

NISKAMOON CORPORATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Watchiya! Greetings to all!

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2016-2017 Annual Report for Niskamoon Corporation. It has been a challenging year, as always, particularly when financial resources are diminishing.

Thank you to the Niskamoon staff for their continued commitment and dedication to the community and for upholding the core values of Niskamoon. They do this by ensuring the autonomy and self-sufficiency of Eeyou land users through the promotion and enhancement of traditional practices and the passing on of traditional knowledge and values for future generations.

Niskamoon Corporation participates at the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) by making presentations at the IAIA Annual Conferences and by conveying the Cree experience of living with the impacts of hydroelectric development, adapting to the changes these have caused and ensuring that traditional activities and practices are still possible.

Niskamoon Corporation, jointly with the Cree Nation of Waskaganish, sponsored a pre-conference event as part of IAIA 2017 called "Aashukan", meaning bridge. The two-day cultural exchange was attended by Indigenous peoples from around the world and was well received by the IAIA and its participants. The participants saw firsthand how the Cree continue to practice their traditional lifestyle and how adaptable the Cree have been. Thank you to the Cree Nation of Waskaganish for organizing an excellent event which more or less showcased the Cree Nation to the world, considering where the participants came from. Meegwetch Waskaganish.

2017 highlights the final year for the implementation of the Apiitisiwiin Agreement of 2004, the Cree Employment and Training Program with a primary role of providing support to the Technical Employment with Hydro-Québec (TEHQ)

Program for employment and permanent positions within Hydro-Québec operations and the training of Cree people. This has been a major challenge but we can say that it has been successful. At this time, it is regrettable that it is ending but hopefully a sustainable program could be introduced so that Cree would continue to be trained and hired within the Hydro-Québec work force. Congratulations and thank you to all who committed and dedicated their time to make this particular agreement a successful endeavour. Thank you to the institutions that participated in the implementation of the program. All this has been possible thanks to the respect and trust among all stakeholders. Thank you all!

Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to those who took the training and have graduated. Without their commitment and dedication this program would not have been possible!

Niskamoon Corporation is involved in the implementation of various other agreements and continues to implement them to the best of its ability and with honesty, integrity and respect for the recipients and participants of these agreements. Some of our great leaders have passed on and the vision of a prosperous Cree Nation must live on and must never be forgotten or lost. The legacy of these Cree leaders and the wisdom and knowledge of the Elders must be valued, respected and passed down to future generations. This is what makes the Cree Nation strong and united!

Thank you to each of the members on the Board of Directors for their support and integrity. With their knowledge they are able to make informed and good decisions for the benefit of the recipients of these Cree Hydro-Québec agreements. Thank you again to the staff of Niskamoon Corporation! Ginskoumdinnaan, meegwetch, thank you and merci beaucoup!

VIOLET PACHANOS
President



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Wachiya! Kwey, Kwey! Greetings!

Hope we all enjoyed this year's spring hunt harvest. Whether it was one of the best or less than what we expected, the main thing was being out on the land, enjoying ourselves and taking in nature's wonders.

All good things at some point in time have to come to a close, especially those that have been very beneficial to our people. I am referring to Niskamoon's training program to deliver 150 jobs to Hydro-Québec. We may not have reached our goal, but our Board, administrative staff, teachers and students are very proud of what was achieved by everybody. This past June we celebrated the final graduation ceremony.

The funds have somewhat depleted in some departments; others will remain as long as the rivers flow and Hydro-Québec continues to deliver electricity. Some administrative changes will be necessary, reduction on certain disbursements to programs and projects will be analyzed promptly and professionally. However, we will continue to serve all users of Niskamoon in the manner that is best for its purpose.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and take care!

KENNETH GILPIN
Vice-President



HEAD OFFICE

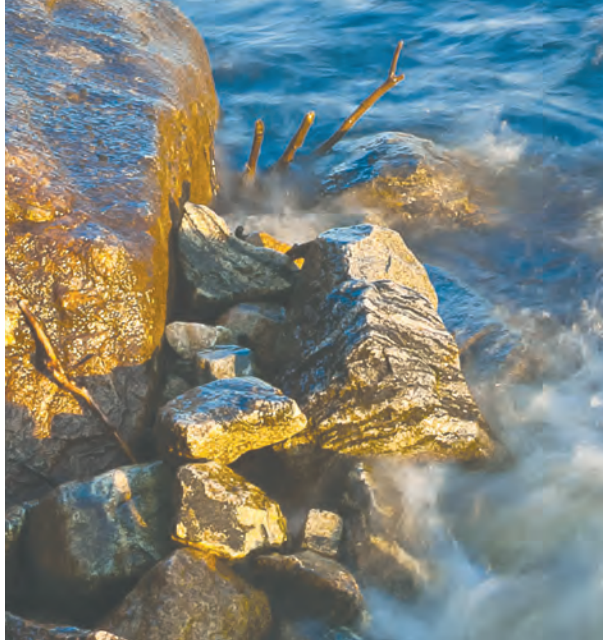
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Niskamoon Agreement	2
Mandate & Core Values	3
Operating Budget and Administrative Agreement with the Cree Nation Government	4
Niskamoon Community Contribution Agreement	5
Board of Directors & Staff	6-7
Organizational Chart	9
Calendar	10-11
Managed Funds	12-36
Remedial Works Program	38-41
Local Coordinators	42-59
Chisasibi Coastal Goose Habitat Enhancement Project	60-61
Traditional and Cultural Activities	62-67
Monitoring Committee	68-77
Fisheries and Health Committee	78-79
Impact Assessment Annual Conference & Aashukan	80-81
Training & Employment with Hydro-Québec Program	82-87
Eeyou Itunn Training Program	88-89
Chisasibi House Replacement Program	90-91
Database & Management Systems	92-93
Ishpitenitamun Corporation Visit	94
Financial Information	95-136

NISKAMOON AGREEMENT



The Niskamoon Agreement called for the creation of a not-for-profit corporation, entitled “Niskamoon Corporation”, whose principal objectives are to:

- Facilitate, simplify and accelerate access to the benefits, measures, resources, and programs under the Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements for the Cree people, the Cree communities, and other Cree entities.
- Provide a more efficient framework for cooperation between the Cree Nation and Hydro-Québec with respect to the implementation of the Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements.
- Provide more effective mechanisms for the implementation of the Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements.
- Streamline and render more effective the administrative costs to the Cree people associated with the implementation of the Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements.
- Bring better coherence to the implementation of the Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements.
- Regroup under Niskamoon Corporation large parts of the administration and management of the Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements.

MANDATE

Niskamoon Corporation administers the implementation of various Cree-Hydro-Québec agreements by facilitating and simplifying access to funds and programs for Cree communities, land users and entities that have been impacted by hydroelectric development.

In addition, Niskamoon Corporation is the framework for cooperation between the Cree Nation and Hydro-Québec. In this, the corporation provides oversight to joint Cree-Hydro-Québec committees, and facilitates consultations between the Cree communities, regional Cree entities, and Hydro-Québec. With Niskamoon's assistance, communication and understanding between stakeholders is improved, and consultation becomes a productive and collaborative exercise.

To alleviate the impacts of hydroelectric development in Eeyou Istchee, Niskamoon Corporation works closely with individuals and groups to organize, fund and carry out projects and activities that adhere to Niskamoon's core values.

CORE VALUES

All Niskamoon approved projects must adhere to our core values, which are to:

- Ensure the autonomy and self-sufficiency of Cree land users over time.
- Promote and enhance the passing of traditional Cree knowledge to future generations.
- Maximize the benefits for as many Cree people as possible.
- Promote and enhance the continued use of lands impacted by hydroelectric development.

By observing these core values in the proposal approval process, projects and activities funded by Niskamoon become models for future development in the region. Development can occur without compromising the integrity of Cree culture, traditional land rights, or future economic development.



OPERATING BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE CREE NATION GOVERNMENT

The Niskamoon Corporation approved a total operating budget of \$3,536,775 for the financial year of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017. This amount is drawn from the funds managed or controlled by the Corporation in accordance with the provisions of Sub-section 3.7.2 of the Niskamoon Agreement.

As the Niskamoon Corporation represents the arm of the Cree Nation Government (CNG) in relations with Hydro-Québec, the Corporation maintains a close working relationship with the CNG through an administrative agreement.



NISKAMOON COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

On September 1, 2004, the Niskamoon Corporation signed nine community contribution agreements with each of the Cree communities: the Cree Nation of Chisasibi; the Whapmagoostui First Nation; the Cree Nation of Wemindji; the Eastmain Band; the Waswanipi Band; the Cree Nation of Nemaska; the Crees of the Waskaganish First Nation; the Cree Nation of Mistissini; and the Oujé-Bougoumou Cree Nation.

These agreements were renewed in June 2006 and are automatically renewed and indexed on an annual basis thereafter. In 2016-2017, in accordance with these agreements, the Niskamoon Corporation paid an amount equal to \$101,884 for the services of a Local Coordinator for each of the nine Cree communities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Niskamoon Board of Directors consists of eight people appointed by members of Niskamoon Corporation, namely, from the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree Nation Government. Please note that while Hydro-Québec is not a member of the Corporation, it recommends three Directors to the Board.

DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY THE CORPORATION:



VIOLET PACHANOS
President



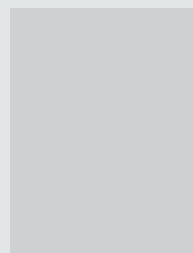
KENNETH GILPIN
Vice-President



DR. MATTHEW
COON COME



PAUL JOHN
MURDOCH



MATTHEW
WAPACHEE

DIRECTORS RECOMMENDED BY HYDRO-QUÉBEC:



RÉAL COURCELLES



MATHIEU BOUCHER



DANIEL LAUZON

NISKAMOON CORPORATION STAFF



MATHEW SWALLOW
Treasurer



KEVIN ROUSSEL
Corporate Secretary



ROBBIE TAPIATIC
Director, Remedial
Works



MARC DUNN
Director,
Environment



DIANE THIBAULT
Director, Training &
Employment



DANIEL BERNIER
Director, Finance



CYNTHIA TAYLOR
Communication & Archiving/
Database Officer



LINDA CORSTON
Executive Assistant



SHIRLEY CHISKAMISH
Administrative Assistant



LOUISE TANOUSH
Accountant



NOREEN MOAR
Compliance Officer



DIANE MOAR
Administrative
Assistant



COLETTE ALLEN
Employment Skills &
Competencies Development
Counsellor



SHAWNESSY JACKO
Coordinator,
Student Support
Measures



CAROLINE PEPIN-ROY
Student Life Animator



SERGE CHARLEBOIS
Employment Skills
& Competencies
Development
Counselor



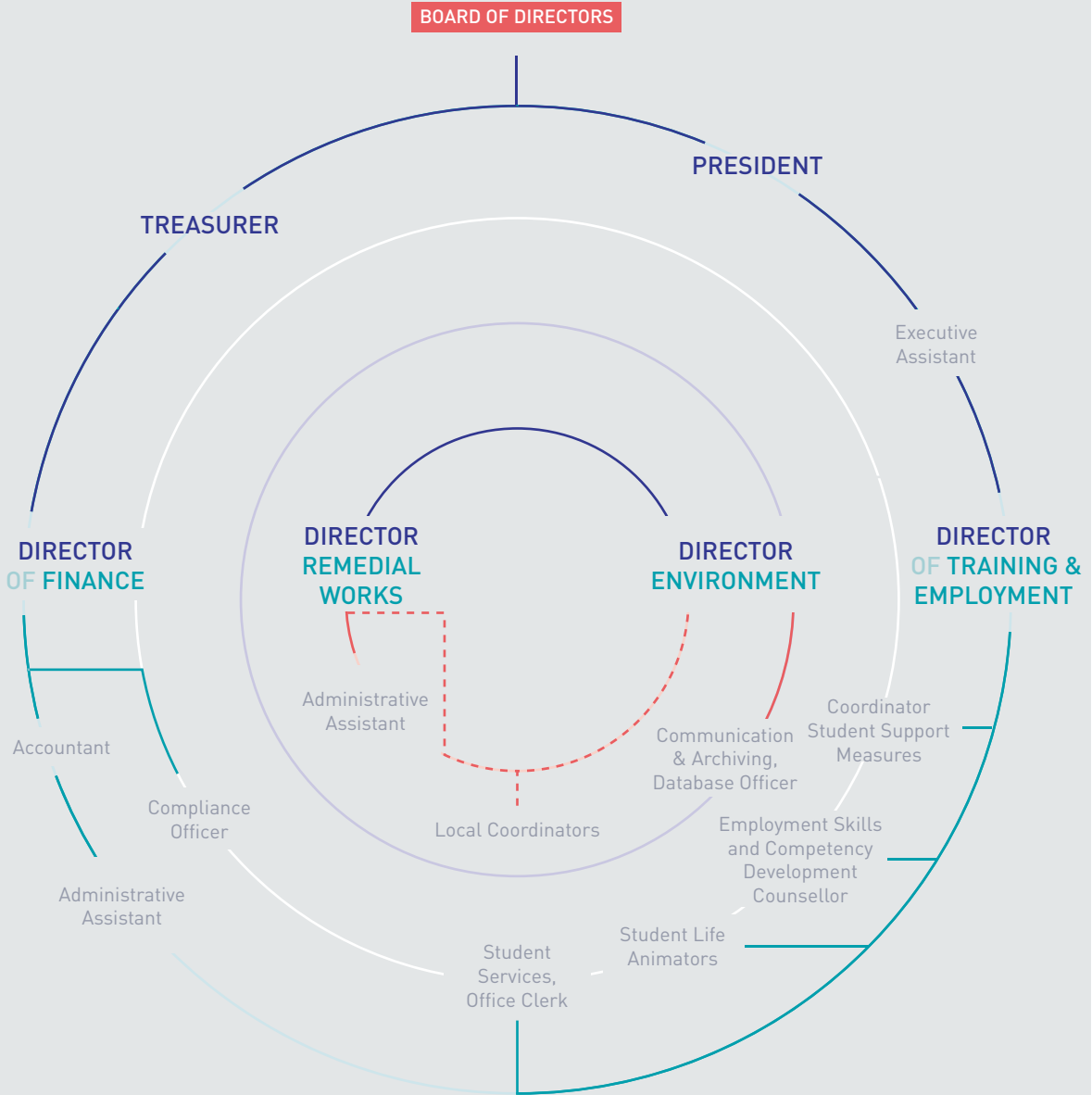
JULIE SYLVESTRE
Student Services and
Office Clerk



JACKIE KISTABISH
Student Life Animator



NISKAMOON ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



CALENDAR 2016-2017

APRIL 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Val-D'or

JULY 2016

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JUNE 2016

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Saint-Sauveur

JULY 2016

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AUGUST 2016

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SEPTEMBER 2016

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Waskaganish

- Deadline for the local coordinators to submit the proposals (3 weeks prior to board meeting)
- Deadline for the regional coordinators to send the list of proposals to be tabled at the upcoming board meeting (1 week prior to board meeting)
- Meeting of the board of directors of the Niskamoon corporation
- Holiday

OCTOBER 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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NOVEMBER 2016

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DECEMBER 2016

Montreal

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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JANUARY 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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MARCH 2017

Mistissini

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Managed Funds

HYDRO-QUÉBEC AND EYYOU FUND

The Hydro-Québec and Eeyou Fund was established in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between Hydro-Québec and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee ("HQ-Eeyou Agreement"). The Fund consists of an annual contribution of \$7,000,000 (in 2004 dollars) paid by Hydro-Québec.

The Fund is designed to provide long-term funding in response to the impact of the La Grande Complex on the activities, economy, environment, and social well-being of the Crees. The Fund will continue to exist as long as the La Grande Complex is in operation. In accordance with sub-section 4.3 of the HQ-Eeyou Agreement, the contribution of Hydro-Québec to the Fund for the financial year 2016-2017 was \$8,627,594.

CREE EMPLOYMENT FUND

The Cree Employment Fund was created in accordance with the Cree Employment Agreement. While the Fund is held and disbursed by Hydro-Québec, it is subject to the control of the Niskamoon Corporation.

The Cree Employment Fund is primarily designed to provide funding to the Technical Employment with Hydro-Québec (TEHQ) Program.

Hydro-Québec's contribution to the Cree Employment Fund for the financial year 2016-2017, which is its final one, was \$5,909,900.



NADOSHTIN AGREEMENT AND FUNDS

The Nadoshtin Agreement was created to safeguard the rights of the Cree and provide them with certain benefits in connection with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Eastmain-1 Project.

The Agreement calls for environmental, remedial, and mitigating measures designed to reduce the negative impacts of the Project – particularly on the populations of Eastmain, Mistissini, Nemaska, and Waskaganish - and allocates compensation where appropriate.

The Agreement enabled the management of road access and use of fish and wildlife resources during the Project's construction phase and continues to do so during its operating phase.

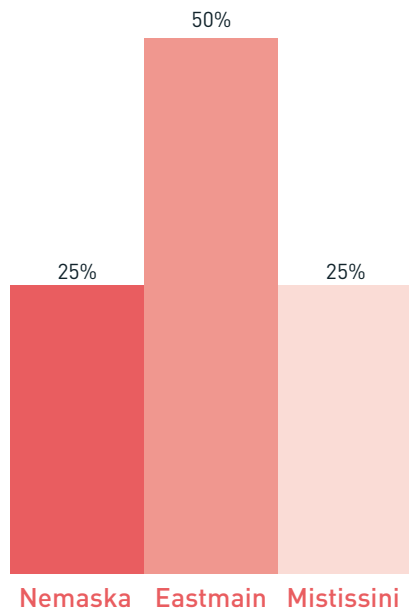
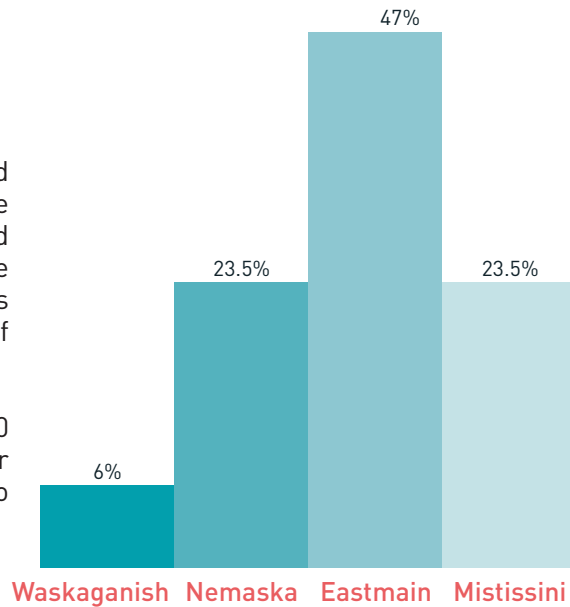
In addition, the Agreement fosters increasing community development through Project-related contracts, employment, and training opportunities for Cree individuals and businesses.

Two funds were created to support the aims of the Nadoshtin Agreement: the Nadoshtin Remedial Measures Fund and the Nadoshtin Eenou Indohoun Fund.

The Nadoshtin Remedial Measures Fund

The Nadoshtin Remedial Measures Fund was established to address the negative impacts of the Eastmain-1 Project. The Fund is designed to enable Crees living in the impacted area to pursue traditional activities and enhance the quality and productivity of environmental and biological resources.

The Fund's initial endowment was \$18,000,000 (in 2002 dollars), which is to be disbursed over a period of 15 years. The Fund is allocated to target communities as follows:



The Nadoshtin Eenou Indohoun Fund

The Nadoshtin Eenou Indohoun Fund was created to foster opportunities for the trappers of Eastmain, Mistissini, and Nemaska directly affected by the Eastmain-1 Project. The Fund promotes traditional activities and provides the means to mitigate the effects of the Project. Its initial endowment was \$3,900,000 (in 2002 dollars), and funds are allocated as shown in the table on the left.

BOUMHOUNAN AGREEMENT AND FUNDS

The Boumhounan Agreement was created to address the impacts of the Eastmain-1-A Rupert River Partial Diversion and La Sarcelle Project.

Three funds were created to support the aims of the Boumhounan Agreement: the Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund; the Boumhounan Eenu Indohoun Fund; and the Boumhounan Eastmain-1-A Rupert Mercury Fund.

Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund

The Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund is designed to promote environmental and remedial works as a means of mitigating the negative impacts of the Eastmain-1-A Rupert River Partial Diversion and La Sarcelle Project. In so doing, it enables the Cree to pursue their traditional activities in the areas affected by the Project. The Fund's initial endowment was \$32,000,000 (in 2002 dollars).

Boumhounan Eenu Indohoun Fund

The Boumhounan Eenu Indohoun Fund is similar to the Nadoshtin Eenu Indohoun Fund in that it is designed to create opportunities for the trappers of Eastmain, Mistissini, Nemaska, Waskaganish, and Wemindji directly affected by the Eastmain-1-A Rupert River Partial Diversion and La Sarcelle Project. Moreover, it promotes traditional activities and provides the means to mitigate the effects of the Project. The Fund's initial endowment was \$3,900,000 (in 2002 dollars).

The directly impacted traplines by community are as follows:

COMMUNITY	TRAPLINES
Eastmain	RE 1 • VC 34 • VC 35 • VC 37
Mistissini	M 18 • M 25 • M 26 • M 33
Nemaska	N 23 • N 24 • N 24A • N 25 • R 16 • R 17 • R 18 • R 19 • R 20 • R 21
Waskaganish	N 1 • N 2 • N 9 • R 4 • R 5 • R 11 • R 12 • R 13
Wemindji	VC 20 • VC 21 • VC 22 • VC 23 • VC 28



Opimiscow Indocho Fund

The Opimiscow Indocho Fund was established through the Opimiscow Agreement and is designed to support various types of activities and programs, including:

- Trappers' cabins
- Communications infrastructure
- Trapline management
- Self-insurance plans
- Transportation
- Traditional practices

The Fund consists of annual contributions of \$500,000 (in 1994 dollars) paid by Hydro-Québec to the Niskamoon Corporation on the first working day of every year until 2043.

The annual payment for 2016-2017 was \$753,231, allocated as follows:


COMMUNITY	PERCENTAGES	AMOUNT
Chisasibi	70	\$527,262
Wemindji	30	\$225,969



THE RE-APPROPRIATION AND CONTINUED USE PROGRAM

During the Grand Council of the Crees (GCC-EI) Annual General Assembly held in Waskaganish in the summer of 2012, the Agreement Regarding the Re-appropriation and Continued Use of the Area Affected by the EM-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert Diversion Project was signed between the Grand Council of the Crees (Québec) and Hydro-Québec. This Agreement creates, among others, the Re-appropriation and Continued Use Fund: it is designed to address the human impacts of the EM-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert Diversion project for as long as the Rupert River is partially diverted. The Niskamoon Corporation officially adopted the Agreement by Resolution 1213-118 in August 2012.

The Agreement is based on the principle of continued partnership between Hydro-Québec and the Cree communities directly impacted by the Rupert River Partial Diversion. It aims to provide remedial action in response to the project's long-term human impacts. Funds are destined for land users and communities to foster the continued use of areas affected by the project, in particular the Rupert River below the Rupert Dam and the Rupert Diversion Bays. The funds are spent according to users' own identification of measures needed to cope with the impacts of the project. The results of the environmental follow-



up program (presented through the Monitoring Committee) are also taken into consideration. Finally, it should be noted that Hydro-Québec remains responsible for addressing the bio-physical impacts of the project, and this over the entire project lifetime.

The Re-appropriation Agreement also provides a mechanism by which the many obligations, guarantees, and conditions of authorization can be jointly assessed by the parties at regular intervals. In addition, there are a number of these same conditions for which the Cree party, through the Niskamoon Corporation in close collaboration with the affected communities, assumes responsibility for the implementation of programs.

The Re-appropriation and Continued Use Agreement includes the creation of three funds to carry out obligations and address the various impacts of the project identified in the Agreement. These funds are outlined below.


1. The Continued Use and Re-appropriation Fund

The Continued Use and Re-appropriation Fund consists of \$2,750,000 indexed from 2012 for projects, works, studies, programs, and remedial and enhancement measures within the affected territory in accordance with the following principles:

- Allow for the continued use and re-appropriation of the territory
- Promote and facilitate the pursuit of traditional activities by Cree land users
- Direct funds to projects that promote traditional fisheries, the passing on of traditional knowledge about fishing, and the adaptation of traditional fishing methods
- Contribute to the regeneration and a better understanding of wildlife habitat
- Promote sustainability

Hydro-Québec's contribution to the Continued Use and Re-appropriation Fund for the 2016/2017 fiscal year was \$2,903,670.

Specific processes have been put forward by Niskamoon Corporation to gather requests and complaints from land users. This includes communication channels directly involving community Monitoring Committee representatives as well as Local Coordinators, to identify requests and complaints directly from land users. In addition, regional representatives meet regularly with land users from each of the traplines impacted by the project during the joint Niskamoon-Hydro-Québec Tours.

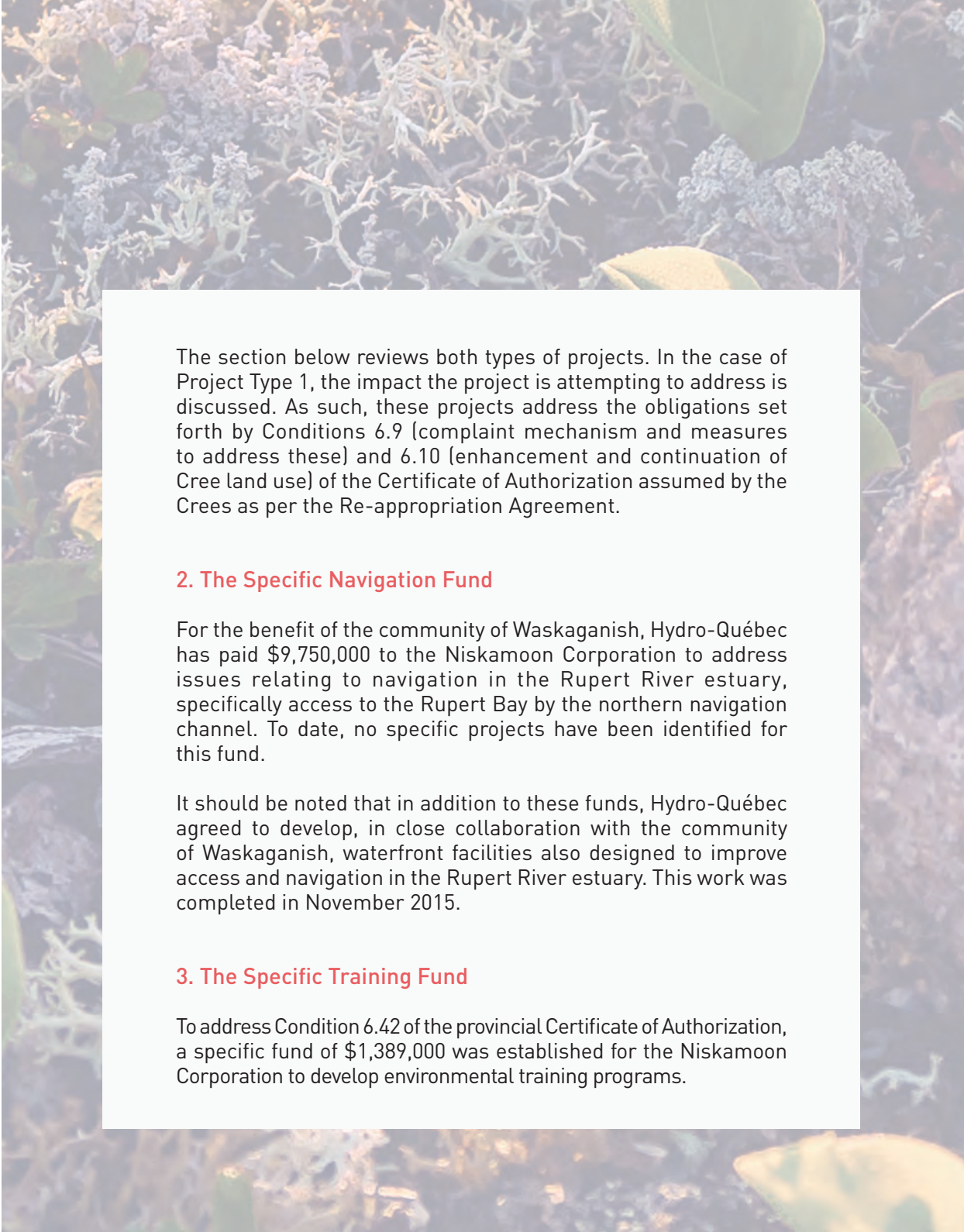


During these meetings, participants review and refine short and long-term land use plans in accordance with the measures they wish to carry out. New impacts associated with the project are identified and categorized, with efforts made to come up with joint solutions to remedy the problems. This process ensures a role for land users in the identification of potential solutions when problems identified are related to human impacts from the project. It should be noted that in 2016, an online platform was created by which the notes from these meetings can be shared online in real time with all stakeholders (Niskamoon Interactive Consultation Database – “NICD”).

On the other hand, Hydro-Québec, within the framework of its operation activities, meet regularly with community members and land users. Requests and complaints are often brought to their attention during such meetings. While some are dealt with directly by Hydro-Québec, in the case of issues related to human impacts from the project, and following a joint Cree-Hydro-Québec review, these are forwarded to Niskamoon to be addressed. In such cases, the issue is re-visited in the company of land users during the Niskamoon-Hydro-Québec Tour.

Numerous projects funded through the Re-appropriation funds are a direct result of this consultation process. Projects that directly involve traplines can be identified as one of two types:

- 1 Projects that directly address a human impact of the project identified by land users and confirmed by regional and local representatives.
- 2 Projects that enhance Cree land use of affected areas, thereby ensuring their continued use with future generations.



The section below reviews both types of projects. In the case of Project Type 1, the impact the project is attempting to address is discussed. As such, these projects address the obligations set forth by Conditions 6.9 (complaint mechanism and measures to address these) and 6.10 (enhancement and continuation of Cree land use) of the Certificate of Authorization assumed by the Crees as per the Re-appropriation Agreement.

2. The Specific Navigation Fund

For the benefit of the community of Waskaganish, Hydro-Québec has paid \$9,750,000 to the Niskamoon Corporation to address issues relating to navigation in the Rupert River estuary, specifically access to the Rupert Bay by the northern navigation channel. To date, no specific projects have been identified for this fund.

It should be noted that in addition to these funds, Hydro-Québec agreed to develop, in close collaboration with the community of Waskaganish, waterfront facilities also designed to improve access and navigation in the Rupert River estuary. This work was completed in November 2015.

3. The Specific Training Fund

To address Condition 6.42 of the provincial Certificate of Authorization, a specific fund of \$1,389,000 was established for the Niskamoon Corporation to develop environmental training programs.

The background of the page is a close-up photograph of a forest floor. It features a dense carpet of moss in various shades of green and brown. Interspersed among the moss are several plants with large, rounded, green leaves and some with small, reddish-brown flowers. The lighting is soft and natural, highlighting the textures of the moss and the vibrant colors of the plants.

RE-APPROPRIATION AND CONTINUED USE PROGRAM

The Niskamoon Corporation has the mandate to administer programs related to the Re-appropriation and Continued Use Agreement and report on the funding at the end of each year in its annual report. Projects funded under the new Fund are summarized in the following pages.

Projects funded under the Continued Use and Re-appropriation Funds are presented according to the specific issues that they are meant to address, including those done directly by Cree land users as a result of the consultation process presented in the previous section. It should be noted that many projects stem from specific assurances, guarantees, and conditions of authorization assumed by the Cree party according to Schedule 4.1 of the Agreement. These are noted in each sub-section below.

FUNDED PROJECTS 2016

This section outlines the different projects funded by broad category. The conditions that the projects cover and the resolution numbers for each individual project are provided. Finally, a short text is provided describing the projects and outcomes to date, where applicable.

Smokey Hill Traditional Fishing Site

Conditions 5.21, 5.22, 5.23; Boumhounan Agreement Section 4.2(c)

Resolution 1617-094 – Waskaganish – Construction of Scooping Weir – North Shore

Resolution 1617-095 – Waskaganish – Construction of Scooping Weir – South Shore

These projects encompass the work carried out at Smokey Hill prior to fishing to ensure that the sites are ready to receive people during the traditional fishery, including re-construction of fishing sites on both sides of the rapids.

Resolution 1617-057 – Waskaganish – Log Harvesting for Cabins

Resolution 1617-096 – Waskaganish – Log Cabins Project – South Shore

Resolution 1617-203 – Waskaganish – Ground Improvement – Smokey Hill – North Shore

Resolution 1617-165 – Waskaganish – Installation of a Dock – Smokey Hill

These works are carried out to continuously improve the sites around Smokey Hill to promote its continued use by community members. In 2016, permanent log cabins were built on the south shore of Smokey Hill, both at the landing area (Gravel Pit) as well as at the Rapids. The project employed traditional methods to harvest logs for the cabins. On the north shore, works were carried out at the Cowboy family camp to improve drainage, thereby permitting more intense use by community members. In addition, a new dock was built to accommodate visitors.



Resolution 1617-130 – Waskaganish – Smokey Hill Gathering

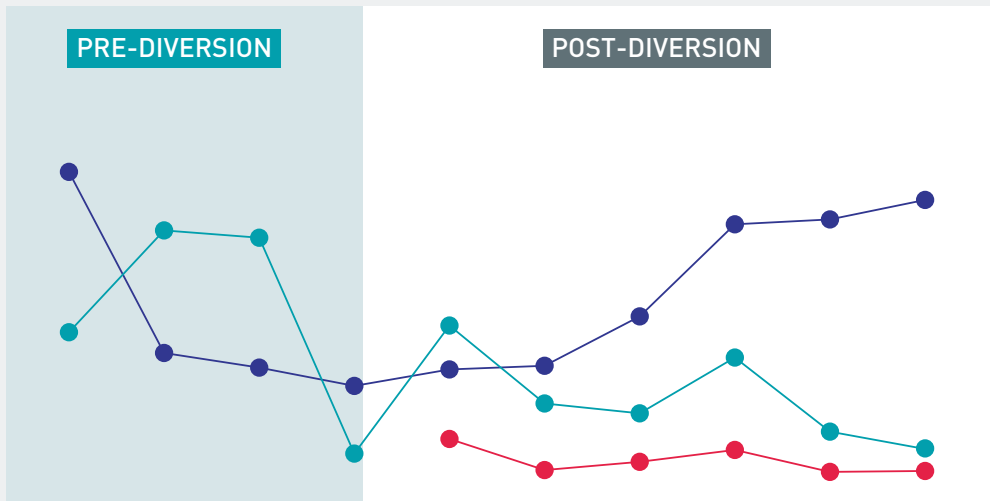
As in previous years, a gathering was organized by the Waskaganish Cultural Department during the fishing season at Smokey Hill. The gathering is an effective means of getting community members to the Smokey Hill site. This event was once again supported in part by Niskamoon Corporation.

Resolution 1617-090 - Waskaganish – Smokey Hill Community Fishing 2016

As in previous years, a community fishing project was carried out during the cisco migration in fall 2016. The program focuses on training youth in the harvesting, cleaning, preparing and cooking of fish and their various parts employing traditional methods. Two groups were trained during the fishing season. The overall catch is presented below. The 2016 program had its share of logistical challenges, but overall the training objectives of the program were achieved. The report has been filed and the project is now closed.

Resolution 1617-091 – Waskaganish – Voluntary Cisco Registry 2016

Local youth were hired to monitor the cisco catch, which was reported on a voluntary basis both by participants of the community fishing project as well as community members fishing on their own accord. Results from 2016 resemble those compiled in 2015, with 15,918 cisco caught by Waskaganish fishermen. The vast majority of fish were caught by gill nets (86%). Since the partial diversion of the Rupert River, an approximate average of 14,500 cisco are caught every fall, compared with an average that surpassed 20,000 prior to the diversion. The main factor in the decrease of fishing success is the lowered catch rate by scooping (dipnet fishing) in the rapids. The following chart presents catch results since the inception of the registry program.



2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
15 135	7 798	7 344	5 991	6 436	6 484	8 701	12 691	12 693	13 619
8 146	12 289	12 282	1 232	8 312	4 794	3 793	6 969	3 449	2 010
				1 743	310	948	1 434	164	289

● Gill Nets ● Scooping ● Other Techniques (Cast Net, Seine)

Resolution 1617-134 – Waskaganish – Boat Landing Works – Kapeshi Bay

This work is carried out at KP49 – Kapeshi Bay – to offer an alternative fishing site to the community. Works allow for greater use by community members. They are carried out in close collaboration with the tallyman for N-1 trapline.

Note that the reports for all projects related to Smokey Hill have been completed and the projects are now all closed.

Lake Sturgeon Harvesting

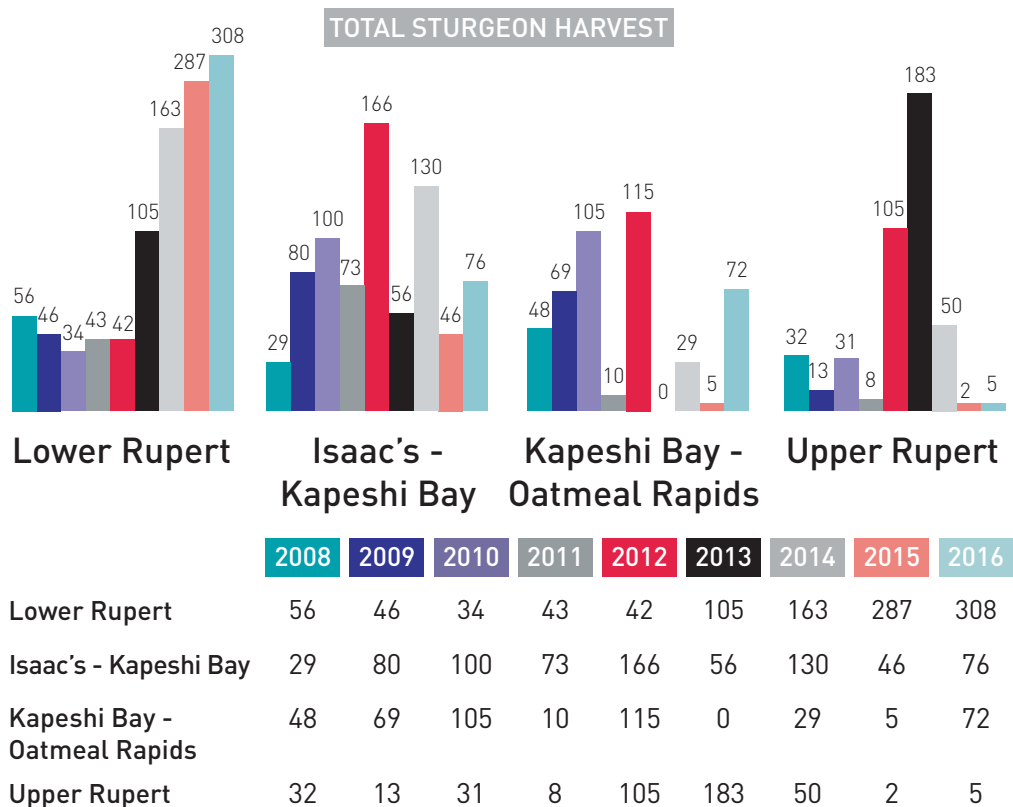
Condition 5.26; Boumhounan Agreement Section 4.2(c)

Resolution 1617-023 – Nemaska – Genawmee Fishing Project

This project consist of fishing training programs intended to evaluate changes in the sturgeon population along the Rupert River at the inlet of Lake Nemiscau. The final report for this project has been filed and the project is closed. The project trained five Nemaska residents, including one individual who is now able to fish on his own thanks to the lessons learned from the project.

Resolution 1617-092 – Waskaganish - Voluntary Registration of Lake Sturgeon Catches, 2016

A total of 461 lake sturgeon were caught along the Rupert River in Waskaganish territory. This is an increase compared with previous years, and the highest total since the registry program was established in 2008. For the second year in a row, the majority of sturgeon (67%) were caught in the lower Rupert River area, near Smokey Hill. Fishing effort is fairly evenly spread out between spring (spawning), summer and fall. Catch totals are fairly low in other zones of the river, suggesting that sturgeon fishing effort is returning to trends observed prior to the diversion, when the majority of fish were caught in the same area.





Cree Fisheries Rejuvenation and Enhancement

Conditions 6.5 & 6.10

Resolution 1617-206 – Nemaska – Winter Fishery Program

This project seeks to train youth in traditional fishing techniques. Emphasis is placed on training future land users, such that the entire process of fishing is taught, from maintaining a camp to locating important fishing areas to preparing and cooking harvested fish.

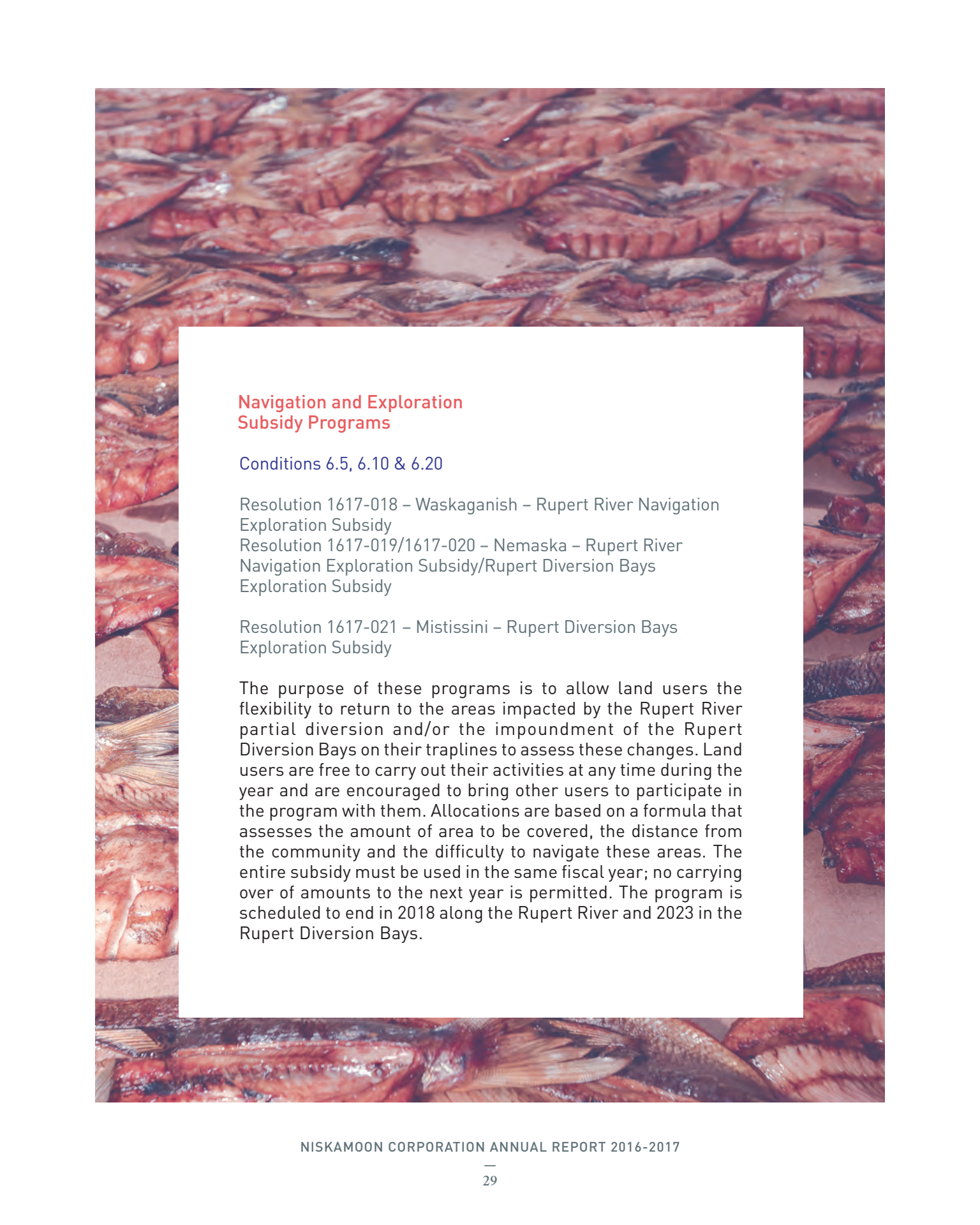
Canoe Brigades

Condition 6.18

Resolution 1617-009 – Waskaganish - Youth Canoe Brigade

Resolution 1617-086 – Mistissini – Youth Canoe Brigade

The Waskaganish canoe brigade traveled along the Rupert River in 2016, while the Mistissini brigade traveled around Mistissini Lake. The objectives of these programs are to instill land-based experience for youth as well as the different skills required to carry out long journeys while tracing the footsteps of their ancestors.



Navigation and Exploration Subsidy Programs

Conditions 6.5, 6.10 & 6.20

Resolution 1617-018 – Waskaganish – Rupert River Navigation
Exploration Subsidy

Resolution 1617-019/1617-020 – Nemaska – Rupert River
Navigation Exploration Subsidy/Rupert Diversion Bays
Exploration Subsidy

Resolution 1617-021 – Mistissini – Rupert Diversion Bays
Exploration Subsidy

The purpose of these programs is to allow land users the flexibility to return to the areas impacted by the Rupert River partial diversion and/or the impoundment of the Rupert Diversion Bays on their traplines to assess these changes. Land users are free to carry out their activities at any time during the year and are encouraged to bring other users to participate in the program with them. Allocations are based on a formula that assesses the amount of area to be covered, the distance from the community and the difficulty to navigate these areas. The entire subsidy must be used in the same fiscal year; no carrying over of amounts to the next year is permitted. The program is scheduled to end in 2018 along the Rupert River and 2023 in the Rupert Diversion Bays.

Navigation along Reduced Flow Sector of the Rupert River

Condition 6.10 & 6.20; Boumhounan Agreement Section 4.2(f)

Resolution 1617-093 – Waskaganish – Channel Markers and Aachikuukaan Program (buoys in Rupert River estuary)
Resolution 1617-097/1617-133 – Waskaganish – Waterfront Enhancement

This project involves the construction of temporary infrastructure built by the community during the open water period to indicate navigation channels in different

parts of the lower Rupert River, the Rupert River estuary and Rupert Bay. Small inflatable buoys are installed between KP20 and KP10 of the river (roughly between the rock blanket below Smokey Hill and the first rapids) and between the first rapids and the community. Large navigation buoys are installed between KP1 and KP4, consisting of red and green buoys, to mark the main navigation channel into Rupert River from Rupert Bay. Finally, wooden post channel markers with small reflectors are installed in Rupert Bay, as well as at the mouth of the Pontax, Broadback and Nottaway Rivers. With regards to the waterfront enhancement work, this is related to work carried out in 2014-2015 to improve navigation conditions during periods of low tide for coastal land users in Waskaganish. Works carried out in 2016 were to bring minor corrections to the original works as well as to enhance areas with new boat racks and general landscaping.

The channel markers and buoys program in 2016 was carried out effectively as technicians have developed a certain expertise with this work over the years. The final report has been filed and the project is now closed.



Monitoring of Ice Conditions

Conditions 6.10 & 6.14; Boumhounan Agreement Section 4.1(b)

Resolution 1617-204 – Waskaganish – Ice Monitoring Program

In 2016, Waskaganish continued its ice monitoring program, which is carried out mainly at freeze-up and spring thaw. Because use of the Rupert River, estuary and Rupert Bay is so extensive by the community, the program covers most areas where community members go to ensure safe land use, particularly in spring.

Trapline Projects to Address Specific Human Impacts

Condition 6.9 & 6.10

Resolution 1617-017 – Waskaganish – Moose Survey

This project was developed by the local Monitoring Committee representative in response to concerns raised by Elders with regards to the high hunting rates by hunters in the area adjacent to Waskaganish. Among factors raised was the presence of access roads to the hydraulic structures along the Rupert River that has further opened up the territory to increased harvesting. The survey will apply standard inventory methods, in the presence of tallymen for them to assess

for themselves the abundance of the local moose population. The survey must be carried out late in the fall, when snow is on the ground, to be effective.

Resolution 1617-041 – Nemaska – Trapline N-24 – Goose Corridor

This project is a continuation of a series of projects carried out on N-24 trapline to improve goose hunting conditions in the southern part of the trapline along the Marten River as a result of deterioration of hunting following the opening of the spring instream flow along the Rupert River. The family has now transferred part of their activity to this part of the trapline once the instream flow is activated. To date, this second hunting area following the activation of the instream flow seems to be effective. The project has been completed and the project is now closed.

Resolution 1617-154 – Nemaska – Trapline N-25 – Beaver Lodge Restoration

This project was developed in response to an observation by the tallyman for trapline N-24 that beaver have been slow to re-colonize streams that empty into the upper Rupert River. The idea of the project is to construct a partial dam that would attract a beaver by the noise of moving water. Land users will create an artificial food pile nearby to entice the beavers to stay in the area. This technique was used traditionally to attract beaver to an area.

Resolution 1617-155 – Nemaska – Various Traplines – Driveway Improvements

This project combines numerous sites that have been raised by land users as safety concerns because they are forced to park their vehicles along the side of major roadways. Small driveways will be built to allow land users to access their camps safely.

Resolution 1617-174 – Mistissini – M-18 – Auclair Road Cleanup and Communal Boat Ramp

This project encompasses works to be carried out at the end of the Auclair Road, which connects the Route du Nord with the Eastmain River in the up-river portion of the EM-1 Reservoir. The main site has deteriorated as a result of extensive work carried out as part of the EM-1 project, as well as its location as the main drop-off point for land users traveling north of the Eastmain River. A communal boat ramp has been constructed to allow better access to land users accessing these northern lands.

Resolution 1617-022 – Cree Nation Government – Various Traplines – Extension of Mandate for Weh-Sees Indohoun

As a result of numerous concerns raised by affected communities, the Cree Nation Government, through the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Co-ordinating Committee, agreed to extend the mandate of the special wildlife management measures in the area defined as the Weh-Sees Indohoun sector. Monitors were hired and were based out of Nemaska.



Trapline Projects to Enhance and Promote Continued Use of Impacted Lands

Conditions 6.10

Resolution 1617-132 – Waskaganish – Trapline N-1 – Goose Pond

Objective: To improve goose hunting areas used by the Katapatuk family on N-1.

Resolution 1617-211 – Waskaganish – Trapline N-2 – Snowmobile Trail

Resolution 1617-212 – Waskaganish – Trapline N-2 – Trail maintenance

Objective: To provide access to western and southern portion of trapline.

Resolution 1617-111 – Waskaganish – Trapline N-9 – Hunting Trails

Objective: To provide access to shoreline of Rupert Bay for goose hunting in spring. This area is used by many community members for spring hunting.

Resolution 1617-163 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-4 – Snowmobile Trail

Objective: Trail connecting Poplar Point to Pontax River along Rupert Bay to be better protected from the wind. Note that travel in this area is difficult due to low water conditions as a result of the partial diversion.

Resolution 1617-164 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-5 – Snowmobile Trail

Objective: To access northeast side of trapline.

Resolution 1617-162 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-11 – Snowmobile Trail

Resolution 1617-166 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-11 – Trans-Eeyou Istchee Trail

Objective: Two trails, one to connect Kapeshe Bay to Smokey Hill while the other trail crosses the entire trapline from west to east, as part of the Trans-Eeyou Istchee Regional multi-purpose trail.

Resolution 1617-167 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-13 – ATV Trail

Resolution 1617-213 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-13 – Snowmobile Trail

Resolution 1617-214 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-13 – Snowmobile Trail

Resolution 1617-215 – Waskaganish – Trapline R-13 – Snowmobile Trail

Objective: Numerous trails to connect different camps within the trapline as well as to important hunting grounds used in the spring, including after snow melts.

Resolution 1617-040 – Nemaska – Trapline N-23 – Goose Pond

Objective: To improve goose hunting areas for users near Waskaganish turnoff (Lake Mezeres and Lac du Poisson Blanc).

Resolution 1617-042 – Nemaska – Trapline N-24A – Boat docking

Resolution 1617-210 – Nemaska – Trapline N-24A – Snowmobile Trails

Objective: To facilitate use of Rupert River for land users (dock) and to upgrade trails that have not been used in many years but are now important as a result of the partial diversion of the Rupert River.

Resolution 1617-043 – Nemaska – Trapline N-25 – Goose Pond

Resolution 1617-044 – Nemaska – Trapline N-25 – Snowmobile Trails

Objective: To access productive goose hunting areas in the southern part of the trapline.

Resolution 1617-106 – Nemaska – Trapline R-16 – Goose Pond

Objective: To enhance spring hunt especially after opening of doors on Nemiscau control structure.

Resolution 1617-254 – Nemaska – Trapline R-17 – Boat Landing and Dock

Objective: To improve existing boat landing at Jolliet Lake to access the lake in summer when the current area is no longer usable since the bay becomes very shallow. Note that this is an extension from a project carried out in 2015 which involved building a road to access the boat landing spot. A small landing was built at the time to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of this location.



Resolution 1617-045 – Nemaska – Trapline R-18 – Goose Pond

Resolution 1617-046 – Nemaska – Trapline R-18 – Snowmobile Trail

Objective: To improve access to the trapline as well as existing goose ponds to accommodate more users.

Resolution 1617-108 – Nemaska – Trapline R-19 – Wood Recuperation

Objective: To recuperate wood washed on the shores of flooded water bodies for a variety of traditional uses.

Resolution 1617-047 – Nemaska – Trapline R-20 – Snowmobile Trail

Resolution 1617-255 – Nemaska – Trapline R-20 – Boat Ramp

Objective: To permit access to the eastern portion of the trapline during different times of year. The final report for the trail has been filed and the project is now closed. The project has generated a total of 110 person-days.

Resolution 1617-050 – Nemaska – Trapline R-21 – Snowmobile Trails

Resolution 1617-051 – Nemaska – Trapline R-21 – ATV Trail

Resolution 1617-052 – Nemaska – Trapline R-21 – Snowmobile Trail

Resolution 1617-053 – Nemaska – Trapline R-21 – ATV Crossing

Resolution 1617-109 – Nemaska – Trapline R-21 – Driveway

Objective: These different projects aim to improve access at two different sectors of the trapline: the central part of the trapline (Harry Jolly) and eastern part of the trapline (Freddy Jolly).

Resolution 1617-205 – Mistissini – Trapline M-18 – Snow Removal – Auclair Road

Objective: To permit access to the trapline during spring goose hunt season after activation of the spring instream flow along the Nemiscau River.

Resolution 1617-217 – Mistissini – Trapline M-25 – Trails

Objective: To permit access to the eastern portion of the trapline.

The following projects were carried out on multiple traplines for the benefit of a variety of land users, particularly during the spring goose hunt:

Resolution 1617-202 – Waskaganish – Snow Removal along James Bay Highway
Resolution 1617-208 – Nemaska – Snow Removal – Route du Nord

The following projects are for training of youth in traditional pursuits:

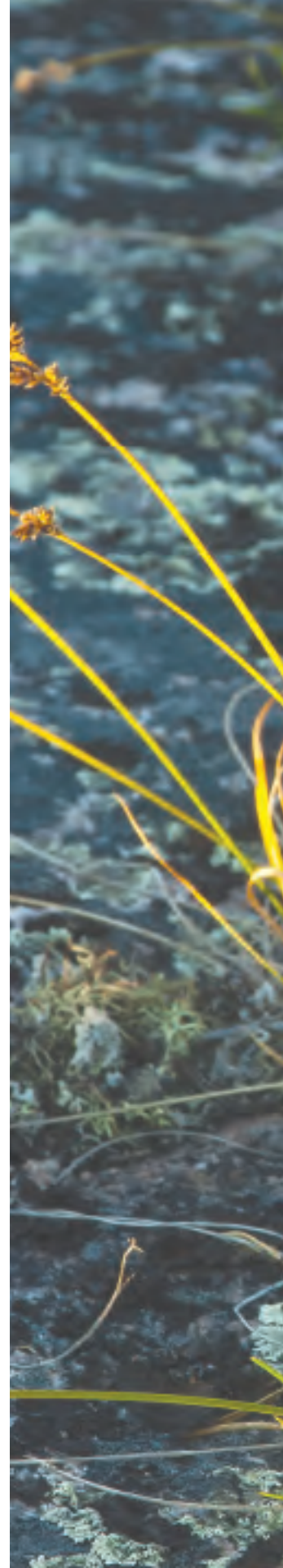
Resolution 1617-198 – Waskaganish – Untuuhuu Winter Program 2017
Resolution 1617-201 – Nemaska – Snowshoe Making
Resolution 1617-243 – Nemaska – Youth Hunting and Trapping Program

Funds were used for the following cultural events, all of which were carried out in impacted lands:

Resolution 1617-199 – Waskaganish – Ashuumiih Winter Journey
Resolution 1617-010 – Nemaska – Old Nemaska Gathering (Report filed and project closed)
Resolution 1617-200 – Nemaska – Winter Journey

Finally, funds were used to support research activities related to Niskamoon's mandate, social acceptability and the Aashukan event.

Resolution 1617-131 – Waskaganish – Hosting of 2017 Aashukan Conference
Resolution 1617-132 – Waskaganish – Cultural Site Preparation – Aashukan Conference
Resolution 1617-127 – Sofiane Baba Research Project – Social Acceptability





Remedial Works Program

The Remedial Works Program is a crucial part of continuing to implement the impact benefit agreements we have signed with Hydro-Québec. Since the beginning of impacts and changes to hunting territories from hydroelectric development, trappers have continued to use the lands and still pass on their traditional knowledge to the youth.

The way the land is used today is changing every year mostly because equipment available to users is also improving with technology. More young people are also starting to use the lands with these new technologies. This will eventually lead to different methods of harvesting

and different activities. In the future, we will need to accommodate their funding requests without veering too drastically away from Niskamoon Corporation criteria.

Remedial works programs will always be there to mitigate the impacts from hydroelectric development. We, the Crees will always find ways to stay connected and we cannot forget we have these impact benefit agreements that can assist us in using and passing on our traditional activities.

The Remedial Works Program is successful because of our dedicated team of Local Coordinators who are based in our communities representing the land users, the trappers and fishermen and women. I am proud to say we have evolved to manage our own needs in facilitating continued use of our lands.

Teach the youth to love the land and they will continue to use the lands and waters!

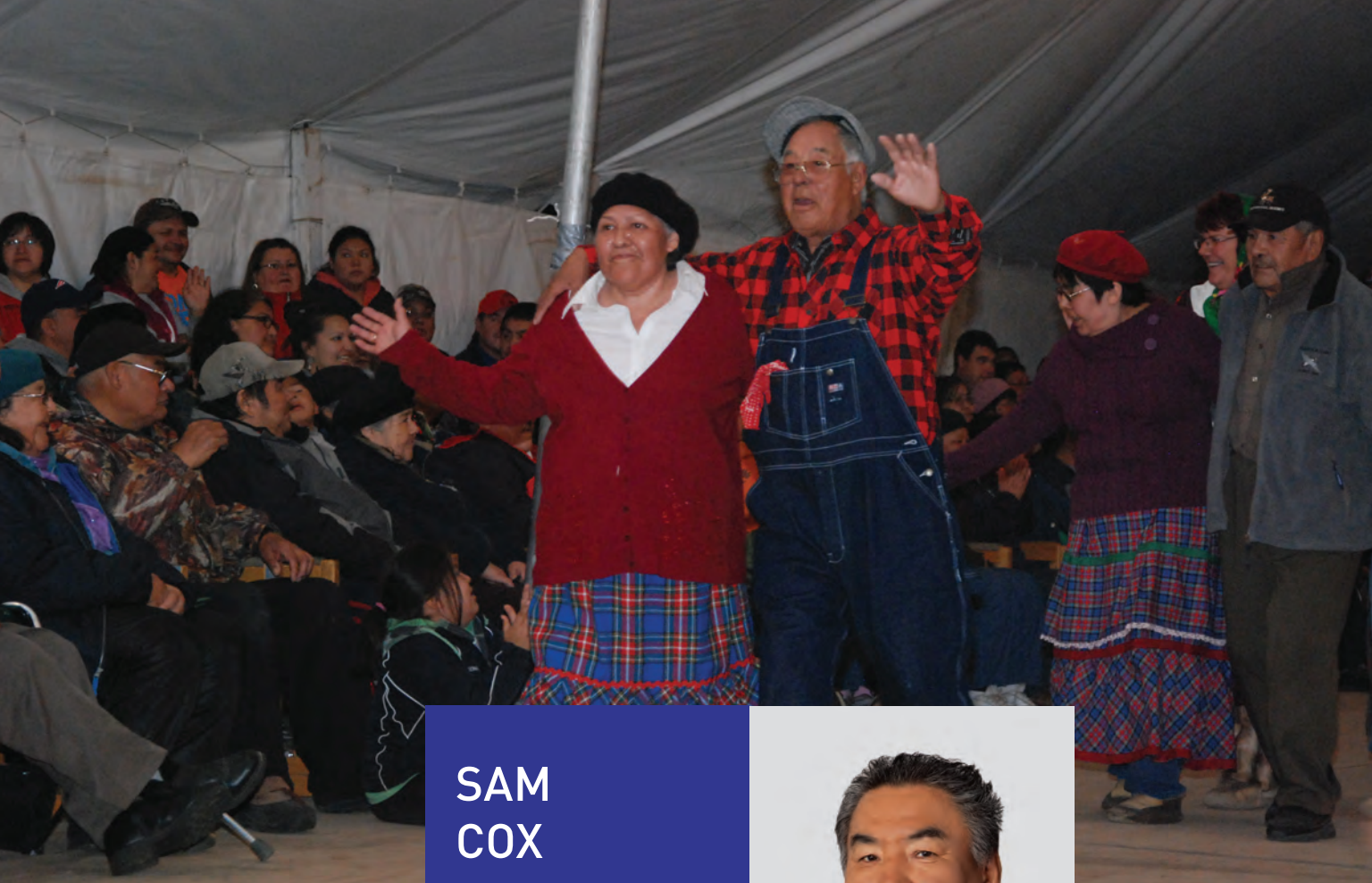
ROBBIE TAPIATIC
Director of Remedial Works





COMMUNITY	PROJECT CATEGORY				TOTAL
	Improvement of Access	Amelioration of Shelter	Elder's Wood Supply	Enhancement of Hunting Conditions and Habitat	
Whapmagoostui					
# of Projects	2		1		3
Budget Allocated	420,808.00		25,000.00		\$445,808.00
Total Employment in Person-days	155	N/A	N/A	N/A	155
Chisasibi					
# of Projects	4		1	12	17
Budget Allocated	1,155,000.00		25,000.00	242,091.00	\$1,422,091.00
Total Employment in Person-days	N/A	N/A	900	755	1,655
Wemindji					
# of Projects	1		1	5	7
Budget Allocated	44,275.00		25,000.00	114,041.00	\$183,316.00
Total Employment in Person-days	N/A	N/A	N/A	330	330
Eastmain					
# of Projects	12		1		13
Budget Allocated	471,966.00		\$25,000.00		\$496,966.00
Total Employment in Person-days	359	N/A	N/A	N/A	359
Waskaganish					
# of Projects	14	3	1	1	19
Budget Allocated	667,483.00	70,440.00	25,000.00	5,900.00	\$768,823.00
Total Employment in Person-days	299	160	72	16	547

COMMUNITY	PROJECT CATEGORY				TOTAL
	Improvement of Access	Amelioration of Shelter	Elder's Wood Supply	Enhancement of Hunting Conditions and Habitat	
Nemaska					
# of Projects	11	12	1	9	33
Budget Allocated	383,831.00	311,787.00	25,000.00	166,700.00	\$887,318.00
Total Employment in Person-days	208	483	90	259	1,040
Waswanipi					
# of Projects	2		1		3
Budget Allocated	80,000.00		25,000.00		\$105,000.00
Total Employment in Person-days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oujé-Bougoumou					
# of Projects	3	2	1	7	13
Budget Allocated	63,687.00	\$40,811.00	25,000.00	\$198,966.00	\$328,464.00
Total Employment in Person-days	28	180	N/A	630	838
Mistissini					
# of Projects	12	12		5	29
Budget Allocated	287,904	424,117.00		97,604.00	\$809,625.00
Total Employment in Person-days	345	874	N/A	256	1,475
Total					
# of Projects	61	29	8	39	137
Budget Allocated	\$3,574,954.00	\$847,155.00	\$200,000.00	\$825,302.00	\$5,447,411.00
Total Employment in Person-days	1,394	1,697	1,062	2,246	6,399



SAM COX

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Chisasibi

My personal highlight of the year would have to be the full implementation of the Niskamoon Information Management System (NIMS). It makes my job as a Local Coordinator easier and I am able to report to Niskamoon quicker. As coordinators, we can now search the status of any given project in our communities.

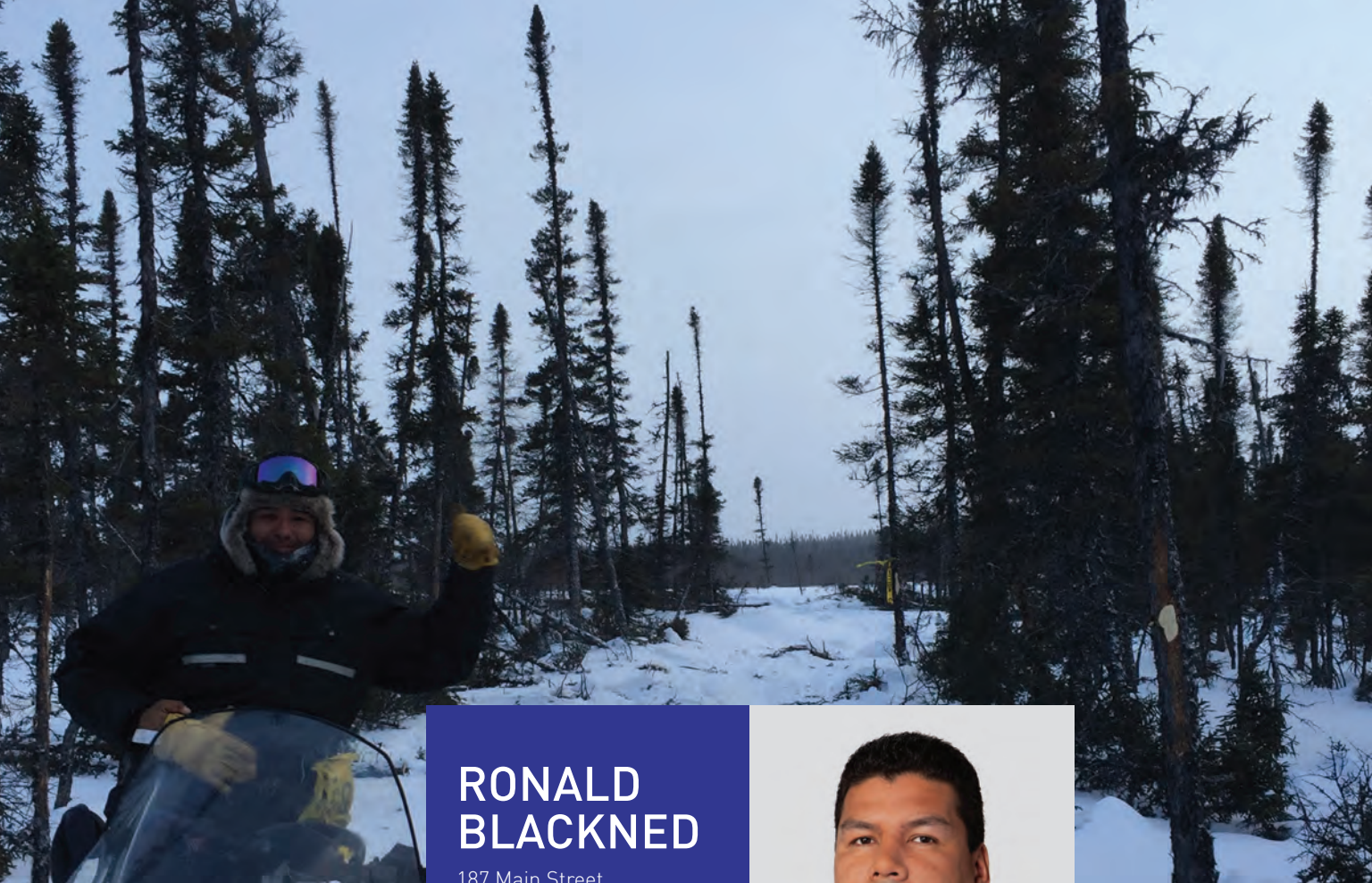
A truly successful annual project would have to be the gathering on Fort George Island which we call Mamoweedow, and is an event that everybody looks forward to every July. It runs about 10-12 days and consists of fun and games for everyone attending this event. Square dancing practically every night till dawn at times, except Sundays. It usually ends with a feast and traditional food on the menu. Anyone can attend this gathering without invitation – all are welcome. It benefits both young and old, no matter the age. It brings back the old days when we used to live on the island before the big move in 1980.



**It benefits both
young and old,
no matter the age.**

This annual cultural event is funded by Niskamoon to the amount of \$50,000.

And for a final note, we are always happy to assist hunters and trappers with projects that could be beneficial to them or the trapline.



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Mistissini

As in previous years, the Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail project was the most popular initiative with the land users that were a part of the project. Land users acknowledge how this project continues to benefit them by improving access to their traplines.

On the other hand, one of the projects funded under Niskamoon which I felt was a worthwhile investment is the Walleye Monitoring Program. This proposal was initiated under the Environment Department within the Cree Nation of Mistissini. The spawning areas studied were Chalifour, Icon and Perch Rivers. The studies were done during the walleye spawning period.



The Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail project was the most popular initiative.

This monitoring study has confirmed that there is some overharvesting of walleye that spawn in these areas near the community. It's very important for the people to be aware of these facts and that they keep conservation in mind when practicing their traditional activities.



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Waskaganish

Wachiya, It is a great privilege once again, for this year's annual report, to write about the projects that were managed and completed through the local Niskamoon office.

The following projects were executed and accomplished successfully by local departments, entities and the local Niskamoon office:

Untuuhuu/Aashuumiih Winter Programs • Traditional Log Harvesting & Log Cabins • Traditional Fishing Programs • Snowmobile Trails • Goose Corridors and Ponds • Monitoring and Navigation of the Rupert River

The above-mentioned projects and programs were monitored and controlled by the local Niskamoon office. Each project was beneficial and was successfully accomplished by the land users and community members. These projects or programs were unique and challenging but despite the various obstacles the goals and objectives were achieved with perseverance and proper project management.

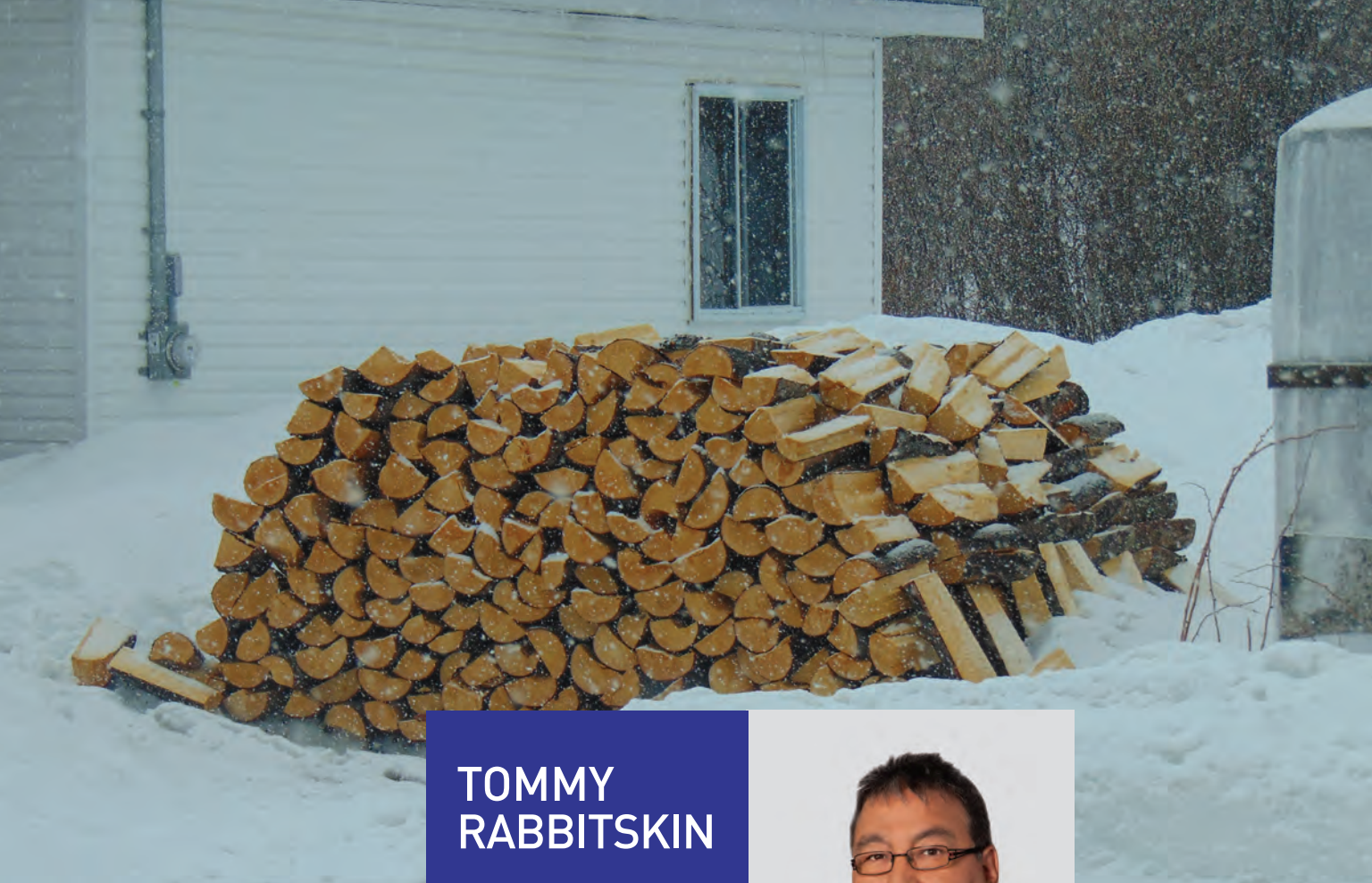


Smokey Hill Fisheries Program

The Smokey Hill Fisheries Program was planned and monitored by Mr. Jack Diamond and Mrs. Doris Small, Sibii Development with the Weistche and Cowboy families. The Smokey Hill Fisheries Program emphasized as a “pass-it-on” practicum guidance training on fishing, how to scoop fish at a traditional site, and preparing, smoking and cooking fish. Youth and young adults were invited to take part in this annual fisheries program and learn about their traditional pursuits on fisheries. The trainers were an experienced tallyman and woman who taught in the fishing program. The Smokey Hill Fisheries Program began towards the end of August and concluded in early October.

The fisheries preparation and training program was developed through the Elders’ traditional knowledge and skill with its “mission to promote, preserve and protect the Cree way of life through training programs”.

There were approximately sixty participants who took part in this training for youth and young adults, including trainers, supervisors and individuals who provided transportation services for the fisheries program. There were forty trainees and elderly instructors who participated in the Smokey Hill Fisheries Program. The fisheries program achieved its training objectives with very positive results. Some of the participants continued to expand their traditional knowledge of fishing and how to prepare smoked fish after the conclusion of the program.



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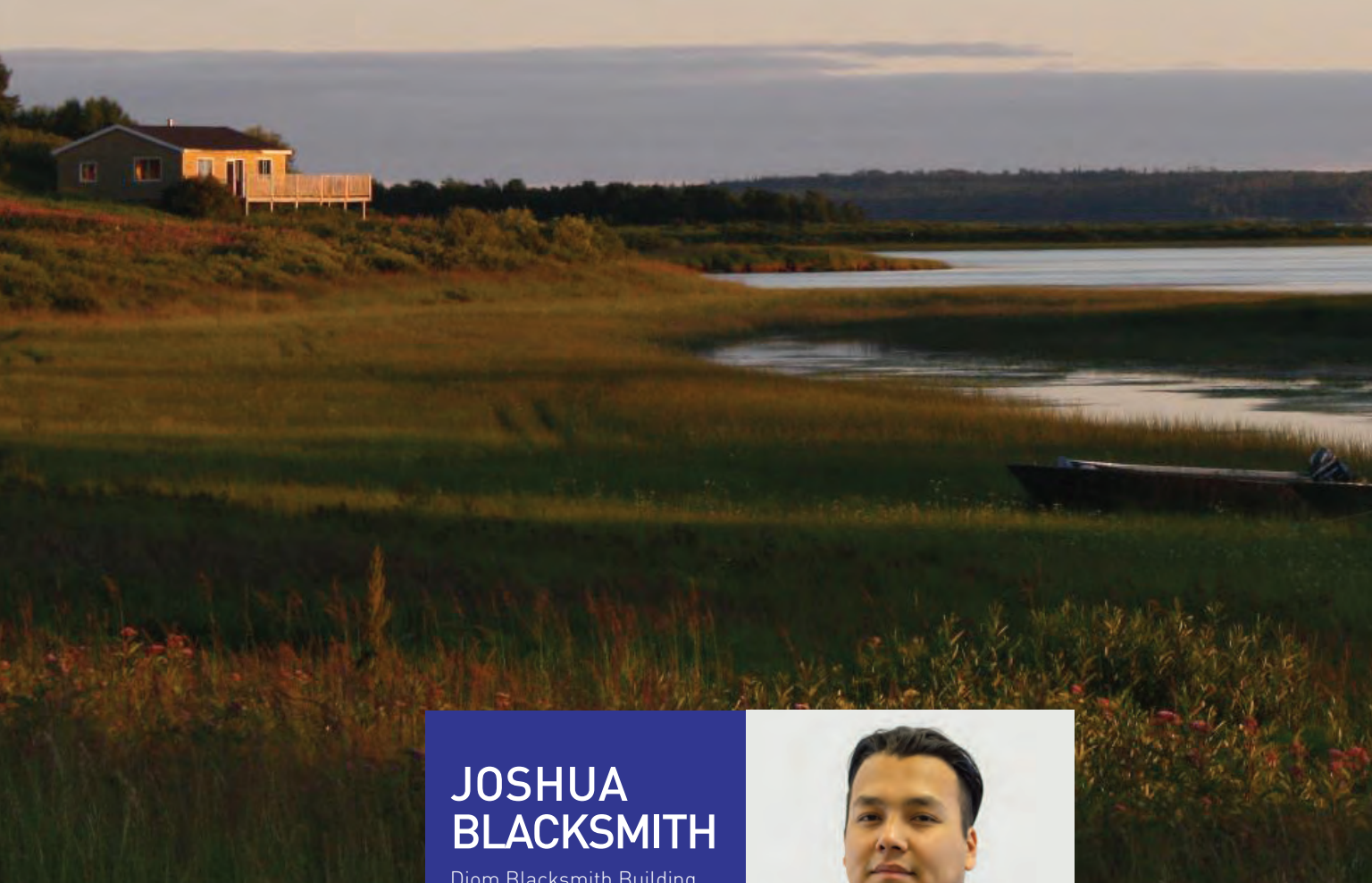
Oujé- Bougoumou

Wachiya,

Well, it has been another year of developing project proposals for both the trappers and the community-based projects. First of all I'd like to mention that I was absent from April to end of July in 2016 due to medical reasons. And I would like to thank Glen Wapachee for replacing me during my absence. Most of the projects that got approved were goose corridors and a few traditional dwelling projects were also implemented throughout the summer. The two main projects this year are on the Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail that was completed recently by Wesley Mianscum and his crew on Trapline O-55. The execution of this first project commenced in the fall of 2015. Mr. Mianscum, who coordinated the project known also as the tallymen of O-55, hired four other workers to cut and clear the trail. This project was done on a day-by-day basis; the workers cut and cleared the trail through mixed forest stands such as black spruce



and jack pine stands with low to medium density. There were also four streams and two rivers to cross in which the workers built a crossing out of logs. The workers worked from the community and at times they would stay at Wesley's camp, which was closer to the job site. The duration of the project was flexible and mostly done in the summer and fall and was finally completed in March 2017. We also had our snow removal project, which is also a major project annually. The project commences in the month of November and goes on till the end of April with the opening of access roads to all goose camps on the north and south end of Oujé-Bougoumou Territory. This includes roads to Michwasou, Blackwater, Brock River, Opataca, Cachisca, Waposite and also the south access roads to goose camps. Our contractors were Walter Bosum from Oujé-Bougoumou and Gerald Ouellett from Chibougamau who both did a good job in the snow removal project to goose camps. We also had our annual woodcutting project, which is geared to Elders and ISP recipients: six cords of wood are allocated to each eligible recipient with the choice of dry or spruce wood. The woodcutting project commenced in the month of November 2016. Frederic Launier and Matthew Rabbitskin were the casual workers for the Natural Resources Department. They monitored the progress of the woodcutting. The woodcutting program, which is geared to Elders and ISP recipients who own a cabin within the Oujé territory, has completed successfully. **Natural Disaster:** In November we were hit by a heavy snowfall and high winds which brought trees down and a lot of these fell on the Hydro lines. This caused a power outage to the Community for a period of three days. Most of our access roads and trails were also covered with leaning and falling trees. Other projects were the trappers' projects that consisted mostly of goose corridors. Some traditional dwellings were also constructed by David Bosum on trapline 0-52. **Paddlemaking** was another successful project that was completed in September of last fall. Once again, I would like to thank Niskamoon Corporation for its contribution to all our projects and we hope to develop and have more projects approved in the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Meegwetch!



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Waswanipi

I would like to take a moment to say hello to all!

In March 2017 I became your Waswanipi Local Coordinator, and it is my pleasure to give feedback about our very own Niskamoon projects. I am truly proud to be working with Niskamoon and here is some information on certain projects that I thought benefitted our people, our community and most importantly our culture. Every year we have different projects that can be funded under Niskamoon and this is something the Cree people of Waswanipi have always appreciated. The traditional way of life is imperative to the Cree people and by practicing our culture, it gives us another reason to strive as a nation.

Since I started work as the Waswanipi Local Coordinator,



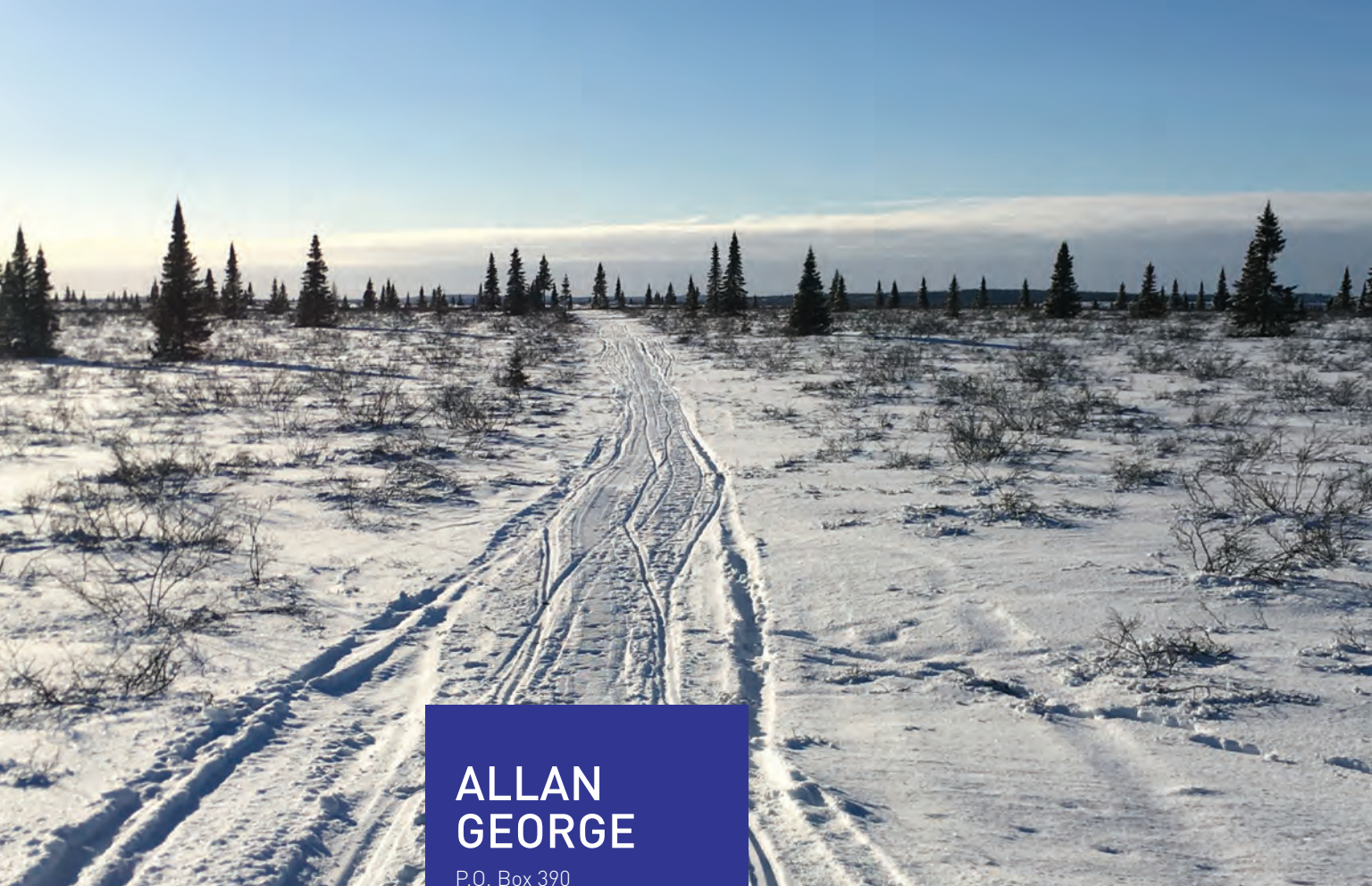
I am truly proud to be working with Niskamoon.

one of my main tasks was to complete overdue projects and reports. Working on them on my own, I have to say was a challenging experience and this is an ongoing process that I am determined to complete.

Our Elders have a lot of traditional knowledge about our culture and they are important to our people and the future generations to come. Our 'Elders Woodcutting Program' was a success and we would like to thank

Niskamoon for funding this project. Having the 'Snow Removal Program' gave our Elders a chance to spend time at their cabins on their respective traplines.

In closing, as your Waswanipi Local Coordinator, I would like to let you know that I am enjoying my time working with our community and I look forward to a wonderful year. Meegwetch



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Whapmagoostui

Every year that passes I feel that this position gets a little bit easier knowing all the obstacles that are to come every month. I am more prepared than I was the previous year. I have submitted a few reports that were long overdue for various reasons, so I can concentrate more on the current and upcoming projects.

The Trans Eeyou Regional Multi-Purpose Trail is a project that I look forward to every year since it is a five-year project, and we are currently in the third year. This project provides two trails to hunting areas: one from Whapmagoostui to Lake Bienville, and one from Whapmagoostui to Lake Burton.

It gives some of our community members much needed temporary employment throughout the year.



I look forward to the Trans Eeyou Regional Multi-Purpose Trail every year.

These two main trails to Lake Bienville and Lake Burton that the project provides make it easier for everyone to go to these lakes since we have had incidents in the past where people who are not familiar with the area got lost along the way.

Project ideas are always welcome, and I will try to accommodate any proposals that meet the requirements for project approval.



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Wemindji

Hello from the Wemindji Local Coordinator’s office!

This past fall, I moved offices! Tawich Development Corporation moved to a new office building and they demolished one of their offices. Therefore, the Cree Nation of Wemindji had to shuffle their staff to accommodate the Income Security Officer at the Wemindji Trappers Association office and moved me over to the CNW Administration office. A new location means a new address and new office phone number!

Moving has been a change... a change in many ways. Collaboration with Projects/Programs Coordinator Lorna Visitor at W.T.A.-C.N. has solidified as the demands have increased with both our participation.

With only four projects this year, I would like to focus on the one that



was done by a land user. On trapline VC-12, Walter Mistacheesick submitted a project to do goose pond slashing to further improve the area for the spring goose hunt as there are more hunters with the change of flight path of the goose migration. Located 2 km on the north side of KM 36 on the Wemindji Access Road, the area cleared was estimated to be about two hectares. As they cleared the area of brush and overgrowth, the land users saw that extending the pond was needed. Mainly to attract the migrating geese, but also to ensure the safety of the hunters who are setting their blinds.

This project was completed within the time frame estimated and we have already begun discussing another project that would further enhance the trapline for land users.

There are many projects that tallymen, land

users, hunters and trappers can work on to improve access or hunting territory. On the flip side of our coin, we also encouraged people to enroll in the programs under TEHQ over the years. The agreement with this program has reached its final graduating cohort and the Cree Nation of Wemindji would like to congratulate Craig Georgekish! He is a graduate in the "Industrial Construction and Maintenance Mechanics" program! When I saw him recently, I could see that he is excited for what his future holds in this field! Wishing him the best of luck!

If you have a project in mind and would like to discuss it or put a proposal together, do not hesitate to stop by my office. Have a great summer!



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Nemaska

It is with pleasure that I submit my activity for this fiscal year running from April 2016 to March 2017. This will be a summary of projects that I have coordinated and monitored throughout the year. Some of the projects involved construction of plywood cabins, upgrading spring camps, enhancement of goose ponds, and fishery projects. Other community programs administered focused on improvement of access driveways, navigation and fish studies, wood supply for Elders, and snow removal to campsites.

New Cabins/Spring Camps

New cabins were constructed for land users of traplines R20 and N23, spring camps were built for trapline R21 and some were upgraded for trapline R16. The camps are located at Mountain Lake, Km 257, Km 246, Nemaska and Champion Lake. The projects involved a field supervisor, carpenters/laborers and work was done from the period of August to

October 2016, for 10 to 14 days per cabin. Suppliers used for cabin materials were R&D Eenou Lumber from Mistissini and Rona C. Caron from Matagami.



Goose Ponds/Snowmobile Trails/ATV Trails

There were three projects completed on enhancement of goose ponds for traplines N24, N25, R18 and R16, and the purpose was to create or explore new areas for goose hunting sites. The projects carried out on snowmobile and ATV trails were for traplines R16, R18, N25, N24, R20, R21, and N24. The trails were cleared to allow more convenient and safer access to extensive areas used for hunting and trapping activities. The projects were carried out by three manual laborers in the summer and fall of 2016.



Fisheries Projects

The projects were carried out on traplines N-24 and N-23, in May and August of 2016, respectively. Each project involved 8 participants for a duration of two weeks. The purpose for these projects is for Cree knowledge and skills to be passed on to young people and community members that wish to pursue and learn methods of summer fishing activities as well as fish preparation and preservation.



Upgrading Access Driveways to Campsites

The land users of various traplines had requested the improvement of driveways to their campsites. The project involved the use of heavy machinery for road resurfacing, repairing and adding of gravel material. The work, done by Nemaska Eenou Compane, started in the fall of 2016 and is scheduled to be finished this summer.

Wood Supply for Elders and Land Users

This wood supply program ran from January to March 2017 and benefited Elders and land users on campsites along Route du Nord, Nemaska Road and JBHWY. Three groups were formed to



cut, transport and pile up the wood to be supplied. In total, twenty people benefited from the program this year.

Snow Removal to Campsites

The snow removal program was carried out by NEC for camps located on Route du Nord, and by FELCO Excavation Michel Paradis Inc. for camps located on James Bay Highway. The program ran for a period of five months from November 2016 to April 2017, on an as-needed basis.



This concludes my activity report for this year and I would like to sincerely thank everyone who helped in this year's projects and programs.





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Eastmain

Amongst this year’s successful projects, I would have to highlight one of the Trans Eeyou Trail projects. It is specifically on the trapline of Willard Mark-Stewart VC-31 that started in the fall of 2016. The purpose of the project was for all community members to use the trail for hunting purposes and to get to other communities by snowmobile. Overall, the unemployed family members from the trapline and from the community benefited from the project.

The unemployed family members from the trapline and from the community benefited from the project.

In the future it will hopefully continue to provide easy access to other communities in a safer way to travel.



Chisasibi Coastal Goose Habitat Enhancement Project

Chisasibi's Coastal Goose Habitat Project is going into its third year. With the purchase of a powerful dozer, specifically suited to work in swampy conditions, we expect to make some big steps this year towards improving goose habitat along the coastal hunting grounds.

Hunters along the coast have reported dropping numbers of migrating geese for decades. The older hunters remember seeing hundreds of geese, where now only small groups show up. Especially snow geese and brants, which require specific vegetation to feed on, have become a rarity. This is why, in Chisasibi, the coastal traplines have initiated a project to improve goose habitats.

A combination of interventions is being tested, such as creating ponds, cutting grass, removing top soil and planting food crops, on which geese are known to feed in the south. All of these interventions have been proposed by land users during meetings that are regularly held to discuss progress.



There are very few examples of similar projects under comparable climatic conditions, so everyone involved is engaged in a constant learning process with uncertain outcomes. The equipment used has to be powerful enough to have a significant impact, but it has to be light enough to be safely transported and handled in remote swampy areas. The newly acquired machine is a ski dozer with wide tracks to ensure floatability. The interventions are being tested on small surfaces, until enough experience is developed to apply techniques on a bigger scale.

Despite the many uncertainties and practical challenges associated with this type of experimental project, there is a very constructive and collaborative synergy among the participants. It is hoped that, in time, the knowledge and expertise generated from this project will benefit traplines throughout the James Bay region.

Traditional and Cultural Activities

Traditional and cultural activities include any non-denominational pursuit that promotes Cree culture and the teaching of traditional and cultural customs. They may include, but are not limited to, canoe brigades, winter journeys, and summer gatherings.

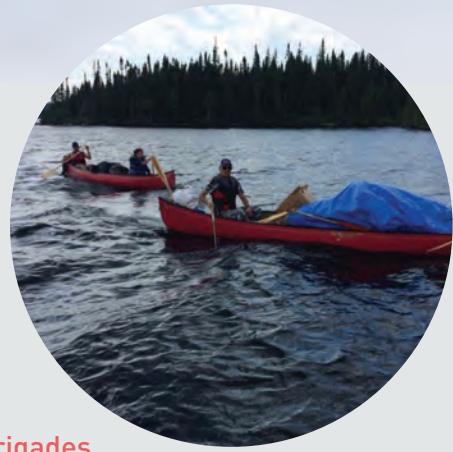
In 2016, Niskamoon funded 50% of the total cost of traditional and cultural activities up to a maximum of \$100,000 for one year per community.

PROJECTS UNDER CULTURAL EVENTS & OUTINGS PROGRAM AND TRADITIONAL & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY	AMOUNTS APPROVED
Whapmagoostui	\$76,958
Chisasibi	\$91,010
Wemindji	\$78,500
Waskaganish	\$80,000
Nemaska	\$100,000
Oujé-Bougoumou	\$31,948
Mistissini	\$41,000
Regional	\$65,000



PROJECTS UNDER THE HYDRO-QUÉBEC AND EYYOU FUND



Traditional Gathering

A majority of the communities organize traditional gatherings to celebrate family and community life. These activities feature cultural activities and are usually held during the summer months.

The Corporation has adopted a “Policy on Traditional Gatherings” that provides funding for 50% of projects up to a maximum of \$50,000 for one traditional gathering per community per year. A total amount of \$185,000 was committed for traditional gatherings during the year 2016-2017 for the following:

- Whapmagoostui Traditional Gathering 2016
- Chisasibi Mamoweedow 2016
- Wemindji Old Factory Visit 2016
- Wemindji Old Factory Visit 2017
- Waskaganish Smokey Hill Gathering 2016
- Nemaska Old Nemaska Gathering 2016



Canoe Brigades

These activities give Cree youth and members of the community the opportunity to cultivate their culture and traditions. A total amount of \$55,000 was committed for Canoe Brigades by the Corporation for the year 2016-2017 for the following:

- Wemindji Canoe Expedition 2016
- Wemindji Canoe Expedition 2017
- Waskaganish Annual Youth Canoe Brigade 2016
- Mistissini Youth Canoe Brigade 2016
- Oujé-Bougoumou Youth Canoe Excursion 2016

Winter Walks and Journeys

For the most part, these projects were carried out by youth seeking to retrace and renew with their ancestors’ way of life during the winter season. A total amount of \$30,000 was committed for these projects during the year 2016-2017 for the following:

- Waskaganish Aashuumiih Winter Journey 2016
- Nemaska Winter Journey 2016
- Mistissini Journey of Wellness 2016

**WHAPMAGOOSTUI
ENHANCEMENT OF TRADITIONAL
KNOWLEDGE 2017**

The purpose of this project is for Elders to conduct and demonstrate various types of cultural activities such as tool making, making a variety of traditional clothes and survival skills. An amount of \$20,000 was committed to this project.

**CHISASIBI
IDENTIFICATION OF TREES & WOOD 2017**

The purpose of this project is to teach the younger generation the importance of choosing the right tree and wood to make snowshoes and other wooden implements. An amount of \$8,432 was committed to this project.

**CHISASIBI
CANVAS COVERS & DOORS MAKING 2017**

The purpose of this project is to teach the youth traditional techniques of making canvas covers for teepees and doors and any other canvas items. An amount of \$8,539 was committed to this project.

**WEMINDJI
OLD FACTORY LAKE
YOUTH SUMMER CAMP 2017**

A cultural camp was built to ensure the continuation of the Cree tradition and facilitate traditional activities close to the community. An amount of \$8,500 was committed for this project.

**WASKAGANISH UNTUHHU
WINTER PROGRAM 2017**

The purpose of this winter program is to promote, preserve and protect the Cree way of life through training programs, courses and cultural events. An amount of \$28,000 was committed to this project.

**WHAPMAGOOSTUI
SEWING PROJECT 2017**

The purpose of this project is to raise awareness among the younger generation about the importance of making native crafts and to provide them knowledge of native handmade craft skills. An amount of \$6,958 was committed to this project.

**CHISASIBI
CANOE PADDLE BUILDING 2017**

The purpose of this project is to teach the younger generation about using traditional techniques of making canoe paddles. An amount of \$11,472 was committed to this project.

**CHISASIBI
FISH POWDER MAKING 2017**

The purpose of this project is to train youth and community members on how to make fish powder. An amount of \$7,567 was committed to this project.

**WASKAGANISH UNTUHHU
CHISKUTIMAACHEWIN
SPRING & SUMMER 2017**

The project will take youth out on the land and teach them the ways of hunting and trapping in the hopes that they will continue the ways of our people and carry on the tradition. An amount of \$12,000 was committed to this project.

**WASKAGANISH UNTUHHU
WINTER PROGRAM 2017**

The purpose of this winter program is to promote, preserve and protect the Cree way of life through training programs, courses and cultural events. An amount of \$28,000 was committed to this project.

**NEMASKA
SHABTUAAN UPKEEP 2016-2017**

The purpose of this project is to maintain the shabtuaan as the most popular place for Elders to come together. An amount of \$10,000 was committed to the project.

**MISTISSINI
RESPECTING CREE VALUES**

The objective of this project is to create an opportunity for our Elders to provide and create a valuable experience for young children and youth based on their knowledge and wisdom. An amount of \$21,000 was committed to this project.

**OUJÉ-BOUGOUMOU
TRADITIONAL TRAINING 2017**

This project provides traditional cultural training programs to all community members in various aspects. An amount of \$20,000 was committed to this project.

**NEMASKA
YOUTH HUNTING, TRAPPING &
SURVIVAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM**

This program is highly important to preserve Cree traditional survival skills and cultural activities for youth who are interested in pursuing the Cree traditional lifestyle. An amount of \$20,000 was committed to this project.

**NEMASKA
SNOWSHOE MAKING 2017**

The purpose of the snowshoe-making project is to provide opportunity for our culture to be passed down to other generations by teaching how to make an important tool for traditional winter activities. An amount of \$5,000 was committed to this project.

**NEMASKA
ARTS & CRAFTS SEWING PROGRAM**

The purpose of this project is to enhance and instill the skills for young girls and women through experienced instructors. An amount of \$5,000 was committed to this project.

**OUJÉ-BOUGOUMOU
CULTURAL VILLAGE RENOVATIONS**

The purpose of this program is to restore the safety of the community's facilities as they are used for exhibitions and local services. An amount of \$5,000 was committed to this project.

**OUJÉ-BOUGOUMOU
CROOKED KNIFE MAKING 2017**

The participants will learn the different methods and types of wood or bone that can be used to make the handle of a crooked knife. An amount of \$1,948 was committed to this project.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

- JBCCS Elders Speak
- JBCCS 2016 Cultural Gathering
- CNG Future of the Weh-Sees-Indohoun
- Special Hunting & Fishing Zone

THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE CULTURAL PROGRAMS

In the last fiscal year, a re-orientation of the cultural program funding structure began. The reflection process included group interviews with stakeholders in five communities, which was based on the question of how Niskamoon-funded cultural programs can contribute to an increase in Cree land users.

The following recommendations were made:

- Reduce annual amounts allocated to cultural outings
- Focus priority on projects executed in the bush
- Increase the promotion of remedial works as a vehicle for promoting, enhancing and passing on Cree culture
- Promote partnerships with other Cree entities
- Support local actors who seek out innovative ways of promoting Cree culture within the communities
- Maintain regular communication with local Elders to ensure that projects include them as key participants
- Implement a communication plan to explain and promote the new orientation



Subsequently, the following modifications were implemented to the cultural program funding structure.

(1) A reduction in allocation for cultural outings. The allocation per community for cultural outings will be reduced from \$100,000 to \$50,000 per year. Furthermore, funding will be restricted to outings and events that take place outside the community. Pow wows and Aboriginal Day festivities will no longer be funded.

(2) There will be an integration of cultural training into Remedial Works. Projects that commit to training youth as part of the implementation of the work will benefit from a 25% top-up on the project budget to account for the additional time and resources required to provide training.

(3) The creation of the Social Innovation Fund with an annual amount of \$200,000 is one of the most significant outcomes. This fund seeks to promote original and innovative projects that value Cree culture while striving towards the long-term goal of creating more land users. Projects funded will be on a one-time only basis, with some exceptions made for multi-year implementation plans. Complementary funding will be required in most cases.

The projects must contain a strong educational component for participants that promote holistic learning. Projects are accepted from both local and regional Cree entities. Evaluation of projects will be based on the following criteria:

- Originality of ideas
- Level of involvement of Cree Elders and Cree Youth
- Level of integration of Cree traditional knowledge
- The level of involvement of local entities
- Financial sustainability of the project
- The potential for creating more land users

It is understood that the Social Innovation Fund will replace the Cultural Enhancement Program, which will be gradually phased out. A multifaceted communication plan, which will include an information and workshop tour of the communities this fall, will ensure successful integration of the new orientation. It is hoped that the new Social Innovation Fund, through the development of partnerships and creative thinking, will unlock the tremendous potential already present at the local level.

Monitoring Committee

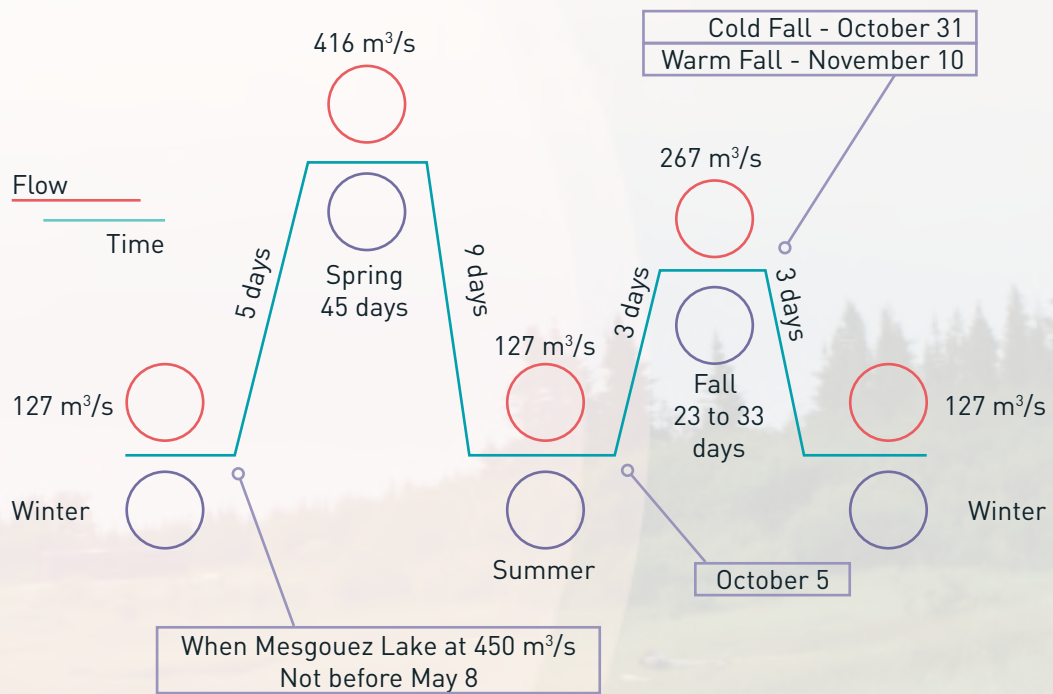
The following section resumes the main activities of the Monitoring Committee associated with the Eastmain-1-A and Sarcelle powerhouses and Rupert River partial diversion project.

The Rupert River was partially diverted in November 2009, resulting in the creation of the Rupert River Diversion Bays located 314 kilometers up-river from the community of Waskaganish and some 200 kilometers below Mistissini Lake. The Rupert Diversion Bays consist of a complex series of dams and dikes designed to divert water north toward the EM-1 Reservoir and, subsequently, the Eastmain-1 and Eastmain-1-A powerhouses. Farther north, the Sarcelle powerhouse, is located downstream from the Opinaca Reservoir. From Sarcelle, water empties into Boyd-Sakami Lakes and then into the Robert-Bourassa Reservoir (formerly known as LG-2) where it joins the La Grande River.

The partial diversion of the Rupert River is governed by an ecological instream flow regime. This means that not only is a small proportion of water constantly released from the Rupert Dam spillway (roughly 20%), but additional amounts are released in spring (approximately 4 times more water over 45 days) and autumn (approximately twice as much water over roughly 25 days) in order

to replicate the spring and autumn run-off periods when fish spawn.

In addition to the instream flow regime, eight hydraulic structures (five weirs, two spur dikes, and one underwater rock blanket) were built along the Rupert River below the dam to maintain water levels immediately upstream from the structures as they were prior to the diversion. As a result, approximately 50% of the river below the diversion point is maintained at the same level as before the diversion, allowing for the continued use of the river and maintaining habitat for flora and fauna.



COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Monitoring Committee is a joint discussion forum made up of seven Hydro-Québec/Société d'énergie de la Baie-James (SEBJ) representatives and eight Cree members representing each of the five communities impacted by the EM-1A/Rupert Diversion Project as well as one representative from Chisasibi and two regional representatives nominated by the Niskamoon Corporation, with one regional representative on loan from the Cree Nation Government (CNG). Secretarial services are provided by SEBJ. The members are:

MEMBER	ENTITY
ROBBIE TAPIATIC	Cree Nation Of Chisasibi
WILLIAM BLACKNED	Cree Nation Of Wemindji
NORMAN CHEEZO	Cree Nation Of Eastmain
MERLIN WHISKEYCHAN	Crees of the Waskaganish First Nation
JOHN HENRY WAPACHEE	Cree Nation of Nemaska
MATTHEW LONGCHAP	Cree Nation of Mistissini
MARC DUNN	The Niskamoon Corporation
NADIA SAGANASH	The Niskamoon Corporation (CNG)
SIMON MARCOTTE	Hydro-Québec
ANDRÉ TESSIER	Hydro-Québec
JÉRÔME GINGRAS	Hydro-Québec
CARINE DUROCHER	Hydro-Québec
RÉAL COURCELLES	Hydro-Québec
RENÉ DION	Hydro-Québec
JIMMY LAVOIE	Hydro-Québec

The work of the Committee has progressively decreased since 2013 and this trend has continued into 2016. The Committee convened seven times between January 2016 and March 2017, a decrease from nine meetings held the year before. Furthermore, two of these were relatively short meetings held by conference call.

DATES	MEETING NUMBER	LOCATION
February 23-34, 2016	99	Montreal
March 22-23-24, 2016	100	Mistissini
May 31, June 1-2, 2016	101	Chisasibi
September 20-21 2016	102	Waskaganish
October 18, 2016	103	Conference Call
November 23, 2016	104	Conference Call
December 13-14-15, 2016	105	Montreal
February 22, 2017	106	Eastmain

NISKAMOON-HYDRO-QUÉBEC TOUR

In addition to holding meetings, the Monitoring Committee is mandated to ensure that information presentations are given in the six Cree communities represented on the Monitoring Committee. In 2015, these tours were renamed the joint Niskamoon-Hydro-Québec Tours, to reflect the changing nature of these meetings. As in the past, presentations are made both for land users representing impacted traplines and the general public. Tours

are conducted in winter (to present the monitoring programs for the year ahead) and summer (to present monitoring program results from the past year). In addition, land users from each impacted trapline are met individually to review their land use plans, carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Re-appropriation and Continued Use Agreement. For more information, refer to this section in the Annual Report.

DATES	PLACE	TOPIC
January 20-21-22, 2016	Nemaska	Winter 2016 Information Tour
February 9-10, 2016	Mistissini	Winter 2016 Information Tour
August 22-23-24, 2016	Waskaganish	Summer 2016 Information Tour
August 30-31, 2016	Eastmain/Wemindji	Summer 2016 Information Tour

MANDATE

The Monitoring Committee reviews monitoring programs for the EM-1A/ Sarcelle Powerhouses and Rupert River Partial Diversion Project according to the following steps:

1. **Terms of reference:** These documents include all pertinent information for the execution of each study prior to its inception. The Committee reviews these documents, and adjustments are made wherever necessary.
2. **Study Period:** Comments are brought to the attention of the Committee, and adjustments may be made wherever necessary.
3. **Pre-final Report:** Prior to the publication of the study report, a pre-final report is reviewed by the Committee to ensure that the conclusions are acceptable to all parties.

2016 marks the seventh year of data collection following the Rupert River Partial Diversion. This information is compared to study results prior to the diversion, referred to as the baseline conditions, in order to evaluate the extent of change caused by the impoundment of the Rupert Diversion Bays. In the first year following the impoundment, major ecosystem changes were observed in the affected area. In the second and third years, 2011 and 2012, the ecosystems tended to stabilize, resulting in more reliable field data. There has been a generalized decrease in the number of monitoring studies carried out since 2013. It is expected that the ecosystem (in some places) has already begun to restore itself in the impacted area.



		RUPERT DIVERSION BAYS	RUPERT REDUCED-FLOW STRETCH	INCREASED-FLOW SECTION			MULTIPLE SECTORS
		Rupert Forebay & Tailbay	Lower Rupert	Eastmain-Opinaca	Boyd-Sakami	Grande Rivière Estuary	
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	Study Report	Fish communities and population dynamics	Ice cover monitoring – winter 2015-2016 (Estuary, Rupert Bay) Fish communities and population dynamics Juvenile of target species Longnose sucker	KP 207 fishpass KP 203 and KP 207 Multispecies spawning grounds			
	Terms of Reference		Ice cover monitoring – winter 2016-2017 Fish communities and population dynamics Juvenile of target species Longnose sucker				2016-2017 Micromammals 2017 Water Quality in the Rupert and Nemiscau Rivers 2017 Saltwater intrusion into the Rupert Bay 2017 Waterfowl 2017 Short-Eared Owl and Bonaparte's Gull
HUMAN ENVIRONMENT	Study Report						Mercury in fish
	Terms of Reference						Cree Land use

MONITORING PROGRAM RESULTS

Ice Cover Follow-up

The ice cover follow-up carried out in the winter of 2015–2016 targeted the Rupert estuary and the portion of Rupert Bay south of Stag Rock. It was meant primarily to determine the condition of the ice cover and any changes to it, and support the Cree communities and the tallymen in assessing ice quality.

The winter of 2015–2016 was considered mild and of a normal duration despite a late start. The manual sampling results showed

that, overall, the ice was slightly thicker than in the previous winter, but roughly the same thickness as in the winters from 2010–2011 to 2014–2015. Given the type of winter, the relatively high thickness measurements are explained by the presence of a thin layer of snow (providing some insulation) over the ice.

In the Rupert estuary, we noted an almost total absence of white ice until March. The follow-up once again showed that the Rupert Bay section is strongly influenced by ocean and weather factors.

Fish Communities in the Rupert Diversion Bays

Few changes were observed in the fish species composition in the Rupert diversion bays in 2016, seven years after impoundment. Walleye remained the most abundant species in the diversion bays (52% of total catches), followed by lake whitefish, northern pike and white sucker.

Fishing yields in the forebay have not changed from year to year since the diversion but are 40% lower than they were during baseline studies. However, biomass per unit effort (BPUE) was higher than in the 2014 follow-up.

In the tailbay, catch per unit effort (CPUE) increased significantly between 2014 and 2016. CPUE values are now comparable



to the ones from 2011, but remain approximately 23% lower than baseline values collected before the partial diversion, mainly due to declining yields for walleye in both diversion bays since impoundment.

Overall, the impact of the diversion bays on the biological characteristics of the main species of fish and on population dynamics is similar to what has been observed in a number of the La Grande complex reservoirs and is generally in line with the predictions of the impact statement.

Fish Communities and Population Dynamics in the Rupert River

In 2016, as part of the follow-up of fish communities and population dynamics in the Rupert River, net fishing was carried out at 33 sites along the reduced flow stretch of the Rupert. The results indicate that the fish composition is similar to what it was in the first three years of the study (2005, 2009 and 2011).

The most abundant species are the same as in previous years: walleye, lake sturgeon and northern pike, followed by lake whitefish, longnose sucker and white sucker. However, fishing yields obtained after diversion (2011 and 2016) are significantly higher than those recorded during the two pre-diversion years (2005 and 2009). This increase is partly due to the production of strong cohorts of fish spawned between 2008 and 2011.



The results collected since the beginning of the follow-up indicate that post-diversion conditions in the Rupert remain suitable for maintaining fish populations and ensuring their growth.

Target Species Juveniles

In 2016, fishing surveys were carried out in the areas of KP 205 and KP 230 of the Rupert targeting the juveniles of five species: lake sturgeon, walleye, lake whitefish, white sucker and longnose sucker.

The results for walleye, lake whitefish and suckers show the strength of the 2010 cohorts (during operation phase), but also a

downward trend in fishing yields since 2012.

For lake sturgeon under 8 years of age, an increase in fishing yields was observed at KP 205 compared with the baseline, while yields at KP 230 have remained stable. Based on the year-class strength index at KP 205, the cohorts from 2008 (before partial diversion) and 2014 (after partial diversion) are dominant. At KP 230, the 2008 cohort is dominant, followed by the ones from 2009 (before partial diversion) and 2014.

The results show that the conditions in the areas of KP 205 and KP 230 of the Rupert remain suitable to the growth of young sturgeon.

Fish pass at KP 207 of the Eastmain

The KP 207 fish pass of the Eastmain continued to be monitored in 2016. Of the total 1,939 tagged fish likely to migrate through the pass, the main species were lake sturgeon, walleye, northern pike and sucker. Fish movements and upstream migration were tracked through receivers (antennas) installed in and downstream of the pass.



The most abundant species detected in 2016 was the longnose sucker, followed by the lake sturgeon, with success rates of 98% and 80% respectively. A number of individual walleye, northern pike and white sucker also swam through the pass in 2016.

Developed Spawning Grounds at KP 203 and KP 207 of the Eastmain River

Just as in previous environmental follow-up years, no changes in substrate composition and no signs of silt build-up were detected in 2016 for the developed spawning grounds at KP 203 and KP 207 of the Eastmain River.

Use of the areas around the two spawning grounds was confirmed for almost all target species. In fact, sucker, coregonid and walleye eggs or larvae were collected at KP 203 and 207. However, lake sturgeon eggs were collected only at KP 207.



Longnose Sucker in the Rupert Estuary and Bay

The follow-up on longnose sucker in the Rupert estuary and bay assesses whether the decrease in organic carbon in these environments following the partial diversion affects benthic fauna and fish growth. Longnose sucker, a species that feeds on benthic fauna and is abundant in the area, is used as an indicator.

A sample of close to 800 longnose suckers taken in July 2016 was thoroughly examined to obtain a description of the species' growth and feeding seven years after diversion. A comparison with the results from 2009, before diversion, shows that there have been no significant changes in these characteristics.

There is therefore no indication that the decrease in organic carbon in the Rupert estuary and bay has had any appreciable effect on benthic fauna and fish growth in these environments.

Fisheries and Health Committee

MANDATE

The Fisheries and Health Committee was created to implement key components of the Mercury (2001) Agreement, as well as subsequent agreements signed between the Crees and Hydro-Québec dealing with the issue of mercury in fish in relation to new projects on the territory (specifically EM-1 and EM-1A).

The mandate of the Committee is summarized as follows:

1. To play a key role in the evaluation and recommendations to be made to Niskamoon's Board of Directors concerning all monitoring and research programs related to mercury, including the review of new funding proposals as well as all follow-up for approved projects (as defined in Chapter 5 of the Mercury Agreement (2001)).
2. To review funding programs related to community fishing programs carried out to address the issue of mercury in fish.
3. To make recommendations regarding the funding process for points 1 & 2.

The Fisheries and Health Committee did not meet in 2016 but met once in April 2017 to discuss a collaborative publication as well as the continuation of the Fisheries Enhancement Program for a limited period as a result of new funds being made available for this program.





FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Fisheries Enhancement Program seeks to fund community-based fishing programs with the following objective:

1. To ensure the sustainable, long-term use of aquatic resources valued by Crees;
2. To restore fishing practices through the development of fishing installations and methods traditionally used by Crees;
3. To strengthen Cree fisheries through initiatives that foster long-term and self-sufficient activities and pursuits.

The following priorities were identified for funding programs:

- Self-sustainability
- Community involvement
- Respect and promotion of traditional values
- Increasing health benefits through fish consumption
- Involvement of youth

As a result of the closure of past funded projects and the returning of funds back into the program, Niskamoon will continue the Fisheries Enhancement Program for the next two years. Projects will be funded on a first-come-first-served basis, but selected projects will be those that best reflect the above-mentioned priorities, that conform to funding guidelines found in the Niskamoon Corporation Administrative Guide and that include a long-term infrastructure component. Niskamoon does not wish to strictly fund projects that would be carried out without funds anyway.

Impact Assessment Annual Conference & Aashukan

Since 2013, Niskamoon Corporation has sent representatives to the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) Annual Conference. IAIA is the most renowned international body with regards to advancing the field of impact assessment. Niskamoon, as an organization responsible for the co-implementation of the environmental impact assessments for the EM-1 and EM-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert Diversion projects, has an important role in advancing First Nations communities' participation in the impact assessment process. Indeed, these two projects have set precedents as regards the involvement of Aboriginal communities in impact assessment. Hopefully, the progress made during these two projects becomes standard practice in this field globally.

A Niskamoon delegation attended the 2016 IAIA conference in Nagoya, Japan in April of that year. The 2017 IAIA conference was in Montreal this past April, and a much larger Niskamoon delegation was in attendance. Also, in collaboration with the Indigenous Peoples Section of the IAIA, the Grand Council of the Crees/ Cree Nation Government, and the Crees of Waskaganish First Nation, Niskamoon organized an event in Waskaganish prior to the conference, from March 30th to April 2nd, entitled Aashukan, meaning bridge in Cree.

A successful fundraising campaign helped bring Indigenous participants and their guides from around the globe to Waskaganish to share their experience with resource development on traditional lands. Based on the Cree experience of major hydroelectric development, mining activities and forestry within Eeyou Istchee, the exchange sought to discuss and identify principles, policies and strategies by which Indigenous communities can participate as full actors throughout the whole decision-making process.



Following Aashukan, the participants attended the IAIA conference in Montreal and the highlights of the Waskaganish event were presented at the conference during a special session dedicated to Aashukan's outcomes. A declaration titled The Aashukan Declaration was signed by all Indigenous participants, which outlined the principles, from an Indigenous perspective, for how impact assessment should be carried out on traditional lands.



Niskamoon will continue to actively collaborate in the future with individual Indigenous entities represented at Aashukan on a variety of common issues.

For more information about the Aashukan, visit www.aashukan.com.



Training and Employment with Hydro-Québec Program

It is with much pride and some nostalgia that we submit this report on the activities and results that marked the year 2016-2017. This was a particularly emotional year as it signaled the conclusion of the Cree Employment Agreement (EEYOU APATISIIWIN NISKAMON 2002-2017).

Since the first student cohort arrived at the centre Polymétier of the Rouyn-Noranda school board in 2003, many people have worked tirelessly to carry out this ambitious program. Several hundred men and women chose to invest time, energy and resources into their training and employment. We invite you to read on and take a journey into the busy and exciting lives of those who have left their mark on this program over the past year. This report is dedicated to all those who, whether directly or indirectly, have contributed to the program's success.

2016-2017 Students

In August 2016, thirty-two students were back in the classroom to complete their educational program, some of them on a part-time basis. Of that number, fourteen were women. Female students represented 44% of the total student population in these last cohorts. This is a historic number since the start of the program. It was a significant challenge as many of them were juggling family responsibilities. The fact that this was the last year of the program put a lot of pressure on students, teachers and partners. Everyone had to increase their efforts in order to reach their goals and meet deadlines. Some even had to give up Goose Break in order to rewrite exams. That speaks volumes about their drive to succeed and meet their objectives. Unfortunately, four candidates dropped out during the year.



Student Activities

Once again this year, Caroline Pepin-Roy in Rouyn-Noranda and Jacqueline Kistabish in Amos devised imaginative ways to make life more entertaining for students and their families. At the start of the school year, many had their agility tested with the “Arbre en Arbre” activity. Our numerous theme dinners allowed everyone to meet and get to know each other. Halloween was an opportunity to have a bit of midterm fun. Our pumpkin decorating contest revealed we have some artists in our midst.

For the Christmas holiday, two activities took place: one in Amos and the other in Rouyn-Noranda. This is a much-loved activity, especially by the children since they get to meet Santa and his elves and receive presents. Hockey, bowling and a few shows also provided entertainment for staff and students.

At the students’ request, the year-end trip took place in Toronto. Most of the students speak English and French very well. This was the largest delegation we’ve ever had. Nearly eighty people participated in this activity. As this was the last year of the program, some staff members from the Niskamoon student centre and their children took part in the trip. Teachers from the centre Harricana and the centre Polymétier also traveled with the students. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our student life facilitators. In this emotional and hope-filled year, their drive and dedication once again made all the difference.



Francization Program

Since the start of the program, francization services have been offered to students in order to help them become proficient in French. As a reminder, this skill is a hiring condition for Hydro-Québec. Moreover, speaking French is an important variable in integrating and retaining Cree workers. It must be said that the students showed great courage. They were taking French courses in addition to their regular technical program classes. Over the years, we have expanded our services to family members, children and partners as well as employees and their children who only spoke English and Cree.

We have also offered homework assistance to our students' children. We sincerely thank Ms. Micheline Coulombe, who assisted the students for almost ten years at the Niskamoon student centre. We also wish to thank Ms. Caroline Savoie from the centre Harricana, who supports the students in Amos.

2016-2017 Graduation Ceremony

Together with the centre Polymétier (of the Rouyn-Noranda school board) and the centre Harricana (of the Harricana school board), we decided to host a single graduation ceremony, followed by a recognition gala, for all 2016-2017 graduates. These events took place on June 7th, 2017 in Rouyn-Noranda. We wish to highlight some of the distinguished guests that were in attendance, namely Ms. Violet Pachanos, President of Niskamoon Corporation's Board of Directors, Mr. Richard Cacchione, President of Hydro-Québec, Ms. Kathleen Wootton, Chairperson of the Cree School Board's Council of Commissioners, Ms. Annie Quenneville, Chairperson of the Harricana School Board's Council of Commissioners, Mr. Daniel Camden, Chairperson of the Rouyn-Noranda School Board's Council of Commissioners, to name but a few.





Here is the list of our **2016-2017 graduates:**

The Amos graduates in Industrial Construction and Maintenance Mechanics are: Craig Georgekish, Tina Houle, David House, Kathleen Kistabish, Lisa Kistabish, Stanley Kistabish, Romy Kistabish-Ranking and Sharlene Polson.

The Rouyn-Noranda graduates in Automated Systems Electro-Mechanics are: Nicholas Bordeleau-Genest, Audrey Boutin, Jennyfer Boutin, Rebecca Diamond, Naythan Kistabish, Glorianna Kitty, Skylar Kitty-Polson, Tyson Mark-Stewart, Samy Mark-Thameri, Patrick Mowatt, Tommy Quachegan, Dally Ruperthouse, Menish Ruperthouse-Mapachee, Ronnie Sam, Norma Wabanonik and Patricia Renault.



Hydro-Québec Employees

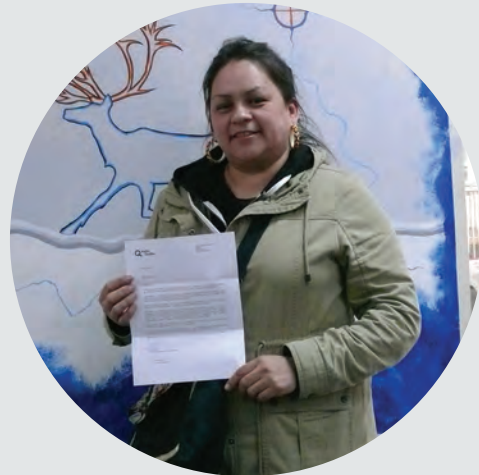
As we write this, a total of eighty people are either permanent employees or in the process of becoming permanent as part of the Technical Employment with Hydro-Québec Program. Twenty-nine others could join Hydro-Québec over the coming months. If we factor in people who were hired through the Horizon 1986-1996 Program, we could reach nearly 80% of the target number, which was 150 permanent jobs at Hydro-Québec.

We'd like to conclude by sharing feedback from some of our candidates:

We asked them how the Technical Employment with Hydro-Québec Program impacted their personal and professional lives. Here are some of their answers:

"It gave me reassurance, kindness and pride. I can provide for myself and my sons all the while taking pride in what I've accomplished for us. I will always have this deep gratitude toward the Niskamoon TEHQ Program."

~ Tanya Nottaway, Apparatus Mechanic



"Enrolling in Niskamoon's program brought about lots of positive changes in my life. When I graduated, I was so proud that I accomplished something good. I will no longer have difficulty seeing to my family's needs. I want to sincerely thank the Niskamoon staff and my loved ones for their help and encouragement."

~ Niko Capissisit, Apparatus Electrician

"The Industrial Mechanics training gave me a great deal of knowledge, but mainly pride since I took on a big challenge in a male-dominated industry. It allowed me to get a permanent job at Hydro-Québec as apparatus mechanic. The company offers excellent benefits and the best part of this job is being part of a great team."

~ Lorianne Trapper, Apparatus Mechanic



“Niskamoon offers a student support program that cannot be compared with other programs. This corporation uses a culturally adapted method to support Cree students throughout their studies.”

~ Hakim Mark Thameri, Electronics
and Control Technician

“The word Niskamoon will remain deeply rooted in my life. This organization and its employees have allowed me to dream of a better future for my family and myself. I now work for Hydro-Québec and I owe that to Niskamoon. I will always be grateful to them.”

~ Jocelyne Moses, Apparatus Electrician

“The Niskamoon project allowed me to gain maturity and knowledge as well as meet wonderful people. I also saw firsthand that, no matter the situation, the Niskamoon staff would do anything to help us, without ever discriminating. This is what makes them wonderful people. By participating in the program, I was able to learn more about my culture. Now that I’ve graduated and secured a position at Hydro-Québec, I can dispel a lot of preconceptions about us.”

~ Roxane Gagnon-Mckenzie, Apparatus Electrician

Eeyou Ituun Training Program

A Joint Initiative by:
Regional Cree Trappers' Association
Niskamoon Corporation
CEGEP Saint-Félicien

CONTEXT

In 2014, the Regional Cree Trappers' Association approached Niskamoon Corporation to re-activate the Trappers' Training Program, a training that was offered by the CTA in the early 1990's, which eventually morphed into the Cree Science and Technology Program. This coincided with the Board of Directors giving directive 1213-30 to the Director of Environment to apply the knowledge and experience gained through developing other environmental training programs towards the development of a similar land-based program.

Following initial discussions, contact was made with the St-Félicien CEGEP to explore accreditation options with the Quebec Ministry of Education. According to authorities at the CEGEP, because the Ministry is currently discouraging the further development of vocational diplomas ("diplôme d'études professionnelles"), it would be more advantageous to explore the route of an attestation of collegial studies ("attestation d'études collégiales"), a college-level customized educational certification. It was argued that, due to the complex nature of the role of Cree land user, the college education level was appropriate, although the challenge would be to bring to light this complex nature in the accreditation process.



ACCREDITATION PROCESS

Thanks to a program development grant from the Ministry of Education, St-Félicien CEGEP has been able to hire an educational consultant to navigate the complex and rigorous accreditation process. This process has included the following steps:

1. Preliminary Analysis & Program Statement (January 2015) – accepted in March 2015
2. Relevance Analysis (July 2015) – accepted in September 2015
3. Job Analysis Workshop (November 2015)
4. Job Analysis (January 2017)

We are currently awaiting the response from the Ministry with regards to the job analysis. Three potential outcomes are possible: rejection, acceptance with modifications and acceptance. We estimate that the chances of being accepted vs. accepted with modifications are approximately 50-50. It is anticipated that the response will be received soon.

NEXT STEPS

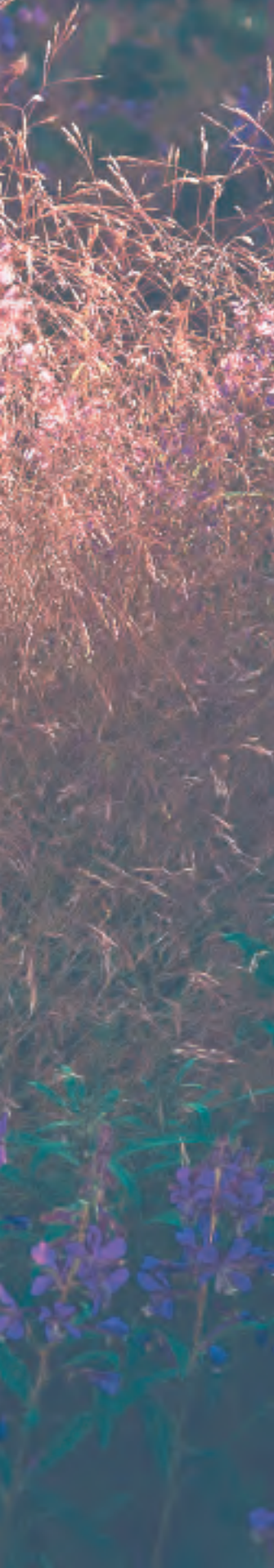
Once the job analysis is accepted, the College will then proceed in the development of the curriculum for the program. This is a two-step process. Two representatives from the CTA have been appointed to work directly with the College in this process. Once completed and validated with relevant stakeholders (including the Income Security Program), an elaborate consultation tour will be undertaken in all nine Cree communities to present the program to land users, leaders and interested community members. This is tentatively planned for fall 2017.

Chisasibi Housing Replacement Program

The Chisasibi Housing Replacement Program (CHRP), funded through the Hydro-Eeyou Fund, has been ongoing since June 2006 and was jointly developed with the Cree Nation of Chisasibi and Niskamoon Corporation. Its purpose was to replace and rebuild 122 housing units that were condemned due to severe mold and disrepair. These houses were relocated from Fort George Island during the Relocation of Fort George. This situation was considered an emergency due to the mold and overcrowding in the homes.

Given the urgency of condemning and demolishing the “sick” houses, Niskamoon Corporation agreed to assist the Cree Nation of Chisasibi by committing to bridge-finance the program up to \$35 million at \$3.5 million annually for approximately 10 years. This decision is justified by the relocation of the community and the houses from Fort George Island. A comprehensive study was done by the Cree Nation of Chisasibi which consisted of a medical report, technical studies and financial and budgetary substantiation.

In 2013 the CHRP Agreement was extended in order to finish the project. Unforeseen circumstances delayed the project but no new funds were committed.




The original program consisted of demolishing and rebuilding 122 housing units; building 21 supplemental new units to offset the overcrowding; purchasing and installing 20 prefabricated units to be used as transit homes during the implementation of the program, totalling 163 units. Additional units, were included that were not in the original project.

As of March 31, 2017, 156 units had been replaced and 23 units still needed to be replaced and rebuilt.

The actual financial information will be found in the audited financial report for 2016-2017.

Niskamoon Corporation has not committed additional new funding for the program. The program should be completed in 2017/2018.



Database & Management Systems

Georeferenced Database

Niskamoon manages geographical and related information for projects funded by Niskamoon programs. This is done through a geo-referenced database which is used to administer (1) geographical data in the form of shape files for geographically defined points, lines, and areas in Eeyou Istchee and (2) geographically referenced tabular data or other types of information, including text, numbers, and graphics.

Document Management System (DMS)

The DMS enables Niskamoon to organize various document types and formats, including agreements, minutes of meetings, reports, maps, PowerPoint presentations, videos, general correspondence, and other files in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF. Designated users can store, organize, and retrieve electronic files simply. Dependant on the user's authorization, it provides the opportunity to upload, view, and download files and other relevant documents.

Niskamoon Information Management System (NIMS)

This year the following developments were made in association with the company Strata360 in regards to the NIMS:

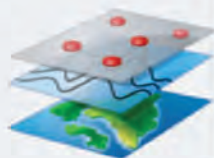
- Upgrades to the NIMS Compliance module including automated emails, project work force tracking in the Compliance tab, and the addition of fields to the Compliance Pending Alerts Table for resolution number and verification checks;
- Upgrades to the budget tab of project applications including the addition of contingency fees, administration fees, total and final budget to the budget page, as well as the addition of Supervisor and Worker budget lines as constant elements at the top of the budget table;
- Implemented capability to save and print the project records section to a PDF document;
- Implemented single button to turn off and on all the projects on the map;
- Transfer of services to a new server, resulting in faster response times and greater stability;
- Updating the NIMS projects database by closing overdue projects and adding projects approved at the BOD meetings not already in NIMS.

NISKAMOON INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Navigate the interactive map service using a combination of traditional and customized mapping tools to:

- Locate, add or modify projects
- View a project's status
- Search the projects database

[Launch the Application](#)



NISKAMOON INTERACTIVE CONSULTATION DATABASE

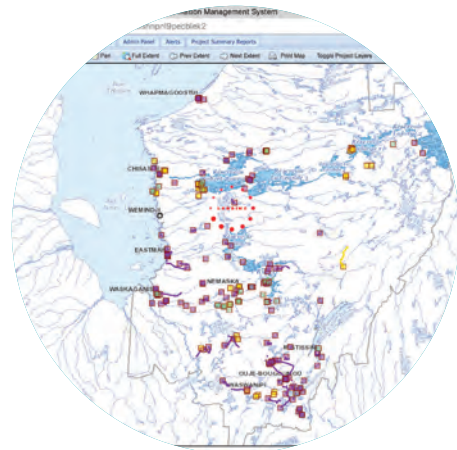
Developed to facilitate the sharing of information gathered during consultations with Cree land users with the following features:

- Submit comments, propose and discuss projects
- Define issues using customized mapping tools
- User friendly interface, easy access to the database

[Launch the Application](#)

Niskamoon Interactive Consultations Database (NICD)

As part of its obligations related to the implementation of the Agreement Concerning the Re-appropriation and Continued Use of the Territory Affected by the EM-1A/Sarcelle/Rupert Diversion Project, Niskamoon was required to develop an online interactive database for the uploading and sharing of information gathered during consultations with Cree land users beneficiary to the agreement. This database was developed with Strata360 and was launched in the three required communities. It will be integrated with the NIMS database in the near future.





Ishpitenitamun Corporation Visit

In September 2016, representatives from Ishpitenitamun Corporation, an Innu organization with a very similar mandate to Niskamoon related to the La-Romaine hydroelectric project on Québec's lower north shore, were invited to visit Waskaganish as part of on-going exchanges between the two corporations.

The visit included a short meeting between board members as well as a tour of works carried out by Waskaganish community with Niskamoon funds. Discussions between the two organizations will continue in the future, as it is important for Niskamoon to maintain partnerships with Aboriginal entities with similar missions.



Financial Information

LIST OF FUNDED PROJECTS

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Chisasibi	Canoe Paddle Building 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Canvas Covers & Doors Making	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Coastal Goose Habitat Enhancement Project Phase 2-B	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Coastal Goose Habitat Enhancement Project Phase 3	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Elders Firewood Supply 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Fish Powder Making	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Corridor & Ponds Cleaning	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Corridors (2)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Feeding Areas (2)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Hunt Sites	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Pond & Crossing	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Ponds (2)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Hunting Site Clearing	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Identification Of Trees And Wood 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Mamoweedow 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	New Bush Radio System	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Portages	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Regaining Our Spirit Conference 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Snow Removal 2015-2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Snow Removal 2016-2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Spring Airlift 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund	
Spring Flights Airlift 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund	
Traditional Dwelling		

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Eastmain	Goose Ponds (3)	Boumhounan Eenou Indohoun Fund
	Elders Woodcutting Program 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	River Channel Markers Maintenance	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Snow Removal 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Spring Airlift 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail (7)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Spring Airlift 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund / Nadoshtin Remedial Measures Fund
	Cabin	Nadoshtin Eenou Indohoun Fund
Mistissini	Cabin Porch	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Cabins (2)	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Chisheinu Chiskutamaachewin Traditional Cree Fishing & Medicine	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Cooking Tent Frame	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Four Tent Frames	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Hunting Cabin	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Journey Of Wellness 2016	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Mistissini Lake Multi-Species Fish Population Monitoring & Research	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Mistissini Lake Walleye Management & Monitoring	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	New Cabin & New Shed	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Octogon Cooking Frame And Wood Shed	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Porch, Cooking Frame, Wood Shed & Dock	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Mistissini	Respecting Cree Values	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Shed, Cooking Tent Frame & Patio	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Traditional Cree Fishing, Medicine & Chisheinu Chiskutamaachewin Project 2016-2017	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Hunting Trail	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Road Snow Removal	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Rupert Diversion Bays Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2016-2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Rupert Diversion Bays Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2017-2018	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Youth Canoe Brigade 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Goose and Moose Hunting Site	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Hunting Site	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Hunting Spot	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Moose Strips Rejuvenation Cutting of Moose Habitat	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Rest Stop Cabin for Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Traditional Dwelling (3)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail (5)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Nemaska	Arts & Crafts Sewing Program
Cabin & Patio		Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
Cabin & Porch (6)		Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
Shabtuuan Upkeep 2016-2017		Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
Traditional Dwelling		Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund

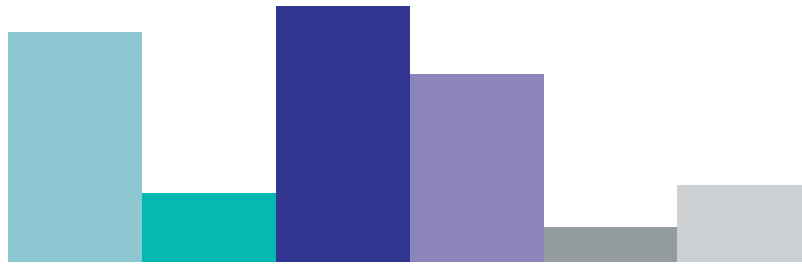
COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Nemaska	Spring Airlift Program 2016	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Spring Camps	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Spring Camps Roof Replacements	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Wood Sheds for Elders	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Wood Supply Program for Elders and Landusers 2016	Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Access to Driveways	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	ATV Crossing	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	ATV Trail	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Beaver Lodge Restoration	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Boat Landing & Dock (2)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Boat Ramp	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Driveway Improvement	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Genawmee Sturgeon Fishing Project 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Goose Corridor (2)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Goose Pond (2)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Goose Pond and Corridor	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Old Nemaska Gathering 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Rupert Diversion Bays Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2016-2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Rupert Diversion Bays Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2017-2018	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
Rupert River Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2016-2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund	

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Nemaska	Skidoo Trails (6)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Snow Removal 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Snowshoe Making Project 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Winter Fishery Program 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Winter Journey 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Wood Recuperation	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Youth Winter Hunting, Trapping & Survival Skills Training Program	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Genawmee Sturgeon Fishing Project 2017	Names Fund
Oujé-Bougoumou	Camp Enhancement	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Crooked Knife Making 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Cultural Village Renovations	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Corridors (6)	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Corridors & Traditional Dwellings	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Snow Removal Project 2015-2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Traditional Dwellings	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Traditional Training 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Woodcutting Project 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Youth Canoe Excursion 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Smoked Fish Project	Names Fund
Snow Removal to Goose Camps	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund	
Waskaganish	Elders Wood Cutting Project 2016-2017	Bouhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Framing Project	Bouhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Log Cabin Restoration & Maintenance Project	Bouhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Spring Airlift 2016	Bouhounan Remedial Works Fund
	Spring Airlift 2017	Bouhounan Remedial Works Fund / Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Waskaganish	ATV Trail	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Aashuumiih Winter Journey 2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Aerial Moose Survey Project 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Annual Youth Canoe Brigade 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Aashukan Conference 2017 Cultural Site Preparation	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Goose Pond	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Hunting Trails	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Ice Monitoring Program 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Log Cabins Project 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Log Harvesting for Shelter (2)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Rupert River Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2016-2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Rupert River Navigation & Exploration Subsidy Program 2017-2018	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Ski-Doo Trail (4)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Ski-Doo Trail Maintenance	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Ski-Doo Trail Project (2)	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Ski-Doo Trail Project 2016-2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Smokey Hill Gathering 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Traditional Fishing at Kaashikaasuk 2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Untuuhuu Chiskutimaachewin Spring & Summer Program 2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Untuuhuu Winter Program 2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Voluntary Lake Sturgeon Registry 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
Voluntary Lake Sturgeon Registry 2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund	

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Waskaganish	Waterfront Works – Boat Launching	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Sturgeon Fishery Project 2017	NAMESS FUND
Waswanipi	Elders Woodcutting Program 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Snow Removal Project 2015-2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Snow Removal 2016-2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Wemindji	Canoe Expedition 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Canoe Expedition 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Debris Clean-Up On Menouow Lake	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Pond	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Goose Pond Slashing	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Old Factory Lake Youth Summer Camp 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Old Factory Visit 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Old Factory Visit 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Wemindji	Snow Removal Program 2015-2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Trans Eeyou Istchee Trail Crossings	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Winter Woodcutting Program 2015-2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Wood Cutting Piling & Burning	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Whapmagoostui	Enhancement of Traditional Knowledge 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Sewing Project	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Trans Eeyou Istchee Regional Multi-Purpose Trail 2016-2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Transportation Subsidy 2016-2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Woodcutting Project 2016-2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Washaw Sibi	Canoe Expedition 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Wood Cutters Project 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Cree Nation Government	Future of the Weh-Sees-Indohoun Special Hunting and Fishing Zone	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund

COMMUNITY / PROMOTER	PROJECT	FUND
Cree Trappers Association	Eeyou Ituun Training Program – Professional Cree Land Steward	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
	Cabin Project 2017	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Eskan Company	Road Boat Ramp & Clean-Up	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
James Bay Cree Communications Society	Cree Elders Speak 2016	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre	2016 Cultural Gathering	Hydro-Québec & Eeyou Fund
Siibii Development Corporation	Construction of Scooping Weir - Smokey Hill North Shore 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Construction of Scooping Weir - Smokey Hill South Shore 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Gillnet Fishing & Trail Weir Fishing 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Smokey Hill Community Fishing 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Aashukan Conference 2017 Hosting	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Channel Markers & Aachikuukaan Project 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Channel Markers & Aachikuukan Project 2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Preservation and Support for Cisco Fishing at Smokey Hill 2016-2017	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish R11 Clarence Cowboy Purchase and Installation of Landing Dock	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Smokey Hill North Shore Ground Improvements	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Snow Removal 2016	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
	Waskaganish Waterfront Enhancement Project	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund
Waskaganish Waterfront Maintenance & Enhancement	Continued Use & Re-Appropriation Fund	



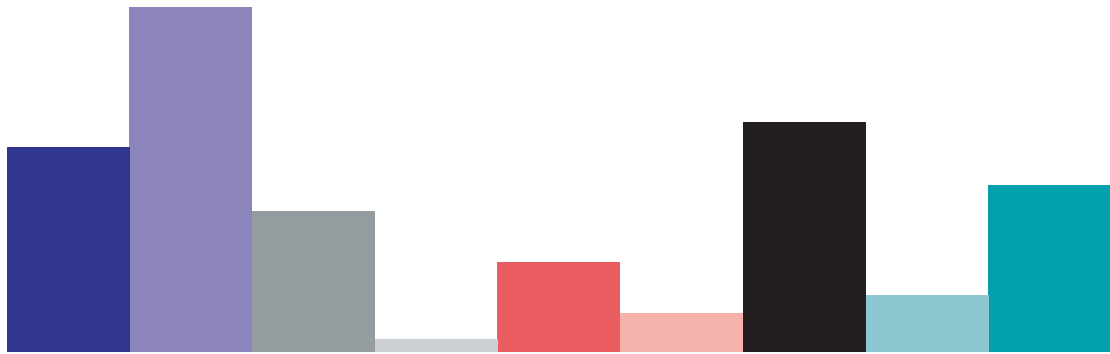
PROGRAM ACTUAL
2002-2017

- Remedial Measures 27%
- Fisheries 8%
- HQ Eeyou 30%
- Employment 22%
- Re-Appropriation Fund 4%
- Others 9%



REMEDIAL PROGRAM
BY COMMUNITY
2002-2017

- Eastmain 16%
- Mistissini 23%
- Nemaska 15%
- Oujé-Bougoumou 3%
- Waskaganish 11%
- Waswanipi 5%
- Wemindji 7%
- Whapmagoostui 3%
- Chisasibi 17%



FISHERIES PROGRAM
BY COMMUNITY
2002-2017

- Eastmain 16%
- Mistissini 27%
- Nemaska 11%
- Oujé-Bougoumou 1%
- Waskaganish 7%
- Waswanipi 3%
- Wemindji 18%
- Whapmagoostui 4%
- Chisasibi 13%



HQ EYYOU
BY COMMUNITY
2002-2017

- Eastmain 0.7%
- Mistissini 10%
- Nemaska 2%
- Oujé-Bougoumou 4%
- Waskaganish 1%
- Waswanipi 4%
- Wemindji 2%
- Whapmagoostui 6%
- Chisasibi 69%
- Washaw Sibi 0.3%



CHISASIBI
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

- HQ Eeyou 78%
- Fisheries 4%
- Remedial 18%



EASTMAIN
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

- HQ Eeyou 8%
- Fisheries 19%
- Remedial 73%



MISTISSINI
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

- HQ Eeyou 24%
- Fisheries 23%
- Remedial 53%



NEMASKA
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

- HQ Eeyou 8%
- Fisheries 15%
- Remedial 77%



**OUIÉ-BOUGOUMOU
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017**

- HQ Eeyou 60%
- Fisheries 3%
- Remedial 37%



**WASKAGANISH
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017**

- HQ Eeyou 8%
- Fisheries 13%
- Remedial 79%



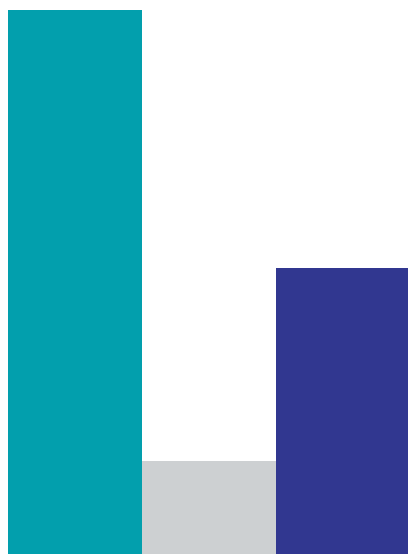
WASWANUPI
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

■ HQ Eeyou 45%
■ Fisheries 7%
■ Remedial 48%



WEMINDJI
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

■ HQ Eeyou 17%
■ Fisheries 33%
■ Remedial 50%



WHAPMAGOOSTUI
PER PROGRAM
2002-2017

■ HQ Eeyou 59%
■ Fisheries 10%
■ Remedial 31%

Niskamoon Corporation
Financial Statements
For the year ended March 31, 2017

Niskamoon Corporation
Financial Statements
For the year ended March 31, 2017

	Contents
Independent Auditor's Report	2
Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets	6
Statement of Cash Flows	7
Notes to Financial Statements	8
Supplementary Financial Information	
Schedule of Revenue and Expenditure - Program Funds	20

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Niskamoon Corporation

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Niskamoon Corporation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2017, and the statements of revenue and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believed that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Niskamoon Corporation as at March 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

BDO Canada S.R.L. / S.E.N.C.R.L./LLP¹

Montréal, Québec
June 6, 2017

¹ CPA auditor, CA, public accountancy permit No. A106501

Niskamoon Corporation Statement of Financial Position

March 31 **2017** **2016**

Assets

Current

Cash and cash equivalents (Note 3)	\$ 14,830,175	\$ 707,607
Investments (Note 4)	43,499,740	42,119,672
Accounts receivable (Note 5)	2,922,460	2,437,483
	61,252,375	45,264,762

Capital assets (Note 6)

Assets held-for-sale (Note 7)	55,785	66,143
	880,151	830,509

\$ 62,188,311 **\$ 46,161,414**

Liabilities and Net Assets Deficiency

Current

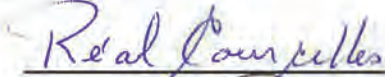
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 269,412	\$ 217,266
Projects' expenditures payable (Note 8)	654,156	883,445
Due to Cree Nation Government (Note 2)	1,141	18,902
Deferred revenue (Note 9)	49,690,489	49,995,447
Contributions received in advance (Note 10)	11,695,215	-
	62,310,413	51,115,060


Net assets deficiency

Invested in capital assets	935,936	896,652
Administration fund	(935,936)	(896,652)
Program funds	(122,102)	(4,953,646)
	(122,102)	(4,953,646)

\$ 62,188,311 **\$ 46,161,414**

On behalf of the Board


 _____ Director


 _____ Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Niskamoon Corporation Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

For the year ended March 31	2017			2016
	Administration Fund	Program Funds	Total	Total
Revenue				
Contributions	\$ 4,486,147	\$ 18,341,027	\$ 22,827,174	\$ 24,631,733
Investment income	203,528	875,381	1,078,909	1,163,457
Transferred to deferred revenue (Note 9)	(4,273,983)	-	(4,273,983)	(4,486,147)
Unrealized (loss) gain on financial instruments	950	(111,994)	(111,044)	(485,224)
	416,642	19,104,414	19,521,056	20,823,819
Expenditures				
Project expenditures	-	11,701,942	11,701,942	16,175,207
Contribution to Communities for Local Coordinators	916,956	-	916,956	891,576
Salary and fringe benefits	836,535	-	836,535	854,199
Professional fees	388,068	-	388,068	430,893
Travel	260,979	-	260,979	408,029
Corporate fees	108,025	-	108,025	78,497
Monitoring Committee	99,710	-	99,710	105,536
Rent	81,268	-	81,268	84,608
Office expenses	69,535	-	69,535	46,266
Legal fees (Note 12)	46,416	-	46,416	55,751
Advertising and promotion	44,551	-	44,551	64,369
Administration charges	43,188	-	43,188	22,148
Telecommunications	34,522	-	34,522	41,928
Amortization of capital assets	24,263	-	24,263	33,663
Service Agreement - Cree Nation Government (Note 2)	16,500	-	16,500	16,811
Insurance	11,183	-	11,183	10,309
Bank charges	3,471	-	3,471	2,761
Annual report	2,400	-	2,400	2,040
	2,987,570	11,701,942	14,689,512	19,324,591
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenditures for the year	\$ (2,570,928)	\$ 7,402,472	\$ 4,831,544	\$ 1,499,228

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**Niskamoon Corporation
Statement of Changes in Net Assets**

For the year ended March 31	2017				2016
	Invested in Capital Assets	Administration Fund	Program Funds	Total	Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 896,652	\$ (896,652)	\$ (4,953,646)	\$ (4,953,646)	\$ (6,452,874)
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenditures for the year	(24,263)	(2,546,665)	7,402,472	4,831,544	1,499,228
Invested in capital assets	63,547	(63,547)	-	-	-
Interfund transfers (Note 15)	-	2,570,928	(2,570,928)	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 935,936	\$ (935,936)	\$ (122,102)	\$ (122,102)	\$ (4,953,646)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

6

Niskamoon Corporation Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31	2017	2016
Cash flows from operating activities		
Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year	\$ 4,831,544	\$ 1,499,228
Items not involving cash and cash equivalents		
Amortization of capital assets	24,263	33,663
Unrealized loss on investments	111,044	485,224
	4,966,851	2,018,115
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Accounts receivable	(484,977)	(196,138)
Prepaid expenses	-	7,730
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	52,146	(81,729)
Projects expenditures payable	(229,289)	(1,035,907)
Deferred revenue	(304,958)	(1,378,850)
Contributions received in advance	11,695,215	-
	15,694,988	(666,779)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of investments	(1,491,112)	(459,555)
Purchase of capital assets	(63,547)	(5,888)
	(1,554,659)	(465,443)
Cash flows from financing activity		
Due to Cree Nation Government	(17,761)	17,695
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	14,122,568	(1,114,527)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	707,607	1,822,134
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 14,830,175	\$ 707,607

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Niskamoon Corporation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

1. Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Business Niskamoon Corporation, was incorporated under Part III of the *Québec Companies Act* on August 24, 2004. Niskamoon Corporation is a non-profit corporation without share capital and without pecuniary gain to its members and is based in Nemaska, Québec. The Corporation was created in accordance with the Agreement concerning the Administration of Cree-Hydro-Québec Agreements and the Niskamoon Corporation.

Niskamoon Corporation's activities mainly consist in the implementation of the Cree-Hydro-Québec Agreements (the Opimiscow Agreement, the Mercury Agreement (2001), the Apatisiwin-Cree Employment Agreement, the Nadoshtin Agreement, the Boumhounan Agreement, and the Agreement concerning a new relationship between Hydro-Québec / SEBJ and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee) which provides for the management of the Opimiscow Indoho Fund, the Nadoshtin Archaeology Fund, the Nadoshtin Training Fund, the Nadoshtin Indohoun Fund and the Hydro-Québec and Eeyou Fund and the control of the Employment Fund, the Mercury Funds (Nameess and EM-1 Mercury Funds), the Nadoshtin Remedial Measures Fund, the Boumhounan Archaeology Fund, the Boumhounan Training Fund, the Boumhounan Indohoun Fund, the Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund, the Re-appropriation Funds for Continued Use, the Re-appropriation Funds for Specific Navigation and the Re-appropriation Funds for Specific Training.

Basis of Accounting The Corporation has prepared its financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO").

Funds Details Revenue and expenses related to program delivery and administrative activities are reported in the Administration Fund.

Program Funds

The Apatisiwin-Cree Employment Fund is to be used for the purposes of funding the hiring initiatives.

The Nameess Mercury Fund is to be used for the purposes of monitoring and research program.

The Opimiscow Indoho Fund is reserved for the exclusive use of the Cree Nation of Chisasibi (70%) and the Cree Nation of Wemindji (30%).

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

The Hydro-Québec Eeyou Fund is used principally for the funding of the Chisasibi House Replacement Program, which consists essentially of the construction or replacement of 163 housing units in the community of Chisasibi for a maximum amount of \$35,000,000. To date, \$33,000,000 (2016 - \$33,000,000) has been disbursed under the program to the Cree Nation of Chisasibi.

Nadoshtin Programs

This Agreement provides for the following funds:

The Nadoshtin Remedial Measures Fund is to be used to finance the types of works and programs to help alleviate the negative impact of hydro-electric development (including infrastructure) while enhancing the traditional Cree pursuits.

The Nadoshtin Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Fund is designed to ensure the inclusion of information about Cree perceptions, knowledge, history, and use of the environment in archaeological work.

The Nadoshtin EM-1 Mercury Fund is held and disbursed by Hydro-Québec but controlled by the Corporation to fund the restoration of Cree fisheries through programs that respond to Cree aspirations and needs. The Fund is also used to support Public Health Authorities in the development and delivery of programs related to the risk management of human exposure to mercury.

The Nadoshtin Eenou Indohoun Fund is primarily designed to create opportunities for the trappers of Eastmain, Mistissini, Nemaska, and Waskaganish directly affected by the Eastman 1 Project. The Fund promotes traditional activities and provides the means to mitigate the effects of the Project.

Boumhounan Programs

This Agreement provides for the following funds:

The Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund is to be used to finance the types of works and programs to help alleviate the negative impact of hydro-electric development (including infrastructure) while enhancing the traditional Cree pursuits.

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

The Boumhounan Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Fund is used to carry out the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Program (ACHP). The ACHP is designed to document and protect various aspects of the cultural heritage of the area affected by the EM-1 and EM1A Rupert River Partial Division / La Sarcelle Projects. This includes archaeological and burial sites as well as the knowledge and stories of families from the four communities affected by the Projects: Waskaganish, Eastmain, Nemaska and Mistissini.

The Boumhounan EM-1A Mercury Fund is held and disbursed by Hydro-Québec but controlled by the Corporation to fund the restoration of Cree fisheries through programs that respond to Cree aspirations and needs. The Fund is also used to support Public Health Authorities in the development and delivery of programs related to the risk management of human exposure to mercury.

The Boumhounan Eenou Training Fund is to be used to provide supplementary support as required, such as language courses and support for social activities to assist with adjustments.

The Boumhounan Eenou Indohoun Fund is very similar to the Nadoshtin Eenou Indohoun Fund and is also primarily designed to create opportunities for the trappers of Eastmain, Mistissini, Nemaska, and Waskaganish directly affected by EM1A Rupert River Partial Diversion / La Sarcelle Projects. The Fund promotes traditional activities and provides the means to mitigate the effects of the Project.

Re-appropriation Funds

This Agreement provides for the following funds:

The Continued Use Fund is to be used for projects, works, studies, programs, remedial and enhancement measures to be carried out within the Territory affected by the EM1A Rupert River Partial Diversion / La Sarcelle Projects. The fund allows for the continued use and re-appropriation of the Territory.

The Specific Navigation Fund is to be used to benefit the Waskaganish community due to the partial diversion of the Rupert River which resulted in a decrease in the access to the Rupert's Bay via the Northern channel.

The Specific Training Fund is to be used for the environmental training programs.

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

Financial Instruments *Measurement of Financial Instruments*

The Corporation initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value. The Corporation subsequently measures all its financial assets and liabilities at amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in the statement of revenue and expenditures.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable.

Financial assets measured at fair value include investments.

The Corporation elected to measure guaranteed investment certificates and bonds and debentures at fair value.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable, projects' expenditures payable and due to Cree Nation Government - Council.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is not greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in net income.

Transaction Costs

The Corporation recognizes its transaction costs for financial instruments at fair value in net income in the period incurred. However, financial instruments that will not be subsequently measured at fair value are adjusted by the transaction costs that are directly attributable to their origination, issuance or assumption. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from its financial instruments and the carrying amounts approximate fair values.

Pension Plan

The Corporation is a sponsor in a contributory, multiemployer defined benefit pension plan for all their employees who satisfy certain eligibility conditions. Defined contribution plan accounting is applied to the multiemployer defined benefit pension plan as information to apply defined benefit plan accounting is not available. The cost of defined contribution pensions is expensed as earned by employees.

Niskamoon Corporation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

Use of Estimates The preparation of financial statements in accordance with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Significant items subject to estimates and assumptions include, but are not limited to, the estimated useful life of assets and accruals. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

Revenue Recognition The Corporation follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Under this method, contributions restricted for future period expenses are deferred and are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Interest income is recognized when earned. Interest is allocated between the administration fund and the various program funds based on several criteria. The criteria involved in the determination of the allocation include the following: current and prior year deferred revenue and accounts receivable balances; and the specific investments made for each of the fund surpluses.

Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, bank balances and short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition and which are readily convertible into known amounts of cash.

Capital Assets and Assets Held-for-Sale Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Cost is net of related government grants, if any. Amortization based on the estimated useful life of the asset is calculated as follows:

Leasehold improvements	10 years straight-line method
Office furniture and equipment	20% declining balance method
Computer equipment	30% declining balance method

Assets held-for-sale are measured at the lower of their carrying value amount and fair value less costs to sell. They are not amortized while classified as held for sale.

Long-lived Assets Long-lived assets are tested for recoverability when events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amount may not be recoverable. The carrying amount of a long-lived asset is not recoverable when it exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected from its use and eventual disposal. In such a case, an impairment loss must be recognized and is equivalent to the excess of the carrying amount of a long-lived asset over its fair value.

Niskamoon Corporation

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

2. Service Agreement - Cree Nation Government

On November 17, 2016, the Corporation entered into an agreement with the Cree Nation Government (CNG) entitled Agreement Respecting the Executive Assistant Position Cost-Sharing and Nemaska Offices Rental. This Agreement was retroactive to September 15, 2016 as provided by Section 6 of this Agreement.

The Agreement provides for the service of an assistant to the treasurer position referred to in subsection 1.1 of this Agreement for the period between April 1st to March 31 of any given year starting on September 15, 2016. The individual occupying the above-mentioned position remains an employee of the Corporation and their service shall be shared as provided by subsection 1.2 of the Agreement.

Sections 2 and 3 of this Agreement provides for the rental of office spaces at Nemaska's CNG offices. The CNG invoices the Corporation on an annual basis for the expenditures incurred by CNG on behalf of the Corporation to be paid 30 days following March 31 of every year and are non-interest bearing.

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2017	2016
Cash	\$ 11,989,596	\$ 532,826
Money market fund	2,840,579	174,781
	\$ 14,830,175	\$ 707,607

4. Investments

	2017		2016	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Bonds and debentures (i)	\$ 31,489,419	\$ 31,738,692	\$ 33,794,593	\$ 34,319,739
Guaranteed investment certificates (ii)	10,602,833	10,602,833	6,825,000	6,825,000
Marketable securities	956,517	1,158,215	938,064	974,933
	\$ 43,048,769	\$ 43,499,740	\$ 41,557,657	\$ 42,119,672

(i) March 31, 2017 - interest rates ranging from 1.97% to 6.17% and maturing between April 2017 and June 2022;

March 31, 2016 - interest rates ranging from 2.04% to 6.17% and maturing between June 2016 and June 2022.

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

4. Investments (Continued)

(ii) March 31, 2017 - interest rates ranging from 1.35% to 1.5%, maturing between April 2017 and February 2018;

March 31, 2016 - interest rate at 1.35%, maturing between September 2016 and October 2016.

5. Accounts Receivable

	2017	2016
Accrued interest	\$ 2,500,533	\$ 2,021,528
Projects' expenditures recoverable	234,546	246,085
Sales taxes receivable	176,399	146,650
Travel advances	10,982	23,220
	\$ 2,922,460	\$ 2,437,483

6. Capital Assets

	2017		2016	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Leasehold improvements	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 142,500
Office furniture and equipment	130,669	107,341	130,669	101,509
Computer equipment	94,993	62,536	81,088	51,605
	\$ 375,662	\$ 319,877	\$ 361,757	\$ 295,614
Net book value		\$ 55,785		\$ 66,143

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

7. Assets Held-for-Sale

The Corporation owns land and building located in Montréal, Québec which are classified as held-for-sale. At March 31, 2017, there were circumstances beyond the Corporation's control that extended the period required to complete the sale beyond one year. The Corporation continues to meet the criteria to classify the building as asset held-for-sale at March 31, 2017.

The net book values of the assets held-for-sale are distributed as follows:

	2017			2016
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Land	\$ 102,192	\$ -	\$ 102,192	\$ 102,192
Building	932,450	154,491	777,959	728,317
	\$ 1,034,642	\$ 154,491	\$ 880,151	\$ 830,509

8. Projects' Expenditures Payable

	2017		2016
Siibii Development project	\$ 214,934	\$ -	-
Cree Nation of Chisasibi projects	191,598	-	-
Waswanipi First Nation projects	97,924	-	3,582
Whapmagoostui First Nation projects	88,479	-	-
Cree Nation of Nemaska projects	38,268	-	14,188
Cree Nation of Mistissini projects	17,452	-	-
Cree Nation of Eastmain projects	5,439	-	3,364
Cree Nation of Wemindji projects	62	-	-
Eenou-Eeyou Community Foundation	-	-	850,000
Crees of the Waskaganish First Nation projects	-	-	12,311
	\$ 654,156	\$ -	\$ 883,445

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

9. Deferred Revenue

	2017	2016
Apatisiwin - Cree Employment Fund ¹	\$ 5,092,098	\$ 2,917,221
Names Mercury Fund ¹	3,139,095	3,327,633
Opimiscow Indoho Fund	796,290	1,088,481
Re-appropriation Fund		
Continued Use Fund	4,997,109	4,371,744
Specific Navigation Fund	11,141,509	10,858,436
Specific Training Fund	359,905	405,912
Nadoshtin Funds		
Remedial Works Fund ¹	1,301,699	1,896,181
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Fund	94,236	94,236
EM-1 Mercury Fund ¹	228,871	228,871
Eenou Indohoun Fund	2,682,700	2,646,702
Boumhounan Funds		
Remedial Measures Fund ¹	12,827,234	14,702,472
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Fund ¹	83,335	135,386
EM-1 A Mercury Fund ¹	157,115	157,115
Training Fund	660,967	660,967
Eenou Indohoun Fund	1,854,343	2,017,943
Deferred revenue - Program Funds	45,416,506	45,509,300
Niskamoon Administration Fund ¹	4,273,983	4,486,147
Total deferred revenue	\$ 49,690,489	\$ 49,995,447

¹ Certain comparative figures have been restated to correct for the reclassification of prior years' revenue.

10. Contributions Received in Advance

On March 31, 2017, the Hydro-Québec Eeyou Fund received contributions in advance of \$8,750,261 and the Re-appropriation Continued Use Fund received contributions in advance of \$2,944,954 that relates to the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

11. Commitments

The Corporation has an operating lease for its premise in Rouyn-Noranda, Québec expiring on June 30, 2018.

The minimum annual base lease payments for the next two years are as follows:

2018	\$	84,307
2019		21,202
	\$	105,509

12. Legal Fees

	2017		2016
Chisasibi House Replacement Program	\$ 33,386	\$	42,828
Community coordinators	8,642		7,240
Real property and leasehold agreement	1,560		-
Head office	2,278		2,907
Executive Committee	-		2,776
Remedial works	550		-
	\$ 46,416	\$	55,751

13. Interfund Borrowing

During the year, the Hydro-Québec Eeyou Fund ("HQ Fund") borrows money from the Boumhounan Remedial Works Fund ("BRW Fund") to assist it with the financing of the Chisasibi House Replacement Program expenditures. The HQ Fund pays interest to the BRW Fund at an average rate of approximately 2.59% (2016 - 2.73%) on any outstanding balances. The interest rate is established by calculating the average rate of return on the investments restricted solely for the Boumhounan group of funds. There is no specified date of repayment.

	2017		2016
Year-end interfund balance	\$ 122,102	\$	4,953,646
Interest charged	\$ 48	\$	42,117

The interest is included in the BRW Fund interest revenue and in the HQ Fund projects expenditures.

The excess of revenue over expenditures for the year in the HQ Fund of \$4,831,544 (2016 - \$1,499,228) has been used to decrease the year-end inter-fund balances.

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

14. Risks Arising From Financial Instruments

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Corporation is exposed to credit risk in relation to cash and cash equivalents, investments and accounts receivable. For cash and cash equivalents and investments, the Corporation mitigates this risk by dealing with creditworthy financial institutions and counterparties. With respect to accounts receivable, the Corporation reduces this risk by dealing primarily with Hydro-Québec. Total credit risk is limited to the amounts recorded in the statement of financial position.

Market Risk

The market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk. As the Corporation does not hold significant foreign denominated balances, it is not exposed to currency risk.

Interest Rate Risk

The Corporation is exposed to interest rate risk associated with investments in bonds and debentures and money market funds. The yield and fair value of these investments will vary in response to changes in the prevailing market interest rates. The value of other bonds will generally rise if interest rates fall and fall if interest rates rise. The Corporation believes that this risk is limited since these assets are derived from a portfolio of investments from a large number of issuers which are from government or government guaranteed entities and institutional banks.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Corporation will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Corporation is exposed to this risk mainly in respect to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Other Price Risk

Other price risk arises from changes in market prices other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk. Investments are subject to market volatility risk. The investments of the Corporation are susceptible to market price risk arising from uncertainties about the future prices of the instruments.

There has been no change in the Corporation's risk management strategies during the year.

15. Interfund Transfer and Contributions

In 2017, the Corporation's Board of Directors transferred \$2,570,928 (2016 - \$2,905,218) from the Program Funds to the Administration Fund in order for the Administration Fund to manage the Corporation.

Niskamoon Corporation Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2017

16. Retirement Benefits

The Corporation is a member in a contributory, multi-employer defined benefit pension plan with 24 different participating employers for all their employees who satisfy certain eligibility conditions. The plan is called James Bay Cree-Naskapi Quebec Pension Plan.

At the date of the last actuarial valuation of the plan, December 31, 2015, there was a solvency deficit of approximately \$12,745,000 (2014 - \$10,254,000) according to the plan's actuaries. It is not possible to determine the Corporation's share of the solvency deficit as well as additional past service contributions since the information was not available as at the date of authorization of issuance by the Board of Directors. Additionally, the plan exposes the participating entities to actuarial risks associated with the current and former employees of other entities, with the result that there is no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, plan assets and cost to individual entities participating in the plan.

Significant long-term actuarial assumptions used in the last annual actuarial valuations issued the following:

	<u>2017</u>	2016
Asset rate of return (net of fees)	5.35%	5.25%
Inflation	2.00%	2.00%
Salary escalation rate	4.00%	4.00%
Indexation of retirement income	2.70%	2.70%

The Corporation made contributions totaling \$124,575 (2016 - \$100,798) during the year with respect to this plan.

Solvency deficit payments for 2017 amounted to \$Nil (2016 - \$38,400).

17. Comparative Figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

Cree Employment Agreement Employment Fund

March 31, 2017



Independent auditors' report

To the officers of Hydro-Québec serving on the Board of Directors of Niskamoon,

We have audited the accompanying statement of cumulative payments made in connection with the Employment Fund of the Cree Employment Agreement [the "Agreement"] as at March 31, 2017, and the statement of periodical payments for the year then ended, and other explanatory information [together "the financial statements"]. The financial statements have been prepared by management using the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting as described in Note 2.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Agreement; this includes determining that the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of these financial statements in the circumstances, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the statements of cumulative and periodical payments present fairly, in all material respects, the balance available of the Employment Fund of the Cree Employment Agreement as at March 31, 2017, and the cumulative and periodical payments made for the year then ended in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

Basis of accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describe the basis of accounting. These financial statements are prepared to provide information to the officers of Hydro-Québec serving on the Board of Directors of Niskamoon and other designated parties. As a result, these financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Ernst & Young LLP

Montréal, Canada
May 16, 2017

**Cree Employment Agreement
Employment Fund**

Statement of cumulative payments

As at March 31, 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Contributions to the Fund <i>[note 2]</i>	96,162,646	90,252,746
Payments <i>[note 2]</i>		
Cree – Hydro-Québec hiring initiatives for permanent positions in Hydro-Québec operations	(56,754,372)	(51,686,911)
Cree – Hydro-Québec employment incentives and temporary employment programs	(30,870,979)	(30,870,979)
	(87,625,351)	(82,557,890)
Operating expenses	(8,537,295)	(7,650,810)
Total payments	(96,162,646)	(90,208,700)
Balance available at the end of the year	—	44,046

See accompanying notes

**Cree Employment Agreement
Employment Fund**

Statement of periodical payments

Year ended March 31, 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Balance available at the beginning of the year	44,046	133
Contributions to the Fund <i>[note 2]</i>	5,909,900	6,087,800
Payments <i>[note 2]</i>		
Cree – Hydro-Québec hiring initiatives for permanent positions in Hydro-Québec operations	(5,067,461)	(6,043,887)
Operating expenses	(886,485)	—
Total payments	<u>(5,953,946)</u>	<u>(6,043,887)</u>
Net variation of the Fund	<u>(44,046)</u>	43,913
Balance available at the end of the year	<u>—</u>	<u>44,046</u>

See accompanying notes

Cree Employment Agreement Employment Fund

Notes to the financial statements

March 31, 2017

1. Fund description

The Employment Fund [the "Fund"] relative to the Cree Employment Agreement signed in February 2002 [the "Agreement"] provides for a yearly financial contribution of \$5,000,000 and an additional yearly financial contribution equal to the annual interest on a capital amount of \$30,000,000, at a rate equivalent to the average of the weekly rates of the calendar year ended 15 months prior to the fiscal year-end of the Fund, which is the long term provincial yield published by PC-Bond [Bloomberg Code: CBPRWBYL Index]. This Fund is used for the purpose of funding the hiring initiatives and the employment incentives and temporary employment programs, within the framework of the Agreement. This Fund will mature when the objective of Cree employment in the Bay James region within Hydro-Québec is achieved but no later than March 31, 2017. The Fund depleted during the year ended March 31, 2017.

2. Basis of presentation

Contributions

For fiscal year 2017, the Fund contribution corresponds to the yearly financial contribution of \$5,000,000, increased by the annual interests of \$909,900 [\$1,087,800 for fiscal year 2016]. The interest rate for the current year is 3.033% [3.626% for fiscal year 2016].

Payments

Payments represent amounts paid by Hydro-Québec with respect to the Employment Fund. No provision for unpaid amounts has been recorded in connection with work performed or services rendered as at March 31, 2017 under this Agreement.





NISKAMOON CORPORATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

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