

Welcome

The Cree School Board is pleased to welcome all delegates to our Regional General Assembly. The theme of our event is "Our Journey Towards Student Success". This assembly has several objectives. First, the Cree School Board will share the key initiatives we have mapped out to help us achieve the goal of student success. Next, we will report on our past year's activities, so you can learn about the innovative work of our schools and hear our results. The Cree School Board is dedicated to ensuring that our students succeed in their educational pursuits, become qualified and competent workers in the Cree labour market, and successful contributors to our Cree Nation and society at large. Realizing this vision is a collective undertaking. We have been careful to develop a program that invites engagement, so participate freely in discussions to mobilize our Calls to Action for Cree education. Let's make the best of this occasion to work together!

Cree School Board Leadership



KATHLEEN J. WOOTTON

Kathleen J. Wootton has served as the Chairperson of the Cree School Board since November 2011. She was re-elected in June 2015 for another three-year term. Kathleen leads the Council of Commissioners following the Policy Governance Model and runs Ownership Linkages meetings to better connect the Council of Commissioners with communities, entities, groups, and other interest groups in Eeyou Istchee. Kathleen firmly believes "if we do education right, it will be the foundation upon which we will build a strong Cree Nation".



ABRAHAM JOLLY

Abraham Jolly first joined the Cree School Board Management team in 1999, where he served as the Deputy Director General. In the fall of 2006, Abraham was appointed to serve as the Director General of the CSB, where he has since led a vision for effective meaningful change. Most recently, he led the development of the Cree School Board's 2016-2021 Strategic Action Plan.



SERGE BÉLIVEAU

Serge Béliveau is Deputy Director General since 2013 and is the pedagogical leader for the Youth Sector of the Cree School Board. Since occupying this role, Serge has introduced programming that attends to student's diverse needs. Serge has over 20 years of experience in public education as a high school Physical Education teacher, elementary vice-principal, high school principal, and assistant director of educational services specializing in school administration and educational leadership.



CAROLINE MARK

Caroline Mark has 16 years of experience with the Cree School Board in the capacity of Regional Coordinator for the New Paths for Education Program and in coordinating other special projects for the board. In June 2013, she acquired her MBA from Concordia University at Montreal. She has occupied her role as Deputy Director General of Operations since October 2016.

Special Guest Speakers



GRAND CHIEF DR. MATTHEW COON COME

Dr. Matthew Coon Come is Grand Chief of the James Bay Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee. His election in July 2013 is his fifth re-election to that position. He has been honoured with several awards recognizing his leadership in marshalling local, national and international environmental human rights and tribal communities to create a strong coalition to stop a massive hydro-electric project on Eeyou Istchee. He was born on his parents' trapline of the Cree Nation of Mistissini.



DR. PHILIP AWASHISH

Since 1970, Dr. Philip Awashish has been actively promoting the recognition and protection of Aboriginal peoples' rights, cultures, governance and traditional laws in Canada and abroad. Dr. Awashish is a leader in James Bay Cree Aboriginal government, and has played a decisive role in gaining recognition of the ways of life of the Aboriginal peoples of northern Canada, and in developing new Indigenous and joint government policies and programs. He is a firm believer in the reformative power of education and says, "We, the Eenou/Eeyou of Eeyou Istchee, have the tools to build our nation. Now it is up to each Eeyou/Eenou to assist and make a contribution to building our nation through effective learning, training and education!"



DR. ABEL BOSUM

From 1984 to 1998, Dr. Abel Bosum occupied the key leadership role of the Oujé-Bougoumou Cree Nation, his home community, which had been displaced numerous times in order to accommodate the mining industry. Dr. Bosum conducted successful negotiations leading to major agreements with both Québec and Canada related to the establishment of a permanent village for the Crees of Oujé-Bougoumou. Since 1999, he has served the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) as Negotiator for Cree-Québec relations. He is President of the Aanischaaukamikw Foundation supporting the construction and operations of the Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute. He also mobilized the Roundtable on Capacity Building initiative to promote community engagement in capacity building.



ROBERT KANATEWAT

Robert Kanatewat is a name closely associated with the events leading up to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. As Chief of the Fort George Band (later became the Chisasibi Band) for ten years, he was instrumental in the early efforts in Quebec along with Chief Max Gros-Louis and the late Chief Billy Diamond in asserting Indian rights to land and Indian control of education. His work inspired many efforts of this kind in other parts of Canada and has been honoured with several awards for his leadership. He actively supports the Roundtable on Capacity Building initiative and has become a highly respected figure among a younger generation of Cree youth as a result.

November 8, 2016

7:30 – 8:15 A.M.	Registration/Breakfast (Pre-K to Grade 2 Students and Delegates) <i>Sponsored by the Cree Nation Government Department of Justice & Correctional Services</i>
8:30 – 8:45 A.M.	Call to Order Master of Ceremonies Clifford Loon, Cree School Board Commissioner
8:45 – 9:00 A.M.	Welcoming Remarks Kathleen J. Wootton, <i>Chairperson</i>
9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Governance and Ownership Linkages <i>Address by the Chairperson and Council of Commissioners</i>
10:00 – 10:15 A.M.	Health Break <i>Sponsored by the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay</i>
10:15 – 10:45 A.M.	Review of the Cree Component and the Framework for the Cree Education Act <i>Presentations by the Working Groups</i>
10:45 – 11:00 A.M.	History of Cree Education and the Cree School Board <i>Nian Matoush, Director of Communications & Community Relations</i>
11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	Cree School Board Progress Report and the 2016-2021 Strategic Action Plan <i>Presentation by Abraham Jolly, Director General</i>
12:00 - 1:25 P.M.	Lunch Break (Secondary School Students & Delegates)
1:30 - 2:00 P.M.	Master of Ceremonies Daisy Shecapio, Cree School Board Commissioner
2:05 - 2:20 P.M.	Youth Sector Progress Report <i>Presentations by Serge Béliveau, Deputy Director General (Pedagogy) and Kimberly Quinn, Director of School Operations</i>
2:30 - 3:00 P.M.	Q & A Roundtable Discussion
3:00 - 3:15 P.M.	Health Break <i>Sponsored by the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay</i>
3:15 - 3:45 P.M.	Youth Sector Cree Language & Culture <i>Presentations by Lucy Shem, Coordinator of Cree Programs and Sherry Weistche, Coordinator of Instructional Services</i>
3:50 - 4:05 P.M.	Q & A
4:15 - 4:45 P.M.	Roundtable Discussion
4:45 - 5:00 P.M.	Wrap-Up
6:00 P.M.	Banquet and Entertainment

ALL MEALS INDICATED IN THE PROGRAM WILL BE SERVED ON SITE AT THE NEOSKWESKAU COMPLEX

November 9, 2016

7:30 – 8:15 A.M.	Breakfast (Grade 3 to 6 Students, Parents & Delegates) <i>Sponsored by the Cree Nation Government Department of Justice & Correctional Services</i>
8:30 – 8:45 A.M.	Call to Order Master of Ceremonies Emily G. Mianscum, Cree School Board Commissioner
8:45 – 9:15 A.M.	Roundtable on Capacity Building <i>Presentation by Dr. Abel Bosum, Dr. Philip Awashish and Robert Kanatewat</i>
9:15 – 9:20 A.M.	Welcoming Remarks <i>Abraham Jolly, Director General</i>
9:20 – 9:40 A.M.	Post-Secondary Student Services <i>Post-Secondary Student Services Presentation by Jane L. Blacksmith, Director of Post-Secondary Student Services</i>
9:40 – 9:55 A.M. 10:05 – 10:35 A.M.	Q & A Roundtable Discussion
10:35 – 10:50 A.M.	Health Break - <i>Sponsored by Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay</i>
10:50 – 11:20 A.M.	Sabtuan Adult Education Services & Sabtuan Regional Vocational Training Centre <i>Presentation by Pierre Desjardins, Director of SAES & Réjean Gascon, Director of SRVTC</i>
11:20 – 11:35 A.M. 11:45 – 12:15 P.M.	Q & A Roundtable Discussion
12:15 – 1:30 P.M.	Lunch Break (Sabtuan Adult Education Students and Delegates) <i>Sponsored by Nemaska Lithium</i>
1:30 – 2:00 P.M.	Master of Ceremonies Rachel Kawapit, Cree School Board Commissioner Human Resources & Finance <i>Presentations by Natalie Petawabano, Director of Human Resources and Matthew Rabbitskin, Director of Finance</i>
2:00 – 2:20 P.M.	Q & A
2:30 – 3:00 P.M.	Material Resources Services & Information and Technologies <i>Presentations by Guylaine Houle, Director of Material Resources and Frank Turgeon, Director of Information and Technologies</i>
3:00 – 3:15 P.M.	Q & A
3:15 – 3:30 P.M.	Health Break <i>Sponsored by Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay</i>
3:30 – 4:10 P.M.	Student Testimonies - Jarris Gull-Blacksmith – Civil Engineering Technology at Cambrian College, Bachelors of Building Science at Algonquin College - Joyce Anna Ottereyes – Bachelors in Human Relations, Masters in Education and now near completion, Doctorate in Education - Matthew Bullfrog - Topographic and Surveying Diploma, Sabtuan Regional Vocational Training Centre - Reshawn Matoush - Secondary V French, Voyageur Memorial School
4:15 – 4:45 P.M.	Calls to Action
4:45 – 5:00 P.M.	Wrap-Up <i>Closing Remarks by Kathleen J. Wootton, Chairperson</i>

Evening Program

November 8, 2016 - Banquet Served at 6:00 P.M.



Welcome by Chief Richard Shecapio, Cree Nation of Mistissini

Host community and generous sponsor of this event.



Address by Special Guest Speaker Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come

Grand Chief Dr. Matthew Coon Come is a member of the Cree Nation of Mistissini where he was born and was first noticed by the community for his strong leadership ability. His message on the role of education for advancing the Cree Nation is founded on his efforts to end federal policy to extinguish aboriginal peoples' human right of self-determination, to lead the fight against the Great Whale hydroelectric megaproject in Quebec, and to assert the Cree right of self-determination.



Comedian Don Burnstick

Take a break from serious and get ready to laugh with one of Canada's best First Nations comedians of all time! Don Burnstick is a Cree from the Alexander First Nation outside of Edmonton, AB. The youngest of 15 children, coupled with the fact of growing up on the reserve, taught Don a variety of means of defending himself, not the least of which became his use of humour. His comedic performances humorously portray First Nations people, their habits, likes and dislikes.

Special Performances

Live Performance by Simple Human Tribe, N'we Jinan Performers



Mistissini's Big Rock Dancers



Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

On behalf of the Cree School Board and the Regional General Assembly Planning Committee, we extend a special thanks to all of our sponsors who helped to make this event a success.

airCreebec Inc.



Conseil Cri de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie James
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Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay



**NEMASKA
LITHIUM**

Warm's Thanks to all our Speakers, Participating Communities, Entities, Delegates, Suppliers, and Entertainers.



Notes

