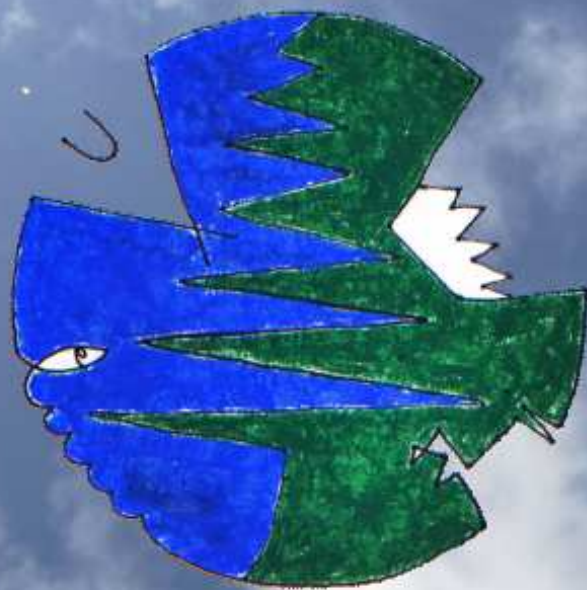


First Edition : Conference on natural resources and sustainable development

**How to be Ecology-friendly and Respectful in
Using our Forests while Remaining
Prosperous?**



Conference proceedings

**Chibougamau
November 5 and 6, 2008**



WORD FROM THE HONORARY PRESIDENT

Participants to the first Northern Québec Conference on Sustainable Development,

Members of the organizing committee,

It is with pride and much humility that I have accepted to be honorary president for this first conference on sustainable development in Northern Québec on the theme: "How to be environmentally friendly and respectful in using our forests while remaining prosperous?" These are topics and challenges that have been dear to Chantiers Chibougamau for many years.

Within our organization, we don't pretend to do things better than others. We passionately long to do what is necessary the best way possible and to surpass ourselves. This holds for our manufacturing processes, collaboration with the community and wood operations meant to be the most eco-friendly. Nature provides the raw material that gives us employment. Because nature surrounds us, we inhabit her and we personally know the aboriginal communities who dwell within her, she is also the scene of numerous recreational activities. We are therefore naturally inclined to carry out our activities in ways that have the least impact on her.

I am confident that this first conference will constitute an unprecedented incentive for all of us, entrepreneurs and leaders of Northern Québec. Whatever the scale of our activities may be, we benefit from enhancing our business practices, and we gain to engage on this path. I congratulate the organizing committee for its initiative and for the work it has accomplished in over a year. I thank the speakers who will sustain and inspire us, during the two-day conference, in building a better future from all perspectives. I also wish to point out the contributions from our government partners who help make such a high content event possible here in Northern Québec, in Chibougamau.

Lastly, I thank and congratulate all participants to the Conference who chose to invest two days of their valuable time to attend the proposed sessions and workshops.

Humbly yours,

*Michel Filion,
Chantiers Chibougamau*



WORD OF WELCOME

Welcome,
Waachiyee,

FaunENord is proud to host the first edition of the Regional Conference on Natural Resources and Sustainable Development: **“How to be more eco-friendly and respectful in our use of the forest while remaining prosperous?”** Why focus on the use, exploitation and management of forest resources in this first edition? The obvious reason is that 16 percent of all forest area in Québec is found in Northern Québec. Following the Coulombe Commission recommendations, a drop in forest potential was noted. Jobs were lost. There was worry among communities whose livelihood depends on forest resources. Recommendations delivered by the Commission aim at sustainable forest development; in the long term, they will allow communities to fill economic, environmental and social needs for the present and future generations. Concurrently, use of the forest environment for recreational purposes in the region is important. Activities such as hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, canoeing and wildlife observation are flourishing. It becomes necessary to monitor recreational activities in order to favour harmonious and sustainable development. That is the reason for our presence here.

However, for the time being, regional stakeholders have few clues as to solutions suitable to regional realities. It seems that each municipality or community works alone to develop avenues of sustainable development. The timing of a regional consensus building conference on the subject is therefore perfect.

Today, regional and national experts are brought together for your benefit. Some will demonstrate issues we are currently facing. Others will inform you on various solutions available. Ultimately, this event will allow the establishment, in Northern Québec, of a network of stakeholders working to provide information and who will ensure better cohesion in various initiatives of integrated management and enhancement of the forest environment.

You will agree that for all communities of Northern Québec, the natural environment is closely related to the social, economic and cultural pace of life. These areas are the basis of sustainable development. We invite you to take ownership of the development of the territory, now, in order to guarantee healthy management.

Holding such an event in the Northern Québec is a first. Because of the interest shown today in the topic, and for which we are very touched, we hope to repeat the experience to ensure the follow-up and enhancement of our regional development.

Have a wonderful conference!
Chiniskumitine!

Gilles Boudreault, Président de FaunENord



General Session

What is Sustainable Development?

Robert Lauzon – Bureau de coordination du développement durable, Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP)

The definition of sustainable development, adopted by Québec, is based on the definition given at the Brundtland Commission:

...development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development rests upon a long-term vision that takes into account the inseparability of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of development activities.

The approach to sustainable development goes far beyond concerns for the environment. It rests on the certainty that we must act by reconsidering our ways of doing business regarding three inseparable priorities:

- 1- Maintain environmental integrity to guarantee health and security for human communities and preserve the ecosystems that sustain life
- 2- Ensure social equity for our own personal growth, community expansion and respect of our differences
- 3- Aim at economic effectiveness in order to create an innovative, prosperous, environmentally and socially accountable economy.

The ultimate objective of sustainable development is to guarantee and maintain the quality of life.

Québec legislation on sustainable development aims at introducing a new management framework within the administration, particularly by the recognition of the principles of sustainable development. Legislation was adopted, unanimously, by the members of the Québec National Assembly and benefits from the 2008-2013 Sustainable Development Strategy which outlines many strategic orientations and draws up objectives for overall public administration, among which many call for forest resource, territorial and established community development.

The approach is further defined by the sustainable development action plan calling upon 150 government departments and organizations. They must review their programs, plans, strategies and policies in order to progressively become part of the frame of reference and to address two distinctive issues: short-term vision and silo operation. Focusing on administration but aiming at the overall society, the approach is built on transparency in decision-making, implementation and accountability.

Very few governments throughout the world have passed legislation on sustainable development. The approach is therefore demanding for Québec. Furthermore, no other government has established a coherent follow-up

mechanism with three-level indicators, that is, action plans from departments and organizations, national strategy and a socially inclusive approach. Correspondingly, the Québec approach requires much caution and modesty.

As mentioned before, Québec legislation is based on accountability to guarantee a successful approach. Action plans from departments and organizations will be made public; results will be published in a separate section of the annual reports. Furthermore, a commissioner for sustainable development has been named to verify the results and assure transparency. The whole approach is closely connected to the Public Administration Act, especially the strategic planning exercises.

Whatever project is developed, legislation does not ask to take into account all three aspects: environmental, social and economic. Instead it asks that the 16 principles of sustainable development be considered therefore integrating the environmental, social and economic aspects in decision making rather than considering them separately. The principles are the driving force of the approach. It is important to understand that sustainable development is an approach and not a project. Legislation on sustainable development does not, in any case, supersede the decision-makers; it provides ways of improving decision making processes. The approach questions practices and decision making silos. In fact, the principles become a public assessment grid to be used by citizens and organizations to appraise decisions. The 16 principles touch upon: 1) Health and quality of life; 2) Social equity and solidarity; 3) Environmental protection; 4) Economic efficiency; 5) Participation and commitment; 6) Access to knowledge; 7) Subsidiary; 8) Inter-governmental partnership and cooperation; 9) Prevention; 10) Precaution; 11) Protection of cultural heritage; 12) Biodiversity preservation; 13) Respect for ecosystem support capacity; 14) Responsible production and consumption; 15) Polluter pays; 16) Internalization of costs.

The reason behind the government's 2008-2013 Sustainable Development Strategy is to guarantee and maintain a quality of life for all citizens: an accountable, innovative society, capable of excellence in all its achievements; a society dependent on harmony between economic vitality, environmental quality and social equity; a society inspired by a government whose leadership and calls to action can summon up community resourcefulness. The three issues aim at increasing knowledge, promoting responsible action and favouring commitment. The strategy has nine orientations of which three have priority, and 29 objectives. All of the 150 departments must take into account all the principles, prepare an action plan before March 31, 2009, announce the plan and the results, promote sustainable development among their clients and guide them through the approach. Obviously, effectiveness will depend on the interrelationship and the coherence of all action plans, including municipal and corporate action plans.

The government's 2008-2013 Sustainable Development Strategy constitutes a societal venture for Québec relating to a long term approach. It is important not to rush into it. Besides, the exercise must include consensus, structure and commitment. All public, private, social players and citizens are called upon to

participate in the approach. Finally, challenges concerning sustainable development force us to invest in coherence, transparency and complicity.

This first regional conference on natural resources and sustainable development is an innovative conference dealing with the three aspects associated with sustainable development and offering a diversity of resources reflecting issues of cohabitation. Furthermore, it deals with the immediate question of respect for the needs of the communities and long term issues to guarantee their vitality. In a nutshell, best practices and learning are the heart of this conference.

Question: Are there non-governmental approaches to sustainable development?

Robert Lauzon: There is talk about legislation for sustainable development, but it transcends government. The approach answers to public will, citizens' will. Initiatives are developed by municipalities, companies and other organizations. We have to learn from the exercises and strive for coherence in our actions.

Date: November 5

Time: 9:45-10:15

Location: Palais Room



Social Sphere -Health-

Human Health and Forests

Gilbert Lemay – Medical Adviser, Regional Health and Social Services Council
(Centre régional de santé et de services sociaux de la Baie James CRSSS)

What is the relationship between the forest and human health? Taken more broadly, how does the environment affect our health?

In today's context, we cannot address human health without first talking about the health of the forest. Truly, for the human being to draw from it the most benefits for his health, the forest itself has to be "in good health". But what do we mean by "good health" of the forest? The good health of a forest lies essentially on the fragile equilibrium connecting all components. Biodiversity, or biological diversity, refers to the overall species and ecosystems of the Earth as well as to the environmental processes to which they belong. When we speak of forest biodiversity, we refer to all forms of life found in forest zones as well as to the function they carry out in the environment.

Forest health, condition and management can have a considerable impact on human health. Forests and humans are visibly interconnected in daily life. Forests provide a multitude of services: procurement services (water, food, wood, medicinal plants, etc.), regulation services (climate, fire, floods, etc.), self-sustaining services (soil formation, photosynthesis, nutritional cycle) and cultural services (recreational, aesthetic and spiritual benefits).

Considering the close connection affecting our relationship with the forest, we can logically ascertain that changes within the forest affect us. In fact, changes in the forest ecosystem bring about degradation of biodiversity, water, air, soil and food quality, as well as a reduction of employment opportunities. These changes result in the depletion of the recreational and socio-cultural environments. Finally, there is a rise in illnesses related to the water quality (diarrheal diseases), air quality (asthma, allergies, etc.), food quality (heavy metal intoxication), built environments (trauma caused by road or industrial accidents) and socio-cultural environment (loss of use).

The impact of forest health on human health certainly does not overrule other factors such as biological and genetic predispositions or lifestyle but it still plays an important role. In fact, the environment is responsible for 24% of deaths throughout the world. In this context, public health plays various roles in the field of environmental health: reduction of the incidence of diseases and mortality associated with environmental risk factors; participating in major industrial risk management, adequate use of pesticides, updating emergency plans; participation in activities that aim to improve the quality of life and to promote healthy and safe environments.

Evidence is undeniable. Anthropogenic changes in the forest ecosystem directly affect human health. It is inevitable; humans are still fully bound to the trees and

forests around them. Like all species living on planet Earth, we depend entirely on the environment, and to survive, we must preserve biodiversity at all costs.

Question: Are there studies that establish a connection between human health and biodiversity?

Gilbert Lemay: Not that I know of. The evidence that we have is second hand and comes from deductions arising from conservation and recovery plans throughout the world. Since humans are part of the ecosystem, they are automatically influenced by biodiversity.

Q.: Would it be worthwhile to conduct studies specifically on the influence biodiversity has on human beings?

G. L.: Yes it would, because studies are never proactive. They give results of analysis of anthropogenic changes once these modifications have happened (ex post facto).

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Congrès Room

Non-timber Forest Products (NTFP)

André Pichette – Director, LASEVE Laboratory,
Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC)

Non-timber forest products (NTFP) refer to forests products harvested for reasons other than their fibre. For example, consider products derived from maple sugar which account for 7100 businesses, blueberries (13.4 tons per year, of which 37 percent is harvested in the forest), Christmas trees, essential oils, wild mushrooms, bake-apples, etc. Nature is an important source of therapeutic agents (medication and natural products) and many NTFP have impressive virtues, yet to be exploited, such as Canada yew, ginseng, fir-tree gum, etc.

In fact, there are few studies on the potential of NTFP. As we speak, the biological properties of less than 10 percent of species from the plant kingdom have been evaluated. Very little research has been done on forest resources in Québec for proper assessment of bioactive potential.

In spite of the fact that little research has been carried out in the forests of Québec, some components have been identified as having specific properties that should be exploited. For example, paclitaxel (Taxol[®]), an isolated medicinal molecule from Pacific yew and also found in Canada yew, is known as a strong anticancer agent. The product, of which the annual sale represents two billion dollars in the United-States, has been used in the treatment of ovary, breast and lung cancer since 1992. Betulinic acid, an antitumor agent found in white birch bark, is a component of antiviral drugs specific to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that eventually leads to the acquired immune deficiency syndrome

(AIDS). Furthermore, the molecule has selective toxicity on cancer cells. Moreover, the balsam fir essential oil has an important anticancer property. For that matter, alpha-humulene, an active compound found in balsam fir oil, increases the effectiveness of skin and lung cancer chemotherapy treatments. It intensifies the action of anticancer agents such as Taxol, by helping the transfer of the agent through the cell membrane and by preventing its elimination from the cell.

As we speak, we have insubstantial knowledge of the boreal forest fauna in terms of chemistry and pharmacology. Nevertheless, forest biomass has an enormous potential for the identification and development of new therapeutic agents, nutraceuticals (extraction of foods claimed to have a medicinal effect on human health such as lipids, vitamins, trace elements, etc.) and active cosmetic ingredients.

Question: Wouldn't research aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the immune system be more relevant than improving cancer treatments that affect the cancer after it is diagnosed?

André Pichette: Much research has been done on NTFP, concurrently with other research chairs, to stimulate the immune system rather than develop treatments for an already existing disease. Eventually, the LASEVE laboratory will extend its scope to include this type of research.

Q.: The yew market seems to be gaining in popularity. Is there a potential market for birch, fir, and other plant essences?

A. P.: The market for betulinic acid (birch) is slowly developing but there are problems and complementary research has to be done, mainly in terms of the production stage.

Q.: Presently, there is a great demand for biomass. If biomass is directed toward research, won't there be less of it to burn in cogeneration plants?

A. P.: After product extraction, a part of the biomass remains for burning purposes. However, the real question is: What use of biomass is the most cost-effective?

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Congrès Room

Wetlands

Pierre Dulude – Biologist, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC)

Wetlands provide valuable environmental goods and services (filtration, run-off regulation, water table reloading, biodiversity, landscape, recreation, etc.). Nevertheless, misconception on the useful purposes and location of these natural environments is often at the origin of their degradation and disappearance.

What are wetlands? They are flooded areas or areas saturated by water during a period of time sufficiently long to influence the nature of the soil and the composition of its vegetation and therefore favour different types of biological activities characteristic of wetlands. Marshes represent one type of wetlands where there is much aquatic and herbaceous vegetation. Swamps are characterized mainly by the presence of ligneous species. Peat bogs are also wetlands.

Why is conservation of wetlands important? "If forests are the lungs of the earth, wetlands are its kidneys..."

Twenty-five percent of wetlands in the world are situated in Canada. This proportion represents 14% of Canada's total surface area. In Québec, wetlands occupy 9% of its surface area. Many essential roles are associated with wetlands. In fact, they filter up to 70% of sediments carried by run-off water. Through filtration, more than 90% of phosphorus and nitrogen is also filtered as are 90% of microbes held in the water. However, this natural water treatment system is threatened. In certain sectors like Montérégie, up to 90% of wetlands have disappeared, mainly because of regional development (agriculture, urbanisation).

The case of Lavallière, situated at the mouth of the Yamaska River, gives a convincing example of the relationship between use of the territory, wetlands and water quality. Because the bay is truly a jewel on Québec territory, the government acquired it to protect the exceptional habitat. Unfortunately, intensive agriculture practiced upstream caused filling-in due to soil and riverbank erosion. Agriculture brought increasing amounts of phosphorus which resulted in the explosive growth of vegetation in the area. Gradually, fishes and ducks became scarcer, frogs presented anomalies (more than four legs), common muskrats lost control over the cattails, etc. Degradation of the remarkable wildlife habitat became evident through the circle of disturbances.

To improve consideration of wetlands and therefore ensure their conservation, there is a zoning approach to wetlands and forest shorelines inspired by the TRIAD whose objectives are to conserve intact 20% of wetlands, to contribute 60% of wetlands for multi-resource land improvement and to conserve a maximum of 20% of wetlands for intensive development. This zoning method does not take away the human obligation to constantly ponder and re-evaluate the situation in order to prevent detrimental effects of its exploitation.

There are multiple reasons for wanting to conserve wetlands: filtration of toxins, balance of adjacent environments or conservation of a wide biodiversity. Degradation or disappearance of wetlands results in sometimes costly consequences (for example, drinkable water supply, floods, loss of use). It is therefore desirable that measures be taken immediately to guarantee the protection of wetlands and to raise awareness of their importance. Ducks Unlimited has developed conservation plans for every administrative region in Québec. Regional plans are available on Internet at www.ducks.ca. Watch out for the plan for the administrative region of Northern Québec. It's coming soon.

Question: You say that degradation of water quality can be so great as to cause ducks to die. Do you also mean to say that humans who eat ducks can also be infected?

Pierre Dulude: Flesh contamination of organisms in the food chain is a complex process which does not affect all other organisms alike. Because humans are at the top of the pyramid, they must be careful when it comes to food source and quality, even if wild duck meat is not particularly known to contain concentrations of heavy metals and pesticides, as compared to that of fish predators like walleye and pickerel.

Q.: Could the principle of filtration, as that observed in marshes, be applied to the treatment of waste water of certain companies?

P. D.: In the first place, we must not consider the filtration capacity of wetlands as an invitation to pour waste water directly into them. In fact, it is possible to develop filtering marshes to filter, for example, municipal fluvial water, by using plants adapted to the concentration of salts used in winter for de-icing the streets

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Congrès Room



Social sphere -Culture-

Peace of the Braves and Sustainable Development

Roméo Saganash - Director of Québec Relations for the Grand Council of the Crees

Highlights from Mr. Roméo Saganash's conference:

- Mr. Saganash was delighted to participate to the first regional conference on sustainable development in Northern Québec. He was born in the Cree community of Waswanipi where several members of his family are still living.
- The James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement Measures is the first modern treaty signed in Canada. Chapter 22, which introduces measures for the protection of the natural and social environments, was the first step toward sustainable development in Northern Québec.
- During his entire professional career, Mr. Saganash has always been closely associated to the notion of sustainable development. In a recent visit at the Québec National Assembly for the consultations on the Green Paper, he was poorly greeted by the acting minister of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF).
- The Peace of the Braves was signed more than six years ago. It had been elaborated with thoroughness and good will by both parties. However, the agreement is being applied in a disorderly and deceptive way.
- Several changes were made in forest management, particularly by the Coulombe Commission, the new assessments of forest alternatives, regionalization of the MRNF, etc.
- The implementation of Chapter 3 of the Peace of the Braves for the purpose of a forest regime adapted to traditional needs of the Cree master trappers generated new problems for everyone including logging companies. Nothing has changed since the signing of the Peace of the Braves and we are still in the process of calculating forest potential; both the Crees and the logging companies feel frustrated. As for the MRNF, it is responsible for the present situation because it did not issue clear instructions that could have been helpful to all concerned.
- Nevertheless, he recognized that good will is being shown by those involved, that communications with master trappers have improved, and that both parties have started to agree to mutual concessions. The MRNF is trying to adapt forest operations to the terms of the Peace of the Braves. He believes that when the Crees will have developed abilities in forest technology and in wildlife management, they will be able to really move forward.

- The close collaboration of the Mistissini Cree community and the Government of Québec in the creation of the Alouane-Rémiscamie-Otish National Park deserves to be repeated and represents a step forward in terms of sustainable forestry.
- The Government of Québec forced the Crees to establish the Regional Conference of the James Bay Elected Officials which seems decent everywhere in Québec but not in Northern Québec. It sets a legal and constitutional overlapping that brings confusion. The Crees must be involved in all forms of decision making concerning Northern Québec. The Peace of the Braves is a good example. In its implementation of the Regional Conference of the James Bay Elected Officials, the Government of Québec completely ignored the presence of the Crees and reinstated the system of Indian reserves. As the Crees do not vote for the members of the Regional Conference of the James Bay Elected Officials, the government assigned unilateral management of Cree territories to the Regional Conference of the James Bay Elected Officials.
- Because the Green Paper on the New Forest Regime was elaborated with only the Regional Conference of the James Bay Elected Officials, the Crees will refuse its content and implementation. The regime does not respect the territorial organization established by the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement and the Peace of the Braves.
- The James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement and the Peace of the Braves have defined Northern Québec territorial rules that need to be reviewed and respected by including those who live on the territory in all discussions. Sustainable development is important for the Crees and the population of the James Bay region, and we must establish it together.

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Palais Room



Social Sphere -Education-

Brundtland Green Schools

Isabelle Julien – Principal, Vatican II School
Marie-Jeanne Plante, Maximme Ouellet, Catherine Gauvin and Ève Th  berge
6th grade students

Eight years ago, thanks to staff initiative, Vatican II School joined the Brundtland Green Schools (BGS) movement; now, everyday, students accomplish green gestures for a better world. The philosophy of the BGS is to “think globally and act locally in order to create a viable future”. In Qu  bec, the 15 year-old network counts more than 950 establishments. To be part of the green school network is to believe in the butterfly theory (represented by the BGS logo) – when a butterfly flaps its wings in one part of the world, it can set off a tornado on the other side of the planet. Every action, no matter how small, can change the world.

At Vatican II School, students apply themselves daily to conform to the four values of the BGS by accomplishing concrete gestures based on the six R’s (Reducing, Reusing, Recycling, Rethinking, Restructuring, and Redistributing). The **environmental value** is worked through salvaging different objects. Thus, cans help in fundraising, latches are collected to raise money to buy a wheelchair and worm composting recycles organic waste. Furthermore, all students give a hand at cleaning the school yard to maintain a clean environment. The **value of solidarity** is realized by collecting non perishable food items for people in need, by visiting members of the aboriginal communities to demystify their culture and also by collecting clothing for the regional organization of social reintegration, *La Mine d’Or*. Being a member of the BGS means to value **democracy** and to develop democracy, students get involved in their school. Each year, students are elected to form a student council. Those elected have meetings and carry out surveys to obtain the students’ opinions on certain subjects. Finally, there is the **value of peace**. To build a better world, peace is fundamental. In concrete terms, students of Vatican II School contribute to peace by assigning mediators whose responsibility is to settle conflicts occurring in the schoolyard. Peace ambassadors are resource persons who, in the event of conflict, help the students involved calmly explain the issues and resolve their differences in good understanding. Another activity related to the value of peace is sending Christmas greeting cards to war veterans who often don’t have a family of their own. This activity, which is much appreciated by the students, creates joy for both the student and the person receiving the card as some veterans send letters back to their young pen pals.

Being a BGS is not always easy. In 2007, students thought there was insufficient participation from school mates. To stimulate participation in activities, 29 students sent a letter to the principal’s office providing a bank of innovative ideas promoting protection of the environment. Some suggestions from the students were: purchasing of waste receptacles for the yard, installing magic eye faucets; increasing participation in the collection of latches, distributing flyers on

recycling in the homes, using hand-dryers instead of paper towels. Then, in 2008, a new system was adopted to motivate further involvement. Henceforth, every class was responsible for one activity. Consequently, instead of having everyone picking up in the yard, collecting latches and cans simultaneously, one class deals with the latches, another is responsible for collecting cans, and so on. This way, students don't become scattered and uninvolved. Class autonomy makes students proud of what they accomplish and also favours the emergence of innovative ideas while becoming accountable.

Students of Vatican II School are proud of belonging to a green school. They learned to recycle; they are motivated and enthusiastic about helping the planet. Having reached 6th grade, students intend to "teach their parents" and transfer the knowledge that they gained to their younger brothers and sisters. Furthermore, students perceive high school as an opportunity to further their knowledge of environmental matters and to continue to change the world, one small gesture at a time...

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Radisson Room

Green Businesses

Luc Bédard – Owner, Entretien industriel DLB and Entreprises RBE

The arrival of environmentally friendly janitorial products on the market is relatively recent. In the industrial and domestic cleaning products sector, marketing is a challenging business. Owner of two regional companies (Entretien industriel DLB and Entreprises RBE) specialized in environmentally safe cleaning products, I face this challenge daily.

Traditionally, common cleaning products were highly toxic; of course their high performance was well known. When green products appeared on the market, it was hard to compete with the efficiency of known products. However, because companies persisted to develop green products, environmentally friendly cleansers are now as efficient as traditional products. Modifying client perceptions and behaviour represents quite a challenge for entrepreneurs like me. Company representatives encounter many difficulties when promoting green products. Based on the experience of the DLB team, management must send a clear message to the employees:

Green product = Efficiency = Economy = Health

First and foremost, potential users have to be convinced of the efficiency of green products. Then, the priority is to demonstrate to company management that using green products is no more costly than using traditional products and may even generate savings. Finally, convincing the employees will ensure that the green

turn becomes a step in the right direction in terms of health protection. Developing awareness among the employees can benefit producers of green products in competing with companies selling traditional products who don't include the employees in their marketing strategies. Awareness building (information, education and consultation) is necessary because changing one's routine and habits, no matter what the field, requires an investment in time and perseverance on a long term basis.

The investment made by Entretien industriel DLB and Entreprises RBE paid out: the companies now work in partnership with the clients; together, they try to find solutions to problem situations. Engineers and experts go out to the companies to bring aid in finding solutions to company related problems. Among the products and services offered to companies to help them take a green turn, we find: hand paper with an automatic dispensers, foaming soap, biodegradable products, dust capture at the source, elimination of certain chemical products, in-house training for employees and installation of equipment with pictograms explaining the procedure.

In marketing environmentally friendly products, standards and logos are essential to allow people to sort things out. Be wary in speaking about the biodegradable property of products, everything is biodegradable... but in how much time? This is the reason why interpreting logos requires special attention. Not all of them can be trusted. In Canada, the two reference logos are the « **ecologo** » that gives proof that the product is consistent with Canadian environmental standards, and « **enviro-performance** » which is a strict European standard guaranteeing biodegradation of the product in 14 days.

The trend to use biodegradable products is growing and the younger generation definitely influences the transition process because it is easier for young people to change their ways. Sustainable development practices within a company are not established in one day. However, in favouring partnerships and in adopting a long term vision, we may trust that the efforts provided by companies developing environmentally friendly products will certainly not be in vain.

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Radisson Room

Regional Initiatives

Véronique Lévis – Regional Commission on James Bay Natural Resources and Territory (CRRNTBJ)

Under the auspices of the Regional Conference of the James Bay Elected Officials, the Regional Commission on James Bay Natural Resources and Territory (CRRNTBJ) was created in accordance with a program from the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF), namely the *Program for the implementation of an integrated and regionalized approach*. The main mandate of the CRRNTBJ is to develop a regional plan for the integrated development of

natural resources and territory (PRDIRT) by including the needs and priorities of the population of the James Bay region. Elaborated in an integrated environmental approach, the plan should provide orientations and strategies for forest, mining, wildlife, territorial, energy and water resources development in terms of enhancement as well as conservation. Particular attention is also brought to the development of synergies between sectors to ensure no sector has priority over another.

The CRRNTBJ is a relatively recent entity and is still in its first stage: implementation. It was constituted by bringing together, as commissioners, important regional players. Belonging to different sectors related to natural resources or the territory, they come as consultants; as such, when they participate to the CRRNTBJ, even though they are all independent workers, they do not represent any company or organization.

The Commission will work jointly with all players and groups in bringing regional development toward an integrated approach. The approach aims at harmonizing territorial use while considering social, economic and environmental issues. However, the three commissioners' seats intended for aboriginal community representation are presently vacant. Concerned with including, right from the beginning of the planning process, all parties involved, the Commission finds it important that members of the Cree Nation participate. Therefore, it is actively searching for interested individuals to join the other commissioners and share, from a technical point of view, their specific expertise.

The Regional Plan for the Integrated Development of Natural Resources and Territory (PRDIRT) should be published by 2010. During the coming months, the Commission will elaborate a consensus building process to address the issues; it will consist of regional forums, public consultations in every sector and an interactive Web site allowing the public to input their opinions. We have to understand that the Commission's mandate is cyclic, therefore in constant evolution and always being improved.

The Commission's main challenges will be the harmonization of the types of use permitted on the territory and the different users, the vastness of the territory in terms of establishing a profile, and holding public consultations. In any event, the Commission is ready to address the challenges and its message is clear: integrated development cannot happen unless the community becomes involved, and YOU are the community.

Date: November 5

Time: 10:30-12:00

Location: Radisson Room



Economic Sphere - Diversification and Future Use of Forest Resources-

Growth Potential of Black Spruce Forests in Northern Québec

Réjean Gagnon – Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC)

Québec owns the largest black spruce forests in the world. Because these forests are a component of world biodiversity, it is our duty to guarantee the sustainability of this forest ecosystem for future generations. When compared with petroleum, timber is found to be the best environmental choice because it is renewable, non-toxic, and stores the carbon dioxide (CO₂) by using solar energy.

During the past years, our research was mostly directed toward environmental parameters influencing the growth of trees in the realm of black spruce-moss stands between the 49th and 52nd northern latitudes. To our great surprise, we found that temperature is not the main parameter of annual growth variations of the black spruce tree. It has been observed that the growth in diameter of the black spruce occurs mainly between May 30 and July 19. However, the maximum growth, either to the north or to the south, is registered at the summer solstice on June 21, the longest day of the year. Precipitations in June and early July are essential to the healthy growth of trees in this sector. Consequently, we can observe that, at these latitudes, cold temperatures have very little effect on the growth of the black spruce tree; rather, it is more luminosity and precipitations that influence its growth.

Furthermore, it seems that spruce budworm outbreaks are the main factor in the reduction of black spruce growth. Likewise, aside from fires and logging, the spruce budworm is the main cause of death of black spruce trees in both northern and southern regions. A consequence of the partial tree mortality is the transformation of regular (even-aged) forest stands to irregular (uneven-aged) forest stands. Partial tree mortality causes an opening in the forest providing space for smaller stems whose growth had been suppressed to start to grow again. So, the period of weak growth added to that of new growth results in trees showing weak growth characteristic of old forests. It has also been observed that the growth pattern used to predict future growth of the forest is in fact distorted by spruce budworm outbreaks. Therefore, the productivity potential of black spruce forests is distinctly higher than estimated.

Renewable resources are the future. Québec is well positioned in that matter. The issue must be addressed.

Question: Why is government not aware of existing studies?

Réjean Gagnon: The authorities have been informed, but it always takes several years before new knowledge is introduced.

Q.: Have studies been conducted for the purpose of using more of the tree?

R. G.: Presently and in a general way, the tree trunk is being processed totally, to the very top.

Q.: Why are there no logging operations within the northern limit south of the taiga?

R. G.: This is because we believe that in the area south of the taiga, forest growth and regeneration are too weak and that forest harvesting could endanger forest renewal. However, results from studies show that forest growth and regeneration are good.

Q.: Where logging is carried out, it seems that forest regeneration is slow.

R. G.: After logging has been carried out, growth of small black spruce trees is poor, and that's normal. Growth accelerates when the stem reaches one meter in height.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Congrès Room

« Money grows on Trees! »

Daniel Cliche – Development Agent, City of Matagami

Everyone can recognize the major impact the forest has on regional economy. What if this was only the tip of the iceberg? Current knowledge allows us to believe that 50 percent of forest potential is being developed. The city of Matagami is proceeding to double the economic value of the forest, without felling another tree.

After the Bell Allard Mine closure in 2002 and the Domtar lumber mill 15 months shutdown, the population of Matagami established a forest committee who invested time and money to explore several possibilities for the diversification of the economy. The first objective of the effort of diversification was to consolidate the local sawmill. The committee also observed that more than 50 percent of timber matter remains in the forest after logging operations. About ten secondary transformation projects are presently being developed. According to the committee, biomass and non-timber matter are the future. In its approach at the local level, the city of Matagami plans to favour projects that will be the most cost-effective, that make use of the simplest techniques, that involve the least number of stakeholders and finally, that leave room for partnership between forest operations and biomass exploitation. Assessment of non-timber forest products (NTFP), the valuation of peat, the valuation of the biomass and ecotourism are among the projects being currently developed in the Matagami sector.

The forest committee has singled out several categories of non-timber forest products it would like to harvest: small fruits, balsam fir, Labrador tea and forest

mushrooms. Among forest mushrooms, three species have a very high economic potential. However, the presence of morels has not been detected in the sector. NTFP exploitation requires local expertise; it allows the transfer of technology, permits subsequent assessments and provides diversification for forest workers.

Concerning peat exploitation, experts state that harvesting peat in the region is possible. The quantity and quality of the peat, according to the assessment, are satisfactory. However, access to the resource needs to be improved. Available in a natural state on the territory, these resources represent an interesting economic alternative in view of the potential for transformation.

As to biomass, the city of Matagami is presently in possession of two million tons of biomass. Projects for densified wood products and a cogeneration plant are under way; biomass may be used to produce an important amount of thermal energy necessary for drying the lumber produced at the sawmill.

Lastly, ecotourism is at the heart of the city's concerns. Presently, the Matagami Ecolodge has international visibility and is typical of a non-standard loss leader.

To conclude, economic diversification in the city of Matagami rests entirely on three factors: maintaining first transformation activities without which there is no economy; the necessity to favour a partnership with the region because synergy occurs only when everyone is heading in the same direction; lastly, it is of vital importance to guarantee accessibility to the sources of diversification.

Question: If the price of bark increases, does the cogeneration plant run the risk of becoming less cost effective?

Daniel Cliche: We have two million tons in stock and the thermal energy produced is used to dry the lumber. Success of the project depends on synergy created between the plants.

Q.: What is the megawatt power of the cogeneration plant?

D. C.: The aim is not to produce energy for sale purposes, but to process residue produced by the industry and determine a complementary use: thermal energy is used to dry lumber processed at the plant.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Congrès Room



Economic Sphere -Ecotourism and Adventure tourism-

Adventure Tourism and Use of the Natural Environment for Sustainable and Responsible Tourism

Gilles Granal – Owner, Aventuraid

Created fourteen years ago, Aventuraid is an eco-adventure enterprise situated in Girardville, north of Lac-Saint-Jean. Our customers are mostly European francophones who come here to practice canoeing, dog sledding, snowmobiling and who are attracted to the natural open spaces of Québec. Having started from the ground up, we now offer a professional, performing and safe tourist product, allowing clients to engage in activities related to the discovery of Québec's natural heritage. To emphasize this discovery, we have established, five years ago, the Mahikan Park dedicated to discovery of the wolf and its environment.

Today, seven tourist oriented businesses strive in Girardville and contribute to its economic development. Ecotourism and adventure tourism contribute to the vitality of forest regions.

In outdoor tourism, we cannot imagine sustainable development without some form of certification regardless of the project quality. In the current global economy, consumers have the capability to create direct competition everywhere. This explains our implication in the Ecotourism Association of Québec. By establishing basic safety standards, the association is a point of reference for consumers and allows suppliers who have a common vision of outdoor tourism to come together.

With reference to sustainable development, we have chosen to promote a "no trace" behaviour which means adopting ethical outdoor, so that spending time in nature has the least impact on the environment. The seven principles of the "no trace" behaviour are:

1. Prepare and anticipate
2. Use lasting surfaces
3. Manage waste effectively
4. Leave undisturbed what you find
5. Minimize the impact of fires
6. Respect wildlife
7. Respect other users

Aware of the privilege we have of operating in exceptional boreal forest surroundings, we must act in partnership with other users to promote its development and conservation.

Question: Why did you choose to establish Aventuraid in Girardville?

Gilles Granal: Twenty years ago, my friends and I were canoeing downstream on the Mistassini River and stopped in Girardville. We liked the place and we decided that we would later establish our outdoor recreational centre there. This was pure luck; it could have been Chibougamau!

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Palais Room

Albanel-Temiscamie-Otish provincial park project

Kevin Neeposh – Park coordination officer, Cree nation of Mistissini

The homeland for the Cree Nation of Mistissini (CNM) covers approximately 123 011 sq km². It is the largest territory of the nine Cree communities and includes approximately 30 % of the total territory of Eeyou Istchee. Our homeland is a place of great beauty created by the diversity of our landscapes that are linked together by a vast network of lakes and rivers. The diversity of landscapes and seasonal weather patterns creates the physical environment that supports the rich biodiversity of the boreal forest. We have lived throughout our homeland since time immemorial as shown by the ancient and more recent living sites. If someone was able to put a dot on the map for every place that a Cree family has lived it would be a blanket of dots across our entire hunting territory. Today the community of Mistissini with a population of about 3,500 residents is the administrative and cultural centre of our homeland. The name Mistissini means "Big Rock" that has been a meeting place and land mark for millennium.

Mistissini is a modern community with roots that extend back to the earliest ancestors of today's Cree and reflect all of the historical events that have shaped our culture since first contact with the outside world in the early 1600's. The imprint from the past is being re-shaped by the new set of institutions leading to self government. This began with the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in 1975 and in 2002, the "Paix des Braves" Agreement signed by the Crees and the Government of Quebec. Although the community of Mistissini is an active and rapidly growing centre of Cree life, the surrounding territory remains much as it has for generations. The present day territory of the Cree Nation of Mistissini is defined by over 60 traplines that identify our family hunting territories. The stewardship of the lands, waters and living resources is carried out by the tallyman for each trapline. This stewardship was strengthened with the creation of the Cree Trappers Association in 1978. Today the Cree Nation of Mistissini is involved in many initiatives to build a future that will encourage new approaches to economic development to provide income security for those now in the work force as well as new challenges and hopes for our youth. The Cree Nation of Mistissini also realizes that economic development must be built on the principle of maintaining and to the extent possible strengthening sustainable relationships between our people and the lands and resources that must always remain a vital part of the Cree way of life. Parks have long been a topic of discussion among Canadian First Nations as a potential option for sustainable development and for extending additional protection to First Nation territory.

Parks have also been recognized as a potential threat to Canadian First Nation's in terms of rights to traditional territories and to a hunting, fishing and trapping way of life. Overall, the possible development of a major Quebec provincial park centered on Lake Mistassini and covering 11,000 km² raised both hopes and concerns for the Crees of Mistissini. We were willing to accept the challenges offered by a potential park and were prepared to explore the possibilities by entering into discussions with Quebec. We did so with the understanding that these discussions would break new ground in the relationship between parks and First Nation's.

The proposed ATO Park will be planned and developed as a Cree park in practice and not simply in words. The ATO Park will be the first inhabited park to be created and this offers an exciting challenge for every stage of planning and operation. The 11,000 km² of the proposed ATO park includes some of the last remaining undisturbed boreal forest remaining in northeastern Quebec. Planning for the creation and development of the ATO Park includes three levels of territory each having its own distinct boundaries and planning priorities and challenges. The boundary of the proposed park identifies the Cree management area. The following points will help shape Cree planning, management and tourism development for this 11,000 km² area. The Crees will maintain their full hunting, fishing, trapping and associated land use rights as guaranteed by the James Bay Agreement (JBA). The Category II lands will continue with its protections for Cree use as defined by the JBA. Category III lands gain extra protection based on their redefined status as park lands. The trapline will be the basic planning unit for the tallyman and his family. All non Cree outfitters or other private camps will be bought out and only Cree will have outfitting permits but for fishing only. There will be no non-Cree hunting or snowmobiling in the park.

Cree tallymen have an active role in the planning and development of the ATO Park. Their participation ensures that Cree knowledge will have a prominent role in all management programs as well as Cree based tourism offerings. The active participation of the tallyman will also help meet the challenge for incorporating Cree values and culture into park planning and management

In summary, participation in park planning and development is a new and challenging experience for both the Cree Nation of Mistissini and Quebec. A Partnership Agreement was signed between the Crees and SEPAQ in 2005 that will facilitate Cree access to SEPAQ's experience in park management and training.

In 2007 the Cree Nation of Mistissini entered into a partnership with the Canadian Boreal Initiative (CBI). This partnership will bring together the programs of the CBI for the conservation of the boreal forest with Cree knowledge for planning and sustainable development of the forest resources including park related tourism. Based in Ottawa, the Canadian Boreal Initiative brings together diverse partners to create new solutions for Boreal Forest conservation and works as a catalyst supporting on-the-ground efforts across the Boreal by governments,

industry, First Nations, conservation groups, major retailers, financial institutions and scientists.

From the perspective of the development of the ATO Park as a Cree managed and operated park we will use our knowledge as the basis of planning and of interpretation centres explaining the lands, waters and cultural heritage. Park development will also include Cree tourism planning for their traplines and Cree management plans for the lands and resources of the traplines and Category II lands within the boundaries of the park.

(On behalf of the Cree Nation of Mistissini we would like to end this presentation with a "tour" of park landscapes and biodiversity).

Question: There is a high occurrence of fires in the region. How will park users be made aware of the fire hazard?

Kevin Neeposh: There will be consultations on park management so the fire problematics will be taken into consideration during the development of the protection plan, not to mention on other occasions.

Comment: The territory to be occupied by the park is one of the most beautiful unspoiled territories in Québec! It must remain undamaged. Attention must be given to waste management wherever activities will be carried out. The "no trace" principles could be adopted.

K. N.: Several master trappers operate on the territory designated for the park. They are worried about the fact that mining companies leave waste everywhere. The Cree Nation of Mistissini intends to maintain the area waste-free.

Q.: Are tourist activities foreseen right from the time the park opens?

K. N.: Park administrators will make propositions about potential activities to the families of the trappers. They intend to offer only high quality activities.

Q.: Will game hunting be allowed in the park?

K. N.: There will be no hunting; fishing will be made available through outfitters.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Palais Room

National Parks in Québec: Projects North of the 50th Parallel

Jean-François Lamarre – Forest Engineer, Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP)

The concept of sustainable development includes the interdependency of the concepts of social development, economic development and protection of the

environment. Establishing protected zones constitute the means by which to protect the environment. But, what is a national park? According to park legislation, a national park is defined by its objective:

“The foremost objective of Québec national parks is to ensure the conservation and permanent protection of areas representative of the natural regions of Québec and of natural sites with outstanding features, in particular because of their biological diversity, while providing the public with access to those areas or sites for educational or cross-country recreation purposes.”

Outdoor recreation and research activities are permitted in national parks. However, all forms of prospecting, use and exploitation of resources related to logging and mining, the production of energy, and the laying of oil or gas pipelines or power lines, are prohibited in a park, as well as all forms of hunting or trapping (except territories included in the aboriginal rights as defined in the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA)).

The mandate of park services at the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP) is to plan a network of parks in Québec, to see to its establishment, to supervise the network by elaborating and managing park legislation and policy, and to develop a master plan. The MDDEP will also take responsibility for the monitoring and assessing park exploitation.

Park creation consists of many phases: 1- Proposition of a potential site; 2- Preliminary research and cartography; 3- Interdepartmental discussions; 4- Public support; 5- Complementary studies and land validation; 6- Knowledge assessment; 7- Perimeter proposition; 8- Provisional master plan; 9- Public consultations; 10- Implementation; 11- Master plan; 12- Delegation of exploitation. The Société des établissements de plein-air du Québec (SÉPAQ), the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) and the Cree communities are involved in the management of the territories under lease.

National parks in Northern Québec are distinctive. First, the vast and little used territory overflow with resources and natural beauty. The constraints are fewer when compared to the southern regions of Québec and large area parks can be established. Another special feature: the presence of First Nation communities on the territory. Their presence gives evidence of a culture many times millennial, where the past is still present. The First Nation reality leading to management based on the use of the territory must take into consideration for special zoning for sacred grounds and allows identified sampling rights.

In the MDDEP 2008-2013 action plan, five projects are intended for the boreal forest and four projects are situated in Nunavik. Among them, we find in Northern Québec, the Albnel-Témiscamie-Otish Park, located close to the Cree village of Mistissini, and covering over 11,000 km². Its creation is expected in 2009. There is

also the Assinaca project, developed in collaboration with the Oujé-Bougoumou Cree Nation.

In Nunavik, the first northern national park was established in 2004: the Pingualuit National Park. Situated in the heart of the Ungava Plateau, its geographic area measures 1,134 km². Also, development of the Kuurujuaq Park, with a geographic area of 4,295 km², is expected to start in 2009. In 2010, we expect the creation of the Lacs-Guillaume-Delisle-et-à-l'Eau-Claire Park, having a geographic area of 10,500 km². Situated east of Hudson's Bay, close to the town of Umiujaq, the park has a greatly diversified fauna. Finally, the Baie-aux-feuilles Park project, situated in the Bay of Ungava, includes an important nesting ground for the peregrine falcon and the gyrfalcon.

In conclusion, conservation is the main purpose of park establishment. National parks constitute witness territories for research and allow sustainable development orientation. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that these projects take into account the presence of First Nations on the territory and become protected areas to enhance culture as well as nature.

The establishment of national parks also aims to develop structuring projects in tourism, local and regional economic diversification and, ultimately, to guarantee protection and enhancement of natural jewels of Québec.

Comment: We hear that in the past, Park Canada chased aboriginal populations away from the territories that have become Canadian national parks. It is important to respect the rights of the Aboriginals when developing and administrating parks. On a different matter, frequent use of a national park causes the fauna to develop adjustment mechanisms and increases the wild state of the animals. Attention has to be brought to this phenomenon in northern parks.

Question: Have the park projects cited previously allowed us to satisfy the 8% park creation policy?

Public response: The 8% objective has been reached with the creation of a protected area at George River.

C.: Human beings are part of nature, and conservation of the natural environment must include human beings as an integral part. National park management in Québec have to accept giving consideration to the communities in actualising the principles of conservation.

Q.: Can Hydro-Québec develop projects in a park?

J.-F. L.: No. Projects developed by Hydro-Québec have a negative impact on nature.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Palais Room



Economic Sphere

-Green paper and New forest science-

Forest Regime and the Peace of the Braves

Simon St-Georges – Co-ordinator, Native Affairs, Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF)

Signed in 2002, in Waskaganish, the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA), commonly known as the *Peace of the Braves*, has significantly changed forest practices of Northern Québec. Why and how?

The Peace of the Braves somewhat follows the implementation of the James Bay Agreement, notably on territorial and environmental issues. It contains a chapter on the modification of the Québec forest regime which was established to harmonize traditional activities of master trappers and families on more than 110 trapping areas with the logging industry. In defining, right from the beginning, the main concerns of Cree users on the territory, the forest regime was adapted to minimize the impacts. Fifteen out of 20 management units are situated on territory included in the JBNQA and extend west from Waskaganish towards Mistissini, south from Senneterre and up to the northern limit of commercial allocations.

Because consideration of Cree interests and concerns depends on participation and consultation processes, the MRNF and the Cree have worked together on different aspects of the agreement. We recognize many reasons justifying the need to adapt the Québec forest regime: consideration of the traditional lifestyle, greater integration of concerns about sustainable development and consultation of the Cree on matters of management of forest activities.

The forest regime must include, notably, management units resulting from the consolidation of trapping grounds, identification and protection of sites potentially attractive to the Cree, maintenance of a forest cover on all trapping grounds, conditions and procedures to protect the forest adjacent to streams and lakes, and also, development of a road access network in a joint action with the master trappers.

To ensure that the objectives of the agreement are reached, joint working groups (JWG) consisting of two members of the Cree community and two representatives of the MRNF have been established in the five Cree communities involved. Once established, the JWG's mandate is the implementation of specific measures prescribed by the JBNQA, the development of harmonization measures when required, the analysis of use conflicts and the guarantee of the implementation of development, consultation and monitoring processes related to the forest management plans. Of course, the dialogue process isn't possible unless there is a strong commitment and a will to move forward. The master trappers and the representatives of the MRNF need to apply certain principles permitting them to carry out their mandate in good understanding. A fundamental concept is to never question the truthfulness of one's interlocutor because everyone speaks about his reality. During discussions, every player must be committed to participating in an

effective process by showing that he is willing to be involved, but also to “alter his course” to benefit fully from interventions from the members of the JWG.

Considering the fact that both parties (the Cree and Québec) have representatives in the working groups, they have been assigned to review the general forest management plan (GFMP). The MRNF confirms that the JWG reports will be of great importance in approving decisions they will have to render as well as to all the organizations that evolve around the territorial or environmental management of James Bay.

Expertise in cartography, honest dialogue and interaction between master trappers and forest planners reflects the true meaning and practice of the “spirit of the Agreement”.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Radisson Room

The Green Paper on the New Forest Regime (Components I and II)

Marie-Noël Breton – Forest Engineer, Interim Forestry Regional Director, Assistant to the Director General, Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF)

The Green Paper gives the government’s vision on changes to be implemented to provide new impetus to the entire forest sector. Why a new forest regime? The MRNF provided the following reasons for the need for a renewed forest regime: to promote integrated management of forest resources; to include participation of Aboriginals; to favour flexible management focussed on accountability and delegation; to recognize regional expertise; to take into account climatic changes; to show that the MRNF has confidence in the people of Québec regarding forest management.

The Green Paper explores the possibility of reviewing the foundations of the actual forest regime according to the issues which Québec must address. The document proposes nine orientations. Firstly, the government wishes to enhance resource development by implementing forest zoning. Secondly, the MRNF must define its role concerning its fundamental responsibilities. Here, we mean that the MRNF must refocus on its primary strategic functions and responsibilities (legislation, regulations, national protection objectives, development of forest resources, etc.) as well as its role in leading the strategy for sustainable development of forests. Thirdly, the Green Paper suggests that public forest management responsibilities be referred to regional players. In this orientation, the Québec government hopes that these players will exercise their responsibilities in the development of the territory and forest resources. Furthermore, a partnership between regional stakeholders and a greater association with aboriginal communities living on the territory are desirable. The fourth orientation consists in referring the carrying-out of forest interventions to certified management companies who value the

occupation of silviculture workers, and in allowing the development and consolidation of local and aboriginal expertise.

The fifth orientation of the Green Paper, complementary to the previous one, aims at promoting management based on acquiring sustainable results and making administrators and foresters accountable. In a perspective of equity, the sixth orientation favours stable procurement by introducing a "right of first refusal", giving provisional guarantees on part of the harvested timber to the beneficiaries of the Timber Supply and Forest Management Agreement (TSFMA), and by giving access to public forest timber to a greater number of companies. From an economic perspective, the seventh orientation proposes the establishment of a competitive market for public forest timber. In this manner, a market accessible to all potential buyers, whether from 1st, 2nd or 3rd transformation would be created by establishing a sale price that would reflect the actual market value, whether from public or private forests. And again, in an economic perspective, the Green Paper proposes the creation of a silvicultural investment fund intended to finance intensive silviculture and therefore improving timber production from the most productive forests. Finally, the ninth and last orientation aims at giving Québec an industrial development strategy based on wood products with a high added value such as the development of the wood energy chain like biomass and biorefinery or the promotion of timber as environmental material.

The Green Paper propositions were submitted to national and regional public consultations and to the aboriginal communities. As follow-up to the consultations, a working paper on *forest land use in Québec and the establishment of forest management corporations* was presented to the National Assembly. This working paper includes the results of the public consultation held in February 2008, after the issue of the Green Paper. It details ways to implement the proposed orientations in order to bring new impetus to the entire forest sector.

In line with the government's approach to regionalization, the proposed measures answer to the request of regional players to be more closely associated with the management of Québec's public forest through specific activities for which they would be commissioned. The document will serve as a basis for reflection in parliamentary consultations to be held this fall. The consultations will allow the government to table a bill on the implementation of a new forest regime.

Question: In today's context of economic crisis, is the time right for a new forest regime?

Marie-Noël Breton: Until 2013, the enormous amount of work to be accomplished will be done gradually, without making too many drastic changes.

Comment: (Referring to Mr. Roméo Saganash's previous talk during the same conference) Mr. Saganash did not seem to favour the approach...

M.-N. B.: The Aboriginals may be included in the management. We believe that the approach will be managed by those interested. The new forest regime is not inconsistent with the Peace of the Braves.

C.: Mr. Saganash nevertheless mentioned that the Aboriginals had not been consulted.

M.-N. B.: The Green Paper represents only one Table of the MRNF, the exercise is not over and there hasn't been any legislation. The whole approach is subject to change and the Cree will be consulted.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Radisson Room

TRIAD Zoning: The Future of our Forests and of the Forest Sector

Rebecca Tittler - Ph.D., Centre for Forest Research (CFR),
Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)

For many years, there has been a rise in awareness of the fragility of forest systems and industries that depend on forest resources. Challenges facing the forest sector are not only economic and social due to the closing of numerous plants, but also environmental. Presently, forest development reserves 90% of forests for clear cutting, with or without reforestation. The remaining 10% is divided equally between protection and intensive development. Consequently, in many regions, old-growth forests and their associated species are gradually disappearing and forest systems are undergoing homogenization and fragmentation. Moreover, the current climate changes and those to come will likely create new challenges requiring adjustments in the forest industry.

We are aware that the forest sector is in danger. High transportation costs, a weak dollar, industry competition, tree shortage, softwood lumber agreement with the United States and the present economic crisis are different factors leading to plant shutdowns and resulting in important job losses. In view of this difficult situation, the Coulombe Commission formulated the following recommendations in 2003-2004: reduce the annual potential timber yield by 20%, apply a functional zoning system, protect 12% of forests and develop ecosystem-base management that takes into account the ecosystems and their multiple uses (eco-systemic).

The TRIAD is an approach elaborated to facilitate adaptation of public forest development. In this approach, the system is divided in three distinctive zones according to their use: conservation, timber production and ecosystem-based management. The conservation zone consists in banking the environment for the conservation of biodiversity and non ligneous forest resources. In the timber production zone, the forest is developed to support maximum production. In the ecosystem-based management zone, silvicultural operations are inspired by natural disturbances (fire, insect epidemic, etc.) so as to harvest ligneous and non

ligneous material without harming the system. The reason for trying to imitate natural disturbances is because it would be far too complicated to develop all the components of the system. The TRIAD approach allows development of the whole ecosystem. Theoretically, the synergy of the three zones will result in economic, social and environmental sustainability.

The experimental TRIAD-type zoning is being implemented in upper Mauricie, Québec, in order to explore its effectiveness and deficiencies. The project was initiated by the logging industry sectoral table of Mauricie in 2003. In 2005, the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune (MRNF) officially recognized the TRIAD as a pilot project. After five years of studies and planning, the TRIAD project in upper Mauricie is now in the implementation stage on Abitibi-Bowater's forest management unit (FMU) 042-51. In this project, 11% of the FMU is dedicated to conservation, 19% to production and 70% to ecosystem-based management.

There are few objections to the necessity of implementing new logging practices. In general, socio-economic studies and overall project experience indicate that the TRIAD is relatively well perceived by the people of upper Mauricie. Furthermore, from an economic perspective and according to a recent study, people are generally ready, theoretically, to pay a supplementary tax to support forest resource conservation. Of course, considering the fact that many theoretical studies have been carried out as opposed to very few that have been acted on, there are still many unanswered questions, notably on environmental issues. Is it actually possible to imitate natural disturbances? How can we imitate patterns created by large scale disturbances? By doing so, can we really save our forests and forest biodiversity? For the time being, no one can predict with certainty the impact of TRIAD zoning. Results from field studies and the future will tell us. However, even though many answers are still needed, the TRIAD project, involving all local stakeholders, is worth the cost of trying.

Date: November 5

Time: 13:30-15:00

Location: Radisson Room



General Session -Breakfast Conference-

Sustainable Development at Labatt Breweries

Stéphanie Trudeau – Labatt Breweries

Labatt Breweries, founded in Canada in 1847, firmly believes that it is possible to maintain a balance between achievement of excellent commercial results, and social and environmental responsibilities that contribute to the well-being of the community. Well before the general public became aware of sustainable development, Labatt Breweries had a significant presence within various communities of Québec and had established concrete measures in terms of the environment. The current context of world competition among breweries, the raising costs of energy and the growing collective awareness of environmental issues have forced Labatt Breweries to greatly increase their efforts, specifically in energy and water consumption.

These actions are now supported by the program “Our Better World”, launched in 2007 by InBev, parent company of Labatt Breweries. The worldwide initiative is based on the following four pillars: generating economic benefits, managing environmental performance, promoting responsible consumption by developing education campaigns, and supporting employees and citizens through financial aid to sport and art performers. The company has supported community events and activities in various fields for 160 years. The convincing results achieved by implementing the program have become a source of pride for our employees.

Labatt Breweries of LaSalle has defined an improvement plan to reduce the environmental footprint. Correspondingly, Labatt’s recycling program consisting of nine different substances recuperated to the extent of 94% brings enormous pride. In cardboard only, 10,000 tons are recycled annually. The environmental commitment benefits the company by generating substantial revenues. In an optimal management of wastes, bottle recuperation depends on a well established process. On the average, bottles are refilled 15 times. Therefore, 95% of bottles marketed are recuperated. The transportation system arranges simultaneous bottle pick-up and product distribution to avoid driving empty trucks.

Because production and bottling require great amounts of water and energy, resource management is monitored regularly. Labatt Breweries has its own water treatment plant where standards are superior to those required by the industry. The initiative does not generate revenues for the company, but Labatt strongly believes in such measures. Between 2005 and 2007, water consumption has been reduced by 35% and eight projects are being developed to reduce it further. Concerning energy, Labatt reduced its consumption for combustion by 30%, 6% for electricity and has optimized lighting. Furthermore, 2009 objectives include: a 10% reduction in electricity and natural gas consumption and 20% in water consumption.

By establishing measures for constant company growth in a sustainable development perspective, Labatt acknowledges its environmental and social responsibilities and, as an important economic player, takes the lead, in the brewery industry, to improve established practices by setting greener standards.

Labatt Breweries, with its 1,500 employees, is a choice employer. Engaged in a sustainable vision, the company is committing to succession planning through encouragement and training by establishing a management trainee program to allow newcomers to the industry to perfect their knowledge and acquire tools necessary to work in the industry.

Labatt Breweries is constantly concerned about operating a plant that respects the environment and about employees who are aware of environmental issues. Labatt invites you to witness the efforts put forward with employees becoming involved, and efforts to be maintained in the future.

Date: November 6

Time: 8:00-9:00

Location: Palais Room



Environnemental Sphere -Sustainable Development on Corporate-

Conciliating Forest Management and Sustainable Development at Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée

Daniel Turcotte – Forest Certification, Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée

Founded in 1961 as a family-owned company by Lucien Filion, Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée is known for its forest resource transformation industrial complex which includes a state-of-the-art sawmill and a plant for producing engineered wood adapted to meet the highest standards requested by residential and commercial clients in North America and Europe. From the time of its foundation, the family-owned company has never ceased to develop. At first, production was limited to wood intended for mine shaft head frames, and later, the company progressively diversified its production to secondary and tertiary processing.

Today, we associate the values that upheld the development of the company with sustainable development. Let us remember that sustainable development is a concept of equilibrium between three sectors: economic, environmental and social. Chantiers Chibougamau has a significant impact on the economic sector with its 450 full-time equivalent employees and appointed representatives in major centres such as Montreal, Toronto, New-York, Chicago and Liverpool. As to the environmental sector, measures have been established to take into account the company's ecological footprint. In doing so, we promote optimal use of lumber, valuation of on-site resource development and reduction of greenhouse gases by operating the heat energy plants with residue products. Finally, the social sector, closely related to the environmental sector, is also taken into consideration by the company. The signing of the Peace of the Braves by the government of Québec and the James Bay Cree has brought about changes in company practices to allow Cree communities to maintain their traditional lifestyle: reduction in the volume of harvested wood, limitations at the general planning level and their necessary acceptance by the master trappers, and changes in harvesting methods. Development from a sustainable perspective has to consider all stakeholders involved, and Chantiers Chibougamau provides the Cree with opportunities of working in partnership with the company.

Thereupon, Chantiers Chibougamau has subscribed to the major principles of sustainable development in adapting their business practices. The turn taken by the company began with the implementation of an environmental management system regulated by the ISO 14 001 certification. The international certification standard includes a declaration by management, an environmental policy and an analysis of the company's significant environmental issues (discharge of waste in water, waste and dangerous substance management, soil contamination), environmental objectives and targets, joint procedures and recordings for better control of target indicators as well as an internal auditing system which brought about a deep cultural change within the organization, a change that did not come about easily.

Chantiers Chibougamau is presently awaiting certification of its forest operations by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The FSC certification, recognized worldwide, is based on two fundamental principles: protection and adaptive management. It will provide convincing evidence of the thoroughness of its management of forest operations and its credibility in practices that were gradually implemented in past years.

In conclusion, conciliation of forest management and sustainable development is possible and attainable. Ever since Lucien Filion founded Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée, operations have always been compatible with the three criteria of sustainable development. An independent auditor provides a follow-up on the environmental management system in calendar time periods. The FSC certification will help maintain a good balance between the economic, environmental and social sectors. Finally, the Cree-Québec agreement is respected and aboriginal values are protected.

Date: November 6

Time: 9:00-10:00

Location: Congrès Room

Integrating Sustainable Development to the Troilus Mine Operations

François Biron – General Manager, Troilus Mine

The Troilus Division is part of the Inmet Mining Corporation. Inmet is based in Canada and carries out exploration, development and production operations to extract copper, zinc and gold. As to the Troilus Mine, it has been doing open-pit extraction of gold and copper since 1996. Twenty thousand tons of mineral are extracted daily 120 kilometres north of Chibougamau and 170 kilometres north-west of Mistissini.

The Troilus mining project has integrated the three spheres of sustainable development (social, environmental and economic) throughout its operations. All the elements required to apply the concept of sustainable development are included: a very high quality environment, a community integrated in the company and associated with its environment, and finally, an economic value requiring closely-conducted management to ensure its profitability. The challenge is great.

Following discovery of the ore body in 1988, harmonization of the three spheres of sustainable development was taken into consideration by feasibility and environmental impact studies and public consultations giving priority to the social, environmental and economic concerns. The time taken to complete the studies provided the opportunity to determine the requirements of operating the Troilus Mine in a sustainable development setting. Sustainable development is integrated in the mining activities through the following elements: operational control of the impacts; development of a diversified environmental follow-up program,

continuous relationships with interested communities; upholding high performance of infrastructures and equipment allowing operations to be cost-effective. The Cree-Québec agreement, having as objective socio-economic development and protection of the environment, is an important component of the social dimension. The Troilus Mine project set an objective to have 25% of its personnel staffed by aboriginal workers, thus integrating the Cree community to territorial exploitation.

The last stage in the life of a mine consists of its closing and environmental restoration, which aims at minimizing environmental and social impacts and rehabilitating the mining site to a satisfactory state. At this point, there is a polarization of the environmental and social spheres. Even though legislation exists, site restoration remains a voluntary and motivated approach within the companies, including Inmet. In the present context, Troilus is expected to stop operations in June 2010. From a sustainable development perspective, this means that starting in March 2009, in order to maintain a maximum number of workers in the region, the company will set up a workers' reclassification committee to transfer them to another project, provide training so that they may occupy another position.

Integrating sustainable development to the Troilus Mine operations is supported by the application of guiding principles and implementation of the Inmet Mining Corporation Safety, Environmental and Community Affairs (SECA) Standards. Inmet has also committed itself to implementing the national program *Toward Sustainable Mining (TSM)* during the exploitation and the environmental restoration of the mining site. The program aims at ensuring better waste, energy and gas management as well as external resource management.

We come to the conclusion that the success of the Troilus Mine largely rests on the fact that the three spheres of sustainable development previously examined have been taken into consideration at every stage of development. Exploration, development and production, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and As demonstrated by the Troilus Mine, mining companies can integrate the principles of sustainable development in the areas of exploration, development and production, and hopefully, they will further consider walking down this path in future projects.

Question: Is there a reclassification committee for human resources?

François Biron: Yes there is. In March 2009, the committee will start working on workers' reclassification and try to have as many workers as possible remain in the region. Training will be offered to ensure that all employees will be reclassified. There is presently a great need for manpower in the mining industry.

Q.: The Troilus Mine is a very good example of training for aboriginal manpower; what are the major challenges related to adjustment between the two nations?

F. B.: A ten-year sociological study will soon be published. Briefly, at the beginning, there were certain difficulties in dealing with Aboriginals, tensions...

However, a Cree coordinator was named as mediator in order to overcome the language and culture barriers. On the other hand, it took two to three years for Aboriginals to be comfortable in a system based on a fixed schedule. Overall, the study establishes a similar percentage of problems related to Aboriginals and non Aboriginals.

Q.: Why do you favour re-vegetation over spruce plantations?

F. B.: Natural new growth requires a thick layer of humus, which is not found on the site.

Date: November 6

Time: 9:00-10:00

Location: Congrès Room



Environnemental Sphere -Wildlife and environment-

Cree trappers association

Paul Dixon – CTA

The Cree community of Waswanipi is on the world market for fur commerce. There is 40 000km² of trapping area on our lands, representing approximately 300km² per family. On our territory, Cree trappers are still hunting like their ancestors did.

Many Crees still work and live on the traplines as Mister Paul Dixon himself did most of his life. He was eventually called to work indoors to put his knowledge and experience to the profit of the Cree Trappers Association (CTA) to reply to the activities and practices of a growing forest industry on our territory. Forestry highly disturbed their trapping and hunting activities. Therefore, the CTA was created to manage relations between their activities and forestry activities on the territory. Very active and preoccupied, the CTA brought to justice many forest industries since their beginnings due to major interest differences. Ten years ago, there were 265 hunters for the moose hunting on the list which is not the case anymore nowadays. The reduction of the territory and its natural resources is therefore problematic to the maintenance of Cree trapping and hunting activities.

“We have rights to protect and we are so preoccupied with wildlife. People have to understand that we are all here for a while” says Mr Dixon. The Cree Trappers Association (CTA) is a part of the James Bay and the Northern Quebec Agreement which gives Crees the right to maintain and practice the ancestral way of life as long as they wish. But in reality, intensive forestry activities on the territory severely diminish trapline quality. Consequently, Cree and Jamesian communities have to work together to change things and by so adapting the forest industry to the needs of every party implied.

Thus, it is by working together that it will become possible to prevent the industrial world from invading trapping-hunting communities. “It’s important to understand that we’re all connected; all that happens in the river in Chibougamau or in Chapais ends up in Waswanipi and eventually in the ocean. So we have to learn to share the territory by respecting each other and by respecting the environment. The industrial world has had a huge impact on the planet. We have to think about our children’s future”.

Date: November 6

Time: 9:00-10:00

Location: Congrès Room

Boreal Forest and Climatic Changes

Mélissa Filion – Lead person for the Greenpeace Boreal Forest Campaign

Scientists, citizens, decision makers and even industrial entrepreneurs around the world share an interest in the fight on climatic changes. As we speak, it is the main environmental concern. It affects everyone. It concerns everyone. And now it detrimentally affects forest management.

Greenpeace is an international organization, founded in Canada in 1971, with a Québec membership of 30,000 members. What is its mission? Greenpeace is dedicated to the protection of the earth's ecosystems, including human beings, and is extremely concerned with the relationship between the fight against climatic changes and the protection the boreal forest.

In fact, boreal forest issues are much more complex than simply stating that deforestation alters the earth's lungs. The boreal forest acts as a carbon pool. Actually, it contains 186 billion tons of carbon of which 84 percent is buried in the ground. Every year, 900,000 hectares are cut, taking away 36 million tons of carbon. Massive logging causes disturbances and warming of the soil thereupon contributing to the release of an additional dose of carbon. Therefore, massive forest operations are directly related to the increase of greenhouse gases.

The same happens whenever fire breaks out in the boreal forest. In fact, even though forest fires are part of the natural regeneration cycle, they increase the rate of greenhouse gases released in the atmosphere in addition to making the forest more vulnerable to insect epidemics.

From this comes the importance of maintaining large zones of intact boreal forest defined as still existing in their natural state. In the case of Québec forests, more than 500 km² of boreal forest are situated in northern Québec, while in the southern region, there is no more boreal forest in its natural state. Large intact boreal forest surfaces are more likely to recuperate from disturbances and resist to the consequences of climatic changes than those having to support roads, forest and mining operations, and other human activities. By their resistance and resilience, they provide more stable conditions, but also serve as migration corridors for many species. And, as mentioned previously, they contribute to the preservation of important carbon pools.

Consequently, in terms of solutions, Greenpeace advocates protection of large zones of intact boreal forest in order to reduce the extent of climatic changes. In cases where it is too late to act, reforestation is an option. However, it requires 10 years for a forest to return to a state of effective carbon reserve and soil stability. In cases where logging is inevitable, it is possible to favour carbon stocking in wood products. However, in Québec, the main transformation is paper which has a shorter cycle, therefore favouring the release of carbon.

Greenpeace considers that the Government of Québec, presently in the process of elaborating the next major forest policy, should consider the role played by intact forests and biodiversity in the fight against climatic changes. It is crucial to determine the vulnerability of Québec forests and of the forest sector to climatic changes so that the data collected may be integrated in governmental forest management plans.

Comment: In an environmental perspective, lumber constitutes the best choice over other materials. It stores carbon and represents 50 percent of the secondary transformation.

Mélissa Filion: It is important to consider all the factors and issues related to the fight against climatic changes.

C.: A tree replacement will never be like the tree that was there originally. I agree with the fact that new forest stands are less resistant to fire. Forest operations must be carried out intelligibly when it comes to soil and forest.

Date: November 6

Time: 9:00-10:00

Location: Congrès Room



Environmental Sphere -Green City-

Awareness-raising of Shoreline Residents

Geneviève Labrie and Daniel Chouinard – Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP)

Water management is, by all means, one of the major international issues of the 21st century. In 2002, the Québec Water Policy was implemented after five years of research, consultations, recommendations and positioning on issues, orientations and commitments to establish water management in Québec. Shoreline protection is certainly an important issue, closely related to the protection of water resources. In past years, we recognized it as we witnessed the cyanobacteria episodes that reached all regions, even the north. Consequently, a policy to protect riverbanks, lakeshores, littoral zones and floodplains has become a necessity. It is mainly a monitoring tool to help municipalities guarantee protection of the environment, manage in a sustainable development perspective and better protect public and environmental health.

In this matter, the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, has committed to giving information to users on the territory and in raising awareness of the importance of protecting shores in a context of sustainable development, but also in making the population accountable concerning sensitive environments. The importance of preserving shorelines is justified by their environmental function. Notably, they provide a habitat for fauna and flora, protect the shoreline, bring stability to soils therefore ensuring natural protection against erosion, maintain water quality and regulate the hydrologic cycle, protect against wind and filter nutrients such as phosphorus. Furthermore, the shoreline greatly contributes to the natural beauty of the landscape and increases property value.

Application of the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains is one of many prescribed measures which provide the desired results. There is a new approach, that of the drainage basin, which provides greater knowledge on the activities taking place on a particular territory. Thanks to this new approach, identification of problem sources becomes easier and adequate action can be taken within reasonable time. Unfortunately, it is not easily applied since it calls for voluntary follow-up from the shoreline resident associations.

As to the regulatory framework, the policy describes precisely the operations that are permitted. It is important for all shoreline residents to be informed on the conditions regulating development.

Shorelines constitute a fragile environment essential to water protection. Adopting good practices, such as replanting trees along shores and regulatory sanitary installations, are big steps in the right direction. They take away the need to use products containing phosphates. We must let nature take her rightful place and keep in mind that when the riverbank is modified in any way, the impact is

considerable, for example, in the case of erosion. The MDDEP stresses the importance of shoreline resident associations and networks for monitoring lakes and providing information on the quality of lake water. Furthermore, in forming an association, citizens who wish to improve the shoreline have the possibility of requesting financial help from their municipality. In Québec, the citizens are the ones to guarantee the quality of shorelines.

Briefly, we have to remember that a restricted view on a healthy lake is better than a breath-taking view on a polluted lake!

Question: If an owner has a cement wall by the lake, how can he tear it down and what resources does he have access to? It seems to me that there are no experts on the subject. Who can advise us?

Geneviève Labrie/Daniel Chouinard: This situation is a private case and comes under municipal jurisdiction, so the municipal authorities can provide information. In case of need, the municipality is supported and advised by the Member of Parliament. For major works, advice from experts or consultants is required.

Q.: Is it possible to obtain or organize an educational campaign?

Public response: FaunENord will soon be organizing one.

G. L.: In 2002, we spent two days in Chapais and Chibougamau and in spite of the publicity made previously, only about 20 persons came to the five presentations. Often, people hesitate to come to meet us because they feel intimidated by the regulatory aspect. However, it is possible for us to arrange meetings with groups of shoreline residents interested in obtaining more information.

Date: November 6

Time: 9:00-10:00

Location: Radisson Room

Sustainable Development Initiatives within the James Bay Youth Movement

Mario Fortin – Mouvement Jeunesse Baie James (MJB)

The Mouvement Jeunesse Baie James (MJB) promotes socially responsible consumption, sustainable development and protection of the environment. After the first youth gathering of the James Bay region, concerns expressed by the 18-35 year olds were directed to the political and environmental levels. During the past year, the MJB organized different activities to increase awareness and inform the James Bay population on environmental matters.

In September 2007, as part of the regional consultation on citizen involvement, the MJBH welcomed Mr. François Pelletier of Équiterre in a series of conferences given in the municipalities of Villebois, Lebel-sur-Quévillon, Matagami, Chibougamau and Chapais: *On the subject of Climatic changes: how to reduce my impact!* Mr. Pelletier explained the causes of the greenhouse effect, its consequences on daily life and proposed concrete measures to encourage participation in the safeguard of the environment: responsible consumption, application of the 3 R's (Reduce, Re-use and Recycle), making adequate use of means of transportation, etc.

In the summers of 2007 and 2008, the MJBH organized a contest *Think ecology, it pays!* intended for members of youth cooperatives in Northern Québec aged from 12 to 16 years old. The general objectives of the contest aimed at favouring James Bay youth involvement, raising awareness about potential *polluting* behaviours and encouraging team work. Under the supervision of their leaders, young competitors had to organize an *Action Project* on conservation, enhancement or awareness of their community environment. The MJBH is proud of the reception given to the contest through different youth projects.

For example, in the summer of 2007, a youth cooperative, the Coopérative Jeunesse de services (CJS) of Chapais implemented a small recycling business as public recycling was not yet in service. Making of bags and handbags from old clothing, reconditioning a historical site (family rest area), lending bicycles, cleaning up a land disposal site, distributing trees, raising awareness concerning fair-trade products are some examples of projects developed by members of the cooperative. The outcome of the activities was encouraging; not only did the youth show great resourcefulness; they also succeeded in having the population of Chapais join their cause. After the CJS had successfully taken up the challenge, recycling was established in the municipality of Chapais. Furthermore, the youth obtained the 2007 youth award at the Gala régional du mérite coopératif de la Coopérative de développement régional (CDR) Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean/Nord-du-Québec. Again this year, the CJS of Chapais maintained first place and won the contest. This time the youth had committed themselves to cleaning up a former land disposal site.

The MJBH also offers awareness workshops to the patrons of youth centers in the region or the CJS. During the summer of 2008, the workshop called *Wearing clothes for what they are, but also for what they say!* aimed at raising awareness about clothes manufacturing and buying (re-using and recycling clothes, work conditions in certain countries, local and fair-trade purchasing).

Since September 2007, the MJBH produces a monthly radio and television program broadcasted on CHEF FM in Matagami, the Chapais-Chibougamau regional television and the Lebel-sur-Quévillon community television. The program contains features and interviews. The MJBH finds it important to give visibility to the citizens who contribute to the development and enhancement of the region.

The contest, *Making our Way!* was launched by the Québec government Youth Action Strategy to encourage and recognize citizen involvement in the community among the youth aged 18-25 years old. The regional contest winner will travel to France for a one-week stay. Christine Mainville of Lebel-sur-Quévillon is this year's winner for the Northern Québec/James Bay region. Christine is a member of the Lebel Environment Committee which contributed to the implementation of home recycling in 2007 and to the establishment of a community garden.

Finally, a great challenge awaits the MJB in the coming months. On April 17-19, 2009, the 2nd James Bay Youth Gathering will be held in Chibougamau and the MJB hopes to welcome a hundred young people from all the municipalities of the James Bay region. The objective is to host a green event!

Date: November 6

Time: 9:00-10:00

Location: Radisson Room

Film viewing

Trees are the answer

Speaker: Mrs. Mélissa Filion, Greenpeace

Summary: "Les arbres sont la solution" French version of "Trees are the answer", produced by Mr. Patrick Moore, co-founder of Greenpeace. After the viewing, Greenpeace will bring clarifications and comment the film. Then, participants may speak out and comment on the subject. Prepare your questions!

Date: November 6

Time: 10:15-11:15

Location: Palais Room



EXPRESSION OF THANKS

The success of the first Regional Conference on Natural Resources and Sustainable Development rests on the participation of many people and organizations.

Firstly, we wish to thank our official partners who greatly contributed to the project: Emploi-Québec and MDEIE.

Furthermore, the event was made possible thanks to the participation of numerous sponsors: Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée; Barrette-Chapais Ltée, James Bay Tourism; Ministère des Affaires municipales et Régions; Ministère du Développement durable, Environnement et Parcs; Société de développement de la Baie-James; Hydro-Québec; Comité du développement social de la Baie James; Mr. Luc Ferland, Member for Ungava; Mr. Yvon Lévesque Member of Parliament, Bloc Québécois; Ministère des Transports du Québec; Imprimerie Nord-Graphique; Opinaca Mines; the Centre D'Entrepreneurship Nordique.


We also address our thanks to the members of the organizing committee who invested valuable time in organizing the conference: Mr. Louis-Pierre B. Ducharme, MRNF; Mr. Jean-Sébastien Lapointe (constituency office of Ungava); Mr. Idrissa Zerbo, MDEIE; Mrs. Caroline Desjardins, James Bay Tourism (JBT); Mrs. Robin McGinley, Cree Outfitter and Tourism Association (COTA); Mrs. Julie Boilard, Barrette-Chapais Ltée; Mr. Luc Mongeau, city of Chibougamau; Mr. Alain Poirier, Ministère de l'Emploi et solidarité sociale (MESS); Mrs. Danielle Guimond, MDDEP; M. Régis Simard, Table jamésienne de concertation minière (TJCM); Mrs. Patricia Hébert, MAMR and CDSBJ; Mr. Frédérick Verreault, Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée; Mrs. Marie-Eve Gosselin, FaunENord; and Mrs. Mireille Gravel, FaunENord.

We wish to draw attention to the important contribution of volunteers: Gaétan Vincent, Yvette Samson, Nancy Lalonde, Sabrina Bouchard, Alain Poirier, Patricia Hébert, Gilles Boudreault, Michael Gravel, Helgi Piccinin, Francis Asselin, Alain Gauthier, Guillaume Fortier, Rock Allen, Yan Tremblay

Finally, we wish to show our gratitude to all participants and to everyone who has contributed directly or indirectly to the success of this high scale event. Some have contributed financially, others have been generous with their time and everyone has brought incomparable support.

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M. Idrissa Zerbo	MDEIE
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Mme Danielle Guimond	MDDEP
M. Régis Simard	TJCM
Mme Patricia Hébert	MAMR et CDSBJ
M. Frédéric Verreault	Chantiers Chibougamau Ltée

Day 1: Wednesday, November 5, 2008

08:00-09:00	Reception and Registration		
09:15-09:45	Welcoming Address by the Honorary President (Mr. Michel Filion, Chantiers Chibougamau)		
09:45-10:15	General Conference: What is Sustainable Development? (Mr. Robert Lauzon, MDDEP)		
10:15-10:30	Break		
	Room A	Room B	Room C
Social Sphere 10:30-12:00	Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health and the Forest (Mr. Gilbert Lemay, CRSSS) ▪ Non-timber Forest Products (Mr. André Pichette, Laboratoire LASEVE) ▪ Water Quality and Wetlands (Mr. Pierre Dulude, Canards Illimités) 	Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peace of the Braves and Sustainable Development (Mr. Roméo Saganash, Grand conseil des Cris) 	Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brundtland Green Schools (Mrs. Isabelle Julien and 4 students, École Vatican II) ▪ Green Businesses (Mr. Luc Bédard, Entretien industriel DLB) ▪ Regional Initiatives (Mme Véronique Lévis, CRRNTBJ)
12:00-13:20	Lunch		
	Room A	Room B	Room C
Economic Sphere 13:30-15:00	Diversification and Future Uses of Forest Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Growth Potential of Northern Forests (Mr. Réjean Gagnon, UQAC) ▪ Non-timber Forest Products (Mr. Daniel Cliche, Ville de Matagami) ▪ Forest and Energy 	Ecotourism and Adventure Tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aventuraid (Mr. Gilles Granal, owner) ▪ ATO Park Creation (Mr. Kevin Neeposh, Park coordination officer) ▪ Quebec National Parks over the 50th parallel (M. Jean-François Lamarre, Ing F. MDDEP) 	Green Paper and New Forest Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest Management and the Peace of the Braves (Mr. Simon St-Georges, MRNF) ▪ Green Paper (Chapters I and II) (Mrs. Marie-Noel Breton, MRNF) ▪ Innovative Approach to Forest Management (Mrs. Rebecca Tittler, UQAM)
15:00-15:15	Break		
15:20-16:20	Plenary: Social and Economic Spheres		
17:00	Cocktail		
18:00	Speech by the Mayor and the Deputy		
18:30	Theatre Supper (closing time: 22:00): Franko and Jean-Eudes Bolduc; Matthew Iserhoff (CerAmony)		

Day 2: Thursday, November 6, 2008

08:00-09:00	Lunch-conference (Mrs Stéphanie Trudeau, Labatt)		
	Room A	Room B	Room C
Environmental Sphere 09:00-10:00	Including Sustainable Development in Corporate Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest industries (Mr. Daniel Turcotte, Chantier Chibougamau) ▪ Mining Venture (Mr. François Biron, Mine Troilus) 	Wildlife and Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cree Trappers Association (Mr. Paul Dixon, CTA, Waswanipi) ▪ Climatic Changes and Boreal forest (Mrs Mélissa Filion, Greenpeace) 	Green City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Awareness of Shoreline Residents (Geneviève Labrie, Daniel Chouinard, MDDEP) ▪ Mouvement Jeunesse Baie-James (Mr. Mario Fortin, Président)
10:00-10:15	Break		
10:15-11:15	'Trees Are the Answer' (27 minutes) / Comments (Mrs. Mélissa Filion, Greenpeace)		
11:15-12:15	Plenary on the Environmental Sphere and Conference Summary		
12:15-12:45	Closing		

