

Gouvernement du Québec
Ministre des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
Ministre responsable du Centre-du-Québec
Député de Lotbinière-Frontenac

COURTESY TRANSLATION

October 7, 2014

Mr. Gilbert G. Paillé
Chairman
Cree-Québec Forestry Board
2875, boulevard Laurier, Edifice Le Delta 1
11th Floor, Suite 1180
Québec, Quebec G1V 2M2

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing in response to your predecessor's letter of May 14, 2014, which contains the Cree-Québec Forestry Board's recommendations on the forest management plan – tactical for management unit 084-62 and on forest regimes harmonization on Paix des Braves territory.

With regard to the forest management plan – tactical for management unit 084-62, I take note that the Board deems it to be in keeping with the rules governing its preparation. Consequently, I will make no adjustments to it before confirming the date it shall come into force.

With regard to management unit 084-62, I assure you that the representatives of the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) are well aware of its unique status in the context of the new governance on Eeyou Istchee James Bay territory. In conjunction with the representatives of the Cree party, they will determine the relevance of dealing with it specifically during the next discussions on forest regimes harmonization on Paix des Braves territory. You will then be informed of the results.

You have also informed me that the Board is still waiting for a reply to some of the advice letters it produced. Attached, you will find the MFFP's position on the following issues: woodland caribou, Joint Working Groups governance and a request for conciliation.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Cree-Québec Forestry Board's contribution to the implementation of the Paix des Braves and invite you to continue your excellent work.

Sincerely,

Laurent Lessard

Encl. 1

**SUMMARY OF THE CREE-QUÉBEC FOREST BOARD'S ADVICE LETTERS AND POSITIONS OF
THE MINISTÈRE DES FORÊTS, DE LA FAUNE ET DES PARCS**

Cree-Québec Forest Board (CQFB) advice on the report of the woodland caribou expert group

Date advice was sent: October 15, 2012

Contents: The CQFB recommends that the Québec government and the Crees develop and put into practice a global action plan and concrete measures to promote the woodland caribou's recovery. The CQFB also recommends rapidly implementing a precautionary approach in the forest management plans.

Position of the Ministère: The MFFP is working with the Crees in the context of a committee working to develop an action plan and concrete measures to ensure the caribou's recovery. The MFFP has developed and implemented a precautionary approach while waiting for the committee's conclusions.

CQFB advice on Joint Working Groups governance

Date advice was sent: October 15, 2012

Contents: The CQFB recommends a series of possible solutions to the Québec government and the Crees to improve the Joint Working Groups' operations and capacity for action, notably those related to their governance structure.

Position of the Ministère: In the context of the negotiations concerning forest regimes harmonization on Paix des Braves territory, the MFFP representatives and representatives of the Cree party have agreed on the adjustments that need to be made to the Adapted Forestry Regime to follow up on the CQFB's recommendations.

CQFB advice on a request for conciliation

Date advice was sent: December 17, 2012

Contents: The CQFB Chairman explains the problematic situation regarding the MFFP's compliance with certain provisions of the Adapted Forestry Regime related to conciliation and suggests taking the necessary measures to ensure that this type of situation does not reoccur.

Position of the Ministère: The MFFP has analyzed the situation and adapted internal procedures. Furthermore, in the context of forest regimes harmonization, adjustments have been made to the dispute settlement process.