

# CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION



ACTIVITY REPORT 2016 - 2017



*Vision of our Future Cree Trappers*

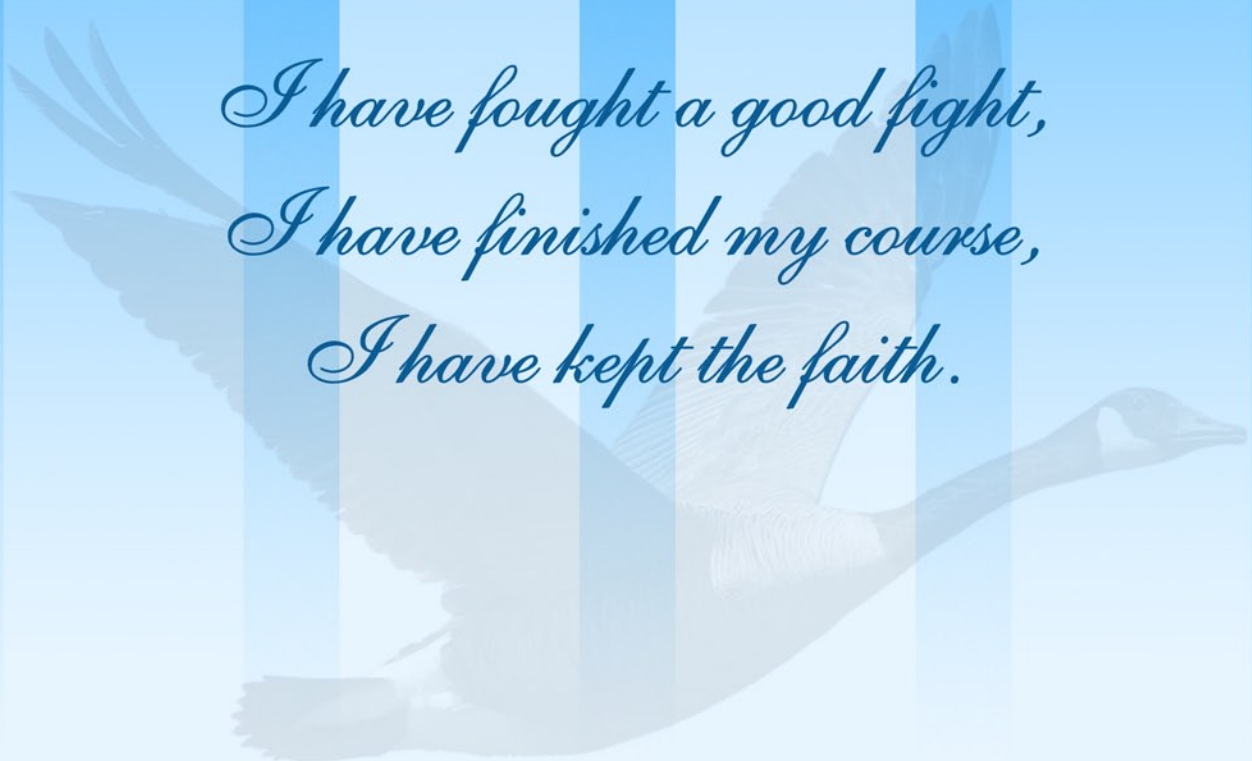


## **Andrew Kawapit Sr.**

*was as a Cree Trappers' Association Board Member  
and Whapmagoostui Cree Trappers' Association Committee Member*

*August 28, 1932 - January 15, 2017*

*I have fought a good fight,  
I have finished my course,  
I have kept the faith.*





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# CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION



## CTA FOUNDING MEMBERS

**Abraham Fort-Chimo** – Fort George

**James Visitor** – Paint Hills

**Luke Tomatuk** – Eastmain

**Lawrence Katapatuk** – Rupert House

**Gilbert Dick** – Great Whale River

**Noah Wapachee** – Nemaska

**Harry Blacksmith** – Waswanipi

**Thomas Coon** – Mistissini

**Joseph Loon** – Mistissini

# CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATIONAL VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS

**Towards the latter end of 2014 and through the course of 2015, the CTA Executive engaged the services of PIRON/WARD (Human Resources and First Nations Consulting) in identifying the key elements needed to keep the association moving forward, for the next 3-5 years. One of the key mandates was to review the old mission statement that had been adopted when the Association was incorporated in 1978. Considering how CTA has evolved since then, the working group felt it was time to come up with a 'vision statement' that reflects present day aspirations, as well as review the old 'mission statement'. The following draft vision/mission statements have not yet, been officially adopted by the CTA Board of Directors.**

## CCTA VISION STATEMENT

**With the guidance of Chishemanituu, CCTA will do everything possible to ensure the Eeyou-Eenou traditional way of life is passed on in a responsible and sustainable manner to all generations!**

## CTA VISION STATEMENT

**CTA is committed to maintain, preserve, protect, and enhance the rights and interests of the Indohoshoo members and the Eeyou-Eenou traditional values and way of life in Eeyou Ischtee.**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As President of the Cree Trappers' Association, I am honored to present to the respectful members of Eeyou Istchee, the CTA Annual Report 2016-2017. The annual report highlights some of the major projects we have focused on through this fiscal year.

As many of you may know, and as of August 2017, my three-year term as President of the association will come to an end. I have found the position of President for the association quite challenging. But I will always consider serving the Cree people in this capacity as an honor and a real privilege.

Trying to meet the needs of the members we serve, through programs and projects, has been a long but a challenging process. I will outline some of the notable projects we have focused on for this year in serving the CTA members better.

CTA Executive has spent a considerable amount of time working with Niskamoon in reviving a 'cabin program' for our members. I am pleased to say that we are at the final stages of completing the details and funding for this program. I applaud our partners, Niskamoon, for their willingness to assist in this much-needed program for our trappers.

The 'Cree Traditional Pursuits Program' is another initiative that has taken much of our time. It gives me great pleasure to inform the members that this program is approximately 80% completed. The development of a 'Cree Traditional Pursuits Program' will serve the purpose of promoting and preserving the Cree way of life, especially with our younger generation. Again, my full compliments to Niskamoon and Cegep St. Felicien for their involvement in realizing this very unique program! We are anticipating that this program will be implemented in the very near future. As mentioned in last year's annual report, the main goal was to have this unique program be recognized by the educational institutions in order to secure permanent funding.

One of the amusing highlights for CTA is to able to participate in the Fur Harvesters Convention held in North Bay. The event brings together trappers from various parts of the country for trapper techniques updates and information sharing. As in the past, and as experienced at this year's convention, the Cree trappers were well received at this prestigious event!

As a final highlight, one of the major impacts that will affect the association and the members we serve will be the new Governance Structure that was recommended by the CTA Board's working committee. The new Governance Structure was recently adopted by the CTA Board of directors. The new structure calls for the abolishment of certain key positions in the association; one of them being the elected position of Vice-President. Also, in an effort to stream-line its services, the working committee has recommended the permanent closure of the CTA office in Mistissini, and abolish three positions within that office.

As President, all I can say is that members need to be well informed on some of the drastic recommendations being proposed. I wish the next Cree Trappers' Association leadership nothing but the best in this major endeavor!

In conclusion, I just want to say how honored I am to have had the opportunity to serve the trappers, hunters and members of Eeyou-Istchee, as President of the Cree Trappers' Association!

May God continue to bless the Cree Nation!

**Willie K. Gunner**

*President, Cree Trappers' Association*





## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT



Wachiya!

It is with great pleasure to have the opportunity to address our growing membership via the 2016-17 Cree Trappers' Association Annual Report. The annual report is such an important communication tool in reaching the members, and at the same time report on past year's activities, as well as ongoing, forecasted and anticipated activities.

Administering an association like CTA requires many hours of day-to-day office work and multi-tasking, therefore I will only focus on major highlights and accomplishments that the members need to be informed and kept up-to-date on.

**Fur Marketing and Fur Sales:**

This is an important file that remains at the forefront of my report. In terms of the quality of fur, I am pleased to report that the fur shipped out from both fur depots for this year, has been receiving very positive results. The quantity of fur from Cree territory has also increased significantly.

CTA regional has made improvements in how advance payments (fur payments) are made to the trappers. The association has also introduced and implemented a new fur tagging system in the monitoring and tracking of individuals' fur. The system also allows CTA to follow the sales, or the non-sale of fur, as well as the selling price following a fur auction event.

We are anticipating a good return for the trappers when the second fur cheques are issued. And whenever the Cree Trappers' Association and its members experience a profitable year, this has a positive impact on the Fur Trust account. The anticipated increase in the Fur Trust account looks very promising. This is something that the regional CTA could not say in the last two years! For this, I commend all the trappers who continually go out on the land in maintaining their traditional life-style.

**Wildlife Management Plans (WMP):**

As with any major wildlife management plans, the work and development of this WMP has been slow, but nevertheless progress has been evident. Within the last year, major consultations have taken place to address the issue of irresponsible hunting of the black bear, moose, and other species of interest to the Cree trappers of Eeyou Istchee. I am pleased to report that a 'draft management plan' is now in place for the moose. With time, CTA regional in collaboration with the Cree Nation Government will eventually have a WMP for each species of interest in Cree territory. This will be a positive step in protecting the wild animals that have sustained the Cree people for many years.

**New Governance Structure: (Cree Trappers' Association)**

The new governance structure that has been proposed is another topic that should be of interest to the members of CTA. At the last CTA Board of Directors meeting, resolutions were adopted supporting the following changes;

- Closure of the Mistissini regional office;
- The abolishment of the General Manager position;
- The abolishment of one (1) Local Fur Officer position in Mistissini;
- The abolishment of the Secretary/Receptionist position in Mistissini
- The abolishment of the CTA Vice-President position. In this case, one of the CTA directors would assume the role of 'Vice-President' on permanent basis.

The objective of the abolishing of positions was to reduce over-all administrative costs and increase program funding. As I mentioned before, resolutions have been passed at the Board level, and it is just a matter of implementing the recommendations submitted by the Board's working committee. There is reluctance with some of the senior directors on this new governance structure being proposed. On the other hand, it seems to be supported and accepted by the new directors. Only time will tell whether this new governance structure is in the best interest of the members being served!

**Future Funding for the Cree Trappers' Association:**

Future funding the Cree Trappers' Association has always been a topic of discussion at the regional level, and has remained uncertain to this day. Despite the acceptance of the New Governance Agreement, CTA remains unsure as to how future funding will be allocated to the association. CTA has been mentioned to receive guaranteed funds on an annual basis, but the amount has never been specified. This needs to be clarified in order for CTA to establish long-term goals and objectives.





## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

### Construction of Cabins & Trappers Training Program:

Throughout this past year, numerous meetings and discussions have taken place to ensure these two projects remain key initiatives in serving our members better. I am pleased to report that these two projects are nearing completion with a probability acceptance of 80-90% by the parties involved. We are forecasting that these projects will be implemented by fiscal year 2017-2018. I compliment Niskamoon, the Cegep of St. Felicien and the Quebec Education Ministry for their involvement, especially in CTA's 'Trappers Training Program.'

This will be my final year, in a three year term, as Vice-President for the Cree Trappers' Association. This could also be the final year that the members will hear 'messages' from this elected position, as the CTA Board has accepted and adopted a resolution to abolish the Vice-President position.

I have enjoyed to be given the opportunity to serve the Cree Trappers' Association membership, as your Vice-President for the last three years. It has been a real honor to serve you!

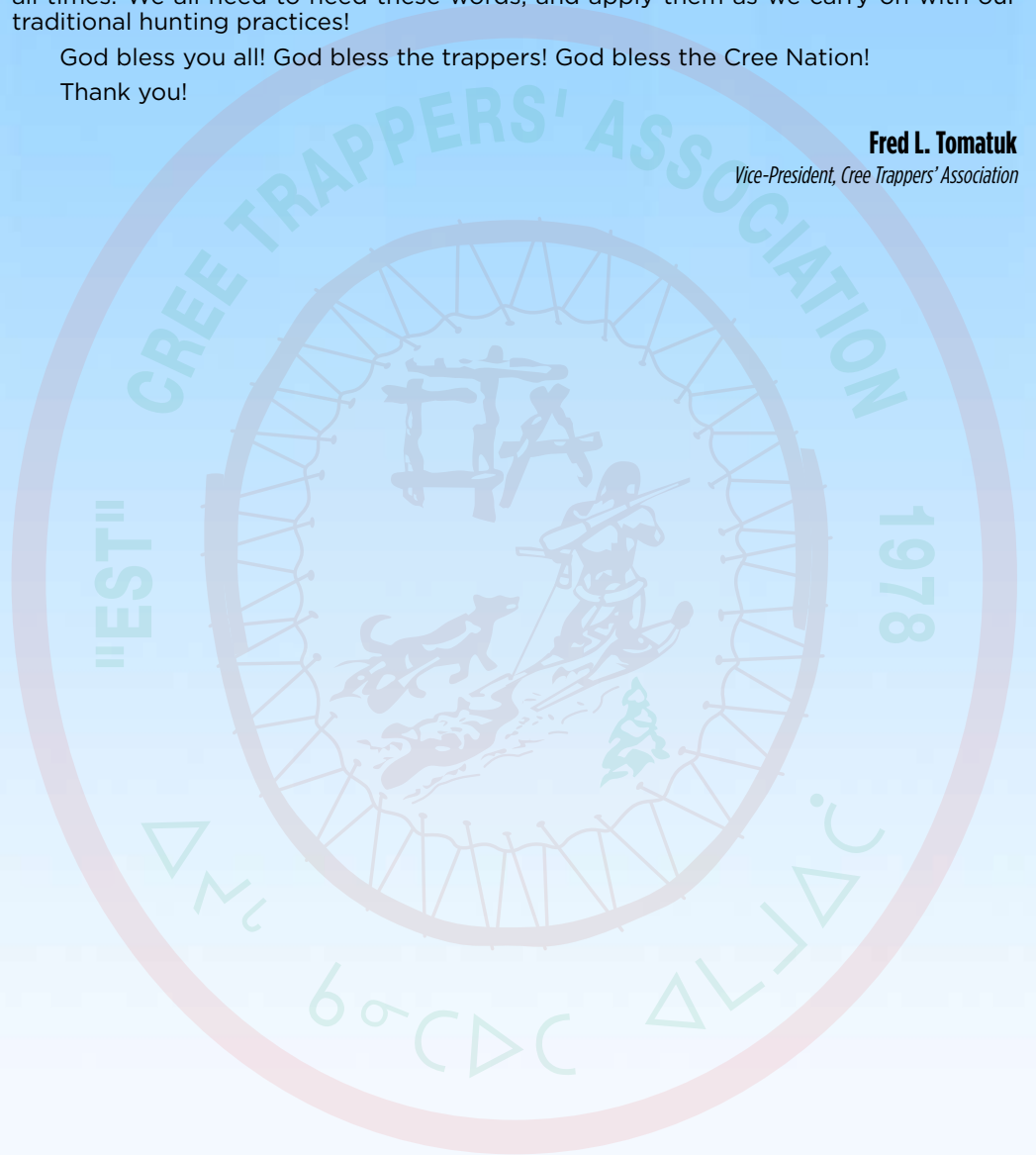
The Cree people have been blessed with a vast and beautiful land where we can practice a very unique way of life. As Cree people, we have a huge responsibility to protect and preserve this land, as well as our traditional practices of trapping, hunting and fishing. If we wish to pass on this land to future generations, then we have to fully respect it, the many animals that dwell therein, and each other as users of this land! Our elders have always taught us to harvest in a respectful and responsible manner at all times! We all need to heed these words, and apply them as we carry-on with our traditional hunting practices!

God bless you all! God bless the trappers! God bless the Cree Nation!

Thank you!

**Fred L. Tomatuk**

*Vice-President, Cree Trappers' Association*



## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER



Wachiya,

It is always with great pleasure and a privilege to offer you this Annual Report for 2016-2017 and once again proud to write to you all Indoohoo Eeyouch and members of the Cree Trappers' Association for our accomplishments we made over the last year 2016-2017 and its challenges that we have faced with our past organizational structure. One of the important challenges last year was the James Bay Eeyou Companeé realigned their funding commitments of \$100,000 for assistance of programs to hunters and trappers, and therefore disbursing these funds equally to each band offices of each Cree communities for that purpose. Since, CTA have been committing this funding from James Bay Eeyou Companeé for many years on CTA executive salaries for the administrative functions of the organization and therefore, CTA has considered this new organizational structure and to be presented to you all at the General Assembly in August in Eastmain, Eeyou Istchee.

I am pleased to have been involved with the work of the Board of Directors working group along with our Cree advisor Dianne Reid in the restructuring process started since last summer at the Board of Directors meeting in Eastmain and continued to this new fiscal year 2017-2018. I look forward of these changes that we will see in the next few months and I am optimistic for the administrative transitional progress for Cree Trappers' Association, as Dianne Reid later describe it best as I was writing this letter for the 2016-2017 report;

"If we believe in what we worked so hard for, we are now at the crossroads of that great change.... you are the next generation for that change.... like us before you, we had to make brave and courageous decisions to bring the Cree Nation where it is today"

Changes in the organization should be influencing almost every aspect in aiding programs geared to the hunters and trappers in the Cree Nation seasonal or fulltime. I know today some young people in the Cree Nation choose other goals and ambitions for themselves and other choose to continue or go back hunting and trapping, and many retirees from the workforce in the Cree Nation also go back to the roots for our ancestors in Eeyou Istchee to our Eeyou Ituun (Cree Knowlegde) or as my colleague Fred would say "Cree Know How". Again, this past fiscal year we managed and respected our bank ratio of our loan with CIBC for our Head Office Administration Building in Eastmain as this will continually be an important objective and the commitment to repaying this loan.

Today, we see different traditional practices within Eeyou Istchee such as traditional medicines and healing our minds and spirits from the medicines bestowed on us from the traditional ground in Eeyou Istchee, other concerns for CTA along with our elders is preserving and maintaining our Cree Language and we would very much like to help with other Cree entities to create programs for youth. The youth in the Cree Nation springtime is one of their most exciting aspirations when they know they will be going hunting with their grandfathers, fathers or brothers for 2-3 weeks or even other families go out for 2 months, and for the young girls helping setup a teepee, boughs, getting fire wood and cleaning their family harvest. I am sure many of us also take the time to reflect during goose break with our loved one's that passed on before us, and spring hunting season is also time to create new memories as I see many families posting pictures on social media of their favorite things or proud moments such a young person killing their first goose at camp or at a hunting blind, and how families and friends come together for traditional bear feasts.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to mention my colleagues our President Mr. Willie K. Gunner whom was serving his final term of office as an executive for CTA, and I wish him good luck in his future endeavours, unlike our President our Vice-President Fred L. Tomatuk can run for a second term of office with CTA and I want to thank them both for their guidance, wisdom and respect for me in my role as Secretary-Treasurer with CTA, together we had our share of challenges and differences within the organization as I have been with these 2 gentlemen for the last 2 half years and we have a unique balance of knowledge in the Executive Committee.

We, the Cree Trappers' Association are proud to all Eeyouch in Eeyou Istchee to assist you for your hunting and trapping with our subsidies and other programs to go to your camps and will continue to strive to make better programs for all hunting seasons in Eeyou Istchee. God, Bless You All!

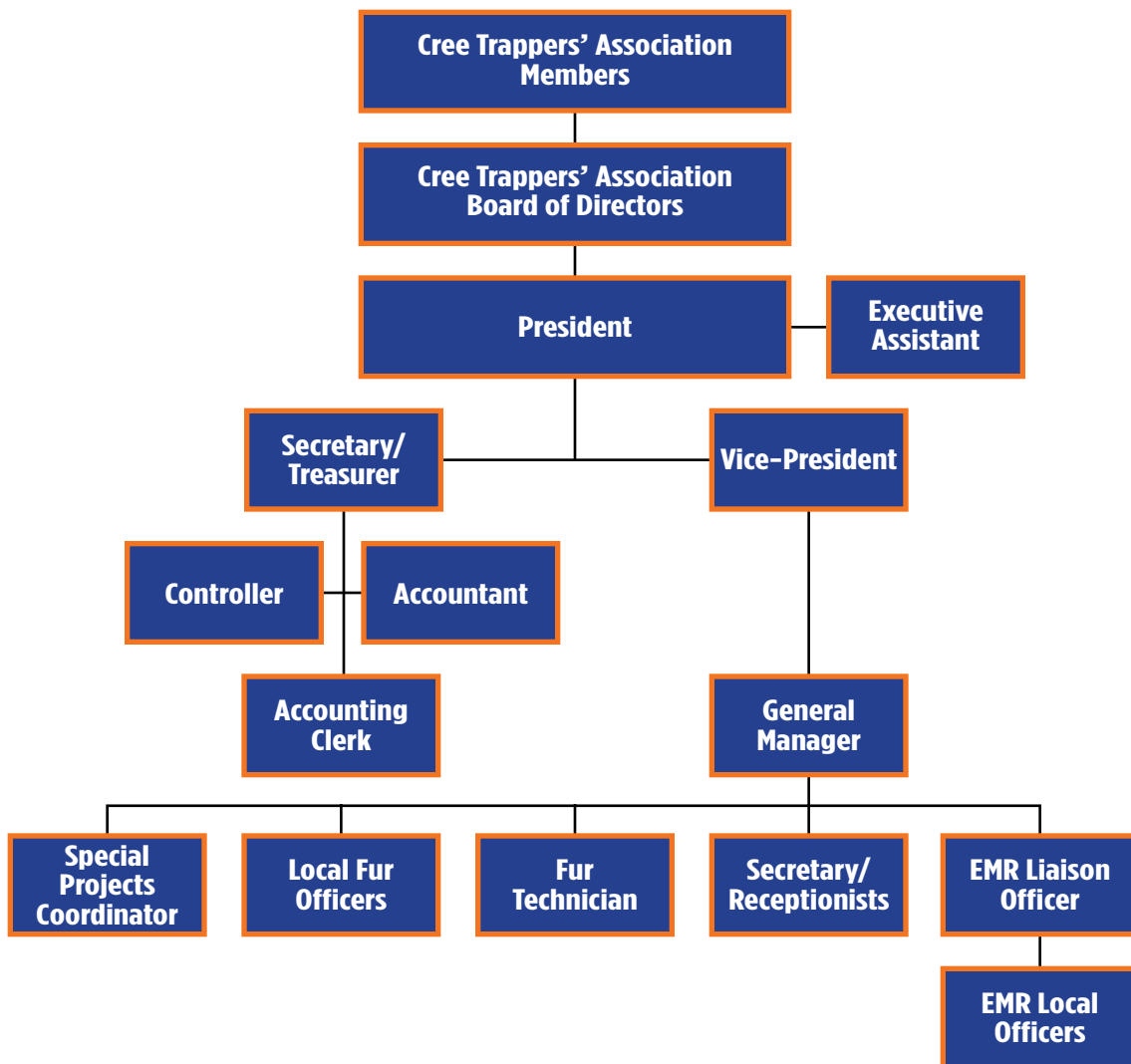
**Allan A. House**

*Secretary-Treasurer, Cree Trappers' Association*



## CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

It is evident that the Cree Trappers' Association has evolved quite rapidly and extensively since being incorporated in 1978. During the CTA Strategic Action Plan process, one of the goals was to review the old organizational structure (organigram), and come up with one that realistically represents the CTA organization, as it is today. An organigram was adopted by the Board of Directors in 2014, but since then, further recommendations have been made to represent the vision of the CTA Board of Directors. At the Special CTA Board of Directors meeting of February 25, 2016, in Mistissini, the directors present, adopted the following CTA organizational structure.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Joshua Iserhoff**  
NEMASKA



**Jimmy Sam**  
CHISASIBI



**Jacob Dick**  
WHAPMAGOOSTUI



**Ernest Tomatuk**  
WEMINDJI



**Bert W. Moar**  
WASKAGANISH



**Thomas Coon**  
MISTISSINI



**Marjorie Weapenicappo**  
EASTMAIN



**Sidney Ottereyes**  
WASWANIPI



**Billy Katapatuk**  
WASHAW SIBI



**Anna Bosum**  
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU





**Willie K. Gunner**  
PRESIDENT



**Fred L. Tomatuk**  
VICE-PRESIDENT



**Allan A. House**  
SECRETARY-TREASURER



# MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION STAFF



**Roderick Petawabano**  
GENERAL MANAGER



**Clark Shecapio**  
SPECIAL PROJECTS  
COORDINATOR



**Jacinthe Beaudoin**  
CONTROLLER



**Gordon Louttit**  
ACCOUNTANT



**Ron Zachary**  
FUR TECHNICIAN



**Vanessa Jacob**  
SECRETARY RECEPTIONIST  
MISTISSINI



**Phyllis Tomatuk**  
ACCOUNTING CLERK  
EASTMAIN



**Faith Moses**  
SECRETARY RECEPTIONIST  
EASTMAIN



## PROFILE OF THE CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

The Cree Trappers' Association (CTA) was created thirty-nine (39) years ago, as a not-for-profit organization pursuant to sub-section 28.5 of Section 28 of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement* (JBNQA). The association was incorporated on March 10, 1978. The creation of the CTA reflects the spirit and intent of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement of 1975* in preserving, protecting and ensuring the continuation of the Eeyou traditional way of life. Also, the JBNQA, as amended by a number of Complementary Agreements, clearly establishes that the primary objective for all signing parties is to protect and ensure that the traditional activities of the Eeyou shall continue and be exercised without binding restrictions. Section 24 of the JBNQA identifies the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Regime, as agreed to, by the Eeyou. This regime guarantees the protection and continuation of Eeyou harvesting activities and traditional pursuits. This includes the preservation of traditional systems, governance, and authorities in the proper management of Eeyou hunting territories, and land use. These 'traditional systems' have prevailed over time, and are of great significance and importance to the Eeyou Nation for any future agreements. Today, the CTA continues to represent and defend the foundational values, traditions, and practices of the Eeyou trappers, as identified and expressed by the Eeyou Nation.

As expressed in the JBNQA and other complimentary agreements, the Cree Trappers' Association (CTA) has the all-important mandate and responsibility to protect and promote the interests and values of Eeyou trappers, Eeyou traditional pursuits, and Eeyou governance of hunting territories. This mandate extends to the management of territory and wildlife resources and, environmental matters. The main goals of the Association are identified and outlined in its Letter Patent as follows;

- To assist the Eeyou trappers of Québec through all means permitted by law to affirm, exercise, protect, enlarge, and in the full recognition and acceptance of Eeyou rights, guarantees, claims and interests;
- To foster, promote, protect and assist in preserving the way of life, values, activities and traditions of the Eeyou trappers of Québec and to safeguard the traditional system of Eeyou trappers.

The Eeyou trappers have always been regarded as a special group of people, and CTA was established to protect and safe-guard this **uniqueness** and **distinctiveness**. This intent was recently re-affirmed 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*, which fore-saw the continual existence of the Eeyou trappers as a distinct group, supported by a distinct organization in CTA.

The members of the Association are the Cree beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, who are engaged, or have been engaged, in the traditional activity of hunting and trapping and are recognized as such by the Board of Directors of the Association. The members are represented by a 'Local Trappers' Committee' in each respective Cree community.



## PROFILE OF THE CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

At the time of the JBNQA negotiations the following Cree Bands were recognized as parties to the agreement, and the members of the association would be comprised from these Cree Bands;

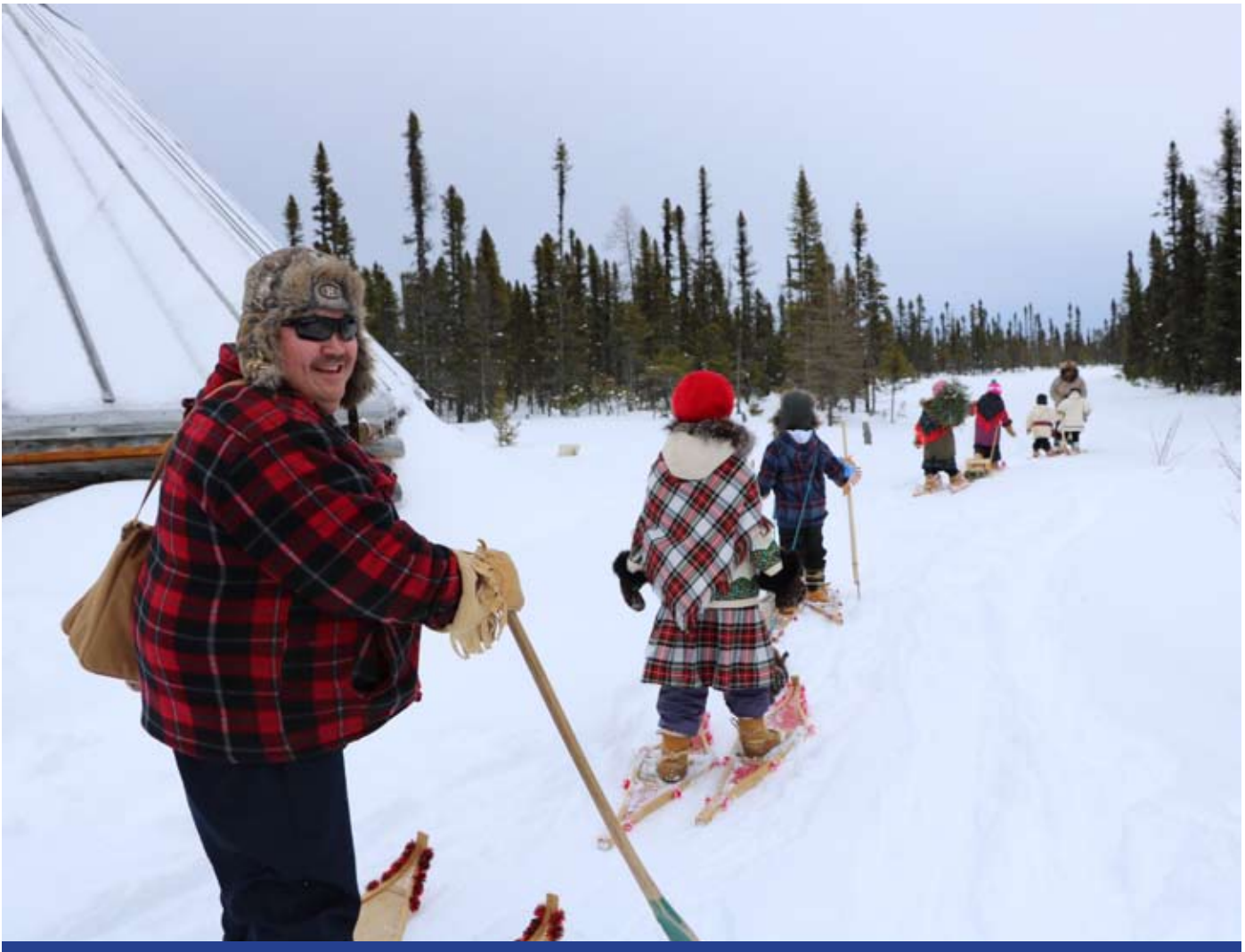
- |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.) Fort George | 2.) Old Factory (Paint Hills) |
| 3.) Eastmain    | 4.) Rupert House              |
| 5.) Nemaska     | 6.) Mistassini                |
| 7.) Waswanipi   | 8.) Great Whale River         |

The Cree Bands mentioned were represented by the following Cree representatives and hold the honorary title of founding members of the Cree Trappers' Association;

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1.) Abraham Fort-Chimo | Fort George       |
| 2.) James Visitor      | Paint Hills       |
| 3.) Luke Tomatuk       | Eastmain          |
| 4.) Lawrence Katapatuk | Rupert House      |
| 5.) Gilbert Dick       | Great Whale River |
| 6.) Noah Wapachee      | Nemaska           |
| 7.) Harry Blacksmith   | Waswanipi         |
| 8.) Thomas Coon        | Mistissini        |
| 9.) Joseph Loon        | Mistissini        |

Even today, the Cree Trappers' Association is still governed by a **Board of Directors** representing the nine Cree communities in Eeyou Istchee. The CTA Board of Directors is responsible for the general management and direction in the affairs of CTA, and is required to act collectively in all decisions and matters related to the association. Decisions are taken in the best interest of CTA when dealing with the affairs of the association, and personal interests should not in any way, interfere in decision-making.

The Cree Trappers' Association is also managed by a three (3) member **CTA Executive Committee**. The Executive Committee is comprised of the President and the Vice-President, which are elected positions on a three (3) year term basis. The CTA Secretary/Treasurer, a regular employee position is the 3rd member on the committee. The Executive Committee is responsible in the daily administration and management of the business and financial affairs of the association, subject to the general direction and authority of the Board of Directors. The CTA Executive Committee has a primary responsibility to CTA, and is expected to act in the best interest of the association at all times.





### CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES:

The Letter Patent of the Cree Trappers' Association outlines the main objectives of the association, as contemplated prior to its incorporation, and are as follows;

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;



## PROFILE OF THE CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

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;

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 traplines;

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



## PROFILE OF THE CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

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;

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. ◀



On February 7, 2002, the Crees signed the “Agreement respecting a New Relationship between the Cree Nation and the Government of Quebec.” The Agreement outlines the implementation of certain obligations of Quebec to the Cree people for community and economic development under section 28 of the JBNQA. The Agreement, and related agreements with Hydro-Québec, is designed to address historic problems in achieving equitable participation of the Cree people in the employment opportunities and revenues created by development on the traditional Cree territories.

Section 6.3 of the Agreement outlines the obligations of Quebec and the Société d’énergie de la Baie James in regards to economic development of certain special Cree considerations, and are as follows;

- 28.5 and 24.3.24: Cree Trappers’ Association (operation, capital & programs).
- 28.6: Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association (operation).
- 28.7: Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association (operation & programs).
- 28.11.2: An Economic Development Agent per community.
- 28.12: Assistance to Cree Entrepreneurs.

Section 6.4 of the Agreement states that; “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.”



On July 16, 2007, the Crees signed the “Agreement concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee.” The agreement includes financial funding of 1.4 billion which would be dispursed over a number of years, and is meant to address the implementation of the federal government’s obligations under the JBNQA. The agreement seeks to resolve disputes from the JBNQA on outstanding obligations by the federal government from the last 30 years, as well as secure a mutual agreement between the parties on obligations for the next 20 years.

Chapter 4:11 of this agreement outlines the assumption of Canada’s obligations to the Cree Trappers’ Association, and certain other associations, by the Cree Nation.

The agreement stipulates; “The assumptions in relation to the provision 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.”



# EYYOU MARINE REGION (EMR) LANDS CLAIM AGREEMENT



**Brandon Moses**  
EASTMAIN



**George Natawapineskum**  
WEMINDJI



**John Lameboy**  
CHISASIBI



**Sanford Diamond**  
WASKAGANISH



**Samuel Moses**  
EMR LIAISON OFFICER  
EASTMAIN

The Eeyou Marine Region (EMR) Land Claims Agreement ('Offshore Agreement') is the conclusion of negotiations on the rights and obligations of the Crees and Canada in the offshore area of Eeyou Istchee, which were initiated from 1974 to 1977. Towards the end of the discussions in 1977, it was proposed that the regime for governing the offshore would resemble the one under the JBNQA (James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement), with different categories of land. However, and at that time, there was no agreement between the Crees and Canada on the details of the settlement or on any form of compensation.

In 1998, the Federal Government was in the process of negotiating with the Nunavik Inuit of northern Quebec for an agreement to address Inuit rights in their respective offshore area. The Crees felt that this was the appropriate time to negotiate and address their own rights over offshore areas in Eeyou Istchee. The preliminary discussions of 1998-1999 eventually led to the negotiation and conclusion of the current Offshore Agreement.

The Offshore Agreement outlines the role of the Cree Trappers' Association (CTA) including those of local trappers' committees in the impacted communities on wildlife management in the Offshores regions. The role of CTA was not formally recognized in the JBNQA. However, over the years of continued negotiations, CTA received recognition as being a key party to this agreement, and is currently involved with the Cree Nation Government, and the Governments of Quebec and Canada in the implementation of the Offshore Agreement.

Under this present agreement, CTA has certain responsibilities in the Offshores region, and are as follows;

- **Be consulted regularly by the Wildlife Board on wildlife management matters;**
- **Consult its members and recommend wildlife management measures;**
- **Have a role in the monitoring of harvesting activities and ensure that harvesters are aware of all special measures implementations in the Offshore region;**



# EYYOU MARINE REGION (EMR) LANDS CLAIM AGREEMENT

- **Allocate and enforce basic need levels where quotas are applicable.**

Funding needed by CTA to fulfill these new responsibilities (approx. \$500,000.00) is provided by the government, and administered through the EMR Wildlife Board. This EMR Wildlife Board is similar to the Nunavik Inuit Wildlife Board and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and is governed by a Wildlife Board, a Planning Commission, and an Impact Review Board. An Implementation Committee also oversees the obligations and activities of the Offshores Agreement. The Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement was signed in 2012, and the implementation plan came into force in February 2013. The agreement impacts the five Cree coastal communities of Eeyou Istchee (Whapmagoostui, Chisasibi, Wemindji, Eastmain & Waskaganish).

There have been some changes in regards to the employees under EMR, which has left some vacancies. Listed are the EMR employees who are under the Cree Trappers' Association.

- **EMR Wildlife Liaison Officer:  
(Vacant as of March 2017)**
- **Local EMR Officer-Whapmagoostui:  
(Vacant as of December 2016)**
- **Local EMR Officer-Chisasibi:  
John P. Lameboy**
- **Local EMR Officer-Wemindji:  
George Natawapineskum**
- **Local EMR Officer-Eastmain:  
Brandon Moses**
- **Local EMR Officer-Waskaganish:  
Sanford Diamond**

On March 2-3, 2017, CTA and EMR personnel conducted a joint workshop to discuss relevant issues and determine the best way in moving forward for the upcoming year. The main goals of the workshop were to discuss the current situation under the EMR Agreement and the levels of funding provided by the EMR Wildlife Board in implementing the obligations under CTA. A number of potential options were discussed resulting in the adoption of guiding principles & planning assumptions that would provide the foundation for developing a transitional plan for both parties. Another joint working session has been scheduled for late May 2017, to further develop a more concrete and detailed transitional plan in meeting the CTA obligations under the EMR Agreement. CTA is pleased to work with EMR on this important file in the years to come. ◀



## **Reorganization Working Group - Governance Review**

The Board of Directors created a working group to review the structure of the CTA during its June 2016 meeting. The following Directors were named to the Committee: Bert W. Moar, Joshua Iserhoff, Ernest Tomatuk & Sydney Ottereyes. The Reorganization Working Group presented their initial findings & recommendations to the Board of Directors on December 13 2016. At that meeting, the Board of Directors mandated by resolution the Reorganization Working Group to prepare draft amended By-Laws & Policies that would, if approved, implement the Working Group recommended changes. The working group was further directed to work in collaboration with CTA staff & Professional Advisors, as necessary to complete the mandate given. The Working Group was mandated to present its proposed changes to the CTA By-Laws & Policies at the Board of Directors' meeting in December 2016.

Proposed changes were made to the General & Election By-Laws, Policies & Procedures Manual, Policy Respecting the Working Conditions of the President, Vice President and the Appointed Board Member Serving as an Executive, Policy on Incentive Recognition for outgoing Elected Officials, Senior Management & Regular Employees and a new Financial Administration By-Law. The amendments for the By-Laws are up for enactment at the CTA general assembly 2017.

## **CTA Historical Context**

The CTA is a treaty organisation & its main responsibility is to protect the interests, desires, & values of the Cree Trappers in Quebec. Its Board is formed of 9 directors who are each appointed/selected by their own communities along with Washaw Sibi & MoCreebec that have observer status. The General By-Laws describe the way the CTA works & is structured. Over the years, the by-laws have been adjusted to better answer the changing needs of the organisation. For example, in the 1970's, CTA directors were full time trappers & they needed more administrative support. They therefore asked Billy Diamond in 1977-78 for assistance as they were looking for help from people with organisation knowledge. He proposed that Robert Kanatewat act as a CTA Executive & thereafter Steven Bearskin was elected as Treasurer & Edward Gilpin as President. Later, Simeon Pash was elected as Secretary/Treasurer. The By-Laws were amended to include these Executive positions in the CTA organisational structure.

In November 1990, the CTA presented an action plan to its Board of Directors & the funding parties. This was followed by a five year plan that introduced the concept of salaried full-time Executives. At that time, both Quebec & Canada stated that they did not agree to fund full time salaried Executives. They supported the idea of a per diem for days worked but did not want to fund political work or lobbying. The two Cree funding parties, the Board of Compensation & the James Bay Eeyou Corporation, agreed to fund Executive Mandates (i.e. salaries, benefits, travel & other administrative expenses). This was only to be as long as the Association was under funded & until the obligations under the various agreements were implemented. Over the years, recurrent funding for Executive Mandates was ever secured. Since 1990-91, Executive Mandates were at times funded through other sources, which could & should have been allocated

to services & programs for the trappers. Funding of Executive Mandates is still an issue today. Indeed, the James Bay Eeyou Corporation has recently notified the CTA that they will no longer fund Executive Mandates (\$100,000).

Today, we note that the needs of the organisation have changed again. The local Cree Trappers' Committees are well staffed & directors do not need the same administrative support as back in the 70s. The Directors have the capacity in administrating an organisation like CTA. In order to redefine the organisation & what it should look like to offer the best services to Cree Trappers while respecting the CTA's capacity to pay, the Board of Directors mandated our working group to assess needs, review roles & responsibilities of the Executive & Senior positions.

## **Review & Assessment - Governance Structure**

The current job descriptions of Executive & senior positions have been reviewed to better understand the current roles, responsibilities & accountabilities. Furthermore, the governance structure of other Cree treaty organisations have been reviewed & compared with the current CTA structure. The assessment shows that there is an overlap in roles & responsibilities & unclear accountabilities, which impacts the daily operations of the organisation. The CTA structure is also very particular, where Board members play a very distant role within the organisation. Times have changed & CTA has advanced in its development. It is imperative that an Executive Management position with specific roles & responsibilities be implemented to offset the need of the Executive to be involved in day to day matters.

To address this situation, the Working Group is recommending to the Board of Directors a reorganisation which aims to:

- Define clearer roles & responsibilities to increase accountability
- Balance the workload between employees & officers of the organization
- Ensure efficient & responsible day-to-day administration of CTA
- Increase teamwork, collaboration between all CTA employees & Officers
- Respect the capacity to pay of the organisation

## **Proposed New Governance Structure**

A new governance structure & redefined roles & responsibilities are proposed. They ensure that the Cree Trappers Association continues to protect the interests, desires, & values of the Cree Trappers in Quebec while respecting its financial means. All the employees of the Regional CTA will work together in the Eastmain office to nourish teamwork & improve communication. The President will continue to be elected by CTA members. He will remain full time & the role will be redefined to continue to serve the greater good of the Trappers, away from administrative work & daily responsibilities. His role will be to find ways of improving the services to trappers & make sure that their voices are heard.



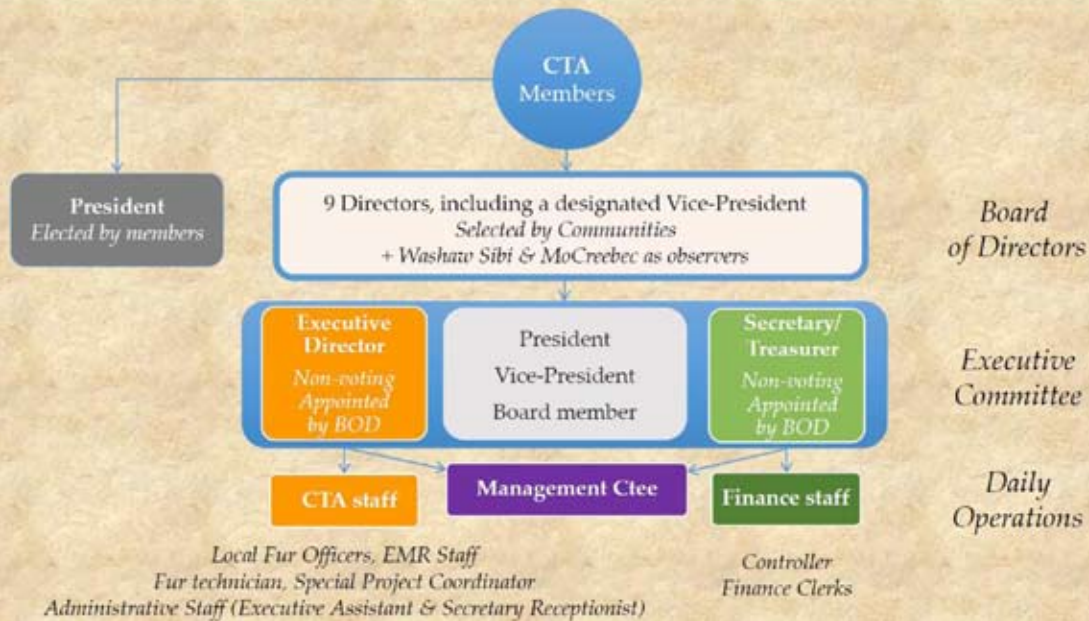


# CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE MANDATES

The current position of Vice-President will no longer be on full-time salary. One of the Directors will be appointed as Vice-President by the Board of Directors & will receive honoraria to attend Executive & Board meetings. A Role definition will replace the current Job description of the Vice-President. To strengthen even further governance, a more strategic Executive Director's role will be created, hired & appointed by resolution of the Board like the Secretary/Treasurer. These two positions will serve as officers of the CTA and as members of a Management Committee. The President, the Vice-President & another Director appointed by the Board will sit on the Executive Committee. The Executive Director & the Secretary/Treasurer will be non-voting advisors to the Executive Committee.



## 4. Proposed New Governance Structure



### Mistissini Office Closure

The Mistissini Office will close as of June 30, 2017 with the termination of the Secretary/Receptionist & one Local Fur Officer positions. The 1 Mistissini LFO would be relocated within a Band owned property as all communities each now have 1 LFO.

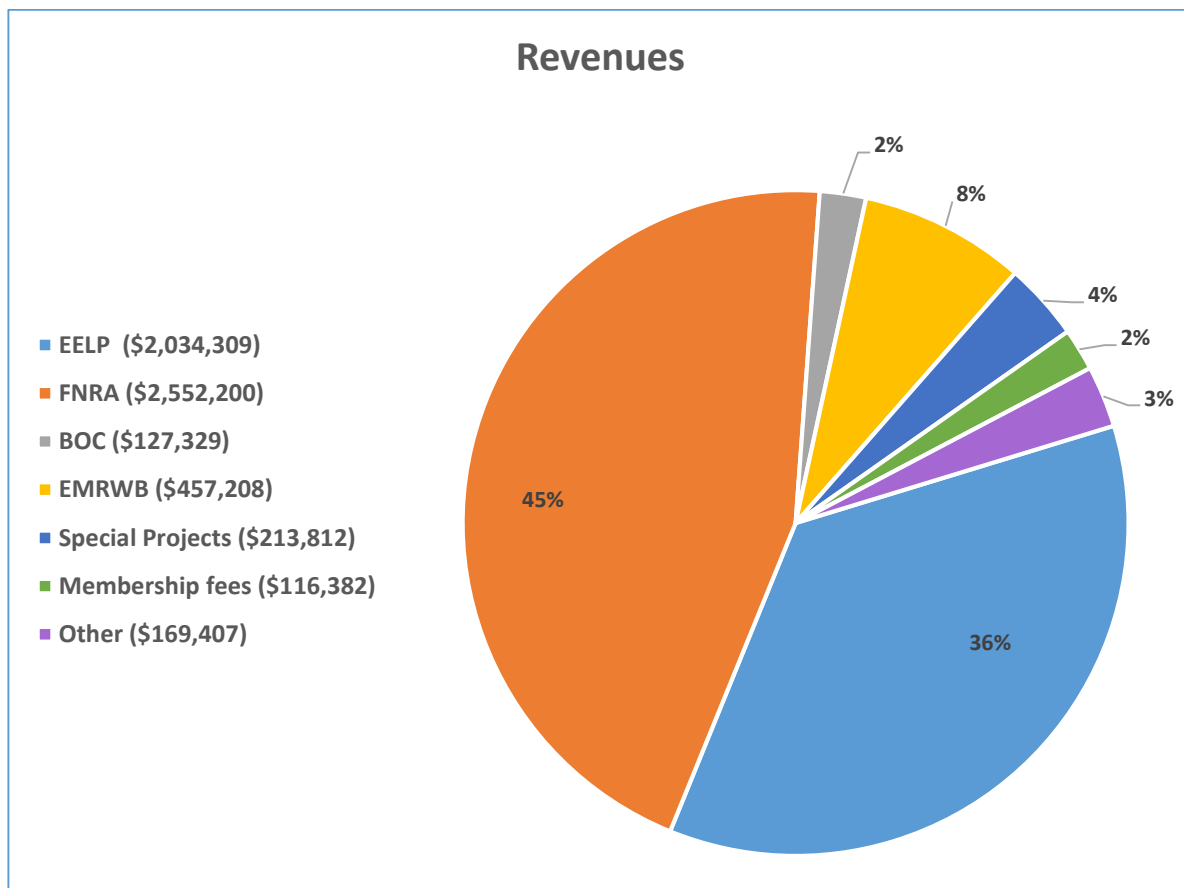
Starting November 2017, all worksheets for purchase of fur for the inland communities will be sent to Eastmain office & will be entered directly into the accounting system. CTA is in the process of upgrading accounting software to keep track of each fur tagged. So the LFO (Mistissini) will no longer record the data in the Filemaker Pro. The Natural Resource Officer (employee of Mistissini Band) does all the administration work for the Local Cree Trappers' Committee in Mistissini (managing the funds allocated by Regional CTA). In all the other communities, it is the LFO who does the administration work. If there is no fur depot in Mistissini, the inland communities will now ship the fur to Eastmain every 2 weeks or every month at a special rate of \$25 per shipment with Air Creebec. ◀

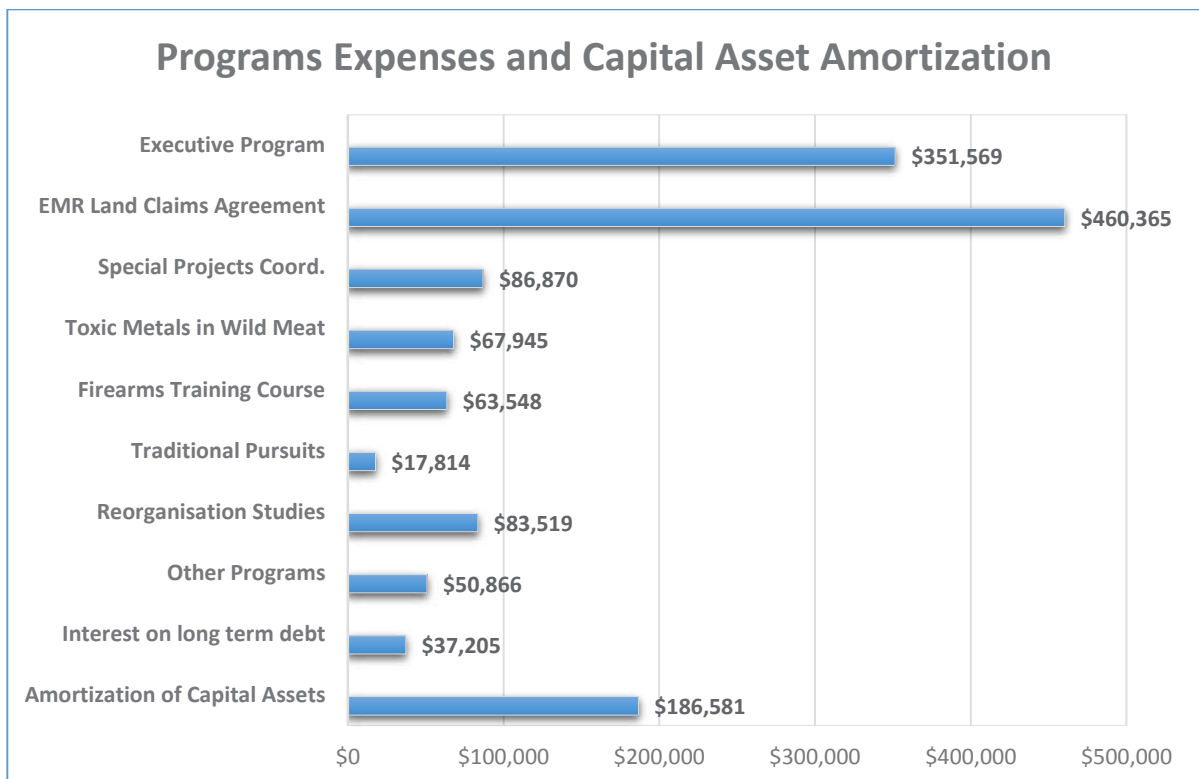
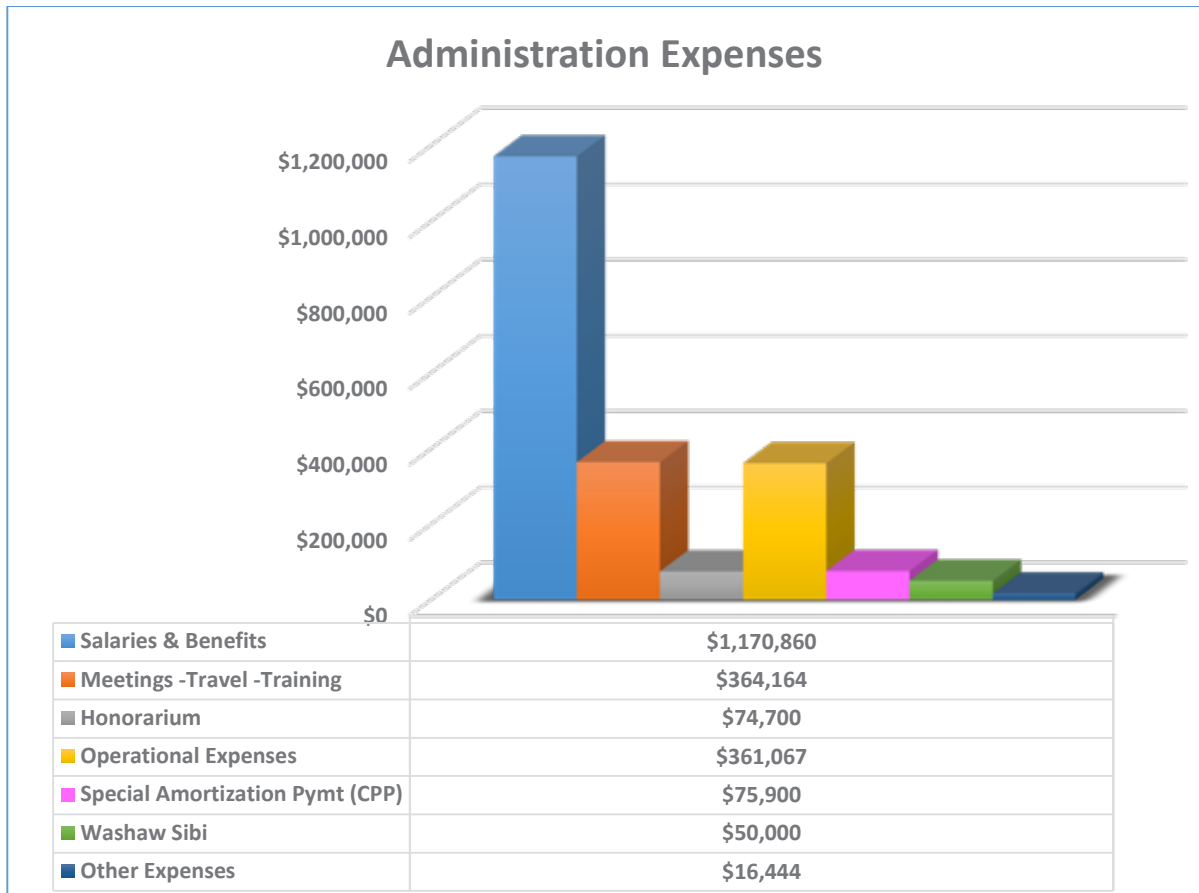


## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

During this fiscal year 2016-2017 the Cree Trappers' Association managed revenues of \$5.67K and the main source of funding was provided by the Eenou-Eeyou Limited Partnership and the Federal New Relationship Agreement for a total of \$4,586,509. We also received financial assistance from the BOC of \$127,329, a decrease of 25% compare to the previous year. This year the funding agreement with the Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board to fulfill the CTA Offshore Functions was \$457,208. The Special Projects funding were from INAC (\$81,880), the RCMP (\$47,021), the Minister of Health Canada (\$67,945) and Niskamoon Corp. (\$16,966). The Regional CTA collected fees from the members for an amount of \$116,382 and received other revenues from administration fees, rental of office and residential space, interest revenues, disposal of tangible capital assets etc... for a total of \$169,407.

These charts present a brief overview of the global revenues and expenditures for the year ended March 31, 2017. The total expenditures of \$5.5K are broken into categories which relate to Administration, Program Expenses & Capital Asset Amortization and also the Local Projects and Programs.





## LOCAL CTA PROJECTS PROGRAMS

The Local CTA Projects & Programs represent 44% of the EELP & FNRA funding. Each amount per community is based on their number of memberships sold during the previous year and approved by the General Assembly in August 2016. The funds were used to assist the trappers in their hunting, fishing and trapping activities such as:

- Gas Subsidies
- Equipment Subsidies
- Ammunition Subsidies
- Air & Ground Transportation
- Purchase of bush radios & repairs
- Purchase of batteries for radios
- Local Committees Operations
- Cabins Construction & Renovation
- Snow Removal
- Radio Dispatchers
- Cabin Insurance
- Purchase of beaver meat
- Cultural Activities
- Hunting & Fishing Supplies

Community	Memberships 2015-2016	Eenou Eeyou Ltd Partnership Fund	Federal New Relationship Fund	Total
Chisasibi	1843.5	\$233,088	\$147,997	\$381,085
Eastmain	480.5	\$102,216	\$64,902	\$167,118
Mistissini	1251	\$170,132	\$108,024	\$278,156
Nemaska	441.5	\$98,073	\$62,270	\$160,343
Ouje-Bougoumou	221	\$74,644	\$47,394	\$122,038
Waskaganish	1561	\$203,071	\$128,938	\$332,009
Waswanipi	670.5	\$108,452	\$68,860	\$177,312
Wemindji	603.5	\$101,333	\$64,340	\$165,673
Whapmagoostui	738	\$129,577	\$82,274	\$211,851
<b>Total</b>	<b>7810.5</b>	<b>\$1,220,586</b>	<b>\$775,000</b>	<b>\$1,995,585</b>



### CTA Meetings 2016-2017

1. Executive Meeting May 25 & 26, 2016 Montreal, Quebec
2. Board of Directors Meeting June 14, 15 & 16, 2016 Eastmain, Eeyou Istchee
3. Executive Meeting July 28, 2016 Eastmain, Eeyou Istchee
4. General Assembly August 30 & 31 September 1, 2016 Waskaganish, Eeyou Istchee
5. Executive Meeting (Sonrise Camp) September 21, 2016 Mistissini, Eeyou Istchee
6. Executive Meeting October 28, 2016 Montreal, Quebec
7. Executive Meeting December 7 & 8, 2016 Amos, Quebec
8. Board of Directors Meeting December 13, 14 & 15, 2016 Gatineau, Quebec
9. Executive Meeting March 8, 2017 Val-d'Or, Quebec

## MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Wilderness First Aid:**

In May 2016, the Local Fur Officers and the EMR staff participated in the wilderness first aid training. The training took place in the community of Waskaganish. A total of 18 employees attended this three (3) day course.

- **Geo-Portal Database Training:**

In December 2016, the Local Fur Officers, EMR staff and support staff under-went a one day refresher course in the use of Geo-Portal Database functions. Another full day course was set aside on 'Managing Small Projects.' Both courses took place in Ottawa.

In the month of May 2016, Mrs. Judy Coon-Come, a long-time employee of CTA, resigned from her duties as Executive Secretary for the association. Judy has been a committed worker for the regional CTA for many years, and her enthusiasm in serving the community members has been an inspiration to all. Her professionalism and dedication will be missed greatly at the regional level. ◀



### **Beaver nuisance on roadways on forestry roads and on James Bay Highway**

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Every spring, Cree Trappers' Association receives notices from organizations who maintain our roadway network. Beaver nuisance along our roads has always been challenging. Tallymen are asked to trap or relocate the beaver. In most cases the beaver blocks the culverts that are located on roads. Our traditional harvesting seasons on beaver, is not usually in late spring. Thus, it makes it difficult for the tallyman to pursue this request. In most cases they cannot go. React measures is taken to solve the problem.



New development began this year to reduce the number of beaver nuisance. Discussions began in December 2015 at the Hunting, Fishing, Trapping Coordinating committee meeting. Cree Nation Government, under the Environment and Remedial Works Department initiated to meet and develop an action plan. The

organizations involved met in Val-d'Or in July 2016 to discuss the details of the action plan.

This project is more a preventive measure on beaver nuisance. The objective was to develop an action plan on beaver control in the Eeyou Istchee in the form of a partnership between Rexforêt and CTA with assistance from the wildlife division of the MFFP. Waswanipi traplines were selected just northeast on Matagami. Sydney Ottereyes, Director of Local Waswanipi Trappers Committee was directly involved in the project. The project was to identify the areas, recognize beaver activity, and install devices where beaver tend to block the culverts that are along the road. Cree trappers from Waswanipi were trained to carrying out this work.

### **Lead ammunition – Time to Switch**

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March 2016 was the first initial contact with the Cree Health Board concerning lead ammunition. Throughout the year, Cree Trappers' Association has continued to work with the Cree Health Board in promoting the effects on health from lead ammunition. The Cress have harvested traditional food for many years and still continue to do so. Our traditional food is considered excellent. It contains protein important to build muscles, iron for strong blood and other vitamins and minerals.



The Cree Health Board was invited to our Annual Cree Trappers' Association General Assembly in Waskaganish. They made their presentation on the effects on our health from lead ammunition. They found high blood level on lead, a study they did from 2002 to 2009 in all the nine Cree communities.

Following the General Assembly, Cree Trappers' Association continued to work with the Cree Health Board in planning to take the next steps on how to proceed. In January 2017 Representatives of the Cree Board of Health (Public Health Department), the Cree Trappers' Association, and the Cree Nation Government (Environment and Remedial Department) met again. The representatives discussed strategies to reduce the use of lead ammunition in Eeyou Istchee, safely and without excessive cost to hunters, while reinforcing the harvesting and consumption of traditional food.

The three entities agreed to collaborate on an information campaign leading up to the spring 2017 goose break, to consist of:

- Posters
- Ads in The Nation
- Social Media
- Information on the radio
- Information at local health fairs.
- Information sessions for local Trappers' Association members.

Participants discussed ways to make non-lead ammunition in appropriate formats more easily available to hunters in Eeyou Istchee. Traditional approaches using nets, snares and sling shots will also be promoted. Some entities are preparing to pass resolutions supporting a transition to non-lead shot.





### Canadian Firearms Safety Course

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In January 2016 Cree Trappers' Association submitted a proposal to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police under the Canadian Firearms Program. The purpose of this funding request to the Canadian Firearms Program by the Cree Trappers' Association is to certify or re-certify Cree instructors who, in collaboration with Sécurité Nature would deliver the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) and the "Introduction to Hunting with Firearms course" (IHF) to the nine (9) Cree communities.

Sécurité Nature which provides instruction on the CFSC and the IHF to hunters in Quebec would collaborate with the CTA to train the Cree instructors and to assist them in delivering CFSC to Cree students resident in the nine (9) Cree communities. Subject to passing the course exams and obtaining their safety certification, students would then be in a position to apply for a firearms license and to obtain the Quebec Hunter Certificate upon receipt of a valid firearms license and successful completion of the IHF.

The main objective is to improve levels of safety certification and licensing among Cree firearms owners/users and to provide them with appropriate education on, and requisites (such as the Quebec Hunter Certificate) for, safe hunting practices with firearms through the CFSC and the "companion" IHF.

A training course to instruct eighteen (18) Cree firearms instructors in Eeyou Istchee was in Waskaganish, QC. The date of the training was on January 10, 2017 to January 13, 2017. Senior Instructors Martin Savard from Sécurité Nature and Income Security Program director Mr. Serge Larivière delivered the training to the Cree instructors.



Serge Larivière

There was recent new material developed for the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC). This new material was used to train the Cree instructors. The "Introduction to Hunting with Firearms course" (IHF) was also delivered to the Cree instructors. The training for these courses were essential to their certification.

The Cree instructors that attended the training course were from Whapmagoostui, Chisasibi, Wemindji, Eastmain, Waskaganish, Nemaska, Mistissini, Oujé-Bougoumou and Waswanipi.

## CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

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Deliverables required in the funding agreement from the Canadian Firearms program were:

- the number of local, firearm safety instructors certified/re-certified and the locations of their deployment
- the number of safety courses delivered and their locations
- the number of individuals taking and passing the written and practical tests of the CFSC (and the IHF)
- the number of individuals' safety certified as a result of passing the CFSC and tests
- an assessment of the project's contribution to public safety, and the lessons learned while delivering the CFSC and training the safety instructors; and
- the project's implications for the further development and improvement of firearms service delivery arrangements in northern and/or remote communities

### List of Cree Instructors

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Whapmagoostui	Frankie Dick
Whapmagoostui	David Shem
Chisasibi	Sam Cox
Chisasibi	Jimmy Fireman
Chisasibi	Kris Bearskin
Wemindji	George Natawapineskum
Wemindji	David Ratt
Eastmain	Betty Tomatuk
Eastmain	Brandon Moses
Waskaganish	Thomas Stevens
Waskaganish	Sanford Diamond
Nemaska	Steven Neeposh
Nemaska	Bill Blackned
Oujé-Bougoumou	Varley Shecapio-Blacksmith
Oujé-Bougoumou	James Wapachee
Oujé-Bougoumou	Paul Shecapio
Waswanipi	Sydney Ottereyes
Waswanipi	John Gull
Mistissini	George Shecapio
Cree Trappers' Association	Ron Zachary
Cree Trappers' Association	Clark Shecapio

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## CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Participants from Waswanipi and Kris Bearskin could not attend the training in Waskaganish. A second training was held in Waswanipi in March 2017.

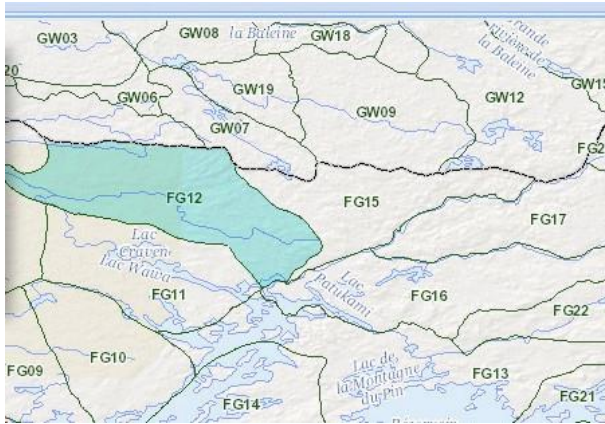


Once the training of instructors, Cree Trappers' Association organized the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and Introduction to Hunting with Firearms course in each community. Local Cree instructors delivered these courses in their respected communities under the supervision of a senior instructor. This was part of their certification.

Community	Date	CFSC Number of students	IHF Number of students
Whapmagoostui	March 18-19, 2017	17	13
Chisasibi	March 22, 2017	25	23
Wemindji	March 23-24, 2017	30	30
Eastmain	March 25 - 26, 2017	20	20
Waskaganish	January 12 - 13, 2017	52	50
Nemaska	March 7-8, 2017	27	27
Oujé-Bougoumou	March 9-10, 2017	23	11
Waswanipi	March 7-8, 2017	31	8
Mistissini	February 20-21, 2017	27	23
TOTAL		252	175

## Trapline Maps

A project that was started by former Special Projects Coordinator late Jean Baptiste Loon. The vision was to have all trapline maps of the Eeyou Istchee available to each tallyman.



It has been agreed to move forward with the development of trapline maps at 1:65,000 scale. This scale provides the advantages of still being able to see the level of detail provided by the 1:50,000 federal geographic dataset. Strata360 a Montreal based company who had recently developed a series of approximately 900 topographic maps for the Nunavik Inuit region was selected to work on the task.

Development began in December 2016, it has now completed all Waskaganish, Eastmain, Wemindji, Mistissini, Nemaska, Oujé-Bougoumou and Whapmagoostui traplines. Every Local Fur Officer from each community will be able to access the trapline maps in PDF format from the Geoportal website and print paper copies for the tallyman at their request.

Chisasibi and Waswanipi traplines are still in development. The project will continue till we complete all trapline maps.

COMUNITY	# of traplines	# of Maps	Status
Eastmain	15	15	Completed
Waskaganish	39	39	Completed
Wemindji	20	28	Completed
Mistissini	81	98	Completed
Nemaska	15	15	Completed
Oujé-Bougoumou	14	14	Completed
Whapmagoostui	26	43	Completed
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>252</b>	



### *Eeyou Ituun Training Program – (Cree Traditional Pursuits)*

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Cree Trappers' Association and Niskamoon Corporation along with St-Felicien CEGEP are working together to establish a program that has been requested by the members of Cree Trappers' Association. This program was previously offered by Cree Trappers' Association, it was called the "Cree Science and Technology Program." But it discontinued due to financial constraints.



In 2014, the Regional Cree Trappers' Association approached Niskamoon Corporation to reactivate this program once again. Following initial discussions, contact was made with the St-Felicien CEGEP to explore accreditation options with the Québec Ministry of Education.

The initial design of the program is to teach young Cree to practice the Cree traditional way of life. The young Cree will be taught by an experience Cree elder. The

language of instruction would be Cree. Modules would be delivered in different seasons of the year, to maximize the different learning opportunities presented by each season. The program would be coordinated by CTA, with academic support provided by the St-Felicien CEGEP, who would ensure regular contact with the Ministry. Special emphasis will be placed on land user safety while in the bush as well as survival.

This program is defined by competences, formulated by objectives and standards. Designed according to an approach that takes into account factors such as training needs, the work situation and context, and the general goals of technical training, the program will be used as a basis for defining and evaluating learning activities. In addition, the program makes it possible to apply the program approach

CTA Executives met with St-Felicien CEGEP and Niskamoon in Val-d'Or on November 2017. The name of the program had changed from Cree Traditional Pursuits to "Eeyou Ituun Training Program" but under the Quebec Ministry the program is called "Cree Land Stewardship". The purpose of the meeting was to review the job analysis report from the St-Felicien CEGEP, then the final report submitted to the ministry.



### History Road Map

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#### Fall of 2014

- Planning & Documents were reviewed by Marc Dunn and late Jean-Baptiste Loon
- Brainstorming/planning session held on October 30, 2014
- Basic concept of program presented to representatives from the College St-Félicien

#### Winter 2014-2015

- Initial Proposal to Ministry
- Workshop with CTA to develop main aspects of program on December 18, 2014
- Program statement submitted to Ministry of Education (MELS) in January 2015
- Accepted in March 2015

#### Spring 2015

- Relevance Study
- Basic explanation of program to Ministry representatives and its importance (1-page)
- Developed based on existing information (did not want to disturb people during goose break)
- This is the most important step in the approval process

#### November 2015

- Job Analysis workshop
- 2-day workshop held in Amos to gather information regarding the land user "Profession"
- Gathering of full-time land users only
- Determine the tasks, job conditions, knowledge and skills required to be a full-time land user
- Understand the different roles of land users (Tallymen, men, women, children)



## CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE

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November 2016

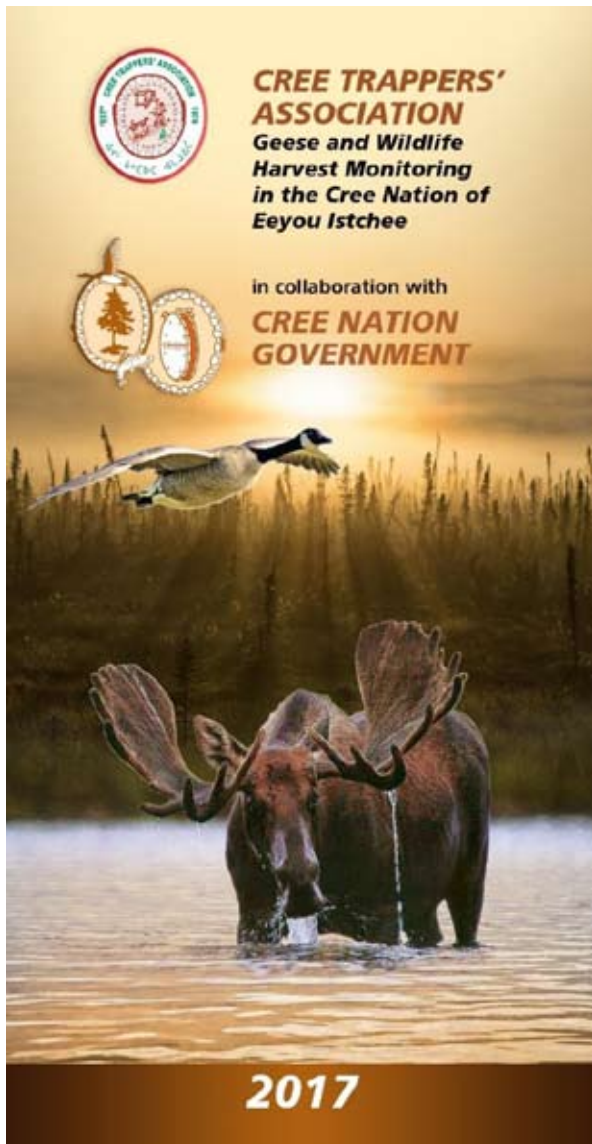
- Job Analysis notes completed in April 2016
- Information gathered and compiled
- Consultants reviews & complies Report fall 2016
- Report Approved by CTA Executive

2017

- CTA with St. Felicien work on detailed competencies
- Submit it to St. Felicien
- CTA Executive Approval
- Consultation & Community Approval
- Submit to Quebec Ministry (Education)



## Cree Harvest Booklets



At the Cree Trappers' Association Board of Directors meeting of June 2015, the idea of reviving the system of recording of wildlife being harvested in Eeyou Istchee was recommended.

This system of recording was first introduced in the 1980s by the regional CTA, but has been inactive since 1996.

Cree Trappers' Association is working with Cree Nation Government under the Department of Environment & Remedial Works.

Collecting this harvest data is one of the best tools for effective wildlife management.

Wildlife species are subject to many environmental factors that affect their numbers, such as climate change, extreme climatic events, diseases, human disturbance, developments and harvesting. Efficient wildlife management makes it possible to detect changes in animal populations at an early stage to ensure that actions are taken in a timely manner to ensure the sustainability of the harvest.

Also, the purpose of the recording booklets was to ensure the protection of quotas, (or allowable kills) for the Cree hunters. With the invasion of southern sport hunters in Eeyou Istchee, the proper recording and documentation of Wildlife being harvested becomes even more critical in Cree territory.







Without the proper recording of harvests, the quotas to the Cree people will always be challenged, and could possibly be rescinded in the years to come. This information will also be beneficial in establishing sound Wildlife Management Plans for Eeyou Istchee. The establishing of Wildlife Management Plans continues to remain as one of the key goals for CTA.

Although CTA does produce harvesting reports for all fur bearer animals and for big game. The harvest booklet is another step to have more accurate data. The plan is to have each Local Fur Officer distribute the 'Geese and Wildlife Harvesting Booklets' to both the full-time and half-time hunters in each community. CTA expects you, the hunter, to record the number of all wildlife harvested in your hunting area throughout the year. This booklet would be then returned and recorded.

The ultimate goal is to make sure that you can continue to practice productive harvesting activities, as well as your children and grandchildren in the future.

### Traditional Dietary Exposure

A concern was raised by the Cree Trappers' Association (CTA) that contaminant loadings of commonly consumed traditional hunted game was not known in *Eeyou Istchee*. In response to this concern, researchers from Ryerson University and the University of Toronto, in collaboration Cree Trappers' Association submitted a proposal to the National First Nations Environmental Contaminants Program (NFNECP) and was awarded by Health Canada.



This Project is called “Traditional Dietary Exposure to POPs and Toxic Metals in First Nations Hunted Wild Game and Meats in all 9 First Nations of Eeyou Istchee” A short version “Traditional Dietary Exposure”. Funding was to begin in February of 2016, however, due to delays in finalizing agreements between all parties (CTA, Health Canada, and researchers), funds did not arrive to the CTA until mid-March 2016. This funding agreement is for three years.

Year 1 of the project only consisted of two weeks, however prior to finalizing the agreement work had already begun. The main objective was to develop a strategic plan for sample collection. Other objectives included the identification of hunters who will participate in the collection of samples, the identification of species of interest in order to maximize the funds for analytical analysis, order and prepare sample collection kits, and to have face-to-face meetings with all parties involved in the research

(academics and CTA), especially the special projects coordinator who will be working with the academic research partners.

We are currently in our second year in this project. A strategic plan for sample collection was developed. The species recommended to be analyzed were beaver, moose, rabbit and goose. These species are only some of the commonly consumed in the *Eeyou Istchee*. The academic researchers have met several times with the CTA president (Willie Gunner), the CTA special projects coordinator (Clark Shecapio), as well as the CTA executive board and other important members who provided input on sample collection selection and locations. The plan was to distribute the sample kits to every CTA local Office. Each Local Fur Officer received the sampling kits and distributed them to locally. Containers will note the date of collection, location of trap line, and animal tissue taken. Samples will be returned to the CTA officer in the community and frozen at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  until they are all brought to Eastmain or other central community for transportation for analytical analysis.

The third year we will analyze the samples all components of the sampling kits. The results will consist of the analytical findings and the quantitative human health risk assessment. Both parts of this study will not be available until the final year of the project due to the time required for sample collection and analytical analysis.

The purpose of this project is to find how much contaminants are in our traditional wild meat. This project is collecting samples from hunted animals to test them for contamination from environmental pollutants such as lead and pesticides.



### Wolverine Project

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A project undertaken in collaboration with the Cree Trappers' Association, the Cree Nation Government, FaunENord, the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs and Nature Quebec. The purpose was to update and circulate the knowledge about the wolverine. Workshops on the wolverine were given in Mistissini, Nemaska and Waskaganish in April 2016. These workshops were an opportunity to exchange views and discuss this endangered and misunderstood species. The wolverine is listed as endangered under Quebec's Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species.

#### Project Coordination

- Alexandre Anctil, Biologist - FaunENord
- Aurelie Bourbeau-Lemieux, Biologist – Cree Nation Government
- Sophie Callais, Biologist - Nature Quebec
- Clark Shecapio, Special Projects Coordinator Cree Trappers Association
- Isabelle Thibault, Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs

The wolverine is the largest representative of the marten and fisher family. Discrete and relatively solitary in nature, it avoids humans and fragmented environments, making it an excellent indicator of vast wild expanses in the boreal zone. Despite its reputation as an aggressive animal, there are no documented cases of attacks on humans. It should also be said that the wolverine is more of a scavenger than a predator especially in winter. It feeds on animal carcasses, such as moose and caribou, though it is occasionally a predator of animals like the beaver and other small prey. In its search for food, the wolverine may interfere with human activities (traplines, camps), but these cases are rare since the wolverine is present at a very low density on a territory.



This year some Cree trappers were selected to be part of the project. They agreed to the install motion-sensing cameras to potentially detect the presence of the wolverine. The cameras were placed in the spring of 2016, located to the west of the Eeyou Istchee territory. Sites specifically designed to attract the wolverine, and the cameras remained active throughout the year. The cameras were monitored, and checked throughout the year and no wolverine was detected.

### Caribou-Predators Project

Cree Trappers' Association was approached by Michael Bonin in March requesting to work with CTA. Mr. Bonin is a researcher from Caribou Ungava at Laval University in Quebec City. He studies nutrition on wolves and black bears in northern Québec and Labrador.



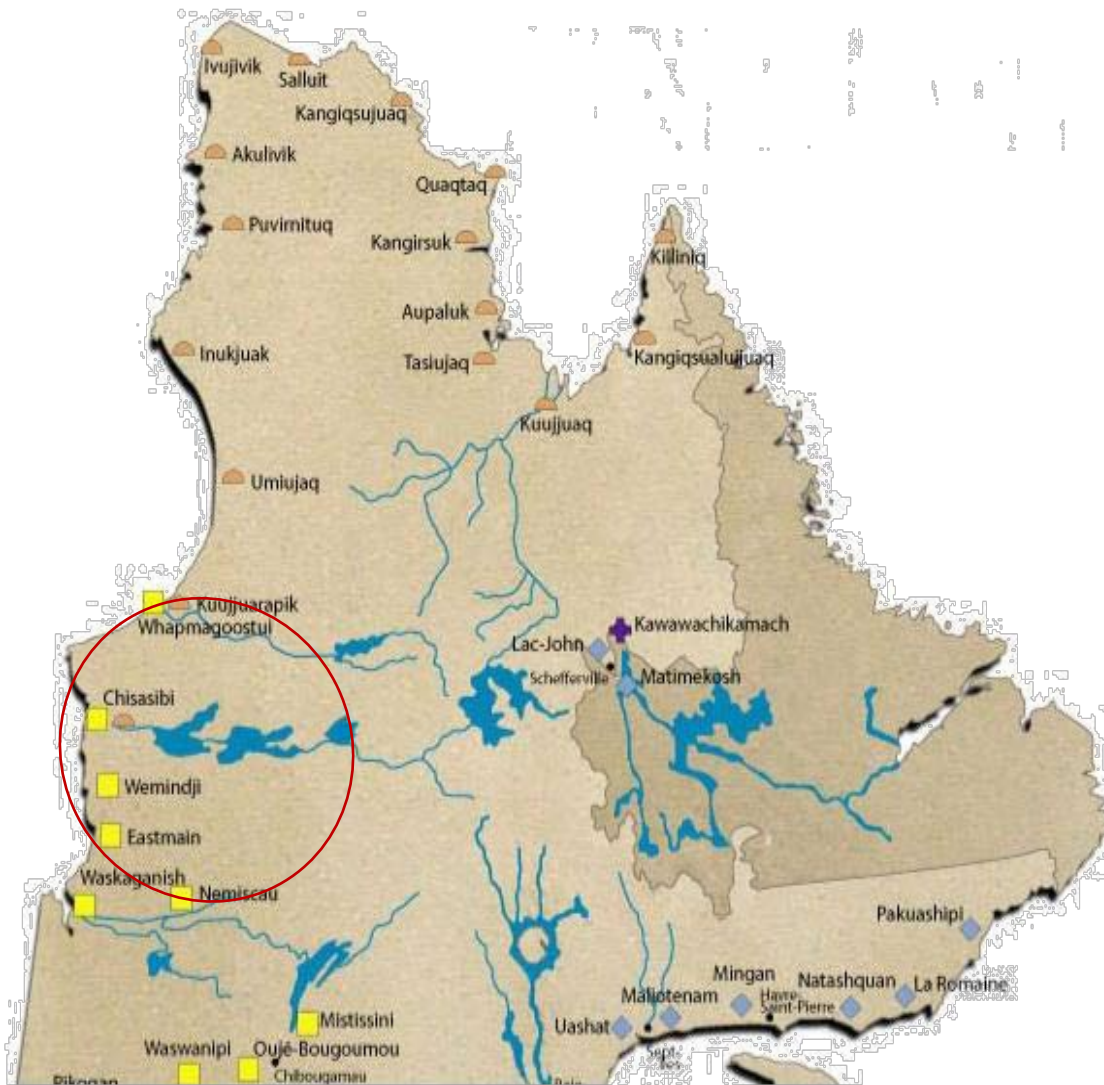
This project is part of Caribou Ungava research program ([caribou-ungava.ulaval.ca](http://caribou-ungava.ulaval.ca)). Their aim is to determine the importance of migratory caribou to the diet of wolves and black bears at different periods of the year and to improve their knowledge of caribou-predator interactions.

The main objective of this project is to reconstruct the diet of black bears and grey wolves to determine the contribution of migratory caribou to the diet of these predators during various periods of the year in northern Quebec-Labrador. Through this project the goal is to improve common knowledge of caribou-predator interactions, especially the role of predation on caribou population dynamics.

Local trappers were asked to collect samples of the following species: Wolf, Black bear, Hare, Beaver, Muskrat, Red squirrel, Fox, Moose, Porcupine, Snow goose, and Canada goose. They were to collect small samples of hair and a small portion of meat and a whole carcass in some cases. There was compensation to the hunters that collected the samples. It varied from \$10.00 to \$100.00.

Why studying predators? Predators could play a central role in shaping the population size of their prey. It determines the role and provides understanding impacts of predation at the community level. It also differentiates the role of different predator species on a common prey.





The communities involved in this project are Whapmagoostui, Chisasibi, Wemindji, Eastmain and Nemaska. It was a challenge to collect samples this year. Wolf carcasses from Chisasibi and Wemindji were collected. The carcasses will be analyzed in a lab. This is a three-year project.

## **Marten Project (Calgary, Alberta)**

A researcher at the University of Calgary, AB requested thirty (30) marten (*Martes americana*) carcasses from Quebec. This was part of a research study they were conducting. (Exploring herpesvirus as a tool to study Canadian wildlife). As part of their request they were willing to compensate twenty dollars per carcass and the fur was to be removed and kept by the trapper. The community of Eastmain was selected to take part of this project. Betty Tomatuk Local Fur Officer in Eastmain and Ron Zachary Fur Technician assisted and worked directly with the local trappers. The trappers were compensated. A total thirty-three Marten was shipped to Calgary, AB.

### **Project on fox rabies and wildlife diseases (Fox sampling)**

Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) in collaboration with Cree Trappers' Association conducted a research project on fox rabies and other wildlife diseases. The communities involved in the collecting the fox samples were Chisasibi, Wemindji, Waskaganish, Waswanipi and Mistissini. This is the second year that the Local CTA Fur Officers collected the fox carcasses from local trappers. The carcasses were shipped to Claude Grenier in Barraute, QC.

### **Project Coordination Team**

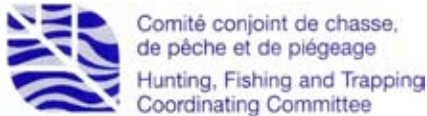
- Reggie Bearskin, Chisasibi - Local Fur Officer
- Abraham Matches, Wemindji - Local Fur Officer
- Karilynn Blackned, Waskaganish - Local Fur Officer
- Willie Loon, Mistissini - Local Fur Officer
- Clark Shecapio, Cree Trappers Association - Special Projects Coordinator
- Claude Grenier, Fourrures Grenier Inc.
- Ariane Massé, MFFP Biologist PhD - MFFP

The communities involved was to collected trapped arctic and coloured foxes' carcasses. It was important to have no shooting involved. The whole skinned carcass sent for analysis (trappers keeping the fur).

Benefits for the community:

- Up-to-date information on rabies to better predict where and when rabies outbreaks will occur
- Maps identifying current hot spots for potential rabies spread
- Meetings with the community to exchange knowledge and share the results of the project
- Educational tools to help the people protect themselves against rabies and other parasites in both arctic and coloured foxes
- Monetary compensations for local trappers for each carcass provided
- Active participation of the community in a project having direct positive returns to the community





## CREE FILES ON THE HFTCC AGENDA 17-07-10

### EIJBRG WASTAGE BY-LAW

The HFTCC proposed to the Eeyou-Istchee James Bay Regional Government to adopt a by-law prohibiting the leaving of animal parts on waterways and near cabins on Category III lands. There is a similar by-law for leaving animal parts near roadways. The by-law would apply to all hunted species. ( note : The regional government council meets July 26-27, 2017 to vote)

### ANIMAL RIGHTS LAW (domestic)

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is awaiting a response from the CNG and HFTCC regarding the implementation of the Act to improve the legal situation of animals. The new law is in place but no plans have been made yet regarding its implementation and application in Eeyou Istchee.

### WSI ZONE

The MFFP intends to abolish the Weh-Sees Indohoun special hunting & fishing zone after this year. The Cree party recommended keeping the zone but the Minister, MFFP ultimately decided not to.

### HIGHWAY 167 EXTENSION

Discussions with MTQ, MFFP and Mistissini regarding wildlife concerns along the highway extension should conclude soon. The HFTCC may request research in 3 to 5 years to learn if there are any impacts on wildlife in the newly accessible area.

### CREE WILDLIFE PROTECTION AUXILIARIES

There is an intention for the Wildlife Protection Department, MFFP, to organize a meeting with the CTA and Tallymen to refresh everyone on the Wildlife Protection Auxiliary program.

### FINES FOR INFRACTIONS IN THE TERRITORY

The HFTCC is preparing a proposal to increase the amount of fines for wildlife infractions across Eeyou Istchee, Nunavik and Nuchimiyuschiy.

### FIREARMS ACT

The HFTCC, CNG and CTA is awaiting a response from the Ministry of Public Security regarding the implementation of the new Firearms Registration Act in Eeyou Istchee. (note : Rick Cuciurean participated in a presentation held December 2016.)



### BLACK BEAR

The HFTCC was consulted this past spring on a black bear management plan being prepared by the MFFP. The HFTCC and Cree party supported the proposed modalities.

### MOOSE

The provincial moose management plan runs from 2012 to 2019. The HFTCC and Cree party will be consulted when the next plan is prepared. In 2015, the HFTCC recommended to MFFP that investments in research be made to gather more information on moose.

### WOODLAND CARIBOU

- The MFFP is working on an action plan for woodland caribou habitat management in the context of forestry activities and expanding road networks. The CNG will be involved at the appropriate time regarding the plan in Eeyou Istchee and forestry activities.
- Regarding the Val-d'Or caribou herd, the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi sent a letter to the Minister opposing the plan to move the herd to the Saint-Félicien Wild Zoo. The Zoo decided not to take the caribou and the MFFP will continue its conservation efforts for the herd.
- The MFFP continues its telemetric monitoring (collars) of woodland caribou herds in Eeyou Istchee. The Nottaway herd is believed to be in slight decline. The Assinica herd appears to be healthy and increasing. The Temiscamie herd is believed to be declining but more research is needed.



## LEAF RIVER HERD CARIBOU

- As of Fall 2016, the Leaf River herd population was estimated by the MFFP expert biologists to be approximately 181 000 animals. The population should be even lower now if the decline continued as expected.
- The Cree, Inuit and Naskapi had recommended that the sport hunt be closed immediately. The Minister decided to close the sport hunt after the 2017-2018 season. It will remain closed indefinitely.
- The MFFP and HFTCC will continue discussions regarding the preparation of a management plan for the herd.

## GEORGE RIVER HERD CARIBOU

As of Fall 2016, the Leaf River herd population was estimated to be below 10 000 animals.

## UPCART

The CNG is party to the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table which has been preparing a management strategy for caribou. The UPCART management strategy will look to collaborate with the Government of Quebec regarding the long term protection of migratory caribou and subsistence hunting.

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

The HFTCC recently sent a letter to the Environment and Climate Change Canada (federal government) on a proposal to prohibit the baiting of migratory birds with (i.e. corn feed). While it is understood that Cree, Inuit and Naskapi do not often practice bird baiting, the HFTCC requested clarification regarding the prohibition and Cree, Inuit and Naskapi hunters.

## POLAR BEAR

The Inuit have been preparing a polar bear management plan in collaboration with the CNG and CTA.

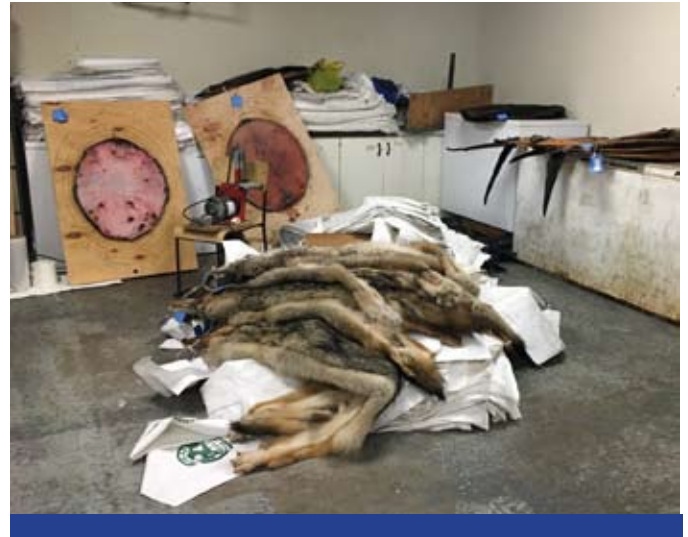




## FUR INSTITUTE OF CANADA (FIC)

The Fur Institute of Canada has the responsibility to monitor the anti-fur movement of various animal rights groups in the country. There are over 20 animal rights groups who all share the goal of putting an end to the trapping and harvesting of fur-bearing animals for both the Native and non-native trappers. This national organization (FIC) is of extreme importance to the Cree Trappers' Association, and has become a very valuable information source to associations and groups still pursuing the fur industry. The reason why there is still a fur market, both domestically and internationally, is because of organizations like FIC, who continue to lobby for a sustainable fur industry. CTA has had a representative on the FIC for many years, and will continue to follow and support the activities of this important organization. The information circulated by FIC continues to serve as an important communication tool, in terms of the latest developments in the fur industry.

CTA has participated in the FIC annual meetings, and will continue to do so, in the years to come.





**Certified Traps – AIHTS Implementation in Canada**  
**Updated January 20 2017**

**(New additions to this list are highlighted and 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				
<b>BEAVER</b>	-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
<b>CANADA LYNX</b>	-Bélisle Super X 280 -Bélisle Super X 330 -B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper -B.M.I. 220 Magnum -B.M.I. 220 Magnum -Body Gripper	-B.M.I. 280 Magnum -Body Gripper -Bridger 220 -Bridger 280 Mag. -Bodygripper	-LDL C220 -LDL C220 Magnum -LDL C280 Magnum -LDL C330 -LDL C330 Magnum	-Rudy 330 -Sauvageau 2001-8 -Sauvageau 2001-11 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
<b>FISHER</b>	-Bélisle Super X 120 -Bélisle Super X 160 -Bélisle Super X 220	-Koro no 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
<b>MARTEN</b> <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)
<b>MUSKRAT</b> 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	-Bridger 120 Mag. -Bodygripper -Bridger 155 Mag. -Bodygripper -Duke 120 -Koro Muskrat Trap -Koro Large Rodent -Double spring -LDL B120	-LDL B120 Magnum -Oneida Victor 120 -Stainless Steel -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
<b>MUSKRAT</b> 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.			
<b>OTTER</b>	-Bélisle Super X 220 -Bélisle Super X 280 -Bélisle Super X 330 -LDL C220 -LDL C220 Magnum -LDL C280 Magnum	-Rudy 220 Plus -Rudy 280 -Rudy 330 -Sauvageau 2001-8 -Sauvageau 2001-11 -Sauvageau 2001-12	-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330	
<b>RACCOON</b>	-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 -Bridger 280 Mag Bodygripper -Duke 160 -Duke 220 -Koro no 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
<b>WEASELS</b>	-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 -Bridger 120 Mag Bodygripper -Bridger 155 Mag Bodygripper -Koro Muskrat Trap -Koro Rodent Trap -Koro Large Rodent Double -Spring -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 -WCS Tube Trap Int'l -Woodstream Oneida -Victor Conibear 110 -Woodstream Oneida -Victor Conibear 120

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

SPECIES				
<b>CANADA LYNX</b>	-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 20 2017

**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 in advance. *Until then, traps that are currently legally permitted can still be used.*

**For all Canadian jurisdictions, use of certified bobcat restraining and killing traps will become mandatory (Phase 1) in the fall of 2018.**

*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				
<b>BOBCAT</b>	-Bélisle Super X 280 -Bélisle Super X 330 -B.M.I 220 Body Gripper -B.M.I 280 Body Gripper -B.M.I 220 Magnum Body Gripper	-B.M.I 280 Magnum Body Gripper -Bridger 220 -Bridger 280 Mag. Bodyripper	-LDL C220 -LDL C220 Magnum -LDL C280 Magnum -LDL C330 -LDL C330 Magnum	-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		
<b>COYOTE</b>	-Bélisle Footsnare #6 -Bélisle Sélectif -Duke No 3 Rubber Jaws with an anchoring swivel centre mounted on the base plate -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 offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (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 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs	-Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side 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 top side 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 top side of jaw and ¼-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate. -MB 550 Rubber Jaws equipped with 4 coil springs
<b>BEAVER Cages</b>	-Comstock 12 X 18 X 39 Swin Through Beaver Cage -Breathe Easy Live Beaver trap -Ezee Set Live Beaver Trap	-Hancock Live Beaver Trap -Koro "Klam" Live Beaver Trap
<b>WOLF</b>	-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 this base plate -Rudy Red Wolf 4 ½ -Bridger Brawn no 9 Rubber Jaws
<b>BOBCAT</b>	-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 4coil springs -Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and ¼-inch on underside of jaws), with 2 coil springs
<b>RACCOON (CAGE &amp; BOX TRAPS)</b>	-Ramconct DURA-POLY Box Trap -Havahart Cage Trap 1079 -Havahart Cage Trap 1081 -Havahart Cage Trap 1085 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.1 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108F -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108SS -Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.2SS	-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010F -Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS -Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS-F -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.1 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608F -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608SS -Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.2SS -Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010 -Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010F -Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010SS
<b>RACCOON Note 1</b>	-Duffer -Bridger T3 -Egg Trap	-Lil' Grizz Getrz -Duke DP Coon Trap

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

## PIRON/WARD PROPOSALS

In 2014, the newly elected President of CTA expressed the need to identify key goals and priorities in guiding the association for the next 3 to 5 years, as well as addressing urgent mandates that required the new leadership's attention and action. The new CTA leadership engaged the services of Piron/Ward for guidance in achieving the mandates and priorities that had been expressed and identified in the process. One of the key mandates in engaging the services of Piron/Ward was to come up with a CTA Strategic Action Plan that will guide the association for the next 3-5 years. During the course of these working sessions, key organizational elements and values were identified that were considered essential in maintaining progress and movement within the association. CTA Directors, Executive, and senior management were involved in these discussions and working sessions. A considerable amount of time was spent identifying the Vision (where we want to go!), Mission (how do we get there!), and Values (standards of behaviour) that will guide the organization in its present and future endeavours.

The working group considers the following Values as the standards that should govern everyone involved or associate with CTA.

1.) **Accountability:**

Taking responsibility for the quality of work put in. Be able to demonstrate work performances in an ethical, efficient and cost-effective manner.

2.) **Commitment:**

Display a strong commitment to the vision and mission of CTA, and what the association stands for. Present ones' self as a credible representative of CTA in promoting and maintaining mutual trust within the association and with all members.



- 3.) **Environmental awareness:**  
Consider the protection of the environment as a priority!
- 4.) **Honesty:**  
The promoting of transparency and openness within the association and with the members it serves.
- 5.) **Knowledge of the Cree culture:**  
The importance and the need to continue and promote & maintain the Cree culture in a responsible manner in Eeyou Istchee. Seek programs that will improve trapper conditions and life-style based on Cree culture and knowledge.

As of June 2016, the Board of Directors recommended and established another working committee to review the present structure of CTA (Governance Review 2016) and make recommendations on how this structure can be stream-lined and be more effective in the delivery of programs and services. As presented by the CTA working committee, major changes have been recommended that will definitely require the support of the local trapper committees and the members of Eeyou Istchee. ◀



# LOCAL ADMINISTRATORS



**Reggie Bearskin**  
CHISASIBI



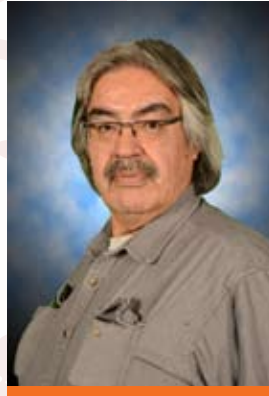
**Betty Tomatuk**  
EASTMAIN



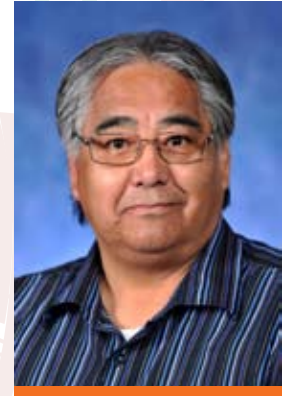
**Richard Gunner**  
MISTISSINI



**Willie J. Loon**  
MISTISSINI



**Steven Neeposh**  
NEMASKA



**Varley Shecapio-Blacksmith**  
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU



**Karilynn Blackned**  
WASKAGANISH



**Paul Dixon**  
WASWANIPi



**Abraham Matches**  
WEMINDJI



**Lizzie Masty**  
WHAPMAGOOSTUI



**Chisasibi Local Trappers' Committee Report**

April to June our Trappers and our clients were buying CTA memberships and doing spring flights for the goose break and collecting the fur for the year end sales.

July 2016 - September 2016, our trappers and clients still bought CTA memberships and worked on the cabin renovation program, air transportation, gas subsidy and communications systems for the trappers working on phase 1 and phase 2 of this project. Also, I provide hunting and fishing supplies for our clients for their needs in traditional activities.

I provide assistance to people on their application form for firearm licences at our office and also assist the tallyman in giving information as to what is going on in their traplines on mining exploration projects and Chisasibi Traplines.

From the months of October to December 2016 I started collecting information on the big game and did gas subsidies. I also started collecting fur from the trappers and I collected for the months of November, December, January, February and March and I started working on the Fox Sampling Project and the Caribou Ungava Project for research.

Here are the CQA and CCA budgets for 2016-2017 for CTA Chisasibi.

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Gas Subsidy	5,000.00	901.00	4,099.00
Air Transportation	140,000.00	101,895.00	38,105.00
Unforeseen	5,000.00	1,193.00	8,807.00
Cabin Renovations	86,762.00	86,762.00	2,100.00
Communication System	25,000.00	25,000.00	0
Office Rent	5,000.00	0	5,000.00
Airstrips Projects	4,800.00	48,000.00	0
Travel Expenses	12,000.00	14,000.00	(2,231.00)
Hunting and Fishing Supplies	60,000.00	46,574.00	13,426.00
Freight	10,000.00	11,072.00	(1,072.00)
Cabin Insurance	21,360.00	21,360.00	20,738.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>376,622.00</b>	<b>316,379.00</b>	<b>60,243.00</b>

Local Administrator  
**Regie Bearskin**



### Eastmain Local Trappers' Committee Report

- Assist the receptionist with making and collecting CTA membership cards
- Prepare list of Spring Gas Subsidy for hunters that are 18 years old and over, also included in the list, single mothers that have son(s) that started hunting
- Prepare list of Fall & Winter Gas Subsidy program from October to March for the people that are on the Income Security Program
- Prepare the list of people that are eligible for the spring equipment and ammunition subsidy with an extra subsidy for the steel shot ammunition at the local store
- Hire two (2) bush radio operators to work for the spring and Fall hunt and prepare their work schedule
- Hire two (2) drivers for the ground transportation for the inland hunters that want to go hunt and don't have transportation
- Search and get a plane for the hunters and trappers that want to fly out for the fall
- Arrange in and out flights for the trappers with the chosen Aircraft Company
- Arrange transportation with my driver for the trappers to be at KM 372 dock for their flight out or in
- The Local CTA Committee meets at least every two (2) months and I act as the recording secretary, therefore I have to prepare for the meeting.

Local Administrator





**Mistissini Local Trappers' Committee Report**

**Radio Communication**

Full-time & seasonal hunters rented bush radios for long & short period of time starting from September. Full time hunters usually rent from September to May, seasonal hunters rent radios for a month in the fall & again in the month of March for Moose Hunting also for couple of weeks for goose break. Sometimes Cree Entities rent radios only for the summer for example; Outfitting Camps, contractors & Wilderness Canoe trips. Radio repairs are sent to Elcom Radio in Val-d'Or by bus.



**Membership**

Members purchase their cards of \$15 starting from the month of January to deadline of July 31. Payments are sent to Eastmain office and cards are sent by mail to each community. The membership card is useful for subsidies; gas, plane & helicopter flights. Cards distributed in the community to members by car.

Community	Adult	Juniors	Tallymen
Mistissini	1231	40	12

**Trappers Equipment**

Mistissini CTA office sold Canvas, Fishnets, Traps, Snares, beaver needles & twine to help members in their traditional activities. Canvas Sales also to Cree Entities for their activities.

**Cree Fur Program**

Purchased Fur from full-time & seasonal trappers starting from mid-November to mid-April as informed by Fur Technician from Regional Office. Worksheets data from Mistissini & Waswanipi trappers entered in computer, Eastmain office requires fur info on monthly basis. Every fur is tagged with trapper's information. The fur is packed & sent to Fur Harvesters Auction house in North Bay, Ontario. Quebec Government forms (ML 414) sent on monthly basis to Chibougamau MNR office to Charles Jutras Fur Animal technician.

**Individual Assistance**

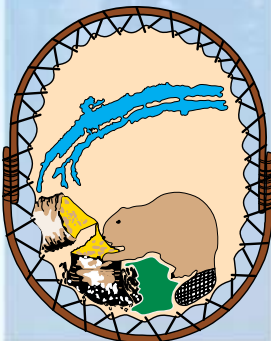
Assist the population with their application to obtain their firearms card after passing successfully their firearms safety course. This card is mandatory to buy firearms & ammunition. Assist people applying with lost or expired firearms card.

**Trapline Reorganization**

Gave out information to people in how to proceed for a Trapline Transfer Agreement. This year no trapline transfers have been done. In Creegeoportal some names of Talleymen should be changed because some are deceased. Also a few traplines somehow disappeared.

**Big Game Survey**

Record data of Moose, Caribou & Bear kills in Creegeoportal starting from July to June. Interviewed full-time & seasonal hunters for their Fall & Spring kills. Seasonal hunters usually go moose hunting in the months of September, October then again in February & March. Caribou hunting happens from November to February. Bears are mostly killed in the fall & in May-June. Most of the time we go meet hunters at their house for interview. The final numbers are shown in the Annual Cree Trapper's Association report.



Community	BLACK BEAR	CARIBOU				MOOSE			
		M	F	C	Total	M	F	C	Total
Mistissini	42	28	2		30	188	25	3	216

**Trapline Captures**

Record data from November to April on Creegeoportal for fur bearing animals; beaver, marten, lynx, otter, mink, weasel, red fox, cross fox & fisher. The final numbers are shown in the Annual Cree Trappers' Association report.

Community	BVR	LNX	MTN	MNK	OTR	WSL	RAT	WLF	RFX	CFX
Mistissini	186	8	350	9	18	5	12	3	13	3

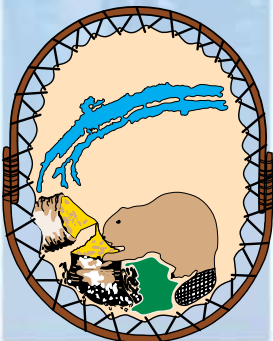
**Others**

- Firearms Safety & Introduction to Hunting Course given in the month of February by George M. Shecapio.
- Beaver meat & rabbits sale to public.
- Red Fox carcass study.
- Spring Airlift Coordinator; Willie Loon
- Cabin Insurance Program

**Training Courses**

Wilderness First Aid Training for LFO'S & Staff held in Waskaganish.

Local Administrator

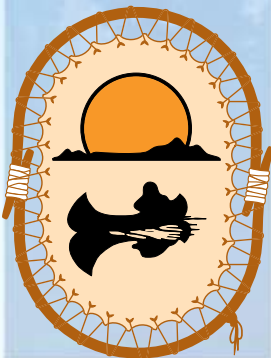


# NEMASKA

## Nemaska Local Trappers' Committee Report

- I rented radios and collected radio rent.
- I ordered and sold trappers equipment and supplies.
- I collected membership fees.
- I worked on CQA/CCA and CQNRA programs and projects.
- I collected and shipped fur.
- I did the Trapline Captures Report.
- I attended the Annual Fur Harvesters Auction Trappers convention.
- I transported trappers to and from the bush.
- I ordered and sold beaver and rabbits.
- I attended the Wolverine Workshop that was held in Nemaska.
- I ordered cabin material and coordinated the construction of the cabin.
- I worked on cabin insurance.
- I did the Big Game Survey.
- I took the Firearms Safety, Introduction to Hunting and Wilderness First Aid Course in Waskaganish.
- I attended the C.T.A. Annual General and Local Trappers Assemblies.
- I took the C.T.A, truck down for maintenance.
- I took Local Officers Training in Ottawa.

Local Administrator



**Ouje-Bougoumou Local Trappers' Committee Report**

On behalf of the Community Cree Nation of Ouje-Bougoumou, it is with great pleasure and honour that I present the 2016-2017 Cree Trappers' Association Annual Report. It has been a good year for our Local CTA Department and I wish to thank the Regional and Local level for their continued commitments and support that allowed the success of the CTA and also the Federal Government for their continued financial support to our organization of our local members and trappers.

In the previous years, the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association has aimed the continuation to preserve traditional harvesting by providing a number of services to its members. It promotes sustainable methods for the conservation and harvesting fur bearing animals and oversees the collection preparation marketing and sales of and finished fur. In addition, it protects and promotes the rights of the Cree Trappers and provides them with access to the resources required to continue the traditional hunting, fishing, trapping activities.

During the fiscal year of 2016-2017, the local CTA Department had provided a range of programs and services to the members of Ouje-Bougoumou. In order to provide these programs and services the Local CTA has successfully accessed funding from Niskamoon Corporation, Mitigating Works Fund and Cree Trappers' Association CQA & CCA Fund.

The budget provided herein is divided between two funding agencies: **Ouje-Bougoumou Local Cree Trappers' Association** and **Mitigating Works Fund**.

In terms of Programs and Projects services, the Local CTA Department was able to implement the following services and contracts.

**Cree Trappers' Association:**

**CQA & CCA Special Projects Budget:** \$ 122,038.00

- 1) Gas Subsidy Program : ( Spring ) : \$ 25,000.00
- 2) Equipment Purchase : (Spring ) : \$ 14,038.00
- 3) Trappers' Equipment Subsidy : \$ 8,000.00
- 4) Traditional Peoples Cabins Project ( 4 ) : \$44,600.00
- 5) CTA Committee/ Other Expenses : \$ 22,000.00
- 6) CTA Office Supplies : \$ 1,000.00
- 7) Emergency Fund : ( no fund available )
- 8) Cabin Insurance Program : \$ 4,400.00
- 9) Muggsan Mechum Purchase : \$ 3,000.00
- 10) Radio Communications: ( no fund available )
- 11) 1<sup>st</sup> CTA Annual General Assembly : ( no fund available )
- 12) Air Lift Transport : ( no fund available )

**Total :** \$ 122,038.00

**Niskamoon Corporation :**

1) Labor/Food (no release of funding)

**James Bay Eeyou Corporation**

**Mitigating Works Fund :**

- 1) Cabin Improvement program: \$ 29,00,00
- 2) TraditionalTent Making : \$ 2,589.53

**Total :** \$31,589.53



**CTA Log Cabin Project - 2016-2017** \$ 126,000.00

This fund allocation is still available to be used for the new CTA log cabin here in Ouje-Bougoumou and still in process for 2016-2017.

**Regional Government Funds :** \$ 196,789.53

**CTA Projects** \$ 122,038.00

On behalf of the Cree Trappers' Association I wish to thank our Local Trappers Committee and community members for their support received in the community and encouragement to complete this process.

Thank you very much, Mesta Meegwetch I

**Varley Shecapio-Blacksmith**  
Local Administrator

As of **February 21, 2017**, I started my replacement position as the Interim CTA Officer for the

Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation. I carried on the updated projects and programs that were tabled in the previous Cree Trappers Mtg.

**FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE:**

I started to update the list for the members that were interested for the training set for March 09 & 10, 2017 at Auberge Capissit Lodge here in Ouje-Bougoumou, Qc. I assisted the Head Trainer along with our Local Trainee to be Certified, James Wapachee which was a success. Paul Shecapio wasn't able to be present due to personal reasons. The first day we had 23 members for the Firearms and they did their practical and final tests at the end of the day. The second day we had 10 members for the Hunting Law and it went very well. I sorted out all the files with James Wapachee for the main Instructor's approval and we shipped out the final payment for both days the following day.

**CABIN INSURANCE FILE:**

The Cabin Insurance file has not been well monitored for the past years and we (Ouje CTA) end up paying it from our annual regional budget. It was brought up in the past that the LFO was to send out letters with a payment format for each cabin that was registered under the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association which was never done. Abel Rabbitskin came to see me about the file and he wanted the form signed for this fiscal year. This file will have to be tabled at our meetings for the committee to reconsider how many cabins can be insured for this year, This will most likely take a while to set and it will be tabled at the 1<sup>st</sup> Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association Assembly.

**GAS SUBSIDY:**

I have to say that this project has being outstanding with unpaid invoices at the Casey's Gas Depanneur since 2016. An amount of \$ 42 000.00 has being outstanding for 2015 & 2016 spring gas subsidings that were given by the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers'. I have met with the Manager of Casey's Gas and they have recently changed their computer system and they can't find the copy of receipts. The 2017 Gas Subsidy was approved while the CTA will continue to find a way to pay the outstanding bills at Casey's Gas Depanneur here in Ouje-Bougoumou Qc.



**CTA CABIN PROJECTS:**

This file again is not complete according to the previous year approvals for members that were given cabins. A cabin on km 31 North was constructed by the team that was taking the Carpentry Course here in Ouje-Bougoumou and ran out of time as the snow started to fall in late October 2016. The construction was the only part finished and this project was left incomplete. The R&D Lumber from Mistissini had one set of material that wasn't delivered until early May 2017. On O-61 trapline, another cabin is incomplete and the foreman for that project has started to construct the cabin. I sat down with our CTA Director of Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation to continue and complete these projects. At the next meeting in June, the committee has requested a backlog list for cabin requests. The Regional CTA has requested 100 cabins from Niskamoon and according to my understanding that they have being approved. The Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Committee will sit the Niskamoon Coordinator when they make decisions for the members that will be entitled to these cabins.

**OUJE-BOUGOUMOU CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION POLICIES:**

The Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association POLICIES have being reviewed by the committee assisted by the CTA General Manager, Roderick Petawabano to be tabled at the 1st CTA AGA (TBD). The Policies will assist the members with Membership that the complete information is there for them to request for support and subsidies from the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association pending on the funds available. The Policies were approved on May 30 & 31, 2017 by the committee and the next step is to present them to the members.

**OTHERS:**

The Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association have submitted a request for additional funding to the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation Council and we await for the approval to start the projects and programs. I have spent a lot of overtime in the previous incomplete projects and I am hoping if I stay a while longer that they will be up to date. I met with Director of Natural Resources of Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation concerning the Supervision Agreement regarding the Local CTA Officer. This will only take place at a later date once the file has being updated. The next Election for a new Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Committee has scheduled for July 18, 2017 at the Ouje-Bougoumou Annual General Assembly.

**OUJE-BOUGOUMOU CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE**



(LEFT TO RIGHT)

**JOSIE SHECAPIO BLACKSMITH, BENJAMIN SHECAPIO BLACKSMITH, ANNA BOSUM (DIRECTOR), VARLEY SHECAPIO BLACKSMITH (LFO), EDDY MIANSUM, (NOT IN PICTURE) CLAUDE ST-PIERRE, DAVID GORDON BOSUM**

In closing, I just want to thank the present CTA committee and Regional CTA for giving me an opportunity to be part of this special department. My goal is to complete the outstanding issues under the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Trappers' Association and to continue my services here in Ouje-Bougoumou Qc.

  
**James Neeposh**, Interim CTA  
Local Administrator



**Waskaganish Local Trappers' Committee Report**

The 2016 year end will be my first presentation in an annual activity report. Although the following reports are presented monthly; they were not the only reports that I did this year. I was also assisting our CTA members throughout the year. It has been a great and challenging year for me. In the first few months, my former co-worker Clark Shecapio had been promoted to another job and I was the acting Natural Resources Officer from his departure and until Thomas Stevens was hired. I will sure miss the work commitment that he established here at the CTA and he has left me with much information to be able to continue in this position. It was challenging for me but I still tried to do the best that I could for the CTA.

Below are my monthly reports from January to December 2016, I did not include small duties, such as ordering supplies at CTA, purchasing arts and crafts from local artists, making cheques, sending out bush radios for repairs, trapline transfers, daily sale reports, taking meeting minutes etc.... I preformed these small duties on a regular basis throughout the year.

January 2016 - There was not much activity during the month but I received my first fur from a trapper which I shipped to Ron Zachary at the regional office for grading and pricing.

February 2016 - We held a planning session with the CTA Committee in Val-d'Or, establishing the CQA & CCA Funds and building criteria for each program that we had to budget.

March 2016 - When I returned to work I treated the Criteria's that were established and implemented by the CTA Committee Members at their planning session in Val-d'Or and at the same time I was coordinating the Fox Sampling Project. We also started selling CTA Membership Cards and planning our Local CTA AGA at the end of the month.

April 2016 - Along with my colleagues, every year we prepare our annual goose break. The main focus of this month was the posting of temporary Jobs for the Spring Airlift, collecting applications, assisting the local CTA committee with the selections, confirming successful and unsuccessful letters to the applicants. During this same period I ordered our annual goose break items with my colleagues, while preparing the end of the fox sampling project for myself.

May 2016 - I returned to work after 3 weeks of holidays from goose break. I immediately started the list for the membership database so that I could not forget any members and at the same time the CTA committee mandated me to post voting ballots for our CTA members concerning whether or not renovations should happen this year instead of the cabin program and it was a success.

June 2016 - I sent out letters to the tallymen to collect information for the Annual Big Game report but not many tallymen knew of all the moose kills in their trapline; but they did the best they could to give me the requested information.

Also during the month of June we purchased this tamarack decoy with wings made out of antlers, it was the first time we've ever purchased a decoy like this.

Gordon H Blackned is the maker of this decoy with wings made out of moose antlers.

What should we call it?



July 2016 - Entered data on Cree Geoportal, posted the cabin renovation program that is available to our CTA members.



August 2016 - Prepared the Cabin Renovation Program, the program commenced 1 year only. It was open for 2 weeks and available to our local CTA members to apply, assisted the committee with the selection, confirmed successful and unsuccessful letters to the applicants. I ordered the material and hired carpenters to renovate cabins of the successful candidates. The project is still not complete due to material transportation issues; some cabin material could not be transported due to low tides to some camp areas where the cabins are. This will possibly be completed around March 2017.

September 2016 - Along with the cabin renovation program, we have also posted skidoo, ATV, outboard and boat/boat repair programs that were available to our CTA members to apply. I've assisted the CTA committee with the selections and also the small motorized program was available to our CTA members for application.

October 2016 - I closed the files for the cabin insurances to Paul Salt, Clara Weistche and Reginald Hester and also one of our CTA members was approved for assistance in transporting cabin material to Charlton Island which I coordinated. We also continued building incomplete cabin's from 2015 to our successful candidates that year.

November 2016 - Prepared and planned for our annual CTA Christmas party for our Staff, this month not much work had been done and I had not yet received fur, it was a quiet work period; I just did some filing this month.

December 2016 - Training in Ottawa along with the LFO's and when I went back to work in December along with my colleagues and CTA committee we had our annual Local CTA Christmas supper and it was a success after all the work I did during the year and I can finally say I was on holidays for the rest of December.

Thank you

Sincerely

**Karilynn Blackned**, Local Administrator





## Waswanipi Local Trappers' Committee Report

On behalf of my colleagues, I want to sincerely wish all the members and their families the best in their lives as they pursue activities in the heart of the wilderness. Only in teamwork can we have the best of 2 worlds.

As the local CTA Fur Officer, below is a list of my main tasks we carried out this year:

- Buy & ship fur to inland fur-depot then to auction-house (my title) includes monthly summary reports as provincial officials monitor Regional CTA Fur Market Program - our license.
- Monitor the bush-radio communications program; includes the community-base radio operations, and all repairs & maintenance inventory of around 70 orange-bush radios; the radio license(s) and insurance(s).
- Monitor & review with other entities (trappers committee) a new local bush-radio communications program - walkie-talkies - for all Waswanipi traplines. Compile the membership list and collect fees, adding new members. Report big and small game - kills - on monthly basis, monitor status of wildlife on 68 traplines with tallymen.
- Trapline reorganization, Cree land-use trapline management system with all tallymen and with elected local committee members.
- Update tallyman list and monitor trapline-use, etc.

Furthermore, there are different assignments each year I (we the CTA) have to work on and also in close collaboration with the tallymen, trappers and their families or other Cree land-users. And at times my job involves field-work too.

As our Cree leaders, employees are hunters and trappers themselves, may we remain one of the strongest hunting societies still existing today in this world.

Meequetch

**Paul Dixon LFO**, Local Administrator



## Wemindji Trappers' Committee Report

It is my pleasure to submit my activity report this fiscal year from April 1st 2016 to March 31, 2017.

My name is Abraham Matches, Local Administrator of the Cree Trappers' Association in Wemindji. My duties are to coordinate various projects and programs for the Trappers/Hunters and assist them during hunting/harvest season.

I have encountered numerous challenges, since I have worked with the organisation and I also wanted to mention with the support from Wemindji Trappers' Association and a better working environment. My main concern at beginning of each year, hoping the fur sales will be better than the previous year.

Looking at the stats Wemindji trappers are very much active in the trapping industry. I'm very proud that our tradition and culture lives on.

Just to summarise on some of the projects and programs:

- Collecting data and entering Big & Small Game survey into Geoportal Data
- Fox Carcass Rabies Study ongoing project since 2015
- Caribou Ungava research program focused on ecology of migratory caribou, project will ongoing 2016-2018
- Updating and renewal Cabin Insurance annually, GPS coordinates locations of all Trapper Cabins
- Coordinate trips for Hunters/Trappers to attend the Annual Fur Auction in North Bay, Ontario.
- Canadian Firearms safety & Introduction hunting course in March 23 & 24, 2017. 2 Local candidates are certified to be Instructors and teach "Gun Safety courses" in the near future.
- Study on improving 2-way Radio communications service. A preliminary tower study on integrating 2-way, FM Radio and Fibre-optic Technology for transmission by covering Wemindji Trapping lines.
- Coordinate meetings with Tallyman and Mining Companies for exploration activities at their Trapping Territories (trapping lines).
- Relocating my office into a bigger and better working environment.

Our source of funding comes from Cree Nation Government and also based on number of CTA memberships in the community.

53% of the funds is spend on equipment, repairs and supplies such as ammunition, fishnets, canvas, etc...

10% Cabin Insurances a subsidy program for the Trappers/Hunters.

15% local trappers board of Directors Honorariums, Radio Dispatcher and Professional fees.

22% on Travel, radio licence on mobile communication units, freight/Transport and other unforeseen expenses.

In conclusion, I want to encourage hunters, trappers and the younger generation to keep and carry on, our way of life.

**Abraham Matches**  
Local Administrator



## Whapmagoostui Local Trappers' Committee Report

The Whapmagoostui Cree Trappers' Association responsibilities and major role consists in the coordination, implementing and administrating of various cultural oriented projects and programs designed to protect and promote the interests of the Cree Trappers and Hunters.

### **The following Tasks:**

- **Big Game Survey: Regional Cree Trappers - Month of June 2016:** Interviews with hunters, present time computerized survey, which I did not start yet at this time.
- **Cabin Insurance: Regional Cree Trappers - Month of April 2016:** Update tallyman list/cabins, collect individual payments for the cabin insurance, send invoices to individuals.
- **CTA Memberships: Regional Cree Trappers - Month of February to July 2016:** Collect payments, make receipts, deposit at local CTA account, update membership list, make cheques along with the list of individual payments, and send out cheques to Regional Cree Trappers.
- **Firearms: Regional Cree Trappers - Any month of the year:** Exchange information to the public. Assist for planning for firearms training. Collect individual payments, take names to reserve room, monitor payments, make cheques out to Region CTA. Make copies for office use.
- **Fur Technician - Cree Trappers' Association - Month of January and March 2016:** Collect Fur from individuals. Packaging and shipping, fill out forms for each individual, issue cheques, attend Fur Harvest Convention when requested.
- **Regional Cree Trappers Meeting/Trainings - Yearly:** Attend Annual meetings/trainings, when requested by Regional CTA. Attend Training for Geographic Survey, First Aid Courses, etc.
- **Regional CQA Budget - Annually:** Request for local CQA Budget to update and present to local CTA Board Members, once done, make resolution to Regional CTA Office.
- **Bus Radio Tasks - Local Cree Trappers - Month of April 2016 (Yearly):** Coordinate radio rentals, fees, date of pick-up/return. Enter information on Excel sheets. From June to August 2016, and from November to March 2016, there is less coordination for the radios, since people are in town on those months. Monitor for repairs of radios.
- **Receptionist - Local Cree Trappers - All year round:** Answer incoming calls, make outgoing calls. Receiving and mailing mail. Deal with all the above mentioned tasks. Sometimes it is hard to talk on the phone with any member concerning CTA matters, when someone is at the office at the same time, especially when being alone. Making copies, contacting different local/Regional Organizations.

### **Additional Projects - Regional Cree Trappers' Association**

- **Traditional Dietary Expose Program - Regional Cree Trappers:** Collecting samples, Select Hunters/Trappers, enter questionnaires. I have not started this project, since it was requested.
- **Caribou Predators Relationship Projects - Regional Cree Trappers:** Collecting samples on Caribou and sending in reports along with samples. I have not started this project.
- **Polar Bear Project - Regional Cree Trappers:** Assisted with the interviewer for local Hunters/Trappers.

### **Recommendations:**

As a Local Administrator, I would recommend to have a special projects coordinator, to assist with additional projects. Whapmagoostui Cree Trappers. At local CTA office, there are additional tasks for the community members for their assistants with Cree Trappers' Association.

### **Conclusion:**

The projects that are provided from the CTA Regional have lot of assistants to the community CTA members. Community members continue with traditional activities every spring and fall, especially with the Cabin Insurance provided for them, within their camping ground.

Lizzie Masty, Whapmagoostui Local Administrator



## COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP - 2016-2017

COMMUNITY	ADULTS	JUNIORS	TALLYMEN	TOTAL AMOUNT
CHISASIBI	1876	54	37	\$28,572.00
EASTMAIN	413	196	12	\$7,763.00
MISTISSINI	1197	47	77	\$18,331.00
NEMASKA	356	156	14	\$6,588.00
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU	176	19	10	\$2,792.00
WASKAGANISH	1692	79	32	\$26,012.00
WASWANIPI	713	11	54	\$10,783.00
WEMINDJI	477	82	15	\$7,811.00
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	381	219	20	\$7,467.00
TOTAL COUNT	7281	863	271	\$116,119.00

*As approved by the Cree Trappers' General Assembly*





# Big Game Survey

## SUMMARY REPORT BY COMMUNITIES

July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Community	Black Bear	CARIBOU				MOOSE			
		Male	Female	Calf	TTL	Male	Female	Calf	TTL
Chisasibi	23	34	38	10	82	27	11	4	42
Eastmain	13	0	0	0	0	10	7	3	20
Mistissini	54	26	1	0	27	182	30	3	215
Nemaska	1	0	2	0	2	12	15	7	34
Ouje-Bougoumou	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	4
Waskaganish	8	2	1	0	3	24	13	3	40
Waswanipi	38	4	2	0	6	73	36	9	118
Wemindji	2	1	0	0	1	2	4	5	11
Whapmagoostui	10	57	41	6	104	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>484</b>



# TRAPLINE CAPTURE REPORT

## SUMMARY FOR ALL COMMUNITIES

July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Community	BVR	LNX	MTN	MNK	OTR	FSR	SKN	WSL	RAT	SQL	WLF	RFX	SFX	WFX	CFX
Chisasibi	53	18	344	4	8	0	0	13	22	31	1	22	5	0	1
Eastmain	72	8	53	0	7	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	1	0	0
Mistissini	139	3	540	3	20	0	0	12	2	0	1	2	0	0	0
Nemaska	6	1	75	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0
Ouje-Bougoumou	2	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washaw Sibi	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waskaganish	118	3	281	0	3	0	0	0	13	0	0	11	0	0	0
Waswanipi	18	7	49	4	4	0	0	2	6	2	0	1	0	0	0
Wemindji	114	29	297	9	9	0	0	28	15	13	3	25	1	0	4
Whapmagoostui	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1716</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

# ISHTHCHIIKUN

## Summary of Fur Purchased from the Trappers 2016-2017

SPECIES	QUANTITY	AMOUNT PAID	AVERAGE
Beaver	524	\$5,804	\$11.07
Castoreum	3	\$70	\$23.33
Lynx	70	\$2,528	\$36.11
Mink	25	\$134	\$5.36
Marten	1759	\$50,970	\$28.98
Otter	54	\$1,374	\$25.44
Muskrat	59	\$94	\$1.59
Red Fox	91	\$1,730	\$19.01
Silver Fox	6	\$145	\$24.17
Squirrel	51	\$20	\$0.39
Wolf	4	\$120	\$30
Weasel	56	\$95	\$1.70
Cross Fox	8	\$190	\$23.75
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$63,275</b>	





# ISHTHCHIIKUN

## Fur Sales Report September 2016 to August 2017

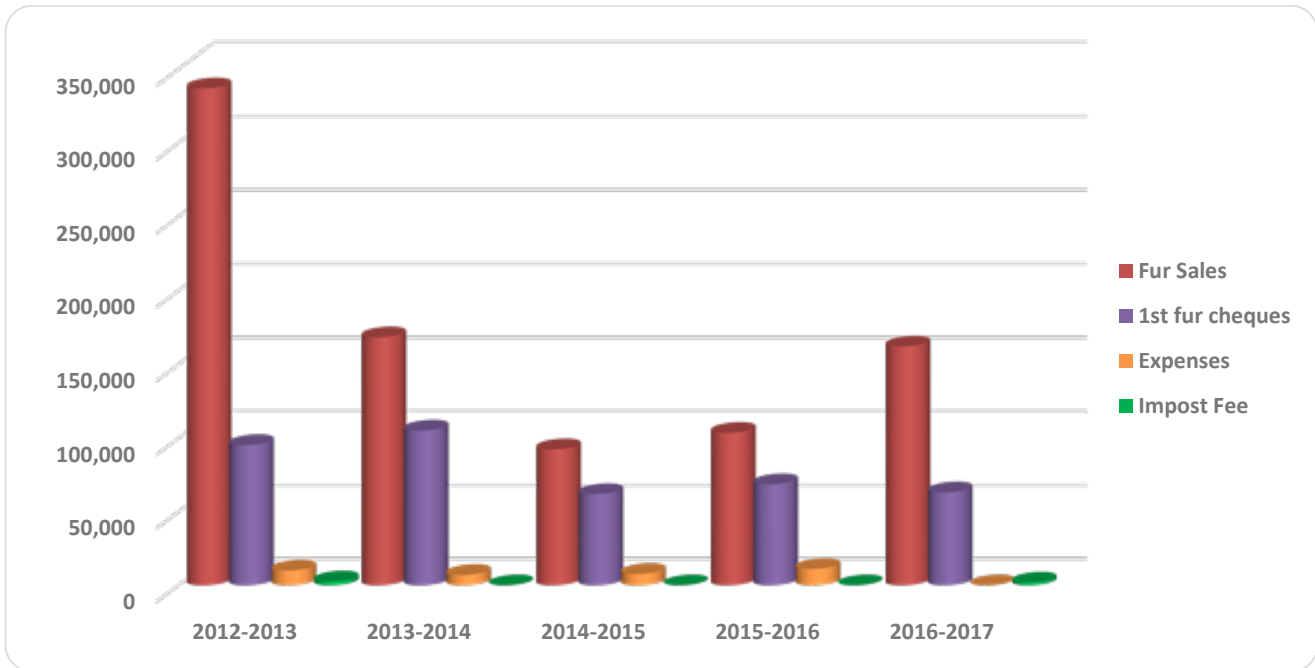
COMMUNITY	FUR SALES (Fur Harvesters)	FUR PURCHASES (1st cheques)	IMPOST FEE	BALANCE PAYABLE TO TRAPPERS
<b>Chisasibi</b>	33,266	(11,270)	(338)	21,657
<b>Eastmain</b>	3,580	(1,859)	(56)	1,665
<b>Mistissini</b>	53,327	(22,840)	685	31,173
<b>Nemaska</b>	7,231	(2,363)	(71)	4,797
<b>Ouje-Bougoumou</b>	1,185	(553)	(17)	616
<b>Washaw Sibi</b>	221	(54)	(2)	165
<b>Waskaganish</b>	21,126	(7,547)	(226)	13,353
<b>Waswanipi</b>	3,797	(1,989)	(60)	1,748
<b>Wemindji</b>	31,076	(12,914)	(387)	17,775
<b>Whapmagoostui</b>	7,372	(1,896)	(57)	5,419
<b>TOTAL</b>	162,181	(63,285)	(528)	98,368

## Cree Fur Trust Fund As of March 31, 2017

COMMUNITY	BALANCE MAR-31-16	EXPENSES	INTEREST REVENUE	BALANCE MAR-31-17
<b>Chisasibi</b>	127,802	(355)	690	128,137
<b>Eastmain</b>	40,438	(56)	218	40,600
<b>Mistissini</b>	120,908	(56)	653	121,505
<b>Nemaska</b>	2,346	(205)	13	2,154
<b>Ouje-Bougoumou</b>	2,780	(56)	15	2,739
<b>Waskaganish</b>	43,039	(455)	232	42,816
<b>Waswanipi</b>	27,476	(56)	148	27,568
<b>Wemindji</b>	28,784	(160)	155	28,779
<b>Whapmagoostui</b>	17,049	(80)	92	17,061
<b>TOTAL</b>	410,622	(1,479)	2,217	411,360

# ISHTHCHIIKUN

## Fur Analysis from 2012 to 2017



## Amount of Fur sold by Species

### BEAVER

	Auction Dates			
	Jan-17	Mar-17	May-17	Total
	Total Pelts			
\$1 - \$10	29	19	101	<b>149</b>
\$11 - \$20	112	62	126	<b>300</b>
\$21 - \$30	18	13	42	<b>73</b>
\$31 - \$40	8	9	21	<b>38</b>
\$41 - \$50	7	1	6	<b>14</b>
\$51 - \$60	3	1		<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>578</b>

### FOX

	Auction dates			
	Jan-17	Mar-17	May-17	Total
	Total Pelts			
\$1 - \$10	9		8	<b>17</b>
\$11 - \$20	13	4	15	<b>32</b>
\$21 - \$30	15	2	12	<b>29</b>
\$31 - \$40	12	9	4	<b>25</b>
\$41 - \$50	2	2	11	<b>15</b>
\$51 - \$60			1	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>119</b>



## Amount of Fur sold by Species (continued)

### MARTEN

	Auction Dates			
	Jan-17	Mar-17	May-17	Total
	<b>Total Pelts</b>			
\$1 - \$10	1	17	32	<b>50</b>
\$11 - \$20	8	14	1	<b>23</b>
\$21 - \$30	13	9	25	<b>47</b>
\$31 - \$40	1		11	<b>12</b>
\$41 - \$50	17	31	49	<b>97</b>
\$51 - \$60		39	85	<b>124</b>
\$61 - \$70		54	128	<b>182</b>
\$71 - \$80		129	240	<b>369</b>
\$81 - \$90		32	58	<b>90</b>
\$91 - \$100		55	21	<b>76</b>
\$101 - \$110		54	47	<b>101</b>
\$111 - \$120		29	39	<b>68</b>
\$121 - \$130		96	50	<b>146</b>
\$131 - \$140		22	37	<b>59</b>
\$141 - \$150		66	1	<b>67</b>
\$151 - \$160		52		<b>52</b>
\$161 - \$170		74	13	<b>87</b>
\$171 - \$180		50		<b>50</b>
\$181 - \$190		6		<b>6</b>
\$191 - \$200		10		<b>10</b>
\$390		1		<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>1717</b>

### LYNX

	Auction Dates			
	Jan-17	Mar-17	May-17	Total
	<b>Total Pelts</b>			
\$1 - \$10				
\$11 - \$20				
\$21 - \$30		7		<b>7</b>
\$31 - \$40		8		<b>8</b>
\$41 - \$50		2	9	<b>11</b>
\$51 - \$60		4	1	<b>5</b>
\$61 - \$70			4	<b>4</b>
\$71 - \$80	1	1	1	<b>3</b>
\$81 - \$90		3		<b>3</b>
\$91 - \$100			2	<b>2</b>
\$101 - \$110		1	3	<b>4</b>
\$111 - \$120				
\$121 - \$130		2		<b>2</b>
\$131 - \$140		1		<b>1</b>
\$141 - \$150				
\$151 - \$160			1	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>51</b>

### OTTER

	Auction Dates			
	Jan-17	Mar-17	May-17	Total
	<b>Total Pelts</b>			
\$1 - \$10	8	5	3	<b>16</b>
\$11 - \$20	9	1	1	<b>11</b>
\$21 - \$30	4	4		<b>8</b>
\$31 - \$40	1	2	1	<b>4</b>
\$41 - \$50		7	1	<b>8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>47</b>



# ISHTHCHIIKUN

## Insurance Fund

From October 1, 1991 to March 31, 2017

DESCRIPTION	INITIAL FUNDING	INSURANCE at \$50 per CABIN	CABIN INSURANCE with BOC	TOTAL
<b><u>FUNDING</u></b>				
Board of Compensation	86,539			86,539
Cree Nation of Chisasibi	30,000			30,000
James Bay Eeeyou Corp.	125,000			125,000
Chisasibi Trappers		15,750	105,493	121,243
Eastmain Trappers		13,176	40,284	53,460
Mistissini Trappers		5,750	127,226	132,976
Nemaska Trappers		3,750	58,012	61,762
Ouje-Bougoumou Trappers		0	57,414	57,414
Waskaganish Trappers		6,250	112,510	118,760
Waswanipi Trappers		650	69,635	70,285
Wemindji Trappers		6,150	98,025	104,175
Whapmagoostui Trappers		1,150	55,600	56,750
Subtotal	241,539	52,626	724,199	1,018,364
Interest earned on GIC's				82,278
Contribution from CTA				41,632
<b>TOTAL FUNDING AND INTEREST</b>				<b>1,142,274</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>				
2016-2017				
Insurance Cost				139,487
Audit Fees				500
Previous Years				
Insurance Cost				691,821
Travel Expenses				10,939
Contract services				34,026
Honorarium				3,000
Insurance Claims Payouts				83,283
Bank Charges				246
Administration & Audit Fees				14,329
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>				<b>977,631</b>
<b>BALANCE CREE TRAPPERS INSURANCE FUND</b>				<b>164,643</b>





# CREE TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION

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