



WORKING GROUP ON THE CREE COMPONENT OF THE CREE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Cree School Board Regional General Assembly

Presentation by: Pakesso Mukash, Chairperson of the Working Group

November 8, 2016



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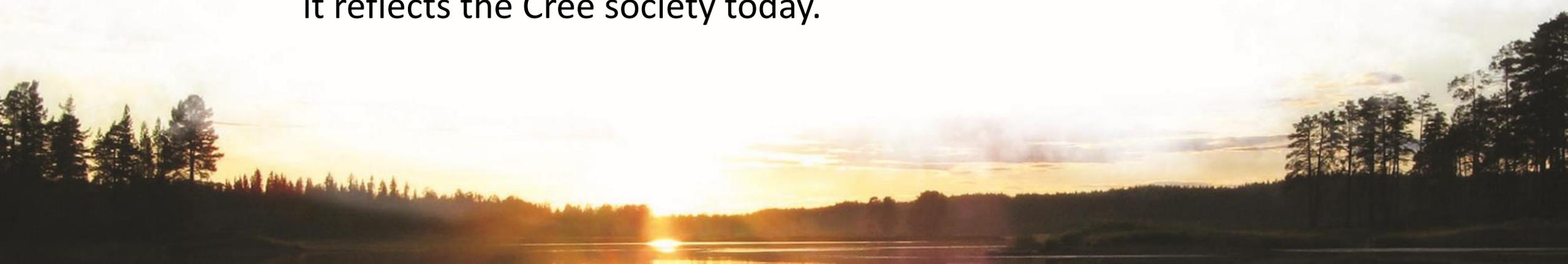
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Background on the creation of the Working Group

At the time of the signing of the JBNQA, members of the Cree Nation did not have an opportunity to participate in the development of the Cree education system.

After thirty-five years (35), it was time for the Cree Nation and its School Board to review the Cree Education System and whether or not it reflects the Cree society today.





Background on the creation of the Working Group

In order to undertake this review, the Cree School Board's Governance Development Committee created two (2) Working Groups to assist them.

1) The first group is mandated to assist the committee in their review of the *Cree Education Act*

2) The second is mandated to assist them in their review of the *Cree component of the Cree Education System*. Our focus will be on the 2nd one.



Background on the creation of the Working Group

The Working Group for the ***Cree Component of the Cree Education System*** was created by the Cree School Board in May 2013.

The group's main purpose is to advise this committee on how to best reform the Cree Education System so that it is relevant for today's Cree society.





Background on the creation of the Working Group

In particular, the Working Group is expected to “**develop a framework for the reformation of the Cree Education System**” while ensuring that the “proposed reformation of the Cree Education System align[s] with the *Council’s Policy Manual* and the *Governance Policy Model*”.

This process will involve the presentation of a report with recommendations to be made to the *Governance Development Committee* to assist them with their mandate.

There are representatives from each Cree community, members of this Working Group were selected on the basis of their education, working experience and knowledge of the Cree culture, language, or history.



Members of the Working Group

1. Anna Bosum, Ouje-Bougoumou
2. Kevin Brousseau, Waswanipi (*attending Medical School*)
3. Thomas Coon, Mistissini
4. Ida Gilpin, Wemindji
5. Billy Katapatuk, Washaw Sibi
6. Elma Moses, Eastmain
7. Pakesso Mukash, Whapmagoostui
8. Mimie Neacappo, Chisasibi
9. Brian Webb, Chisasibi
10. Gerti Murdoch, Waskaganish (*deceased September 2015*)
11. Lindy Moar, Nemaska (*as of May 2015*)



Mandate

1) Review legislative documents related to Cree Education

James Bay and Northern Agreement;

Cree Education Act;

Quebec Education Program (QEP);

CSB Guaranteed Viable Curriculum;

Cree Naskapi Act;

Nunavut Language Commission;



Mandate

- 2) Conduct literature review of First Nations Control of First Nations Education;
- 3) Research other models of Aboriginal Education Systems;
- 4) Identify Cree values, principles and philosophy to be included in the Cree Component of the Cree Education;
- 5) Identify the aspects of the Quebec Education Program that should be included in the Cree Education System, if deemed necessary;
- 6) Provide options for the development of a framework and a Cree construct for a new Cree Education System; and
- 7) Ensure that the proposed Cree Education documents align with the Council's Policy Manual.



Expected Outcome

- The Working Group is expected to develop a framework for the reformation of the Cree Education System.
- The Working Group will also ensure that the proposed reformation of the Cree Education System aligns with the Council's Policy Manual and the Governance Policy Model.





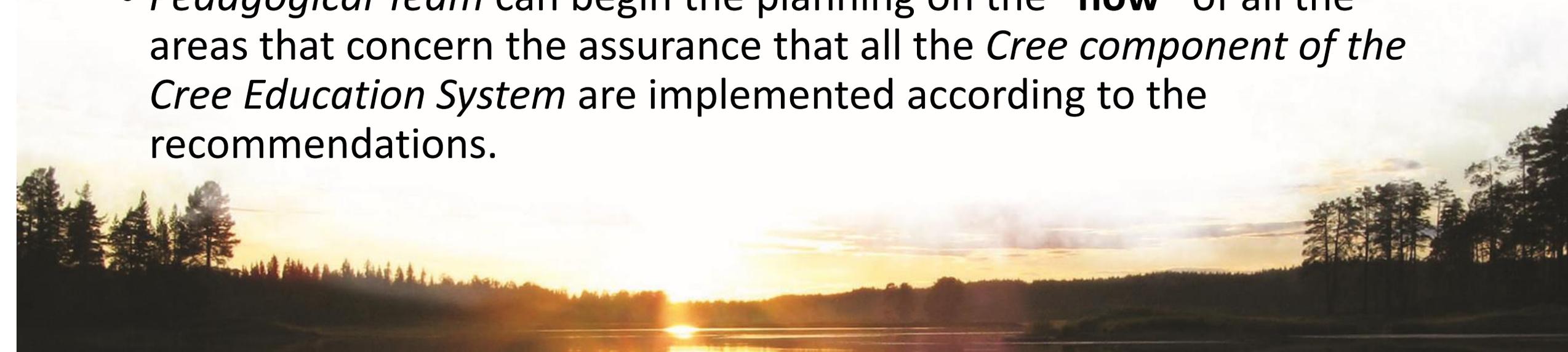
Progress

- Since May 2013 the Working Group has regularly discussed its mandate and undertake the required review, and conduct corresponding exercises/activities;
- Undergoing discussions revolve around identity, culture, language, history, and education;
- Recommendations have been made to the Council of Commissioners and the members of the Working Group are finding common ground in their discussions – these will all be in the final framework;
- The writing of the literature review on education models on Indigenous Education are on-going and the contents of what will be in the framework has been organized;



Progress

- Finalize the draft with the Working Group
- Present the finalized framework to the Council of Commissioners at the December 2016 meeting
- Draft framework will go through a critical review team that the Board will create; and
- *Pedagogical Team* can begin the planning on the “**how**” of all the areas that concern the assurance that all the *Cree component of the Cree Education System* are implemented according to the recommendations.





2016-2021 Strategic Action Plan Initiatives

- Initiatives

THEME : Educational Success

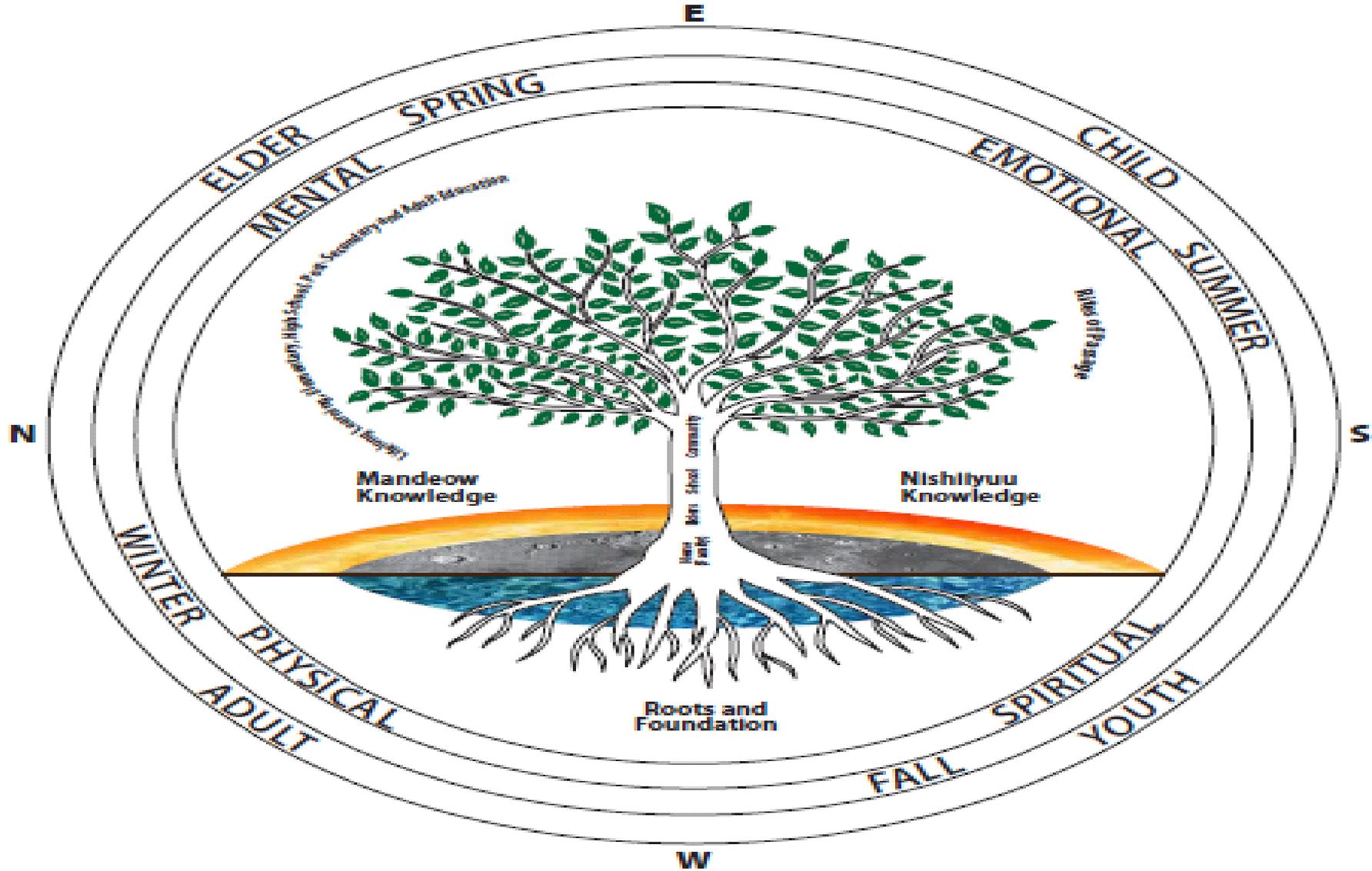
“We offer quality instruction and culturally relevant learning experiences in an environment that fosters student achievement and well-being”

Commitments

- *“We create learning environments and opportunities where students are well-grounded in our Cree heritage and traditions.”*
- *“We offer a safe, welcoming, and culturally relevant environment that fosters student success.”*

IIYIYU CHISKUTIMAACHAAWIN PHILOSOPHY

Education Model





Questions?

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Title of Presenter: Chair for Working Group

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Meegwetch. Thank you. Merci.

