
ACTIVITY REPORT 2020-2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL/CHIEF GEOLOGIST	1
HISTORY	2
ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD IN 2020-2021	3
Board of Directors	
Meetings and resolutions 2020-2021	
PROGRAMS OF THE CMEB	5
Awareness raising and promotional activities	
Workforce awareness and employment assistance	
Technical and financial assistance to prospectors	
Project development and assistance to entrepreneurs	
New projects	
Expertise in the Earth sciences and technical assistance	
COLLABORATIONS.....	9
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (MENR)	
Cree Human Resources Development (CHRD)	
Cree School Board (CSB)	
CÉGEP Saint-Félicien in Chibougamau and the UQAC	
Cree Trappers' Association (CTA)	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY.....	10
Financial year ending on March 31, 2021	
OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ALLOCATED SINCE 2014	12
ANNEX	13
Impact and Operational indicators	

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD 2020-2021



Reggie Mark, President
Cree Nation of Wemindji
member



Sam Bosun, Director
Cree Nation of Ouje-Bougoumou
Member



Mark Wadden, Director
Community Education Administrator
Cree School Board



Anthony Macleod, Director
Department of Commerce & Industry
Cree Nation Government



Guy Morin, Corporate Secretary
Guy Morin Avocat Inc.



Youcef Larbi, PhD., Geo.
Chief Geologist & Director General

MESSAGE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL/CHIEF GEOLOGIST

The present report summarizes the activities of the CMEB from April 2020 to the end of March 2021. Despite the pandemic of the Covid-19, the CMEB pursued its activities related to, among others, the funding of mineral exploration projects for Cree prospectors and entrepreneurs, awareness activities and field visit of ongoing prospecting projects.

On April 28, 2021, the CMEB has suffered from a great loss with the passing away of its president in office, Mr. Reggie Mark. Mr. Mark was among the CMEB's founders, appointed to its board of directors back in 2002 and was its president since 2016. He was an active community member of Wemindji, he was its chief for two terms from 1999 to 2005, then he served as Deputy Chief and Councillor. He was also President of Vieux Comptoir Construction and director of numerous entities such as Beesum, Air Wemindji as well as Tawich Development Corporation.

Mr. Mark played a key role in the negotiation and construction of the Opinaca Gold Mine. André Gaumont, former president of Virginia Exploration, which discovered the Opinaca's gold deposit mentioned: «Without Reggie's help, Virginia would not have succeeded as it did.» The former Grand Chief, Dr. Matthew Coon Come mentioned: «Reggie was a solid man and you could count on him.» Dr. Michel Bouchard, Professor at McGill University mentioned: « Reggie handled modernism and tradition with class.»

At a conference held in Val d'Or in 2018, Mr. Mark mentioned:

As a Cree, I personally believe that a social licence to operate in Eeyou Istchee will be obtained only for those projects that will put in place the highest environmental practices and that will have involved our communities in early development stages.

Mr. Mark was a great humble man with deep human values. The CMEB wish to acknowledge and salute his exceptional contribution to the mineral industry. He will be missed by many friends throughout Eeyou Istchee, Québec and Canada.

Despite this great loss, Mr. Mark would certainly have wished for the CMEB to carry on its activities in the trail blazed by his ancestor and himself. It is with a twinge in the heart that, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I have the privilege to present this Activity Report of the Cree Mineral Exploration Board (CMEB) to the Grand Council of the Crees Eeyou Istchee (GCC(EI)), the Cree Nation Government (CNG) and the Québec Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (MENR).

In 2020-2021, the Covid-19 pandemic has slowed down the mineral exploration activities in Eeyou Istchee. One of the important activities carried out by the CMEB in this context was the posting on its website of detailed recommendations specifically addressed to the mineral exploration industry active in Eeyou Istchee. In collaboration with the Cree Health Board and the CNG these recommendations had a dual purpose firstly to preserve Eeyou Istchee's communities from the spreading of the virus and secondly to facilitate the carrying out of the field mineral exploration campaign in Eeyou Istchee .

HISTORY

The Cree Mineral Exploration Board was created pursuant to Chapter 5 of the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Québec and the Crees of Québec. Its mandate consists in encouraging and facilitating the development of mineral exploration companies on the Territory, in accordance with section 5.3 of the Agreement:

Québec will promote and facilitate the participation of the James Bay Crees in mineral exploration activities on the Territory. In particular, Québec and the Crees will set up before April 1, 2002, a Mineral Exploration Board, which will be largely composed of Cree representatives but with some representation from Québec.

Subsection 5.3 of this Agreement also describes the principal objectives of the Board as well as the financial conditions:

Beginning in the 2001-02 fiscal year, this Board will benefit from the regular program funding of Québec available for such purposes presently set at three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) per financial year. The main purposes of this Mineral Exploration Board will be to:

- a) assist the Crees in accessing mineral exploration opportunities;
- b) facilitate the development of mineral exploration enterprises with Cree entrepreneurship;
- c) help and encourage the Crees and Cree enterprises benefit from Québec's regular funding program as well as other provincial assistance allocated to mineral exploration activities;
- d) act as an intermediary between offers and demands of services made to Crees and Cree enterprises in matters relating to mineral exploration.

In February 2020, the Cree Nation Government (CNG), the Government of Québec and the CMEB signed an agreement entitled: "Agreement Concerning Mineral Resources Development in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory, 2019-2022". Section 6 of this Agreement highlights the CNG's engagement to defray the CMEB's administrative expenses. Accordingly, the CNG has fulfilled this engagement, as it has subsidized the CMEB's operating budget for an amount of \$500,000. This agreement is retroactive to April 1, 2019, and it is for a 3-year term until March 31, 2022. Also, the MENR increased its contribution to an annual amount of \$350,000 for a global contribution of \$1,050,000.

ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD IN 2020-2021

Board of directors

The Board of Directors is composed of four (4) members Mr. Reggie Mark, President, Mr. Sam Bosum, Mr. Mark Wadden, and Mr. Anthony MacLeod.

Meetings and resolutions 2020-2021

The Cree Mineral Exploration Board held four (4) meetings, the first of which took place by telephone conference on May 27, 2020. The Members of the Board amended a project and approved the following four (4) projects:

Recipient	Project	Amount	Financial assistance
Larry Desgagné	Brongniart Moly Gold 2020 Exploration Project	\$10,870	Prospector
Larry Desgagné	Trenholme 2020 Exploration Project	\$10,720	Prospector
Marc Bouchard	Fantonest 2020 Exploration Project	\$8,000	Prospector
CMEB	CMEB Prospecting Course Proposal	\$40,000	Prospector
TOTAL		\$69,590	

The second meeting took place via telephone conference on August 12, 2020. Members of the Board reviewed the CMEB audited financial statements for 2019-2020 and approved the following seven (7) projects.

Recipient	Project	Amount	Financial assistance
Thomas Blackned	KM322 Prospecting Project	\$11,300	Prospector
Rock A. Sheshamush	Cinii Exploration Project	\$12,800	Prospector
Robert Ratt	Polaris West Lake Project	\$9,400	Prospector
Neil Wapachee	Kaanemgkashist Exploration Project, Phase 3, km 346 Route du Nord Project	\$6,600	Prospector
Denis Moar	Mantuwataw Exploration Project	\$6,700	Prospector
SD Mines Inc.	Phase III Kaupapiskau	\$30,488	Enterprise
SD Mines Inc.	Nemaska Lake	\$60,000	Enterprise
TOTAL		\$137,288	

The third meeting was held via video/telephone conference on November 20, 2020. Members of the Board approved the following project:

Recipient	Project	Amount	Financial assistance
Nimsken Corporation Inc.	Induced Polarization / Resistivity and Magnetometer Surveys on the 2020-2021 Barlow Cuvier Extension Project – NTS Area 32G15 – Category 1 Land	\$60,750	Enterprise
Kenny Wapachee	Trapline M-13 South Exploration Project Phase 4	8 300 \$	Prospector
Priscilla Spencer & Elvis Weanicappo	Trapline VC33 Exploration Project Phase 1	8 300 \$	Prospector
Edward Georgekish	VC26 Transtaiga Exploration Project	9 100 \$	Prospector
Norman Grant	Nottawa River Exploration Project	6 700 \$	Prospector
Total		93 150 \$	

A fourth meeting was held by video/telephone conference on February 10, 2021. The members approved the following three (3) projects.

Recipient	Project	Amount	Financial assistance
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Nimsken Corporation Inc.	Induced Polarization / Resistivity and Magnetometer Surveys on the 2021 Barlow East Gold Showing Project – NTS Area 32G15	\$20,239	Enterprise
Nimsken Corporation Inc.	Electromagnetic and Magnetometer Surveys on the Opawica Project – NTS Area 32G07	\$19,200	Enterprise Sensibilisation de la main-d'œuvre et aide à l'emploi
Nimsken Corporation Inc.	Geological & Geophysical Compilation Centred on Barlow and Rush Lakes Are 32G15	\$30,000	Enterprise
JA MacLeod Exploration Reg'd.	JA MacLeod Exploration Reg'd./Gaspeg Resources Ltd. JV – Davidson Project	\$34,215	Entreprise
TOTAL		\$103,654	

PROGRAMS OF THE CMEB

The following pages provide a summary of CMEB's activities carried out under the following programs: awareness raising and promotional activities, workforce awareness and employment assistance, technical and financial assistance to prospectors, project development and assistance to entrepreneurs and expertise in Earth sciences and technical assistance.

Awareness Raising and Promotional Activities

The representatives of the CMEB took part in several promotional events such as conferences and workshops. During these mining events, the CMEB presented posters and various information related to mineral exploration in Eeyou Istchee, more particularly during the Mining Week (25^e Semaine minière du Québec) in April 2020 in most Eeyou Istchee schools.

A CMEB geologist conducted earth science activities at the Voyageur Memorial Elementary School in Mistissini and Maquatua Eeyou Secondary School Wemindji in May 2020.

Other activities held in this year 2020 via internet :

A Board member and the chief geologist were connected to the Québec Mineral Exploration Association Conference held Via Internet in October 2020. This is the best opportunity to listen to the junior companies presentations of their projects in Eeyou Istchee and exchange on different subjects.

The CMEB also took part with Québec's delegation at the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada's (PDAC) conference in March 2021 via internet. This event was an ideal opportunity to keep business contacts and have the information concerning the exploration activities in Eeyou Istchee.

During these events related to mineral resources, many junior exploration companies active in Eeyou Istchee showed great interest in the CMEB exploration and technical training programs. These conferences were an excellent occasion to promote the mineral potential on traditional lands of Eeyou Istchee and also an opportunity to establish links of work and collaboration with the industry.

The CMEB also intends to continue its advertising campaign in order to promote its programs in Cree communities by means of: Cree magazines (such as The Nation, Cree Hunters magazine, Resources Mines and Industry magazine and Destination Air Creebec), various Cree radio advertisements, as well as events which focus on sciences and careers in the Cree School Board establishments.

In order to promote interest of the mineral industry in Eeyou Istchee, and inform Cree tally-person, the public at large and mining companies, the CMEB is constantly updating its website and Tally-Person Traplins Map. (cmeb.org)

The CMEB also actively participated in the meetings of the following organizations: the Cree-Québec mining table, the Subcommittee on mineral exploration, the Committee on the assessment of mineral potential in Northern Québec. The CMEB also contributed financially and participated in the workshop on the acquisition and dissemination of social and environmental knowledge organized by the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment.

Workforce Awareness and Employment Assistance

Because of the pandemic situation, the CMEB employed and facilitated the hiring of a maximum of 50 Crees to work in the mining sector and related sectors. These jobs concern prospector positions, helpers for several exploration sectors especially camp building and janitor positions. All these positions are either offered by the CMEB, service companies, exploration companies and mines operating in Eeyou Istchee. The CMEB acts as an intermediary between mineral exploration companies and the Cree labour force by recommending experienced Cree workers in the mineral field.

The CMEB works, in close collaboration with the Cree Human Resources Development of the Cree Nation Government, on setting up a certified training program for adults in the field of mineral resources. A consultation table, composed of various members in the fields of education, government and mining industry was created to develop this program. The CMEB also implemented programs for prospectors' course and updating of current mineral knowledge of Cree trappers.

The CMEB believes in its ability to train the Cree youth in the mineral field. In this regard, PowerPoint presentations and field excursions are regularly arranged in Cree communities in order to promote Earth Sciences. Many information sessions aimed at

popularizing sciences and explaining the operations of the mineral industry are also presented to Cree community members.

The following training programs were delivered or funded by the CMEB:

- Mineral Resources Geology. With the collaboration of the CHRD and CEGEP of Chibougamau-St-Félicien, a Collegial Studies Attestation Mineral Resources Geology has been elaborated. The first cohort of young Crees graduated in fall 2019 and a second should graduate in 2021.
- CMEB – 2020 Prospecting Course
- Mining 101 for Cree Communities Leaders
- Mining 101 for Trappers and Tally-Persons

The CMEB has implemented a training course commonly named “Mining 101”, which provides to Cree community leaders and other interested Cree beneficiaries basic information about the mining industry, from the grass root exploration to the exploitation and decommissioning of a mining project. This course also provides information related to the creation of enterprises in view to provide services required by the mineral exploration and mining industries. In the framework of this course, the CMEB provides its technical assistance as well as the available geosciences knowledge of Eeyou Istchee. This 30-hour course is usually delivered in offices of respective Cree Nations. The main objective of this course is to give tools to Cree communities in view to help them to make enlightened decisions when it comes the time to deal with mining companies active on their lands. Every year, CMEB delivers this course in two to three Cree communities.

This year the Mining 101 has been reviewed in view to address specifically to two different audiences namely the Cree leadership with an orientation to better understand the mining business and the other for all Cree beneficiaries with a greater field orientation.

The following communities benefited from the Mining 101 course in 2020-2021: Chisasibi 5 people, Wemindji 8 people and Mistissini 12 people. CMEB’s intent is to revisit several times all 10 Cree communities over the next years.

Some mining companies active in Eeyou Istchee with the collaboration of participating Cree Nations and the CMEB offered other courses in mineral exploration; the latter provides expertise, coordinates various services and insures the enforcement of basic rules on the field with regards to the preservation of the environment and Cree traditional activities.

Technical and Financial Assistance to Prospectors

Native prospectors carried out mineral exploration projects funded by the CMEB. The CMEB pursues its efforts to attract Cree interest in mineral prospecting in Eeyou Istchee. Considerable work will be required to incite more Cree prospectors to submit prospecting projects. The CMEB has two Beep Mats (electromagnetic devices with integrated GPS) for use by Cree prospectors free of charge. The following agreements were executed by the CMEB within the framework of this program and the results are very encouraging:

- Larry Desgagné – Brongniart Moly Gold 2020 Exploration Project
- Larry Desgagné – Trenholme 2020 Exploration Project
- Marc Bouchard – Fantonest 2020 Exploration Project
- Thomas Blackned – KM322 Prospecting Project
- Rock A. Sheshamush – Cinii Exploration Project
- Robert Ratt – Polaris West Lake Project
- Neil Wapachee – Kaanemgkashist Exploration Project, Phase 3, km 346 Route du Nord Project
- Denis Moar – Mantuwataw Exploration Project
- Kenny Wapachee - Trapline M13 South Exploration Project
- Elvis Weanicappo - Prescilla Spencer - Trapline VC-33 Exploration Project
- Edward Georgekish – VC-26 Transtaïga Exploration Project
- Norman Grant – Nottawa River Exploration Project

The funded projects are visited by the CMEB's Chief geologist/Director General with the purpose of guiding and helping prospectors improve their knowledge and their way of prospecting. The Chief geologist/Director General travels all over Eeyou Istchee to have access to these projects. This is highly appreciated by prospectors and even more by prospectors' Tally-person. The following are projects visited in the summer 2020: Dennis Moar – Kawiywakamach Lake Project Phase2 (Chisasibi Traplines), Larry Desgagné – Trenholme 2020 (Ouje-Bougoumou Traplines), Robert Ratt – Polaris West Lake Project (Chisasibi Traplines) and Neil Wapachee – Kaanemgkashist Exploration Project, Phase 3, (Nemaska Traplines).

Project development and assistance to entrepreneurs

During the financial year 2020-2021, the CMEB entered into agreements with the following companies for the funding of exploration projects:

- SD Mines Inc. – Phase III Kaupapiskau
- SD Mines Inc. – Nemaska Lake
- Nimsken Corporation Inc. – Induced Polarization / Resistivity and Magnetometer Surveys on the 2020-2021 Barlow Cuvier Extension Project – NTS Area 32G15 – Category 1 Land
- Nimsken Corporation Inc. - Induced Polarization / Resistivity and Magnetometer Surveys on the 2021 Barlow East Gold Showing Project – NTS Area 32G15
- Nimsken Corporation Inc. - Electromagnetic and Magnetometer Surveys on the Opawica Project – NTS Area 32G07
- Nimsken Corporation Inc. – Geological & Geophysical Compilation Centred on Barlow and Rush Lakes Area 32G15
- JA MacLeod Exploration Reg'd./Gaspeg Resources Ltd. JV – Davidson Project

New Projects

The CMEB received several requests for assistance and participation from Cree and non-Cree companies for the financial year 2020-2021. As always, having the economic development of Eeyou Istchee at heart, the CMEB is open to any serious proposal. The CMEB is regularly solicited for the participation or investment in new exploration projects in Eeyou Istchee.

Mineral exploration companies and universities are looking for partnerships for the carrying out of mineral potential studies in the Cree territory. They are very interested in creating business and geoscience development partnerships with Cree communities, which fall within the mandate of the CMEB.

As CMEB did with the Cree youth, custom made prospecting projects were developed for Tally-person and Cree trappers, since they spend most of their time in the bush and some of them are interested in prospecting while carrying out traditional activities. In this regard, over the past decade, the CMEB visited the Cree Trappers' Association communities' offices to inform and to introduce mineral prospector's technic to groups of 10 to 20 Trappers and Tally-Persons. Likewise, every year the CMEB offers a customized course to individuals Eeyou beneficiaries from all communities, either at the CMEB's Wemindji head office or at its Mistissini satellite office, a 30-hour course on mineral recognition, prospecting tips, map reading and GPS localization. This year the course took place in the Cree Nation of Mistissini where the trainees came from all over Eeyou Istchee.

Expertise in the Earth Sciences and Technical Assistance

The Interactive geo-economic map showing Eeyou Istchee's mineral potential is a great success for the CMEB since a large number of consultations occurred on our web site. The map is regularly updated and contains the most recent data that the CMEB, the MENR and mineral industry produced.

In view to facilitate communications for mineral exploration companies active on the territory, the CMEB has recently published

on its website a brand new electronic and interactive map concerning traplines' areas exclusively as well as the required information to contact concerned Cree individuals and organizations. This map is highly valued by the mining industry and there is intense consultation especially at the end of the winter. This period is when companies must contact the tallyman (tally-person), the chief and the council of a Cree community to inform them of the exploration activities planned for the summer season. Coming soon, all the mining titles held in Eeyou Istchee will be accessible via the MENR link on our website www.cmeb.org.

These two maps prove to be a very useful tool for the prospectors and tally-person, as well as for internet users since it is available on our website at the following address: www.cmeb.org/geoeco and www.cmeb.org/TAB TALLYPERSON TRAPLINES MAP.

Many projects of scientific collaboration to improve the knowledge of the mineral potential on Eeyou Istchee are in development with scientific institutions such as the Géologie Québec (MENR), University of Ottawa, the UQAM, the UQAC and the Canadian Geological Commission. These projects are generally of geological and geophysical nature and are axed on the elaboration of a complete database.

The CMEB also provided its technical expertise to the Grand Council of the Crees and to the local councils of Cree communities. Moreover, on a daily basis, from its offices in Wemindji and Mistissini, the CMEB answers questions from tally-person, the members of the Cree Trappers' Association, community members, and Cree owned exploration companies (such as Native Exploration, Nimsken Corporation, J.A.MacLeod Exploration, Envirocree, SD Mines, Coon-Come Exploration and Wemex) as well as other exploration and exploitation companies (such as: Stornoway, Opinaca Mines, Osisko, Soquem, Metalex, Azimut, Ios, Sirios, Dios, Everton, Hecla, Durango, Harfang etc.) concerning geological data and access to Eeyou Istchee. These companies also benefit from the CMEB's technical, coordination, and communication assistance, as well as support in hiring Crees for their projects.

COLLABORATION

The Cree Mineral Exploration Board established collaborations with various entities. Among these is the Cree Nation Government with its different sectors (environment, natural resources, and geo-information) with which the CMEB maintains continuous communication for exchange of information and development of common projects.

The CMEB works closely with the MENR and its mining sector. Among others, the MENR undertook to promote the mission of the CMEB by directly informing all companies holding mining titles in the territory and by adding a link on its website to CMEB's website. The MENR also implemented a follow-up on the hiring of Cree people in the mining sector. Moreover, the MENR intends to take an active part in a discussion table between the industry and the CMEB. The MENR also established a mechanism of consultation with the CMEB concerning its cartography programs on the territory and the development of new strategies for mines.

The ongoing collaboration with the CNG's Human Resources Department and the CSB allows the possibility to subsidize long-term training programs and to promote funding programs accessible to the Crees in the field of mineral resources. In this respect, the CMEB holds discussions with the CSB to develop a technical training program adapted to the young Crees. This program, developed in close cooperation with the CHRD, the MENR, regional colleges and the mineral industry consists of collegial technical training in natural resources which will give access to the employment connected to the fields of mining, hydrology and the environment. This program should meet the aspirations of the Crees and the needs of the industry. In 2012, the CMEB became partners with the Cree Human Resources Development on the Eeyou Mining Skills Enhancement Program (EMSEP).

The CMEB collaborates with CEGEPs and Universities. This year CMEB collaborates with the UQAC, UQAT and the MERN on the Geological Impact Study of new deposits found by CMEB's prospector in the Ouje-Bougoumou area.

Since its creation, the CMEB established close links with The Cree Trappers' Association (CTA) with the objective of informing the trappers and to protect their interests. The CMEB took the initiative to inform the trappers concerning the mining activity in their traplines, and to give them the training they need to take an active part in mineral exploration in Eeyou Istchee. This initiative is strongly appreciated by the CTA, which actively collaborates in the delivery of these courses.

The CMEB has also worked in close collaboration with local Cree Nations Chiefs and Councils, the CTA, the Cree Nation Government, mineral exploration companies and Hydro Québec for the production of the No-Fly Zone during the 2020 Goose Break. This initiative is to ensure that the traditional goose harvesting activities held this year between April 22nd and May 13th, are minimally impacted by helicopter flight within Eeyou Istchee. This map was accessible on CMEB website (cmeb.org).

The CMEB has established, during the past 19 years, collaboration with the Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Temiscamingue for the planning and delivering of its annual conference, more precisely concerning topics related to the mineral industry. CMEB's contacts in this field greatly contributed securing the participation of reputable and passionate speakers at this event. It is a great opportunity to provide information about the development of mineral activities in Eeyou Istchee and sensitize attendees to the deep attachment of Eeyou people to their land and traditional activities within their culture.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

THE CREE MINERAL EXPLORATION BOARD
Financial Year Ending on March 31, 2021

SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR CMEB'S OPERATION		
	CNG	MENR
2020-2021	\$500,000	\$350,000
2019-2020	\$500,000	\$350,000

ALLOCATION OF THE FUNDS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC 2020-2021	
Proponent/Project	Amount
Agreement 2020-05 – Larry Desgagné – Brongniart Moly Gold 2020 Exploration Project	\$10,870
Agreement 2020-06 - Larry Desgagné - Trenholme 2020 Exploration Project	\$10,720
Agreement 2020-07 - Marc Bouchard - Fantonest 2020 Exploration Project	\$8,000
Agreement 2020-08 – Dennis Moar - Mantuwataw	\$6,700
Agreement 2020-09 - Thomas Blackned - KM322 Prospecting Project	\$11,300
Agreement 2020-10 - Rock A. Sheshamush - Cini Exploration Project	\$12,800
Agreement 2020-11 - Robert Ratt - Polaris West Lake Project	\$9,400
Agreement 2020-12 - Neil Wapachee - Kaanemgkashist Exploration Project, Phase 3, km 346 Route du Nord Project	\$6,600
Agreement 2020-13 - SD Mines Inc. - Phase III Kaupapiskau	\$30,488
Agreement 2020-14 - SD Mines Inc. – Nemaska Lake	\$60,000
Agreement 2020-15 - Kenny Wapachee - Trapline M13 Souht Exploration Project	\$8,300
Agreement 2020-16 - Elvis Weanicappo - Prescilla Spencer - Trapline VC-33 Exploration Project	\$8,300

Agreement 2020-17 - Edward Georgekish VC-26 Transtaïga Exploration Project	\$9,100
Agreement 2020-18 - Norman Grant Nottawa River Exploration Project	\$6,700
Agreement 2020-19 Nimsken Corporation Inc. - Induced Polarization and Magnetometer Surveys on the 2020-2021 Barlow Cuvier – NTS Area 32G15 – Category I Land	\$60,750
Agreement 2021-01 - Nimsken Corporation Inc. - Induced Polarization / Resistivity and Magnetometer Surveys on the 2021 Barlow East Gold Showing Project – NTS Area 32G15	\$20,239
Agreement 2021-02 - Nimsken Corporation Inc. - Electromagnetic and Magnetometer Surveys on the Opawica Project – NTS Area 32G07	\$19,200
Agreement 2021-03 - Nimsken Corporation Inc. - Geological & Geophysical Compilation Centred on Barlow and Rush Lakes Are 32G15	\$30,000
Entente 2021-04 -JA MacLeod - Exploration Reg'd. - JA MacLeod Exploration Reg'd./Gaspeg Resources Ltd. JV – Davidson Project 34 215 \$	\$34,215

ALLOCATED FOR EXPLORATION PROJECTS SINCE 2014	
2020-2021	\$329,467
2019-2020	\$445,049
2018-2019	\$330,744
2017-2018	\$501,400
2016-2017	\$463,626
2015-2016	\$437,551
2014-2015	\$384,451

IMPACT & OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

A) Impact indicators

1. Increase/maintain the number of Aboriginal jobs in the mine exploration sector.

The CMEB developed strategic connections with mining and exploration companies in Eeyou Istchee for the purpose of placing our trainees. This activity started in 2005, following our first prospectors training held in 2004 in Chisasibi, which has been recurrent since then. Usually exploration company's teams and Géology-Québec mapping section take annually one or two Cree workers each as a student or as a prospector.

Number of aboriginals employed in the mining sector in 2020-2021:

- CMEB: 12 Crees trainees in exploration
- Exploration Industry: 10 Cree workers
- Mines : minimum of 30 Cree workers

2. Improve knowledge of mine exploration and development in the Aboriginal communities.

The CMEB has been mandated to develop the knowledge of the communities in the domain of mining and exploration. We want to develop the mining culture similar to the one developed in the Abitibi region a few generations ago.

Number of participants to knowledge and promotional activities in 2020-2021:

- 10 participants each event (awareness activities) via Internet to PDAC 2021 - Xplor2020
- 3/4 board members to promotional events.
- 4/10 chiefs

the Mining Conference organized in collaboration with the Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance (SAENCAT) was cancelled because of the pandemic.

3. Maintain assistance for Aboriginal start-up enterprises in the mineral resource sector

This is exactly what is expected from the CMEB; creating a spinoff to attract explorers, business people and investors. We increased the number of Aboriginal enterprises able to develop the mining sector. Since 2004, 8 Cree owned companies were set up. Number of aboriginal start-up enterprises assisted in 2020-2021:

This year the CMEB helped create one more service & exploration company. This company named SINII Exploration, it is owned by Robert Ratt and Rayan CoonCome.

4. Reinforce or maintain communications between the Aboriginal communities and mine exploration companies in order to foster the social acceptability of projects.

The process implemented by the CMEB is as follows: companies are encouraged to communicate in writing with the chiefs and tallymen of the Cree communities concerned after staking and before each field exploration campaign. In order to specify the location, nature and duration of the work and by providing the details of a contact person for further information. The CMEB also recommended that they inform the said recipient of the possibilities of employment, contracts or services that may be required, if applicable.

2020-2021 results:

We had 200 projects and 95 % of the companies active in Eeyou Istchee set up an adequate communication channel with the communities and concerned individuals.

B) Operational indicators

1. Awareness placements and activities

This year again we carried out activities in 9 communities except for Washaw Sibi because the community was lockdown due to the pandemic.. We offered the three following types of awareness activities: Semaine Minière in Cree schools (primary and secondary) Schools, visiting Cree Trappers Association 5 times/year for the purpose to inform the trappers and the tallypersons about the exploration activities, and teach them how to recognize minerals in the rocks found in their traplines and attendance in career fairs.

Results for 2020-2021:

- As every year, the CMEB visited four schools of Cree School Board during la Semaine Minière. We did presentations about natural sciences and mineral resources.
- Minerals exploration learning and information customized and organized for the Tally-Person and the trappers concerns for each community in Eeyou Istchee.
- Presentation in Communities' Career fair to keep prospectors and interested people up to date on new technology in mineral resources.
- ... «MINING 101» 5 participants in Chisasibi, 8 participants in Wemindji et 12 personnes in Mistissini appreciated the information concerning their trapline and the exploration knowledge given by CMEB.

2. Support given to self-employed Aboriginal prospectors

The CMEB supported academically, financially and technically the prospectors by offering to them updating courses, by funding their exploration projects and by giving them technical knowledge concerning geology and the mining titles information.

Results for 2020-2021:

This year we funded 8 projects done by 12 prospectors. We prepared a geological report for each prospector, which were submitted to the board along with five reports from Cree companies.

3. Carrying out of Mine prospecting Projects

The CMEB received and approved funding for 8 prospecting projects from Cree prospectors. The Chief geologist helps the Cree prospectors to develop their first prospecting projects.

4. Carrying out of mine exploration projects

This past year the CMEB funded and collaborated on 5 projects submitted by Cree companies : SD Mine 2 projects and Nimskan corporation 3 projects.

5. Presentation of awareness, promotional and networking events in the Aboriginal community

This past year no conference was organized within the communities; Nevertheless, we organized the 2020 Business Exchange Day with our partner SAENCAT (Secrétariat aux alliances économiques Nation Crie Abitibi-Témiscamingue) via Internet. The number of participants was high. 50 participants altogether with a satisfaction rate of 90%.

6. Attendance at awareness and promotional events in the mining sector

As decided by the board of CMEB in early 2003, the members of the board and the interested Crees into mining were invited to attend the two most important events at that time namely the PDAC and Québec Exploration.

However, during these past 2 years or so we struggled to hold even one meeting in person. We used to encourage Cree people of business, sciences and investment sectors to join the most significant events for us; which are: PDAC, Nunavik Mining Workshop, Québec Mine, Xplor and CMEB-SAENCAT (Secrétariat aux alliances économiques Nation Crie Abitibi-Témiscamingue) conference The North and its Logistics in Mining. Where we used to have numerous attendance. However, this year we had no choice than avoiding all kinds of regroupment.

7. Start-up Assistance Given to Aboriginal Service or Mine Exploration Companies

The CMEB has a major plan in this domain, we need to see an exploration Cree company on the stock market. Initially back in 2003 the CMEB funded 3 companies (WEMEX, CREEGOLD and NIMSKEN). In 2009, 2 other companies accessed to the CMEB's funding (Native Exploration and J.A. Macleod Exploration). In 2016, the first mining environment Cree company was set up (EnviroCree). In 2018, SD Mines and in 2019 CoonCome Exploration and services were created. Last year, CMEB helped to the creation of one newer companies (SINII Exploration & services).