

Québec, October 6, 2014

Mr. Gilbert G. Paillé
Chairman
Cree-Québec Forestry Board
Delta Building, 11th floor, Room 1180
2875 Boulevard Laurier
Québec (Québec) G1V 2M2

Mr. Chairman,

I am writing in response to a letter sent by your predecessor on July 31, 2014, stating the advice of the Cree-Québec Forestry Board regarding the 2014-2015 operational forest management plans.

I would first like to thank the Board for its comments on the interim process of drafting and approving forest plans. Like the Board, I believe that the global agreement regarding the harmonization of the adapted forestry regime should be concluded as soon as possible.

I also recognize that the Board has noted improvements between the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 years of operation. With respect to currently active issues, such as the woodland caribou and the development of mixed stands and riparian buffers, you may rest assured that the *ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs* will continue talks and negotiations with the Cree Nation Government in order to better take this into account in its forest planning.

Sincerely,

Laurent Lessard

c.c. Christopher Beck, JWG Coordinator, Cree Nation Government
Simon St-Georges, JWG Coordinator, *ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles*