



Agenda

01 Overview of VRAC-PARC project

02 Climate hazards and their impacts

03 Results of VRAC Report

04 Next Steps: PARC

05 Adaptation vs. Mitigation strategies

06 Individual vs. Community strategies





The VRAC–PARC Project

Overall objective

- Raise awareness on the effects of climate change on health,
- Develop partnerships,
- Develop skills and knowledge in climate adaptation.

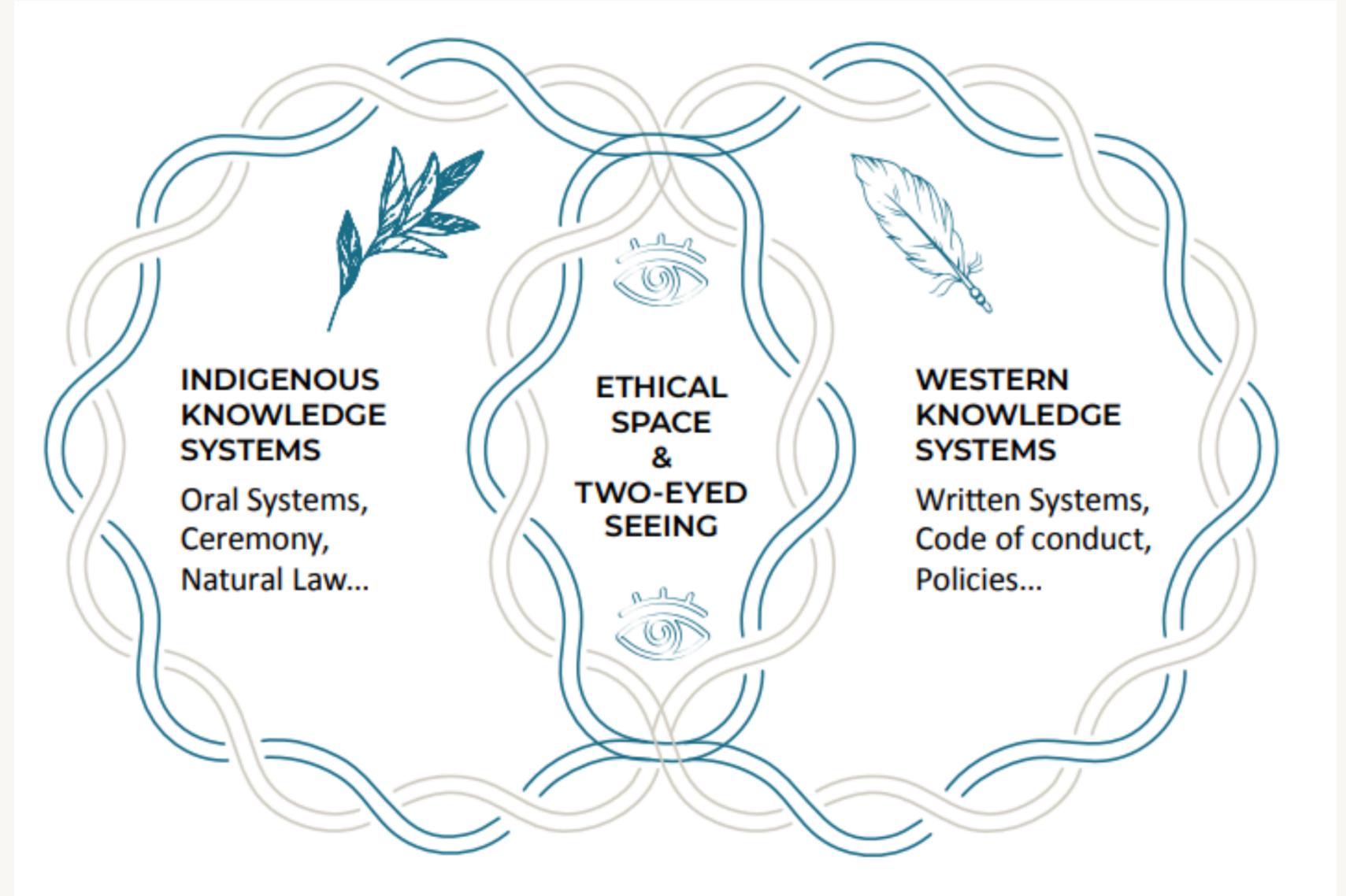
VRAC Component PARC Component

A climate change vulnerability assessment for Eeyou Istchee.

An adaptation plan to the effects of climate change on health for Eeyou Istchee.

Data sources

- Cree Traditional Ecological Knowledge.
- Historical and projected climate data.
- Existing literature on climate change in Eeyou Istchee and the Canadian North.



7 Climate Hazards of Importance in Eeyou Istchee



Changes in temperature



Changes in precipitation

03/
Re-use



Forest fires



Changes in vegetation



- Have health consequences
- Have cultural, economic, environmental, and political impacts for Eeyou Istchee.



Changes in wildlife



Landslide and Erosion



Changes in wind patterns

Climate Hazard Impacts Overview



CHANGES IN TEMPERATURE

More hot days → Heat exhaustion



CHANGES IN PRECIPITATION

Heavy snowfall, changing ice conditions → Transportation, safety and security



FOREST FIRES

Exposure to smoke → Cardiovascular and respiratory issues



CHANGES IN VEGETATION

Species shifting northwards → Food security issues



CHANGES IN WILDLIFE

Species shifting northwards → Food security issues



CHANGES IN WIND PATTERNS

Unpredictable travel conditions → Injuries



LANDSLIDE AND EROSION

Changes to land and waterways → Water quality, transportation and security



VRAC Results

All seven climate hazards were linked to three themes:

Food and Water Security

- Changes in species distribution, challenges accessing traditional foods, leading Eeyouch/Eenouch to rely more on store-bought food

Public Health and Safety

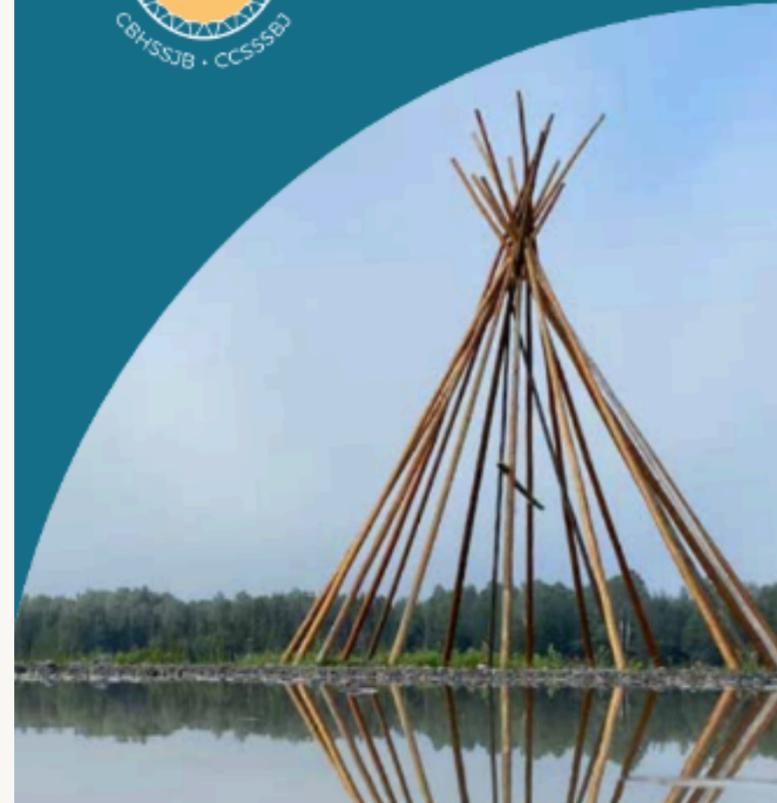
- Increased flooding, erosion, heat, and forest fires causing injuries and evacuations

Mental Health and Cultural Continuity

- Loss of traditional lands affecting mental well-being, particularly among Elders, land-users, and youth



**VRAC report
expected by the
end of August -
Stay Tuned!**



**EEYOU
ISTCHEE
CLIMATE CHANGE
VULNERABILITY
AND RISK
ASSESSMENT
(VRAC)**

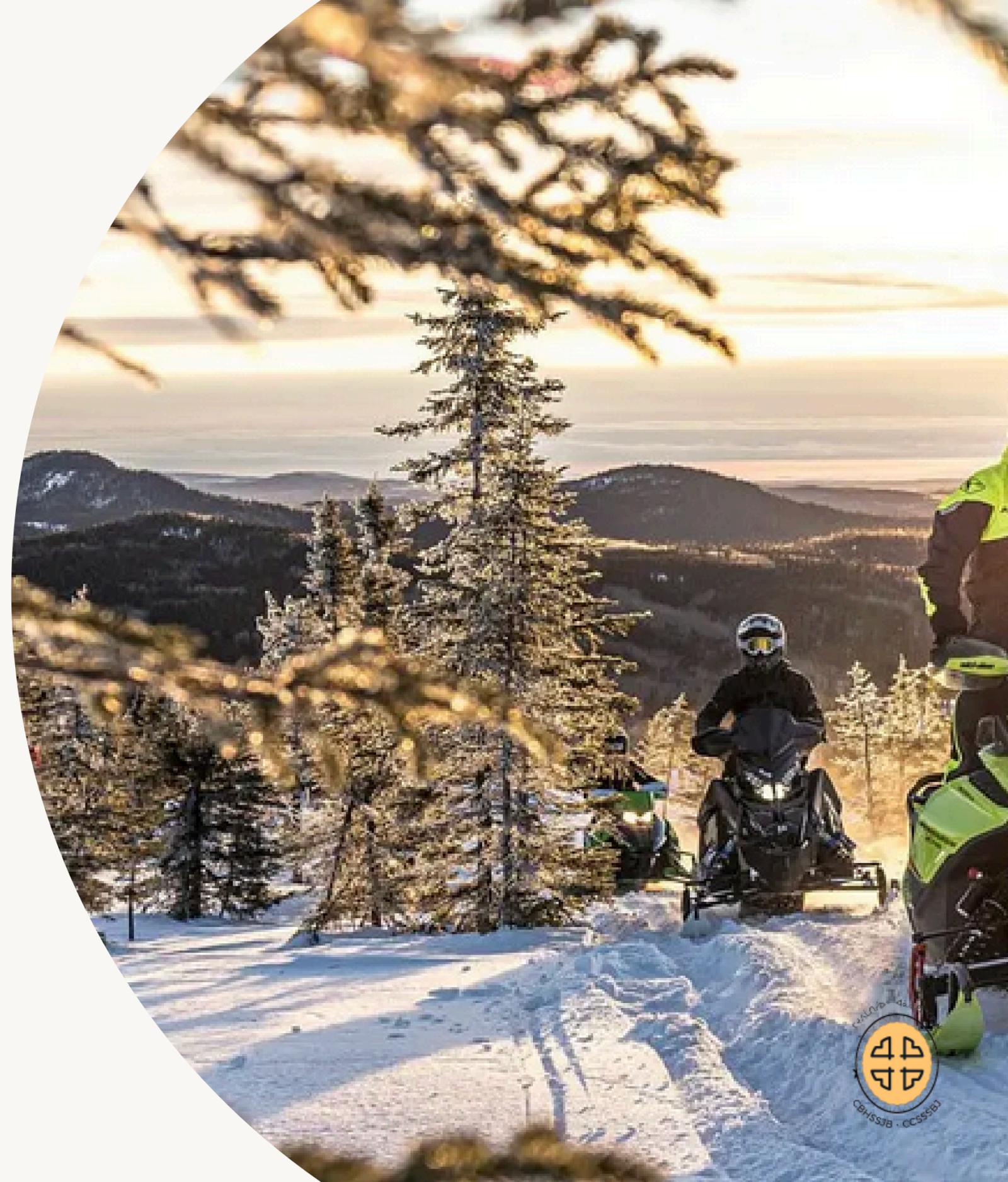


Cree Board of Health
and Social Services
of James Bay -
Health Region 18

Next Steps: PARC

Consultations

- Talking with community and regional organizations
 - Learning more about their priorities when responding to climate change
- Collaborating to develop a climate change health adaptation plan for the region



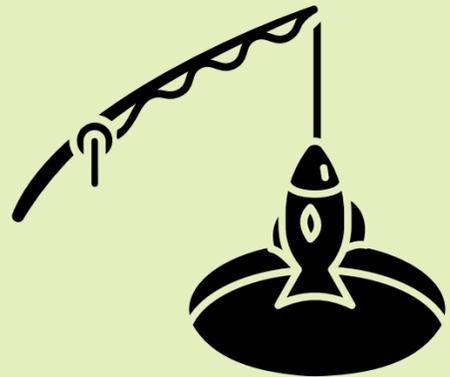
ADAPTATION

Actions to manage the impacts of climate change



Fire protection

Ice Safety



PM2.5

Smoke protection



Land



community



Conservation

MITIGATION

Actions to reduce emissions that cause climate change

renewable energy



Sustainable transportation

energy efficiency





Individual vs Community Adaptation Strategies

Individual strategies in Eeyou Istchee

- Engaging in traditional subsistence activities to maintain food security and cultural connections
 - Participating in workshops on how to adapt (e.g., ice safety training)
-

Community strategies in Eeyou Istchee

- Designated protected areas for ecosystem to flourish
- Making sure community buildings have AC during heatwaves

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Chiniskuumitan
Thank You!

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Environmental Health Branch,
Health Protection Team
Regional Public Health

