



Cree School Board
Commission scolaire crie



Are You Thinking of Running for Cree School Board Chairperson?

Here are some Answers to Questions you may have!



What is the purpose of the Cree School Board?

The Cree School Board was incorporated in 1978, three years after the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, and has jurisdictional powers and authority to deliver educational services to nine Cree Communities within Eeyou Istchee.



Mission
“Our purpose”

To provide for life-long learning while instilling the Cree identity in partnership with our communities to allow each student to attain the qualifications and competencies to become a successful contributor to the Cree Nation and society at large.



Vision
“Our aspiration”

A well-educated and successful Cree Nation through inspired teaching and valued learning.

Who are the Council of Commissioners?

The Council of Commissioners is the governing body of the Cree School Board on behalf of Eeyou Istchee. The Council of Commissioners consists of nine elected Commissioners who serve three-year terms on a rotational basis and two observers from Washaw-Sibi and Mocreebec Eeyoud who are appointed by their respective Chief and Councils. The Council is led by the Chairperson, who is the Cree representative elected regionally by the Cree Nation for a term of three years.

What does the Chairperson do?

The role of Cree School Board Chairperson is a full-time elected position.

Specific responsibilities delegated to the Chairperson as per the current General By-Law No. 7 - Section 4 include:

- to preside at meetings of the Council and Executive Committee;
- to represent the Board and the Council in day to day matters and in respect to such things as may be delegated to the Chairperson by the Council;
- to see to the supervision of the work of the Board and to ensure the attainment of the objects of the Board;
- to consult with the Secretary-General or the Director General concerning the agenda of forthcoming meetings of the Council and Executive Committee;
- to represent the Board in relations with the various government authorities, the Cree entities of Eeyou Istchee and other persons or organizations providing services to the communities;
- to oversee the activities of the Director General, including the approval of his work schedule and vacation schedule;

- to ensure the coordination of the activities of the Board with the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) – Cree Nation Government and the Cree Communities and the other Cree entities;
- to represent the Board at official functions and meetings;
- to be ex-officio member of all committees of the Board but without a voting right on any committee which is not composed of a majority of commissioners;
- unless otherwise provided for by a resolution of the Council or Executive Committee and if required, sign employment agreements with the Director General, Deputy Director General (Pedagogy), Deputy Director General (Operations), the Secretary General and the Director of Human Resources Services.

Characteristics Required

A Chairperson displays the following qualities and attitudes:

- Passion for the role of education in building a strong Cree Nation.
- Willing to meet with and talk to members of the Cree Nation.
- Committed to serving the Council of Commissioners by providing leadership to the Council's work within areas delegated by the Council.
- Honest, with strong moral principles.
- Prepared to make decisions in the best interests of the Cree School Board on behalf of the Cree Nation without considering own personal interests.
- Will ensure Council operates with purpose, integrity and efficiency.
- Ability to anticipate what might happen in the future, and to make decisions now with an understanding of how they may affect future generations.
- Interest in and capability to make value-based decisions which guide the Cree School Board.
- Will respect the delegation of operational details to the Director General as delegated by Council.
- Will participate in thoughtful discussion, while respecting the opinions of those who may disagree.
- Will commit to honour Council of Commissioner's decisions.
- Uphold the Cree Values of the Cree Nation and the Council of Commissioners.

Who is Eligible to be Chairperson?

To be eligible for the office of Chairperson, the candidate must:

- Be elected by the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee.
- Be a member of one of the following communities: Whapmagoostui, Chisasibi, Wemindji, Eastmain, Waskaganish, Nemaska, Waswanipi, Oujé-Bougoumou, or Mistissini.
- Be the age of majority.
- Not to be affected by a legal incapacity or be subject to protective supervision within the meaning of the Civil Code.
- Not to have been found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction as detailed in the Bylaws.
- Not be a current employee of the Cree School Board. However, if nominated, an employee is eligible to run for office but will need to vacate if elected.

Process for Submission of Nominations

The Nomination Process for the Chairperson includes:

- At least forty-five (45) days before the Election Day, the Regional Returning Officer must prepare and make available the nomination form.
- To be considered an eligible candidate, a person must meet the qualifications and must have been nominated in writing by 10 ten (10) names of eligible voters on the nomination form.
- Nomination forms must be filed with the Regional Returning Officer at least thirty (30) days before the Election Day.
- After a person has been duly nominated, the Regional Returning Officer must make every effort to notify the nominee and confirm the intention no later than two (2) days upon closing of the nomination period.
- Once the candidates have been informed in writing that their nomination has been accepted by the Regional Returning Officer, the candidates must, within three (3) days, expressly inform in writing the Regional Returning Officer, whether they accept the nomination for the position; otherwise, the candidate's name shall be deleted from the list of candidates.

For more information, please contact:

Doreen Blackned, Secretary General

CREE SCHOOL BOARD

Doreen.blackned@cscree.qc.ca

418-923-2764, ext. 1218 or 514-604-9400

