

COURTESY TRANSLATION

Sainte-Foy, June 22, 2005

Minister Pierre Corbeil  
600-0117 Cabinet du ministre des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune  
5700, 4<sup>e</sup> avenue ouest  
Bureau A-308  
Charlesbourg (Québec) G1H 6R1

Subject: Trapline W 06

Dear Minister Corbeil,

In February 2004, the Board was informed of a problem affecting trapline W 06 as a result of a number of mistakes made by both parties' representatives concerning the approval of modifications to an annual forest management plan. Indeed, the required consultation process for this plan, under the provisions of Chapter 3 of the *Agreement concerning a new relationship between le gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec*, never took place.

The issue was therefore referred to the Board and we believe it is important to inform you of the way the problem was resolved and to underline the usefulness of the mechanisms put in place to make the Agreement operational.

Following a request by the Waswanipi First Nation to assess the situation in order to develop proactive solutions to prevent such situations from re-occurring in the future, the Board has then mandated the parties' forestry coordinators to submit a proposal to the Board to resolve the issue. We are pleased to tell you that this review has been completed and that the Board has accepted the coordinators' recommendations.

One of the major difficulties was concerning communication between each party's Joint Working Groups members. To improve this situation, it was agreed that each party's coordinators would develop a number of tools to ensure that Joint Working Groups members, forest companies and Cree tallymen be fully informed on the strict timeframe of the consultation for the annual forest management plans and on any modifications made to these plans.

Moreover, in order to avoid any further misunderstandings, it was agreed that the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune would send copies of all approved timber permits to the Cree members of the concerned Joint Working Groups as soon as they are delivered to the forest company(ies). We understand that this procedure was adopted as a provision of the proposed modifications to the Agreement and should already be a normal procedure.

Also, in reviewing the facts related to the W 06 file, the coordinators have also discovered that the informations transmitted in the timber permits were not easily understood by the Cree party nor by the general public. Since these permits contain key information on the location and date of the forest management activities, the coordinators recommended that the Board examine the timber permits format and content with a view to making their content more accessible to the Cree party. A better understanding of the information contained in these permits by all stakeholders will facilitate the implementation of Chapter 3 of the Agreement.

In closing, I wish to reiterate the parties' good will and spirit of cooperation to make the adapted regime of the *Agreement concerning a new relationship between le gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec* a reality.

Please accept, Minister Corbeil, our kindest regards.

Jean-Pierre Gauthier  
Chairman of the Board



Sainte-Foy, June 29st, 2005

Dr Ted Moses, Grand Chief  
Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)  
2, Lakeshore Road  
Nemaska,  
James Bay (Quebec) J0Y 3B0

Subject: Trapline W 06

Dr Moses,

In February 2004, the Board was informed of a problem affecting trapline W 06 as a result of a number of mistakes made by both parties' representatives concerning the approval of modifications to an annual forest management plan. Indeed, the required consultation process for this plan, under the provisions of Chapter 3 of the *Agreement concerning a new relationship between le gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec*, never took place.

The issue was therefore referred to the Board and we believe it is important to inform the parties of the way the problem was resolved and to underline the usefulness of the mechanisms put in place to make the Agreement operational.

Please find attached a letter transmitted to the Minister of Ressources Naturelles et de la Faune and describing the procedure followed and the steps taken to prevent such situations from re-occurring in the future. I remain available if you have any question concerning this situation or the results of our analysis.

In closing, I wish to reiterate the parties' good will and spirit of cooperation to make the adapted regime of the *Agreement concerning a new relationship between le gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec* a reality.

Please accept, Dr Moses, our kindest regards.

Jean-Pierre Gauthier  
Chairman of the Board

Attach.