has key responsibilities for documenting Cree use of resources, Cree infrastructure, and other subjects which are relevant to the implementation of the JBNQA (via the HFTCC), the new governance structures, and the Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board.

◆ EXECUTIVE MANDATES

During the last year of operations, several issues arose which are of direct relevance to the HFTCC and the Cree representatives on that committee:

- The HFTCC is directly involved in the development of the next major management plan for migratory caribou (the Leaf River herd is the population relevant to the Cree population), and work is under way to seek Cree input into the plan and participation in its implementation. This will include the tracking and reporting of Cree caribou harvests, by location, sex and where possible by age, as well as consultations on a number of aspects of population management, including the planning of surveys and the interpretation of survey results.
- The HFTCC is also involved in a consultative role in the development, implementation and evaluation of measures needed to conserve existing woodland caribou populations, including the tracking of continuing Cree harvesting where this is still taking place.
- We can expect the work on caribou management to be followed by the development of revised management plans for moose – a subject which needs attention in the light of the measures taken to limit non-beneficiary harvests in recent years, in particular in the southern portion of the Cree territory – and a growing need for reliable information on Cree harvests in different portions of the Cree territory.
- Decisions will have to be taken, in 2014, on whether or not to renew the existing right of first refusal to open outfitting operations in the JBNQA territory. A moratorium has been in place now for nearly twenty years on new operations (outside Category II lands) and the time is now ripe for a thorough and critical re-evaluation of what Cree society in general, and the Cree Trappers' Association in particular, expect from the outfitting industry and the Cree involvement in that industry. This is, of course, relevant to the Inuit as well.
- Work continues, at the level of the HFTCC, to clarify the rights of Cree, Inuit and Naskapi beneficiaries with respect to the transport of the products of harvesting, and the gift of those products to non-beneficiaries. Detailed protocols have been drawn up for management, and reporting, both for transport and gift; it is expected, in the Cree case, that the Cree Trappers' Association will assume some of the responsibilities for providing the relevant information to Cree hunters, other Cree beneficiaries and as necessary to non-beneficiaries.
- The Québec government is taking steps to include northern Québec in conservation strategies aimed at maintaining the quality of sport fisheries. The policies are directed mainly at conservation measures for lake trout and walleye, and involve a combination of strategies designed to control the seasons during which fishing takes place, the size of the fish which can legally be taken, and the number of fish which can be kept. These measures do not affect Cree fisheries directly, but they are relevant to the Cree use of these fish stocks and they should raise questions, on the Cree side, about the need for information on Cree fisheries and related conservation issues.
- The year 2014 is the year when, after forty years of work, construction of the La Grande project came to an end. During this period, mercury emerged as a major public health issue arising from Cree fisheries, and Hydro-Québec, along with the Cree Health Board, were active in this area. It will now be the turn of the Cree themselves to become more actively involved, and to address the role of mercury in the future development of Cree fisheries – both local food fisheries as well as recreational fisheries.
- Finally, it is worth stressing that initial steps are now being taken to examine ways in which closer ties can be built between impact assessment of development projects (including mines and roads) and the management of wildlife resources (fish migration and woodland caribou have been the focus so far). This is an area of work which should be of particular interest to the Cree Trappers' Association. It is an area which will also, no doubt, involve a close working relationship with the Niskamoon Corporation.

The Cree Trappers' Association has an evident interest in these matters, and in the planning of work priorities for 2014 – 2015, the subjects which have been briefly outlined here could usefully be pursued as key elements in the work plan.



CTA STAFF TRAINING 2014-15

Like any employer, CTA has the responsibility to provide training to its employees in improving services to the communities. Unfortunately, CTA presently operates without key positions in its organization. One of those key positions is the need for a human resource position. Without this key position, identifying short and long-term trainings that benefit the employees and the organization can be very difficult. In the absence of an HR person, CTA regional can only recommend and plan short-term courses in supporting the delivery of services and programs to the members it serves.

In 2014, CTA was able to deliver the following;

✓ **Team Building & Communication Skills session:** (April 22-23, 2014)

The session consisted of a 2 day work-shop for all Local Fur Officers in Val-d'Or. In meeting its mission to provide trapper-oriented programs to the Cree people, CTA employs Local Fur Officers in each of the nine communities. These employees are separated by the vastness of the Cree territory (Eeeyou Istchee). This vastness can make it difficult to promote the concept of 'team' and establish meaningful dialogue with these workers. Establishing consistent communication can be very challenging for CTA regional. The Team-building & Communication skills work-shop was meant to promote the 'team' concept of any organization, no matter the situation or the distance. When the concept of team building is understood and applied at all levels in an organization, it becomes much easier to transform groups into teams throughout the organization. The session was well received by those participating.

◆ CTA ACTIVITIES

✓ **Cree Trappers' Services Trust (Ishtchiikun) refresher course:** (April 24, 2014)

The refresher course was provided to all Local Fur Officers by Mr. Abel Rabbitskin (Cree Regional Authority-Board of Compensation). Considering the major fires of 2012, and the devastating impacts on the Eeyou/Eenou of Eeyou Istchee, the CTA Executive felt that a refresher course on the Cree Insurance Program would be appropriate. CTA compliments Mr. Abel Rabbitskin on his extensive presentation on the Administrative and General Insurance Management guide.



MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

In terms of management and administrative staff, CTA has gone through some considerable changes for this past year. 2014 was the election year for the Cree Trappers Association. Mr. Willie K. Gunner from Mistissini was voted in as the new President of the Association, and Mr. Fred L. Tomatuk from Eastmain, as Vice-President. In this same year, the CTA Secretary/Treasurer was converted into a regular employee position. In February 2015, the CTA Executive retained the services of Mr. Allan House to assume the newly converted role of Secretary/Treasurer for the Association. Mr. Allan House previously held the position of Local Fur Officer for the community of Whapmagoostui.

◆ CTA ACTIVITIES

In the administrative and services sector, CTA has also gone through some staff changes in this fiscal year. Following are the new appointments within the Association since 2013;

- CTA Executive Assistant: (Judy Coon-Come-July 2013)**
- Secretary/Receptionist-Mistissini: (Vanessa Jacob-August 2013)**
- Local Fur Officer-Whapmagoostui: (Lizzie Masty-2013)**
- Local Fur Officer-Wemindji: (Abraham Matches-July 2013)**
- Local Fur Officer-Waskaganish: (Lenora Moar-October 2014)** Lenora is replacing Karilynn Blackned who is presently on a maternity leave.
- Assistant to the Special Projects Coordinator: (Willie J. Loon-September 2014)**

Considering the present work-load of CTA's Special Projects Coordinator, the Board of Directors of CTA agreed to engage an Assistant for a period of one year. Whether to retain this position on a full-time basis will depend on the recommendations from the Special Projects Coordinator and CTA Executive.

Eeyou Marine Region (EMR) staff:

The implementation plan for the Eeyou Marine Region (Off-shore Islands of James Bay) Land Claim Agreement came into force in February 2013. The agreement impacts the 5 coastal Cree communities of Waskaganish, Eastmain, Wemindji, Chisasibi and Whapmagoostui. The EMR agreement acknowledges the importance of Wildlife and Wildlife Management being assumed by the Crees; the need for an effective system of Wildlife Management that respects the Crees' harvesting rights and priorities; and the co-management of the whole area identified with the Government, as being the main principles of this said agreement. The agreement sets forth monetary provisions to enable CTA to fulfill its functions as per chapter 12. Further to that, and as per activity sheet # 14-1, CTA has initiated the posting and hiring of the following positions;

- EMR Wildlife Liaison Officer:** (Samuel Moses-April 2014)
- Local EMR Officer-Wemindji:** (George Natawapineskum-June 2014)
- Local EMR Officer-Waskaganish:** (Sanford Diamond-August 2014)



◆ CTA ACTIVITIES

The hiring of Local EMR Officers for the remaining communities (Eastmain, Chisasibi, Whapmagoostui) should be completed by April 2015.

As mentioned in the beginning, not having adequate human resources in place has been detrimental in terms of planning, organizing and implementing consistent training sessions for all employees. Regular training should be an entitlement for all workers. Hopefully, with the creation of an Administrative Assistant position for the organization, training for employees will be more consistent. But an HR position would be more ideal in terms of planning and implementing essential and long-term courses for all CTA employees. Aside from other important tasks and responsibilities, this position would be involved extensively in the planning, organizing and implementation of community-based and employee needs-based trainings. CTA considers good planning and well-formulated trainings as motivational factors, and are the primary functions of sound management. Good planning and proper training generates better results, the effective delivery of services, and promotes greater efficiency! Proper training of all employees is essential for any organization, including CTA.



The Federal Government has passed a law which requires that the following people obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card:

- All operators of any powered watercraft under 4 m in length (13.1 feet)
- All operators of personal watercraft (sea-doo's and jet skis)
- All operators of any powered watercraft born after April 1, 1983
- As of September 15, 2009 all boaters will be required to have the Pleasure Craft Operator Card in order to operate a powered watercraft. There is no grandfather clause or age exemption, this law applies to all boaters. Powered watercraft includes watercraft fitted with any size motor-even trolling motors.

Although there is an exemption in this law for aboriginal people if the boat is being used for sustenance purposes (such as sustenance hunting or fishing). If the aboriginal person is using a boat for a recreational boating activity or for work (guiding, slashing, construction and Hydro-Quebec etc.) then a Pleasure Craft Operator Card is required.

The Cree Trappers' Association is working with the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron to provide the Boat Safety course to Crees and the public at large in the communities.

5 Things You Can Do To Have a Safe and Enjoyable Boating Season

1. Wear your Personal Flotation Device (PFD) or lifejacket. Regulations require that you carry a properly fitting PFD or lifejacket that is Canadian approved and in good condition for every person on board. They only work when you wear them and usually by the time you need them it is too late to even find them and then struggle to put them on. In over 80% of boating related drowning people were not wearing their PFD.
2. Don't Drink and Boat! Now you could lose your driver's license. Over 40% of all boating fatalities involve alcohol.
3. Everyone who operates a powered recreational vessel requires proof of operator competency. Don't get caught without it. Get proper training, take a course and get your Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC).
4. Don't boat in poor weather. Water conditions can change very quickly, especially on large shallow lakes like Rice Lake and Lake Simcoe. Check weather reports before you leave shore and return to shore as soon as good conditions begin to change.
5. Get a Pleasure Craft Courtesy Check (PCCC) and ensure that you have the proper safety equipment on board, it is accessible and it is in good operating condition.

Required Equipment	Canoes, Kayaks, Row Boats	Personal Water Craft (PWCs)	Powered up to 6 meters in length	Powered over 6 up to 9 meters in length
One Canadian approved PFD or Lifejacket for every person on board	✓	✓	✓	✓
At least 15 meters of buoyant heaving line	✓	✓	✓	✓
A manual propelling device or anchor with at least 15 meters of line		✓	✓	✓
A watertight flashlight (don't forget the batteries) or 3 approved flares of type A, B or C		✓	✓	✓
Plus 6 approved flares of type A,B or C				✓
A sound signalling device	✓	✓	✓	✓
Navigation lights if operated at night or periods of poor visibility	✓	✓	✓	✓
Magnetic compass unless operating in sight of navigation marks			✓	✓
Bailer or manual water pump with sufficient hose to reach overboard	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exempt if everyone is wearing their PFD		✓		
One class 5BC fire extinguisher if equipped with an inboard engine, fixed fuel tank or fuel burning appliance		✓	✓	✓
Exempt if everyone is wearing their PFD		✓		
Plus one 5BC fire extinguisher if there is a fuel burning appliance				✓
Reboarding device if climbing distance is over 0.5 meters				✓

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SPECIAL MENTION 2015

◆ MR. SIMEON PASH



Mr. Simeon Pash, proud member of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, served the Cree Trappers' Association for close to 28 years. Most of these years, Mr. Pash held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for the association, as an elected member. Besides being involved in financial matters, Simeon also served on various committees, related to Cree Trappers' interests, on behalf of CTA. Mr. Pash was always very instrumental in promoting the values, interests, and the Cree way of life during his many years of service. In 2014, The CTA Board of Directors converted the elected position of Secretary/Treasurer into a regular employee position. Following this decision, and after choosing not to apply, Mr. Pash relinquished his role and responsibilities as Secretary/Treasurer.

The Cree Trappers' Association wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Simeon Pash, for his many years of services to the Cree people!



◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF VARIOUS CTA PROJECTS/FILES

2014-2015

SUBMITTED BY:
JEAN BAPTISTE LOON
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR



SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

CANADIAN FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE 12 MONTHS (DEPENDING ON FUNDS AVAILABLE)

The Canadian Firearms Program is administered by the RCMP/CAFC, which works with provincial Chief Firearms Officers and many community partners (Cree Trappers Association) across the country in implementing the Firearms Act and its regulations, and other related legislation regarding firearms.

The goal of the Canadian Firearms program is the safe and responsible use of firearms and it includes a range of activities directed toward achieving that goal such as the following;

- The licensing of all firearm owners and businesses
- The registration of all firearms
- The delivery of the Canadian Firearms Safety Course
- Public education regarding safe storage, transport and use of firearms
- Import and export controls

FUNDING SOURCES:

- 1) Funds from the RCMP are used towards this program
- 2) Funds provided by the regional CTA are also included in this program



Courses given for 2014-2015:		
COMMUNITY	# of COURSES	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Mistissini	4	# of people that took the course – 120
Oujebougoumou	2	# of people that took the course – 60
Waswanipi	1	# of people that took the course – 30
Nemaska	2	# of people that took the course – 60
Waskaganish	4	# of people that took the course – 120
Eastmain	2	# of people that took the course – 30
Wemindji	2	# of people that took the course – 35
Chisasibi	3	# of people that took the course – 85
Whapmagoostui	1	# of people that took the course – 27

TOTAL NUMBER OF COURSES FOR 2014-2015 - **21**
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS - **567**

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Number of Cree instructors trained to date

INSTRUCTOR #	NAME	TELEPHONE	ACTIVE OR INACTIVE	FORME BY	PLACE OF TRAINING	NOVICE	PPA #
M2637	Betty Tomatuk	819-977-243	Active	B. Pelletier	Eastmain	Yes	OK
M2636	Roger Weapinecappo	819-977-0246	Active	B. Pelletier	Eastmain	Yes	OK
M2152	Samuel Cox	819-855-2171	Active	Martin Savard	Chisasibi		NO
M2634	Jimmy R. Fireman	819-855-2826	Active	Martin Savard	Chisasibi		OK
M1545	Varley Shecapio-Blacksmith	418-745-3911	Active	B. Pelletier	Ojay		NO
M1541	Eddy Jolly	418-745-3911	Active	B. Pelletier	Ojay		NO
M2633	Sam Gilpin	819-978-0377	Active	B. Pelletier	Wemindji		OK
M1423	Elmer Georgekish	819-978-7737	Active	B. Pelletier	Wemindji		NO
M2635	John Tapiatic	819-855-2451	Active	B. Pelletier	Chisasibi		OK
M1897	Ron Zachary	819-977-2165	Active	B. Pelletier	Eastmain		OK
M2591	Jean Baptiste Loon	418-770-8396	Active	B. Pelletier	Mistissini	Head Instructor	OK
M2339	Joe Max Loon	418-779-8749	Active	B. Pelletier	Mistissini		OK

Total number of Cree Instructors in Eeyou Istchee - 12

INTRODUCTION TO HUNTING WITH FIREARMS COURSE 12 MONTHS (DEPENDING ON FUNDS AVAILABLE)

The relative complexity of Sport hunting, the problems associated with this activity, the need to know wildlife, the regulations that protect wildlife as well as the hunting methods, and the adoption of a responsible behavior have led to the creation of a general education program for hunters alike.

This module has two goals:

- **To prepare for the acquisition of a firearms hunters certificate (code F)**
- **To train safe, responsible and competent hunters**

The participation in and successful completion of a course of this module are a prerequisite for obtaining the hunters certificate. To pass the course, you will have to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the firearm and its operation, of the hunters code of ethics, of wildlife and its development, as well as the regulations concerning the conservation of wildlife and habitats along with various other topics related to hunting such as boat safety, survival in the forest and hunting methods and techniques.

This module will not teach you how to hunt; rather, it is intended to provide those who wish to exercise their right to hunt with firearms and to obtain an understanding of their duties and obligations towards wildlife, the natural habitat and their fellow citizens.

FUNDING SOURCES:

- 3) Funds from the RCMP are used towards this program
- 4) Funds provided by the regional CTA are also included in this program

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Courses given for 2014-2015:		
COMMUNITY	# of COURSES	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Mistissini	4	# of people that took the course – 120
Oujebougoumou	1	# of people that took the course – 9
Waswanipi	1	# of people that took the course – 25
Nemaska	2	# of people that took the course – 42
Waskaganish	4	# of people that took the course – 120
Eastmain	2	# of people that took the course – 30
Wemindji	2	# of people that took the course – 35
Chisasibi	2	# of people that took the course – 50
Whapmagoostui	1	# of people that took the course – 12

TOTAL NUMBER OF COURSES FOR 2014-2015 - **21**
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS - **455**
Total number of Cree Instructors in Eeyou Istchee - **10**



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

1) Moose Management

The CTA has been involved in the Moose management plan by assisting in the distribution of posters for certain communities. This poster was created by the Wildlife Ministry with the help of the CTA. This poster was delivered to Waswanipi, Mistissini, Oujebougoumou and Waskaganish.

The CTA was also involved in the collection of Moose Jaws and pays each hunter \$15.00 for each Moose Jaws collected. The moose jaws are then shipped to the Wildlife Ministry where they analyze and check the age and gender of the animal. However, the Ministry has stopped providing reports of their findings and they don't supply the reports of the CTA anymore and the CTA have stopped collecting the Moose jaws for now. Also, the person that worked on the Moose management plan for the Ministry was transferred to another location and they don't have anyone in this position for the moment. The CTA will resume collecting Moose Jaws once we know what direction the Ministry wants to take and when they do provide the reports to the CTA.

2) MOOSE TICKS: What is the winter tick?

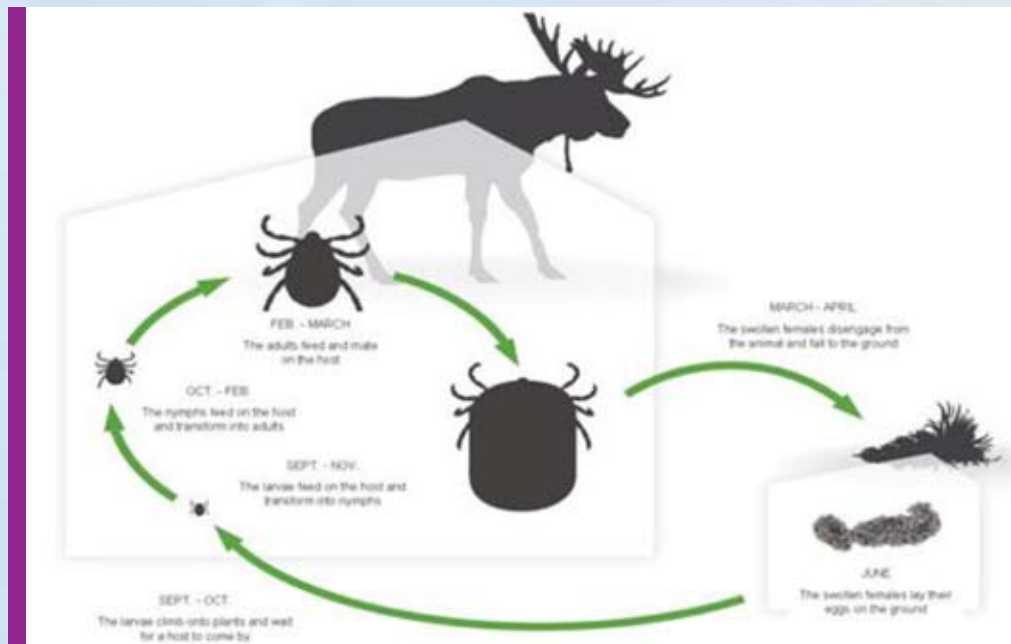
The winter tick (*Dermacentor albipictus*) is a mite that mostly attacks moose. It differs from other ticks in terms of its impressive size (measuring up to 15 millimetres), which peaks towards the end of winter. Parasitism of moose by the winter tick is a natural phenomenon that occurs in many regions of Québec, but infestations are currently reported to be greater in the regions located along the St. Lawrence River.



SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Life cycle

The ticks lay their eggs on the ground between the end of May and the beginning of June, and the eggs hatch during the summer. The larvae are inactive for some time, but in the fall they begin to climb and adhere in clusters to vegetation, at a height of roughly 1.25 metres. They then transfer onto animals that pass close by. Once established on the animal, they feed off the host's blood and continue to develop, gradually transforming into nymphs and then adults. After mating, which takes place at the end of winter, the blood-filled females drop to the ground to lay their eggs, and die. The life cycle then begins again. Each tick lives on only one host animal, usually a moose.



Effects for moose

In years when infestations are significant, thousands of ticks may attack a single moose, causing problems for severely affected animals. Clinical signs generally become visible towards the end of winter (February and March), and may take different forms:

- **Abnormal behaviour**
the animal begins to groom itself excessively, to try and stop the severe itching. Some individuals become less fearful of humans, and may appear lost or confused. They may also stop eating, and wander outside their natural habitat.
- **Weight loss and poor physical condition**
- **Hair loss and appearance of wounds**
- **Loss of blood**

The cumulative effects of all these factors, combined with harsh weather conditions, can affect the health of the moose, making them more vulnerable to predators, poaching and road accidents. In some cases, severely affected animals may die. Young moose are particularly vulnerable.

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Some precautionary measures

Although cases of humans contracting winter ticks are rare and danger-free, some precautionary measures are nevertheless required when handling wild animal carcasses:

- Wear gloves, long clothing and closed shoes.
- Apply an insecticide to your clothing.
- Carry out a self-examination (body and clothing) after handling a carcass. You can destroy any ticks present on your clothing by placing the garments in a dryer, on a high-heat cycle.
- Keep pet animals away from carcasses or remains.
- Throw away or destroy carcass remains (untreated skin and hair) to limit the risk of spreading ticks to other animals.
- If you find a tick on your skin, contact your region's Public Health Branch for information on how to remove it safely and effectively.

Wildlife Ministère and Cree Trappers Associations actions

The Ministère in collaboration with the CTA is collecting information in some large game registration stations. Your collaboration is extremely valuable. We also invite you to report any sick wild cervids or cervids behaving abnormally, as quickly as possible.

To report a sick animal: SOS Poaching: 1 800 463-2191 or call the CTA office at 418-923-3276

3) CADMIUM

This topic was been in discussion since the fall moose hunt where certain individual reported a concern in the consumption of moose organs, more specifically the moose heart and kidneys.

Cadmium is an extremely toxic metal commonly found in industrial workplaces. Due to its low permissible exposure limit, overexposures may occur even in situations where trace quantities of cadmium are found. Cadmium is used extensively in electroplating, although the nature of the operation does not generally lead to overexposures. Cadmium is also found in some industrial paints and may represent a hazard when sprayed. Operations involving removal of cadmium paints by scraping or blasting may pose a significant hazard. Cadmium is also present in the manufacturing of some types of batteries. Exposures to cadmium are addressed in specific standards for the general industry, shipyard employment, construction industry, and the agricultural industry

Buildup of cadmium levels in the water, air, and soil has been occurring particularly in industrial areas. Environmental exposure to cadmium has been particularly problematic in Japan where many people have consumed rice that was grown in cadmium contaminated irrigation water. This phenomenon is known under the name itai-itai disease.[2]

Food is another source of cadmium. Plants may only contain small or moderate amounts in non-industrial areas, but high levels may be found in the liver and kidneys of adult animals. The daily intake of cadmium through food varies by geographic region. Intake is reported to be approximately 8 to 30mcg in Europe and the United States versus 59 to 113 mcg in various areas of Japan.[3]

Cigarettes are also a significant source of cadmium exposure. Although there is generally less cadmium in tobacco than in food, the lungs absorb cadmium more efficiently than the stomach.[4]

Aside from tobacco smokers, people who live near hazardous waste sites or factories that release cadmium into the air have the potential for exposure to cadmium in air. However, numerous state and federal regulations in the United

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

States control the amount of cadmium that can be released to the air from waste sites and incinerators so that properly regulated sites are not hazardous. The general population and people living near hazardous waste sites may be exposed to cadmium in contaminated food, dust, or water from unregulated releases or accidental releases. Numerous regulations and use of pollution controls are enforced to prevent such releases.

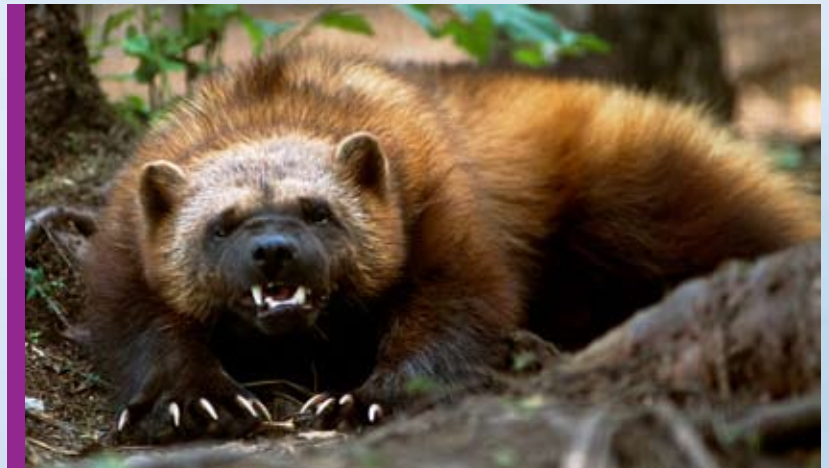
The Cree Nation Government along with the Cree Health Board and the CTA are looking into what we can do to ensure that this issue does not have an effect with the consumption of moose organs and will most likely have another survey on the moose and caribou population in Eeyou Istchee to find out if Cadmium is high as indicated. A recent study that was done in the Abitibi region revealed a high percentage of cadmium in that region.

If you have noticed a strange discoloring of the meat or the liver, heart or kidneys, please report it to the CTA office right away.

4) WOLVERINE PROJECT

This project was developed as a monitoring project for this year. There have been some reports of sightings of tracks in the southern part of the Quebec and we have some verbal reports of people seeing a weird looking animal.

This project was put in place by Nature Quebec with the collaboration of MFFP, Environment Canada, Cree Nation Government, First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute, Cree Trappers Association and the support of the Fondation de Faune du Quebec.



Between 13000 and 19000 wolverines in the Western population. Uncertain about the numbers for the Eastern population.

- Close to 70 observation mentions reported to the MFFP over the last 10 years.
- Aerial inventory in Labrador in 2005 recorded no sightings.
- Aerial inventory in Quebec and lower lands of Abitibi and James Bay reported 2 wolverine track trails.
- In February 2006, a female was captured in Saint-Come (Lanuadiere) originating from Ontario.
- The last mention (report) confirmed goes back to 1978 in the Schefferville area. The Naskapi indicated that the species may still be present in this area.

Today, the whole Cree communities seems little informed about the biological and ecological realities of the species and even less on its presence or its possible return to the area. A proposal was submitted for funding and once we have a positive response of our proposal we will proceed with the project. At the moment we are still waiting for these funds.

5) BEAVERS – AND THE PROTECTION OF ROADS

It appears that the population of beavers has been expanding in recent years in the southern portion of the James Bay territory (mainly Zone 17), as well as in Zone 16. We do not have good population data, and the nature of trends in beaver populations is a subject which could be pursued with MFFP staff.

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

In any case, substantial numbers of beaver are being killed each year in order to protect roads from damage resulting from beaver dams, and many lodges and dams are being destroyed for the purposes of control. The HFTCC regularly receives copies of permit applications for beaver removal. The numbers vary somewhat from year to year, but are in the several hundred, each year.

Beaver control, pursuant to these permits, typically takes place in the summer months. Consultations are arranged through the regional CTA in Mistissini, but there is limited Cree interest in trapping beaver in the summer.

Both from the perspective of meat quality and pelt condition, the most appropriate period from the Cree perspective is early winter – from October onwards. As a result, the MFFP is interested in opening up discussions which would make it possible to target selected river systems for intensive trapping the previous year, so avoiding or minimizing the need to take out beaver during the summer.

Implementing such a strategy requires a close working relationship with individual trappers in the watersheds and road networks which are particularly vulnerable and require priority attention. We understand from Vincent Brodeur that MFFP has a pretty good idea, from working with MTQ and individual forestry companies, where the problem areas are located.

There is interest, therefore, in setting up a system whereby maps are produced and supplied in the summer or fall, identifying priority watersheds or sections of road. These could be used in a collaborative manner with the regional and local CTA's to help target the trapping effort.

Such a strategy would require careful attention to consultation, and regular (annual) evaluation. However, I think it is worth pursuing – and that it would be a valuable demonstration of an ongoing working relationship (as in the case of wolf control) between the Cree and Jamesian communities, in collaboration with MFFP. I believe that it is worth examining economic considerations, and seeing whether additional income might be derived from Cree participation in advanced trapping along the lines suggested here.

I know that there are other strategies available, with an engineering flavour, aimed at discouraging beaver from using culverts and road crossings as opportunities for building dams and lodges. It would be good to follow these initiatives as well.

The CTA and CNG hope, also, that we can make sure that the Environment Department at the Cree Nation Government is also active in this field, and is kept informed of progress.

6) WOODLAND CARIBOU

As in the previous years the CTA has been directly involved in the Woodland Caribou monitoring project.

Woodland caribou (Boreal population) in Eeyou Istchee (James Bay Territory, Quebec) includes several known herds (Nottaway, Assinica and Temiscamie herds). Fragmentation of land through forestry activities and other anthropogenic activities (roads, recreational occupancy, and hunting) has greatly reduced the probability of the herds to sustain themselves and conservation efforts has been minimal. These efforts, for the most part, has been limited to the acquisition of knowledge, yet no conservation measures have been put in place (Habitat protection, predator management, hunting activities, recreational activities and settlement planning). The last population census has been conducted in 2002 and monitoring of the herds by telemetric collars has been in place since 2002 by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife. There are still important knowledge gaps remaining, especially north of the commercial forestry limit as most of the telemetric collaring has been focused in the forest management areas. Building awareness and participation of the Crees in the conservation of woodland caribou has also been minimal. Most recently, a status report (Status of Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) in the James Bay Region of Northern Quebec, 2012 by Rudolph, T.D. et al.)

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Commissioned by the Cree Regional Authority/Grand Council of the Crees in Eeyou Istchee and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife was produced by independent experts who provided an assessment of The Woodland Caribou herds in Eeyou Istchee. This report revealed that habitat disturbance was well in excess of what the herds could tolerate and consequently, the herds were considered to be “not-self-sustaining”. The report also outlined a series of recommendations towards the herd’s conservation.

The Cree Regional Authority/Grand Council of the Crees in Eeyou Istchee (CRA/GGCEI) wants to be actively involved in the conservation of this population in Eeyou Istchee and continues work in collaboration with communities, governmental and non-governmental agencies towards the protection and recovery of this endangered species.

For this year, in the month of March 2015, The Wildlife Ministry will be doing collaring work to maintain a decent sample of satellite telemetry collars. They have made a recent update on the location of the marked animals and can produce a relatively good planning of the areas that will be visited either by fixed wing (reconnaissance) or helicopter (captures). A map was produced that shows red polygons where they plan to work, the exact locations of the interventions depends on the caribou themselves. The map also shows the contours of the trap lines concerned by this work, an Excel file lists all trap lines on the map for any concerned tallyman or trapper’s reference.

They intend to be working anytime between February 23rd and March 10th and would be present in a given trap line once, between a few minutes or 1 hour, in that time period. The fine scale logistical planning will unfold as we work since many unpredictable elements are at stake, including weather and caribou locations.

The collars that will be deployed are of the new generation and approximately half the weight (600 grams) of previous ones that were expected not to affect the survival of marked animals. The high survival rate of marked animals since 2004 has been very an important input in that estimation. There are some trappers that are concerned by the handling of live animals or by potential effects of the collars on the animals, however, the telemetry locations gathered to this date have been the most efficient and powerful tool to influence political decisions related to the conservation of their habitat at the National scale. The Wildlife Ministry is always available to inform people on the nature and use of satellite telemetry and how it is done. However, we ask people to do not hesitate sharing your concerns.

7) CABIN INSURANCE

In 2006, the CTA joined the Cree Collective Deductible Insurance program of the Board of Compensation to obtain “all risk” insurance on its cabins plus all office equipment and vehicles. Back then, the annual insurance premium was \$220/cabin, making the total annual premium cost for the 268 cabins around \$60,000.00. All equipment and vehicle insurance premiums are included in this amount.

Over the years, the premium has rose on annual basis and the CTA needs to decide what to do in terms of keeping this program for the trappers.



◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Our current insurance coverage, as of today, we have:

- Limit of insurance of \$ 4,000,000 per event ;
- 321 cabins insured;
- An insurance cost per cabin of \$ 420 and a total premium of \$ 134,953

In the month of December 2014, we presented to the CTA Board of Directors, a list of options on how to better improve the program. However, there was no direction from the Board of Directors and we are still looking into other options which we will present to the Board of Directors in the month of June.

Based on the claims experience of the program, the options to reduce the cost per cabin are:

Option 1:

- **Reduce** the limit of insurance at \$ 1,000,000 per event;
- Keep 321 cabins insured;
- The insurance cost per cabin will be \$ 280 and a total premium of \$ 89,953.

Option 2:

- **Reduce** the limit of insurance at \$ 1,000,000 per event;
- Keep only the cabin for which the trapper paid the premium;
- The policy will be subject to a minimum premium of \$ TO FOLLOW. Because of the policy minimum premium, if we want to keep the premium per cabin at \$ 280, we have to insure more than 160 cabins.

The Assistant Special Projects Coordinator, Willie J Loon is currently updating the overall list of cabins in all the Cree communities. Once this is done we will be able to determine which cabins are used and which cabins should not be insured based on whether these cabins are livable and in good condition. The CTA is still providing insurance to cabins that are no longer been used and this is one of the reason Willie is working on the overall update of all cabins. We will present our findings to the Board of Directors in the month of June.

8) TRAPLINE BOUNDARIES

The objective of this project is to formally recognize the Cree Trapline Boundaries through a review exercise that will look at the previous and current versions of the Cree Trapline Boundaries.

The main objective of this project is to review the existing versions of the trapline boundaries currently in use by different Cree organizations and communities and come up with a common and up-to- date version of the trapline boundaries. While realizing that finalizing the trapline boundaries can be a long process that will also involve community consultations and conflict resolution, the project team will have to complete the mandate in the three district phases described in this report.

Phase 1

- Gather and review all shape files of trapline boundaries
- Identify working group
- Hire a full-time coordinator
- Develop a working budget
- Collect community trapline maps
- Produce new preliminary trapline boundaries shape files
- Prepare community trapline maps at 1:250,000

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Phase 2

- Present project on review of the trapline boundaries to CTA Board of Directors and Tallymen in all Cree communities
- Public consultations
- Review all community maps and traplines
- Review list of Tallymen – update

Phase 3

- Prepare base maps for consultations (Individual Interviews)
- Identify disputes and overlaps
- Resolve gaps and overlaps
- Send disputes to conflict resolution committee
- External traplines
- Priority traplines
- Traplines
- Present final report to all community members

Project Team: Trapline Boundaries

Jean Baptiste Loon – Special Projects Coordinator, CTA (Project Coordinator)

Willie K Gunner – President, CTA

Maxine Mark-Stewart – GIS Technician, CNG

Valter Blazevic – Consultant, Strata 360

Brian Lewis – GIS Technician, Strata 360

9) CREE TRADITIONAL PURSUITS PROGRAM

In the year of 1991, the Cree Trappers Association tested the proposed Trapper Training program built on experience of its members as well as those of Quebec, Canada and Cree organizations. A description of the approach used by the Cree Trappers Association must be preceded by a description of these earlier experiences. The entire Cree population learned the skills and knowledge to pursue a traditional Cree vocation through families. Though families existed very independent of one another and only gathered for brief periods during the year, the style and content of the Cree approach was remarkably consistent throughout the land.

Over the years, this program was not in operation due to the lack of funding from various sources and members from Cree Nation of expressed the need to restart this important program. As a result of this request from our people, we have begun to explore various ways to ensure that this program was again in operation.

We have identified potential partners that could help in the realization of this program.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| - Income Security Program | - | Serge Larivière |
| - Niskamoon Corporation | - | Marc Dunn and Robbie Tapiatic |
| - Cree Nation Government | - | Johnny Trapper |
| - CGEP (St Felicien College) | - | (TBD) |
| - Cree School Board | - | (TBD) |
| - Cree Trappers Association | - | Board of Directors/staff of the CTA |

The objective of this new approach of the proposed program was to identify main priorities with regards to short-term strategy of developing a pilot training project.

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Rationale: A short term strategy of developing a pilot project was chosen considering the following:

- Engaging the Cree School Board and the Ministry of Education thereafter is lengthy bureaucratic processes that will likely last several years.
- Elders with the requisite knowledge to teach fundamental aspects of Cree Traditional pursuits are increasingly unable to share such knowledge due to their advanced age.
- There is an immediate demand among Crees to follow the traditional pursuits program.
- There is a desire among partner organizations to develop an immediate product to offer to the Crees
- The experience gained through developing of the long-term program, both among the partners and instructors
- Developing instruction material and infrastructure can begin right away, making the long-term program easier to implement in the future.

We have had two meetings in regards as to what the program should look like and what we should have in the program to be able to meet the needs of the people that need this program.

THEMES

1. Safety and security
2. Teaching of traditional knowledge, Cree culture and values
3. Modern harvesting knowledge
4. Conservation



SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Long-term considerations

- Evaluation and monitoring – quality control
- Physical fitness of trainees and trainers
- Students accepted to project will be based on priority levels
- Screening of instructors and students (major challenge will be participation of family-members).
- Encourage both male and female participants – “teamwork training” (no gender-based training).

Competencies	Description	On-the-Ground
1. Knowing the requirements to ensure safety at all times and how to deal with emergencies in the bush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing proper behavior in the bush in emergency situations - Proper equipment for safety in the bush - Building shelter - Building a fire under different conditions - Interpreting sun/clouds/stars/moon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic first aid - Learning traditional medicines
2. Planning a trip to the bush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring communication with other land users, family members - Route planning - Planning emergency routes - Planning according to weather - Planning transportation - Using GPS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning to use paper maps/navigation. - Using mental and paper maps to plan route - Interpreting weather - Recognizing terrain
3. Understanding the requirement for setting up and maintaining a camp in the bush.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temporary vs. permanent shelters vs. emergency shelters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspecting camps - Basic camp maintenance (garbage management, cleaning, fireplace)
4. Understanding seasonal changes and the constraints and opportunities they pose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding day length - Ice safety - Water safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading weather - Understanding weather changes - Hunting/fishing/trapping according to season
5. Know and understand the wildlife resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowing names of animals, parts of animals - Animal habitat - Tracks/signs of animals; understanding animal movements - Connection of animal movements to ecology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing hides - Preparing meat - Harvesting methods - Use of appropriate tools - Using proper surrounding materials - Historic tools and methods
6. Self-sufficiency and independence in a modern world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvesting for food - Trapping using all techniques available - Preparing and preserving food - Understanding climate change - Understanding conservation (risks of overharvesting) - Understanding the impacts of development - Use and care for tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvesting methods - Principle of conservation - Beaver lodge inventories - Scouting - Using GPS - Traditional and modern fishing/trapping/hunting tools - Basic mechanics of machinery - Proper tools for safety
7. Learn and understand the Cree worldview regarding the traditional lifestyle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Cree relationship with nature and wildlife - Cree values – sharing, using all the animals. - Cree stories and messages - Land management issues and challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language/terminology

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

10) CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECT

The previous Makivik and CTA project results highlighted the importance of collaborative exchange of information between Inuit and Cree communities from the Hudson Bay territories. With the degree and complexity of climatic and socio-environmental changes becoming more intense across the subarctic an integrated monitoring approach with interdisciplinary research teams of Cree, Inuit and non-Aboriginal scientists, and analyses that link environmental phenomena with social perception, will provide deeper insights into the implications of climate change for subarctic ecosystems and their residents and the development of effective and culturally appropriate adaptation strategies. This project will provide a concrete opportunity to establish successful partnerships that bring together Cree and Inuit organizations, scientists and researchers to study the impacts of climate change in the Canadian subarctic.

This proposed project is a partnership between Cree and Inuit organizations and communities for the purposes of implementing an ice monitoring system in the adjacent Inuit and Cree communities of Kuujjuaraapik and Whapmagoostui. The monitoring system will be adapted to the needs of the community and the data will be available, in real time, to the Inuit and Cree hunters, trappers and communities of Kuujjuaraapik and Whapmagoostui. The project will ensure that young Inuit and Cree will be involved in data collection and interpretation through adequate training in order to foster an interest in scientific careers. The researchers will also work with the Inuit and Cree leadership to assist them in developing adaptive strategies for climate change.

Our people (Creeps) have been observing climate change and its impact on their activities. A previous project conducted by the CTA has shown that the main impact was the danger created by the change in ice quality and formation patterns to travel safety and was affecting Cree subsistence activities, social organization, and development aspirations. However, the consequences of climate change are not limited to unsafe and reduced accessibility to the land but also include a series of cause and effect relationships that generate social, cultural, health, food security and economic impacts on Cree individuals and communities. Moreover, as climate change continues in the future, such impacts will increase in significance and amplify over time. Likewise, the Inuit of Nunavik and in particular, Kuujjuaraapik, have also observed climate change and its impact on their traditional activities. As the Inuit and Cree use much of the same territory around the southern Eastern Hudson Bay, it is evident that both groups have witnessed dangers in ice quality that affect travel safety and subsistence activities. In other Nunavik communities, these effects have also been identified and similar monitoring programs (some of which were funded by Health Canada) have been put in place to monitor trail conditions over a network of highly used travel routes.

The project results will allow the project team to identify changes in hunting/fishing grounds and in travel patterns over time as well as the reasons for these changes, including changes in climate. The information from this project will be used as a framework in other Inuit and Cree communities in Nunavik and the Hudson Bay Region that are feeling the effects of climate change and may serve to reduce the risk of accidents recently occurring while travelling on the land and to reduce the delay in accessing of traditional foods (i.e., hunters will be able to identify which routes are safe and may therefore plan an alternate route to go harvesting earlier in the season). The expected outcomes and results of the project are the delivery of a web portal with real-time trail condition data delivery for community use.

The funding of \$166,858 per year for one year will allow the project to implement the ice monitoring system in Kuujjuaraapik and Whapmagoostui. The Inuit and Cree organizations will work with the communities to ensure that the monitoring system is adapted to the needs of the communities and that the information is conveyed in an appropriate manner. Additional funding will be requested from other sources in order to extend the program to other Inuit and Cree communities. The principal investigators of this research project have already conducted a study on climate change in two Inuit communities over an original two year sequentially funded period (although monitoring continues using internal funding) and three Cree communities in 2009-2011 and this project will enable the implementation of an ice monitoring system that was specifically requested by the Inuit and Cree participants during this previous research.

It must be emphasized that this project will continue to be a community-based research project. Community representatives will continue to be involved in all aspects of the research (design, implementation, interpretation and evaluation). Active community participation will ensure that the research is useful to the communities and, in turn, it is

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

expected to increase interest on the effects of climatic change and the identification of potential adaptation measures Nunavik and the Hudson Bay Region.

Project Team:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1) Name of co-project leader: | Adam Lewis (Geomatics Manager) |
| Affiliation (community): | Makivik Corporation, Nunavik Research Centre (Kuujuaraapik) |
| 2) Name of co-project leader: | Jean-Baptiste Loon (Special Projects Coordinator) |
| Affiliation (community): | Cree Trappers Association (Eastmain, Mistissini, Whapmagoostui, Nunavik) |

We will be installing in the month of March 2015 of this year. We have received all the equipment and it will be shipped to Whapmagoostui. In order to fulfill our mandate for the installation process we will require the following:

- Locations of cabins so we can plan our travel accordingly
- Snowmobile rentals/qamutik for 3 installation team (Adam, Neil, Campbell Scientific and 2 guides)
- Guides
- Portable generator rental
- Need cookware

Project start-up: After the Phase 2 TEK interviews and community consultations, a community atlas will be prepared for Kuujuaraapik and Whapmagoostui indicating all of the data collected during the TEK interviews (species hunting / fishing areas, travel routes, ice conditions and dangerous areas). The community atlas will be delivered to the community in hard-copy format.

Middle of the project: After Phase 3 of the project (fieldwork installations), the project team will develop the web portal and project brochures. The project brochures will be delivered to the community in hard-copy format and will provide a background about the project, about the web-portal, and the study areas. In addition, project leaders will be available in the communities during the entire duration of the project and will be available to assist the communities in accessing data and deliverables distributed from the project. Beginning after Phase 3, the web portal will be developed and the community will have constant access to data and results of the monitoring program.

End of the project: A final report will be prepared summarizing project results. A community questionnaire and analysis of the web portal activity results will also be included as well as the travel safety awareness calendar.

11) BOAT SAFETY COURSE

Pleasure Craft Operator Card: All operators of motorized pleasure craft have to show proof of operator competency. In April 2011, Transport Canada introduced over 100 new required key learning points which were added to the original 149. This course has been revised to include all of the key learning points that all operators need to get their Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC).

The CTA has begun to offer this course to those that require their PCOC. The CTA uses this guide to teach the course: People are taught that when they operate a boat they are responsible for:

- The safety of the boat
- The safety of your guests
- Any damage caused by your boat or its wake (wave created by your boat)

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Boaters must keep up to date on changes in boating regulations that may affect:

- The equipment they require
- Where and how they can operate their boat
- Boating safety in general

As of September 15, 2009, all operators of any powered craft must carry proof of competency on board their craft at all times. As well, all youth under 16 years of age require proof of competency to operator any motorised boat, supervised or not.

Proof of Competency on Board means:

- A pleasure craft operator card (PCOC) – this is the most common proof obtained after passing an accredited boat safety tests.
- Proof of having passed a boating safety course in Canada before April 1, 1999
- A specific marine certificate
- A completed boat safety checklist

The CTA now has a certified Boat Safety Instructor (Jean Baptiste Loon) and we will be offering this course in the summer of 2015.

12) POLAR BEAR FILE

The CTA has been involved in the discussions of the Polar Bear file with the CNG and with other concerned organizations. This file will have its place once the EMR is up and running and a file that the CTA needs to be involved in.

The Polar Bear Working Group's primary objective is to produce a management plan for approval by December 2015 that will apply to those polar bear management units (Davis Strait, Foxe Basin and Southern Hudson Bay) that occur within the terrestrial and offshore regions of Québec, the Nunavik Marine Region and/or the Eeyou Marine Region. The proposed plan will be submitted to the appropriate management authorities who will initiate the approval processes defined under their respective Land Claims Agreements to determine whether the plan should be approved and implemented in their jurisdiction. More specifically, the PBWG intends to develop a plan that:

- Is based upon the best available scientific information and Traditional Ecological Knowledge ("TEK"). To the extent possible, this will be achieved by the consideration of the two streams of knowledge. When there is divergence between the two, both perspectives will be considered; and
- Clearly explains the legal framework and the roles and responsibilities of all organizations involved in the management of polar bears within the NMR, EMR and Quebec; and
- Describes the biology, ecology and behaviour of polar bears in this region and identifies present and potential threats to them; and
- Provides a framework for implementing decisions made by the NMRWB, Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board (EMRWB) and/or the Hunting Fishing Trapping Coordinating Committee (HFTCC) that pertain to Total Allowable Take ("TAT") and/or non-quota limitations; this includes the definition of an allocation system, a registration process and/or any other mechanisms necessary to the implementation of a sound harvest-management system; and
- Does not focus solely on the regulation of harvesting activities, but also on the measures needed to mitigate against the threats that occur directly within the management area (e.g. shipping, disturbance of sensitive areas, tourism, research, etc.); and
- Provides a mechanism to address and mitigate the growing concerns related to human-bear interactions and the defence of human life and property within Quebec, the EMR and the NMR; and

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

- Recognizes the importance of continued monitoring of the status of polar bears through appropriate scientific methods, Community-based monitoring, biological sampling and/or based on the observations and knowledge of the Cree and Inuit who reside within the range of polar bears;
- Acknowledges that polar bears that occur in the EMR, NMR, and Québec spend significant amounts of time outside of these regions and are also harvested outside of the EMR, NMR, and Québec

The working group will, to the extent feasible, engage and encourage the participation of Nunavik Inuit and the Cree of Eeyou Istchee during the development of this management plan to ensure that their views, priorities and concerns have been fully considered.

Polar bear management in Quebec, the Nunavik Marine Region (“NMR”) and the Eeyou Marine Region (“EMR”) should be adaptive and able to quickly respond to new information.

13) FUR INSTITUTE OF CANADA (FIC)

This National organization is of extreme importance that the Cree Trappers Association remain to be active and to be a full time partner with this organization. This organization has become a very valuable information source to the CTA. This organization monitors the anti-fur movement of various animal rights groups. There are over 20 different types of animal rights groups and they all have a common goal which is to put a stop to all killing and trapping of fur bearing animals both by native and Non-Native trappers.

So pro-fur groups like the FIC have counter acted on these powerful well-funded animal rights groups. This why we still have a market for our furs both domestically and international. The CTA has been a board member on the FIC for many years now and we continue to follow the activities of this important organization. The FIC send us important information on a weekly basis and we are able to keep track of their activities and we are well informed on a regular basis of various happenings in the fur world.

We have participated in their annual meetings on an annual basis. The last meeting we went to was in June 2014 which the meeting was held in Halifax. We had an opportunity to visit a mink farm and other important events that the organization is involved in.

This year the annual meeting of the FIC will be held in Saskatchewan which again the CTA will participate in.

14) GEOPORTAL WEBSITE

The GeoPortal system was initiated in 2005 and the first version of the portal went online in 2007. The second and improved and expanded version was published in 2010. Since then, more improvements were made and currently the Geoportal is home to the following applications and databases used and maintained by the Cree Trappers Association:

1. Cabin Map and Database
2. Trapline Registry
3. Climate Change Database
4. Harvest Database

Throughout the year, we conduct various activities including meetings, consultations and training and planning sessions with Strata 360 with the purpose of reviewing the current status of applications and providing the necessary training to new members of the CTA.

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

- **Reporting Activities Map Functionally**

The reporting activities map was implemented during the Phase 1 development of the Cree Geoportal (2005-2007) and was built using ESRI ArcGIS technology that was available at the time. This technology from the early days of web mapping was later abandoned by ESRI and replaced by ArcGIS server, newer technology was used to build the applications in Phase2 of the Cree Geoportal development. Namel6 the CTA applications off Climate change, Trapline Atlas, and Harvest database use newer technology.

- **General Map of Eeyou Istchee**

The reporting activities functionally was originally developed on top of the general information map of Eeyou Istchee also using the same ArcIMS technology. Apart from displaying detailed reference map layers, the General Map also provides access to a variety of layers of information of public nature relevant to the Cees. This map can be re-established as a separate interactive map service and, if desired, it can be integrated with the reporting activities.

- **Harvest Database**

The Harvest Database application was completed and published online in the spring of 2012. The database has been updated with the latest information at the time and is now fully operational and ready to receive information for every harvest year. The harvest data base application is also under current review for potential improvements which have been disused with the CNG in order to accommodate the additional data and reporting needs of the CTA and CNG.

- **Resolving WMS base Maps availability issues**

Currently, all map services use a combination of locally stored data at a smaller scale (layers from 1:10,000,000 up to 1:230,000 scale) and remote databases coming from government servers in form of Web Map Services for maps larger at 1:50,000 scale.

- **Integration of satellite images at CTA map services**

Recently, there were requests from some users for integration of satellite imagery layer into the Geoportal map service.

Satellite image mosaics were originally included into the Geoportal map services during the first phase of development (from 2005 to 2007) as WMS layers originating from government sources.

Recent advancements in mapping technologies from Google and Bing allow for more reliable integration of satellite imagery into the map service.

- **Further mapping work on Trapline Boundaries and Database**

Currently, work is underway to update the trapline boundaries and the tallymen database. The new preliminary version will be presented sometime at the next BOD meeting for discussion purposes only. Direction from the BOD will be required once the presentation has been done.

We anticipate that more work/support will be needed in order to finalize the trapline boundaries and database following the comments from the communities. We also will have to hire a fulltime coordinator for the trapline boundary system.

◆ SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

15) NATURAL ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The CTA was involved in the CGEP program where we provided Elders teachings and knowledge on various subjects related to Culture, traditional activities, trapping, hunting and fishing activities.

This year, this program was cancelled due to a lack of student enrolled in this program. The CTA and CGEP worked together preparing for this program where we selected various topics which we could provide Elders teachings to the students.

We are currently working on this year's program and we hope there will be enough students enrolled for this year.

Other projects/files that the Special Projects Coordinator is directly involved in are:

- Migratory Caribou (Leaf River herd and George River Herd)
- Important Bird Areas
- Bird Bands
- Endangered Species
- Request for Permits
- CTA Website
- CTA Annual Report
- Sturgeon Study
- Wolf project
- Waterfowl (Geese) Study



CERTIFIED TRAPS



Certified Traps – AIHTS Implementation in Canada Updated January 31 2015

(New additions to this list are marked in Bold)



The Canadian Wildlife Directors, Competent Authorities for implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) have approved a 2-phase process for implementing the AIHTS in Canada. The following list shows the two phases for regulating species-specific traps: (1) the **certified traps** currently regulated for specific species; (2) **certified traps that are not regulated at this time**. The traps listed by name have all been certified by a governing competent authority as meeting the requirements of the AIHTS for specific species.

Check with your provincial or territorial government to confirm regulations related to trap uses applicable in your trapping area.

PHASE 1 - KILLING TRAPS - Certified traps currently regulated for use per species

SPECIES				
BEAVER	-Bélisle Classique 330 -Bélisle Super X 280 -Bélisle Super X 330 -B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper -B.M.I. BT 300	-Bridger 330 -Duke 330 -LDL C280 -LDL C280 Magnum -LDL C330	-LDL C330 Magnum -Rudy 280 -Rudy 330 -Sauvageau 1000-11F -Sauvageau 2001-8 -Sauvageau 2001-11	-Sauvageau 2001-12 -Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half Mag -Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Mag -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
FISHER	-Bélisle Super X 120 -Bélisle Super X 160 -Bélisle Super X 220	-Koro #2 -LDL C160 Magnum -LDL C220 Magnum	-Rudy 120 Magnum -Rudy 160 Plus -Rudy 220 Plus -Sauvageau 2001-5	-Sauvageau 2001-6 -Sauvageau 2001-7 -Sauvageau 2001-8
MARTEN <i>Martes americana</i> <i>Martes martes</i> <i>Martes zibellina</i>	-Bélisle Super X 120 -Bélisle Super X 160 -B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper	-LDL B120 Magnum -LDL C160 Magnum -Koro no 1 -Koro no 2	-Northwoods 155 -Rudy 120 Magnum -Rudy 160 Plus -Sauvageau C120 Magnum	-Sauvageau 2001-5 -Sauvageau 2001-6 -KP120 (Russia) -Kleiner Schwanenhals (Germany) -Eiabzugseisen (Germany)
RACCOON	-Bélisle Classique 220 -Bélisle Super X 160 -Bélisle Super X 220 -Bélisle Super X 280 -B.M.I. 160 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper	-Bridger 160 -Bridger 220 -Duke 160 -Duke 220 -Koro #2 -LDL C160 -LDL C160 Magnum -LDL C220	-LDL C220 Magnum -LDL C280 Magnum -Northwoods 155 -Rudy 160 -Rudy 160 Plus -Rudy 220 -Rudy 220 Plus	-Sauvageau 2001-6 -Sauvageau 2001-7 -Sauvageau 2001-8 -Species-Specific 220 Dislocator Half Mag -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220
MUSKRAT On Land	-Bélisle Super X 110 -Bélisle Super X 120 -B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum -B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum	-Bridger 120 -Duke 120 -Koro Muskrat Trap -LDL B120 -LDL B120 Magnum -Ouell 411-180	-Ouell RM -Rudy 110 -Rudy 120 -Rudy 120 magnum -Sauvageau 2001-5	-Sauvageau C120 Magnum -Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend" -Triple M -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
MUSKRAT Underwater	Any jaw type trap (body gripping or leghold) set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that maintains this animal underwater.			

PHASE 1 - RESTRAINING TRAPS - Certified traps currently regulated for use per species

SPECIES				
CANADA LYNX	-Bélisle Footsnare #6 -Bélisle Sélectif	-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs	-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs	-Oneida Victor #3 equipped with at least 8mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate

Updated January 31 2015

Phase 2. YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION TO BE DETERMINED

Although the traps listed in Phase 2 are certified for the following species and trap categories, the year of entry into force of the obligation to use only AIHTS Certified traps has not yet been determined. This date, which could vary from one species to another, will be known at least 3 years advance. *Until then, traps that are currently legally permitted can still be used.*

For all Canadian jurisdictions, certified killing traps for ermine/weasels and Canada lynx will become mandatory (Phase 1) in the fall of 2015 (except 2016 in Quebec) and for otter in the fall of 2016.

Check with your provincial or territorial government to confirm regulations related to trap uses applicable in your trapping area.

PHASE 2 - KILLING TRAPS – Traps certified per species but not yet mandatory

SPECIES				
OTTER	-Bélisle Super X 220 -Bélisle Super X 280 -Bélisle Super X 330 -LDL C220	-LDL C220 Magnum -LDL C280 Magnum -Sauvageau 2001-8 -Sauvageau 2001-11	-Sauvageau 2001-12 -Rudy 220 PLUS -Rudy 280 -Rudy 330	-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
WEASELS	-Bélisle Super X 110 -Bélisle Super X 120 -B.M.I #60 -B.M.I 120 Body Gripper Magnum -B.M.I 126 Body Gripper Magnum	-Bridger 120 -Koro Muskrat Trap -Koro Rodent Trap -LDL B120 Magnum -Ouell 411-180	-Ouell 3-10 -Ouell RM -Rudy 120 Magnum -Sauvageau C120 Magnum -Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"	-Sauvageau 2001-5 -Triple M -Victor Rat Trap -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
CANADA LYNX BOBCAT	-Bélisle Super X 280 -Bélisle Super X 330 -B.M.I 220 Body Gripper -B.M.I 280 Magnum Body Gripper	-B.M.I 220 Magnum Body Gripper -B.M.I 280 Body Gripper	-Bridger 220 -LDL C220 -LDL C220 Magnum -LDL C280 Magnum -LDL C330	-Rudy 330 -Sauvageau 2001-8 -Sauvageau 2001-11 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330

PHASE 2 - RESTRAINING TRAPS – Traps certified per species but not yet mandatory (see Note 1 below)

SPECIES		
COYOTE	-Bélisle Footsnare #6 -Bélisle Sélectif -Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil spring -Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil spring -Oneida Victor 1.75 equipped with 3/16-inch on top side of jaw and ¼-inch on underside of jaws), with a 4 coil springs Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil spring	-Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on topside of jaw and ¼-inch on underside of jaws), with 2 coil springs. -Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on topside of jaw and ¼-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs. -Bridger #3 equipped with 5/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on topside of jaw and ¼-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate
WOLF	-Bélisle Footsnare #8 -Bridger Alaskan #5 Offset and Laminated Jaws -Bridger Alaskan #5 Rubber Jaws -Livestock Protection EZ Grip No. 7 -MB 750 Alaskan OS (3/8')	-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs, a minimum 8mm thick base plate and an anchoring swivel mounted on a base plate -Rudy Red Wolf 4 ½ -Bridger Brawn no 9 Rubber Jaws
BOBCAT	-Bélisle Footsnare #6 -Bélisle Sélectif -Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs -Oneida Victor #1.75, offset, laminated jaws equipped with 2 coil springs	-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs -Oneida Victor #3 offset, laminated jaws equipped with 2 coil springs
RACCOON (CAGE & BOX TRAPS)	-Ramconct DURA-POLY Box Trap -Havahart Cage Trap 1079 -Havahart Cage Trap 1081 -Havahart Cage Trap 1085	-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5
RACCOON Note 1	-Duffer -Egg Trap	-Lil' Grizz Get'rz -Duke DP Coon Trap

Note 1: The exclusive use of these certified traps is currently mandatory only in Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick

◆ LOCAL TRAPPERS' COMMITTEES

CHISASIBI



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Bobby Neacappo | Chairman |
| 2. Adrian Chiskamish | Vice-Chairman |
| 3. Freddie Scipio | Member |
| 4. Harry Bearskin | Member |
| 5. John Pachano | Member |
| 6. Richard Pepabano | Member |
| 7. Noah Chakapash | Member |
| 8. Reggie Sealhunter | Member |
| 9. Simeon Kitty | Member |
| 10. Josie Cox | Member |

EASTMAIN



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| 1. Marjorie Weapenicappo | Director |
| 2. Roderick Mayappo | Member |
| 3. Jeffrey Miapo | Member |
| 4. Victor R. Gilpin | Member |
| 5. Kathleen Whiskeychan | Member |
| 6. Ernie Moses | Member |
| 7. Marcel Moses | Member |

◆ LOCAL TRAPPERS' COMMITTEES

MISTISSINI



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Thomas Coon | Chairman/Director |
| 2. Peter Shecapio | Vice-Chairman |
| 3. Stanley Mianscum | Member |
| 4. Matthew Petawabano | Member |
| 5. Sam Petawabano | Member |
| 6. John S. Matoush | Member |
| 7. Elizabeth M. Coon-Come | Member |

NEMASKA



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Kenny Tanoush | Chairman/Director |
| 2. Jim Blackned | Member |
| 3. Robert Capassisit | Member |
| 4. Samuel Mettaweskum | Member |
| 5. Matthew Tanoush | Member |
| 6. Freddie Wapachee | Member |
| 7. James Wapachee | Member |

◆ LOCAL TRAPPERS' COMMITTEES

OUJE-BOUGOUMOU



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. David Gordon Bosum | Member |
| 2. Claude St-Pierre | Member |
| 3. Eddy Mianscum | Member |
| 4. Jossie Shecaoip-Blacksmith | Member |
| 5. Benjamin Shecapio-Blacksmith | Member |
| 6. Anna Bosum | CTA, B.O.D. Representative |
| 7. Varley Shecapio-Blacksmith | Local Fur Officer |

WASHAW SIBI



Local Trappers' Committee

◆ LOCAL TRAPPERS' COMMITTEES

WASKAGANISH



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bert W. Moar | Director |
| 2. William T. Hester | Chairman |
| 3. James A. Jonah | Treasurer |
| 4. Jeremiah Hester | Member |
| 5. Sarah Cowboy | Member |
| 6. Norman Whiskeychan | Member |
| 7. David Erless | Member |
| 8. George Katapatuk | Member |
| 9. Raymond Blackned | Member |
| 10. Melvin Wesley | Band Representative |
| 11. Redfern Blueboy | Band Representative |

WASWANIFI



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Paul Dixon | Local Fur Officer |
| 2. Johnny A. Grant | Member |
| 3. Allan Happyjack | Member |
| 4. Jack Otter | Member |
| 5. Don Saganash Sr. | Member |
| 6. Johnny Ottereyes Sr. | Member |
| 7. Sydney Ottereyes Sr. | Director |

◆ LOCAL TRAPPERS' COMMITTEES

WEMINDJI



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Ernest Tomatuk | Vice President/Director |
| 2. Elmer Georgekish | Member |
| 3. Bill Stewart | Member |
| 4. Karen Mistacheesick | Member |
| 5. Frederick N. Cheezo | Member |
| 6. Stanley Shashaweskum | Member |
| 7. Henry Stewart | Member |
| 8. Abraham Matches | Local Fur Officer |

WHAPMAGOOSTUI



Local Trappers' Committee

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Jacob Dick | Chairperson |
| 2. Robbie Kawapit | Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Thomas Shem | Member |
| 4. Matthew Natachequan | Member |
| 5. Frances George | Member |
| 6. Eliza Kawapit Masty | Member |
| 7. John Shem | Member |

CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

MEETINGS 2014-2015

DATE	CTA BOD/EXECUTIVE	PLACE OF MEETING
1. April 4, 2014	CTA Executive (conference call)	
2. April 14, 2014	CTA Executive meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
3. June 3-4, 2014	CTA Executive meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
4. June 17-18, 2014	CTA Board of Directors meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
5. June 20, 2014	CTA Executive meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
6. July 25, 2014	CTA Executive meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
7. August 11, 2014	CTA Board of Directors meeting (special)	Ouje-Bougoumou, Qc.
8. August 12-14, 2014	Annual General Assembly/Elections	Ouje-Bougoumou, Qc.
9. August 14, 2014	CTA Executive meeting (special)	Ouje-Bougoumou, Qc.
10. August 25-26, 2014	CTA Executive meeting/Orientation	Val-d'Or, Qc.
11. October 16-17, 2014	CTA Executive meeting	Montreal, Qc..
12. December 1-2, 2014	CTA Executive meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
13. December 9-11, 2014	CTA Board of Directors meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
14. December 11, 2014	CTA Executive meeting (special)	Val-d'Or, Qc.
15. January 21, 2015	Interviews/CTA Executive meeting	Val-d'Or, Qc.
16. February 11-12, 2015	CTA Executive meeting	Eastmain, Qc.
17. March 25, 2015	CTA Executive meeting	Montreal, Qc.

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP BY COMMUNITY

2014-2015

COMMUNITY	ADULTS	JUNIORS	TALLYMEN	TOTAL AMOUNT
CHISASIBI	1729	59	35	26,407.00
EASTMAIN	391	191	14	7,393.00
MISTISSINI	1121	53	60	17,239.00
NEMASKA	378	183	18	7,134.00
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU	169	11	12	2,623.00
WASKAGANISH	1543	97	44	23,921.00
WASWANIPI	657	15	55	9975.00
WEMINDJI	467	113	23	7909.00
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	592	268	24	11,024.00
TOTAL COUNT	7047	990	285	\$113,625.00

As approved by the Cree Trappers' General Assembly



◆ LOCAL PROJECTS PROGRAM

We allocated a total of 2 million dollars from the Eenou Eeyou Ltd Partnership Fund and the Federal New Relationship Fund to all nine communities; each amount per village is based on their number of memberships sold during the previous year.

Community	Memberships 2013-2014	Eenou Eeyou Ltd Partnership Fund \$	Federal New Relationship Fund \$	TOTAL \$
Chisasibi	1321	189,239	125,146	314,385
Eastmain	432	100,261	66,303	166,564
Mistissini	1120	166,016	109,789	275,805
Nemaska	443	69,240	96,084	165,324
Ouje-Bougoumou	177.5	70,856	46,859	117,715
Waskaganish	1551	215,812	142,719	358,531
Waswanipi	682	115,413	76,323	191,736
Wemindji	624	108,710	71,893	180,603
Whapmagoostui	744.5	136,365	90,180	226,545
TOTAL	7095	1,171,912	825,296	1,997,208

The funds were used to assist the trappers in their hunting, fishing and trapping activities. These are some of the projects and programs that each local committee provided with the above funds.

- Gas & oil Subsidies
- Skidoo, outboard & ATV Subsidies
- Ammunition Subsidies
- Air and Ground Transportation
- Bush Radio Repairs & Batteries
- Youth Trappers Assistance
- Cabin Construction and Renovations
- Public relations
- Trappers Committee Operations
- Equipment Subsidies
- Hunting and Fishing Supplies
- Snow Removal
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Radio Dispatchers
- Elders Assistance
- Cabin Insurance
- Traditional Food
- Cultural Activities

BIG GAME SURVEY
SUMMARY REPORT BY COMMUNITIES
 July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

MOOSE

CARIBOU

Community	Black Bear			CARIBOU				MOOSE			
	Male	Female	TLL	Male	Female	Calf	TLL	Male	Female	Calf	TLL
CHISASIBI	32	33	57	24	0	0	57	33	15	4	52
EASTMAIN	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	14	6	40
MISTISSINI	73	0	4	4	0	0	4	164	43	5	212
NEMASKA	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	15	10	36
OUJE-BOUGOMOU	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	18	6	49
WASKAGANISH	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	22	16	2	40
WASWANAPI	57	6	13	6	1	1	13	96	34	24	154
WEMINDJI	13	1	3	2	1	0	3	11	7	3	21
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	11	74	121	32	15	15	121	0	1	0	1
SUB-TOTAL	220	114	199	69	16	16	199	382	163	60	605

TOTAL PER SPECIES 220 199 605

TRAPLINE CAPTURE REPORT

SUMMARY FOR ALL COMMUNITIES

July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

Community	BVR	LNK	SBL	MNK	OTR	FSR	SKN	WSL	RAT	SQU	WFL	RFX	SFX	WFX	CFX
CHISASIBI	74	11	175	3	13	0	0	7	8	62	2	84	2	0	9
EASTMAIN	40	6	27	0	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	1	0	1
MISTISSINI	158	10	387	10	13	0	0	2	33	0	3	14	1	0	3
NEMASKA	41	5	44	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WASHAW SIBI	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WASKAGANISH	224	11	162	8	30	0	0	0	19	0	4	4	0	0	2
WASWANAPI	150	18	127	7	4	0	0	0	13	2	2	5	0	0	0
WEMINDJI	164	47	281	12	30	0	0	10	48	24	0	109	0	16	7
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	38	1	39	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	1	5	0	0	0
Total	895	110	1242	40	96	0	0	19	141	88	12	227	4	16	22

NOTE: OUJJE-BOUGOMOU SOLD ALL FUR TO PRIVATE BUYER

OUJJE-BOUGOMOU	45	5	56	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	12	2	0	0
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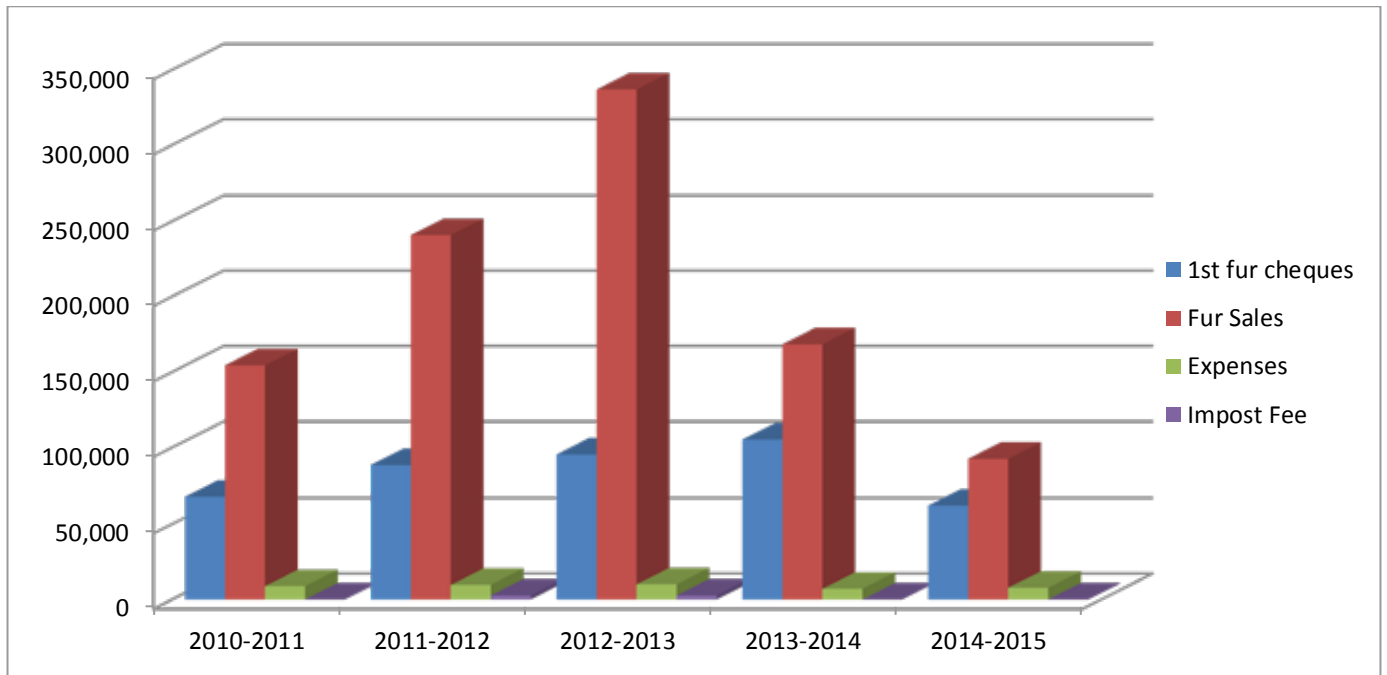
**SUMMARY OF FURS SOLD
BY ISHTHCHIIKUN
2014-2015**

Species		Quantity	Amount Paid	Average Cost
Beaver	BVR	761	\$ 9,427.00	\$ 12.39
Castoreum	CAS	3	\$ 90.00	\$ 30.00
Coyote	COYT	1	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
Lynx	LYX	89	\$ 4,886.00	\$ 54.90
Mink	MNK	38	\$ 275.00	\$ 7.24
Marten	MTN	1168	\$ 40,713.00	\$ 34.86
Otter	OTR	71	\$ 1,636.00	\$ 23.04
Muskrat	RAT	98	\$ 347.00	\$ 3.54
Red Fox	RFX	138	\$ 3,025.00	\$ 21.92
Silver Fox	SFX	5	\$ 138.00	\$ 27.60
Squirrel	SQU	102	\$ 78.25	\$ 0.77
Artic fox	WFX	8	\$ 144.00	\$ 18.00
Wolf	WLF	9	\$ 626.00	\$ 69.56
Weasel	WSL	16	\$ 20.00	\$ 1.25
Cross Fox	XFX	24	\$ 657.00	\$ 27.38

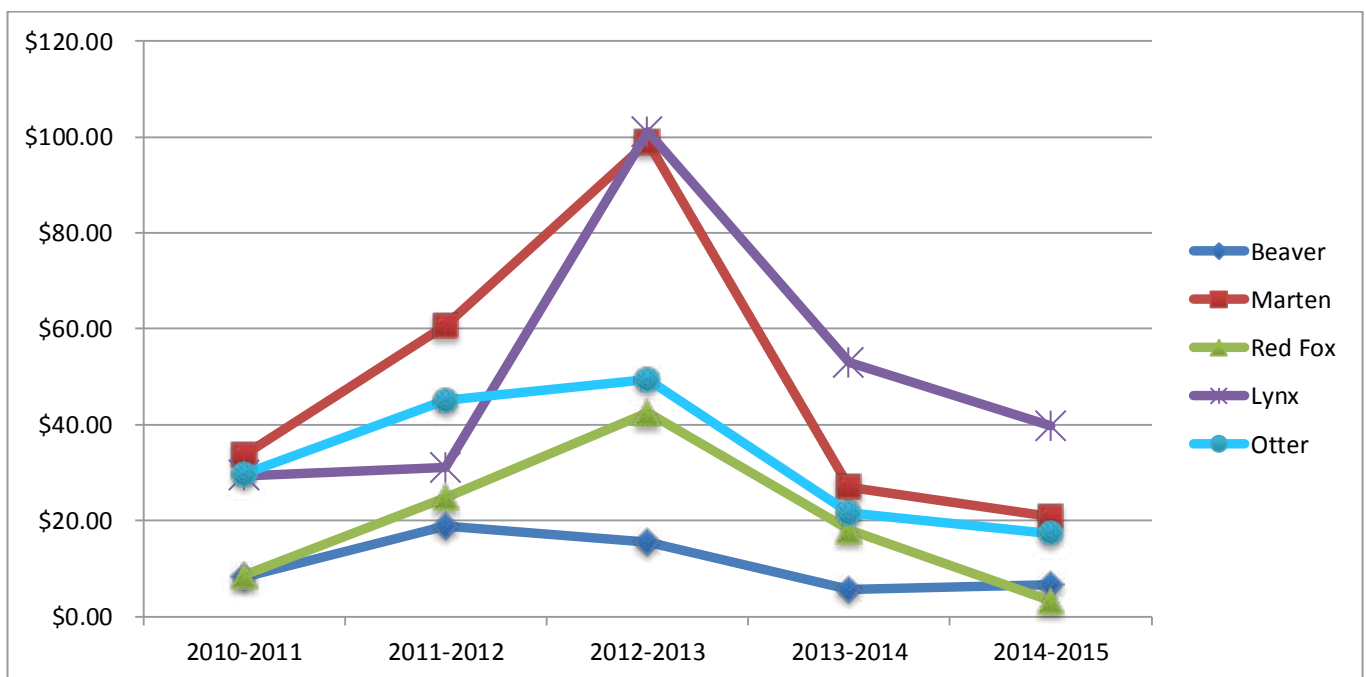
Total Amount Paid \$ 62,122.25

ISHTHCHIIKUN

Fur Analysis from 2010 to 2015



Net Profit per Species from 2010 to 2015



ISHTHCHIIKUN
FUR SALES REPORT
 September 2014 to August 2015

COMMUNITY	FUR SALES (Fur Harvesters)	FUR PURCHASES (1st Cheques)	EXPENSES	BALANCE PAYABLE TO TRAPPERS
CHISASIBI	15,553	8,718	1,095	5,741
EASTMAIN	1,143	1,015	127	1
MISTISSINI	31,603	23,322	2,928	5,353
NEMASKA	3,440	2,225	279	936
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU	0	0	0	0
WASKAGANISH	8,620	5,508	692	2,421
WASWANIPI	10,276	8,927	1,121	228
WEMINDJI	18,297	10,617	1,333	6,347
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	3,382	1,660	208	1,514
WASHAW SIBI	180	130	16	34
TOTAL	92,496	62,122	7,800	22,574

**ISHTHCHIIKUN
CREE FUR TRUST FUND
As of March 31, 2015**

COMMUNITY	BALANCE MAR-31-14	EXPENSES	INTEREST REVENUE	BALANCE MAR-31-15
CHISASIBI	127,244	(736)	926	127,434
EASTMAIN	40,161	(111)	292	40,342
MISTISSINI	119,641	(111)	871	120,401
NEMASKA	2,810	(361)	20	2,470
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU	2,965	(111)	22	2,876
WASKAGANISH	44,069	(962)	321	43,428
WASWANUPI	27,358	(111)	199	27,446
WEMINDJI	29,148	(488)	212	28,872
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	17,242	(246)	126	17,122
TOTAL	410,639	(3,237)	2,989	410,391

**ISHTHCHIIKUN
INSURANCE FUND
From October 1, 1991 to March 31, 2015**

FUNDING	Initial Funding	Cabins @ \$50	Cabins Insurance with BOC	Total
BOARD OF COMPENSATION	86,539			86,539
CREE NATION OF CHISASIBI	30,000			30,000
JAMES BAY EEYOU	125,000			125,000
CHISASIBI TRAPPERS		15,750	63,395	79,145
EASTMAIN TRAPPERS		13,176	27,495	40,671
MISTISSINI TRAPPERS		5,750	85,260	91,010
NEMASKA TRAPPERS		3,750	36,161	39,911
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU TRAPPERS		0	27,600	27,600
WASKAGANISH TRAPPERS		6,250	67,500	73,750
WASWANUPI TRAPPERS		650	40,860	41,510
WEMINDJI TRAPPERS		6,150	62,310	68,460
WHAPMAGOOSTUI TRAPPERS		1,150	35,880	37,030
TOTAL FUNDING	241,539	52,626	446,461	740,626
INTEREST EARNED ON G.I.C's				80,557
CONTRIBUTION FROM CTA GENERAL ACCOUNT				41,632
TOTAL FUNDING AND INTEREST				862,815
EXPENSES				
<u>2014-2015</u>				
INSURANCE COST				128,249
AUDIT FEES				1,000
<u>PREVIOUS YEARS</u>				
INSURANCE COST				426,044
TRAVEL EXPENSES				10,939
CONTRACT SERVICES				34,026
HONORARIUM				3,000
INSURANCE CLAIMS PAYOUTS				83,283
BANK CHARGES				246
ADMINISTRATION & AUDIT FEES				12,329
TOTAL EXPENSES				699,116
BALANCE CREE TRAPPER'S INSURANCE FUND				163,699

The Five Great Hunters

In March of 2015, the Cree Nation of Mistissini mourned the loss of five of its beloved members; Mr. Emmett Coonishish, Mr. Charlie Gunner, Mr. David Jimikin, Mr. Chiiwetin Coonishish, and Mr. Kevin Loon. Referred to as the 'five great hunters' these young men all succumbed to smoke inhalation as a result of a cabin fire. To lose five young lives in one tragic incident was a tremendous loss to the Cree Nation. They may be gone, but they will never be forgotten!



The five young men were avid hunters and enjoyed spending time in the bush, practicing their hunting skills. They were known to give freely to those who were in need of traditional food, especially to the elders. Their love for the land, and their generosity in sharing what was given to them from the land, will always be remembered by their home community of Mistissini!

The Cree Trappers' Association wishes to extend and pay special tribute to the late, Mr. David Mianscum, and the five great hunters of Mistissini for their desire to preserve, maintain and promote the traditional life style of the Cree people. The lives and contributions of these beloved hunters is an inspiration to all!

Cree Trappers' Association

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