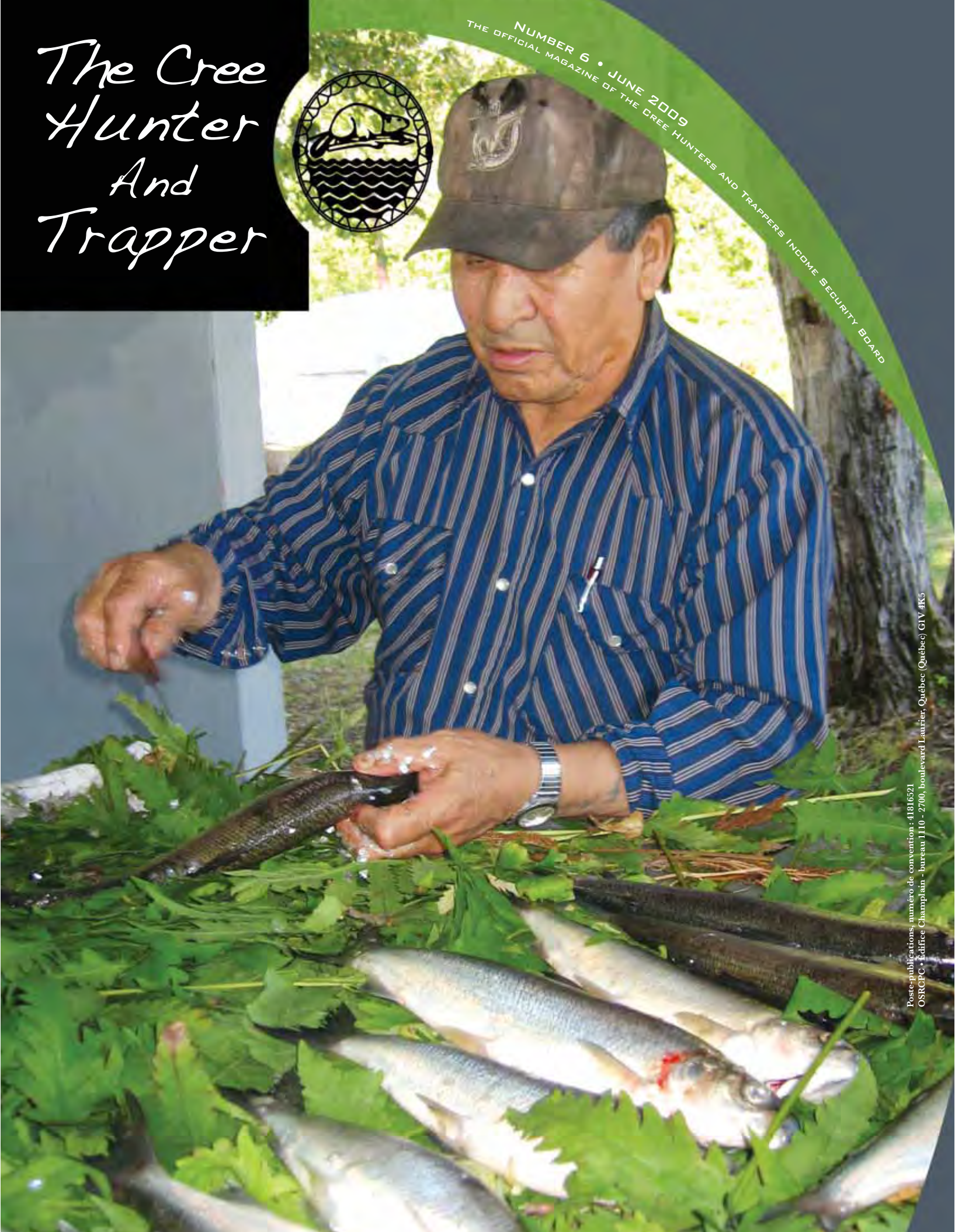


# The Cree Hunter And Trapper



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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY BOARD



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# The Cree Hunter and Trapper

## Mission and purpose

To help promote, maintain, and facilitate the participation of Cree people in the traditional lifestyle and harvesting activities as a way of life.

## Request for stories

*The Cree Hunter and Trapper* is interested in receiving stories and articles from the beneficiaries of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Program. It will also consider stories about any activities related to the traditional lifestyle of the Cree. All submissions are welcome. *The Cree Hunter and Trapper* will pay, upon publication, up to \$300 per story based on quality of text and accompanying photos.

Editorial comments, submissions, and inquiries should be submitted to:

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## Acknowledgements

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S. Larivière, Director-general, acted as editor-in-chief. Luc Farrell provided photographs. A special thanks to Dorothy Polson and her family for a very special meeting and permission to use souvenir photographs.

**Cover page:** Jimmy Trapper from Waskaganish is cleaning ciscos on the shores of the Rupert River at Smokey Hill.

## Editorial

People interested in the Cree's traditional way of life quickly realize the importance of fish in the Cree diet. Historically, fish has provided food to families during the entire spring, summer and part of autumn. Additionally, some hunters have developed methods to catch certain species of fish even during the winter, by placing nets under the ice or by fishing on the ice with rods.

The importance of fish for the Crees is undeniable, but not all fish have the same importance. Among the most prized fish for the Cree are whitefish, mainly because of their abundance. In fact, whitefish can be caught in great numbers, as opposed to trout, which are captured individually or in small groups. On Cree territory, the best place to see whitefish fishing is at Smokey Hill, near Waskaganish. This traditional fishing site is situated on the majestic Rupert River.

In November 2009, the Rupert River's diversion is planned. This year is therefore the last year to witness traditional fishing at Smokey Hill.



For those who are interested, I invite you to discover this activity in Smokey Hill; otherwise, you can do so in the pages of this magazine.

Serge Larivière, Ph. D., MBA  
Director-general  
The Cree Hunters and Trappers  
Income Security Board



# ISP USEFUL

## ISP AND THE SEMI-ACTIVE STATUS

### CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM

By Tanya Lynn Strong, Program Assistant-Administration

## What is the Semi-Active Status?

The Semi-Active status is a measure that was first introduced in 2002, with Complementary Agreement no. 15. The objective of this status is to provide an option for elder beneficiaries who wish to gradually reduce their activities and to not run the risk of having their file cancelled because they cannot meet the minimum eligibility requirement of 120 days in the bush.

## What happens when I am Semi-Active?

A Semi-Active beneficiary does not have to meet the regular eligibility requirements of the program: even if you spend less than 120 days in the bush, you can continue on the program for 5 years. However, you will not be paid more than 119 days, even if you spent more days in the bush.

### How many days will I be paid?

You will be paid the number of days you spend.

If you spend 20 days ► you will be paid 20 days

If you spend 70 days ► you will be paid 70 days

If you spend 121 days ► you will be paid 119 days

### Is the “Far Harvesting allowance” payable?

Yes, any days spent in a far harvesting region will receive the additional far region allowance.

### Who can request the Semi-Active Status?

The Head of the Beneficiary unit must make the request and meet the following criteria:

- Was enrolled on ISP for at least 15 years on the program
- Spent the last 5 years on the program
- Age + number of years on the program ≥ 80 (factor 80)

When granted, the status applies to both the Head and the Consort.

## Do I have a choice?

The Semi-Active status is not imposed on anyone – a beneficiary can choose to become Semi-Active. However, if you choose to remain a “Regular File”, then you have the obligation to meet the eligibility requirement of at least 120 days in the bush, or else your file will be cancelled. In the case where there is a head and a consort in the family unit and the consort is more active than the head, the Local Administrator may suggest a “Change of Head”.

## Why is a medical certificate necessary?

A medical certificate is required by the Board to confirm that the Head who is requesting to become Semi-Active is able to continue harvesting and related activities for **at least 20 days** during the year.

## How long does it last?

Once the Semi-Active status is granted, it lasts for 5 years, after which the file will be closed.

## Can you cancel the Semi-Active status?

No, it is not possible to return to “Regular” status during the 5-year period of the “Semi-Active Status”.



## REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE

A LIFE-LONG TRAPPER HAS BEEN ON THE PROGRAM FOR 30 YEARS. OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, HE HAS BEEN HAVING A FEW HEALTH PROBLEMS THAT HAVE SLOWED HIM DOWN. HE HAS BEEN STRUGGLING TO MAKE HIS 120 DAYS IN THE BUSH AND HAS COME CLOSE, SEVERAL TIMES, TO HAVING HIS FILE CANCELLED.

HE CHOSE THE SEMI-ACTIVE STATUS. HE IS NOW ABLE TO SPEND HIS TIME IN THE BUSH, FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS, WITHOUT THE PRESSURE OF MAKING SURE HE REACHES 120 DAYS AND RISKING HIS FILE BEING CLOSED.

Your Local Administrator is the best person to guide you with the decisions you must make. **Please contact them if you have any questions concerning your situation and the Semi-Active Status.**



Par Tanya Lynn Strong, Adjointe au programme-administration

## Qu'est-ce que le statut de semi-actif?

Le statut de semi-actif figure à la Convention complémentaire n° 15 depuis sa mise en place en 2002. Il a pour objectif de fournir une option aux bénéficiaires âgés qui désirent réduire graduellement leurs activités sans courir le risque que leur dossier soit fermé parce qu'ils ne parviennent plus à répondre aux conditions d'attribution minimales, c'est-à-dire à passer au moins 120 jours par année dans le bois.

## Quel est l'avantage d'avoir le statut de semi-actif?

Un bénéficiaire semi-actif n'est pas obligé de répondre aux exigences de base du programme: ainsi, même si vous passez moins de 120 jours dans le bois, vous pouvez continuer de participer au programme pendant cinq ans. Cependant, on ne vous paiera pas plus de 119 jours d'activité, même si vous passez plus de temps dans le bois.

### Combien de jours d'activité me paiera-t-on?

On vous paiera le nombre de jours passés dans le bois.

Si vous passez 20 jours ► on vous paiera 20 jours.

Si vous passez 70 jours ► on vous paiera 70 jours.

Si vous passez 121 jours ► on vous paiera 119 jours.

### Est-ce que le statut de semi-actif donne droit à l'allocation pour activité réalisée en région d'exploitation éloignée?

Oui, tous les jours passés dans une région d'exploitation éloignée donnent droit au montant additionnel prévu.

### Qui peut demander le statut de semi-actif?

C'est au chef de l'unité de prestataires à faire la demande. Il devra répondre aux critères suivants:

- avoir participé au PSR pendant au moins 15 ans;
- avoir participé au programme pendant les 5 dernières années;
- respecter le facteur 80 : son âge + son nombre d'années de participation au programme = au moins 80.

Lorsque le statut de semi-actif est accordé, il s'applique tant au chef de l'unité de prestataires qu'à son conjoint.

## Ai-je le choix?

Personne n'est obligé de demander le statut de semi-actif – cette option est à la disposition des bénéficiaires. Cependant, si vous choisissez de conserver votre statut d'actif, vous avez l'obligation de répondre aux conditions d'attribution, soit de passer au moins 120 jours dans le bois, autrement votre dossier sera fermé. Dans le cas d'une famille comportant un chef et un conjoint, où le conjoint est plus actif que le chef, l'administrateur local peut suggérer d'effectuer un « changement de chef ».

### Pourquoi faut-il présenter un certificat médical?

L'Office exige que le chef de l'unité de prestataires qui demande le statut de semi-actif présente un certificat médical afin de confirmer qu'il est capable de pratiquer des activités d'exploitation ou activités accessoires pendant au moins 20 jours par année.

### Pendant combien de temps ce statut est-il accordé?

Une fois que le statut de semi-actif est accordé, il a une durée de cinq ans, après quoi le dossier du bénéficiaire est fermé.

### Peut-on renoncer en cours de route au statut de semi-actif?

Non, il n'est pas possible de revenir au statut d'actif durant la période de cinq ans correspondant à un statut de semi-actif.



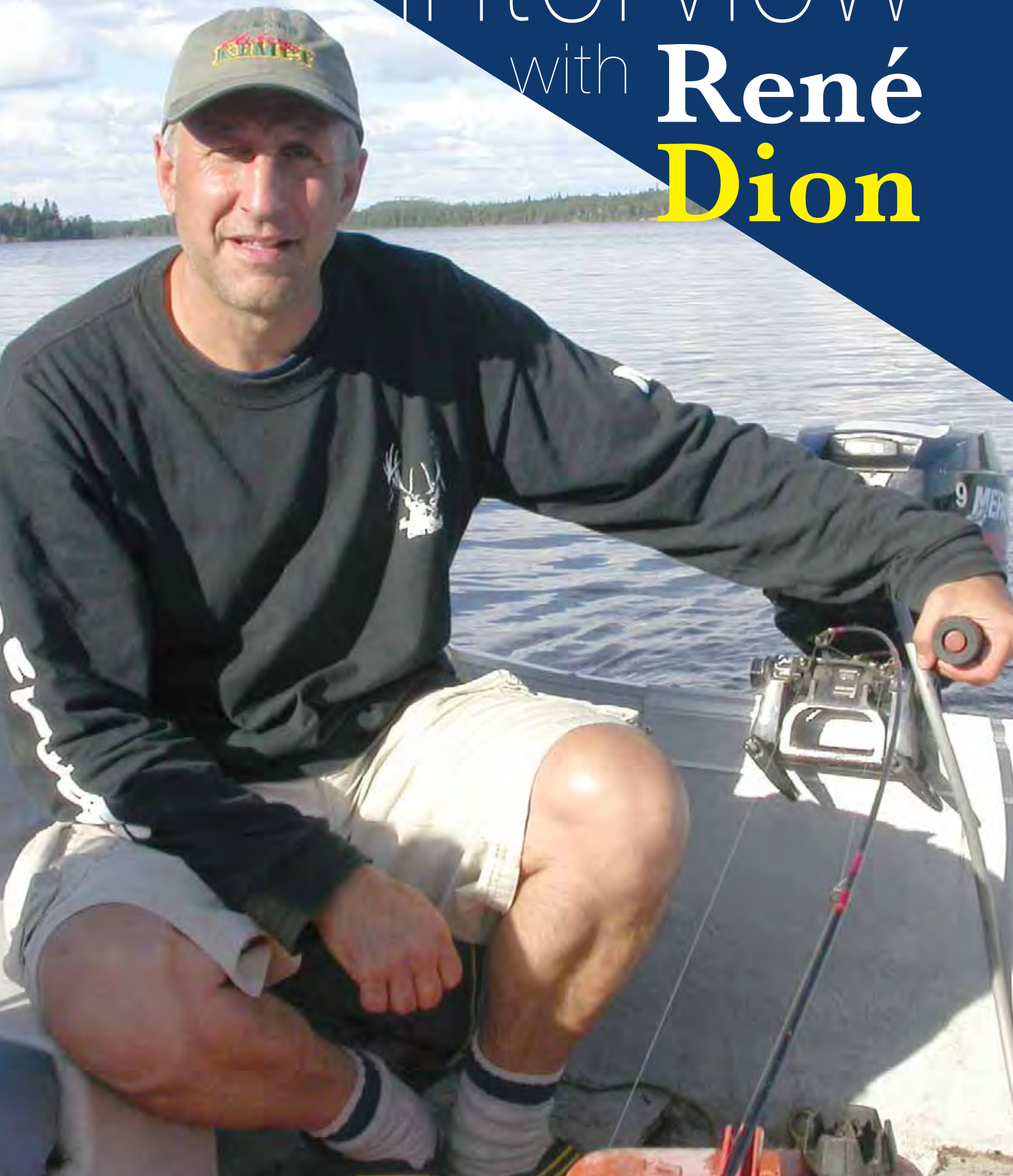
### EXEMPLE DE SITUATION RÉELLE

UN PIÉGEUR D'EXPÉRIENCE PARTICIPE AU PROGRAMME DEPUIS 30 ANS. DEPUIS QUELQUES ANNÉES, IL A TOUTEFOIS DES PROBLÈMES DE SANTÉ QUI L'AMÈNENT À RÉDUIRE SES ACTIVITÉS. IL A DU MAL À PASSER AU MOINS 120 JOURS DANS LE BOIS, SI BIEN QU'À PLUSIEURS REPRISSES SON DOSSIER A FAILLI ÊTRE FERMÉ.

IL A CHOISI LE STATUT DE SEMI-ACTIF. PENDANT LES PROCHAINES ANNÉES, IL SERA CAPABLE DE POURSUIVRE SES ACTIVITÉS DANS LE BOIS SANS S'INQUIÉTER DE NE PAS ATTEINDRE LE SEUIL DE 120 JOURS ET DE RISQUER UNE FERMETURE DE DOSSIER.

Votre administrateur local possède tous les éléments pour vous guider dans votre prise de décisions. **N'hésitez pas à le questionner au sujet du statut de semi-actif et à lui demander conseil compte tenu de votre situation particulière.**

# interview with René Dion



THE CISCO FISHERY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO THE CREE. DURING A RECENT TRIP TO MONTREAL, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM, SERGE LARIVIÈRE, HAD A CHANCE TO MEET WITH RENÉ DION, A BIOLOGIST WORKING WITH THE CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY, AT HIS OFFICE ON DUKE STREET IN MONTREAL.

SL

**Hello, Mr. Dion, and thank you agreeing to talk with us about the lake whitefish and cisco fishery for *The Cree Hunter and Trapper* magazine. First of all, how long have you been working as a biologist with the Cree Regional Authority?**

RD

I started working with the Cree after finishing my master's degree in biology from McGill University in 1988. I was first hired by the Cree Regional Authority to work at Waswanipi as a commercial fisheries manager. At this time, I was primarily responsible for the whitefish fishery, which includes lake whitefish and cisco and also sturgeon. I performed this role until 1991. Later, my responsibilities were expanded to encompass general wildlife work, which includes large and small animals and, of course, fish.

SL

**You speak of lake whitefish and cisco. Could you briefly explain to us the difference between them?**

RD

The most obvious difference is the position of the mouth. The lake whitefish is in general a bigger fish and its mouth is on the lower part of its head. In contrast, the cisco is smaller and its mouth is directly in the center of its head.

SL

**I assume there are also differences in terms of diet?**

RD

There certainly are. The lake whitefish is known as a "benthic" fish, which means that it is a bottom feeder, whereas the cisco is a "pelagic" fish, which means that it stays in the middle depths. However, both primarily eat invertebrates like larvae, insects, and small crustaceans.

SL

**Are there any differences in the distribution of these two species?**

RD

Generally speaking, whitefish are very abundant in Cree territory and are found in almost all the waterways. The cisco is more commonly found in the coastal communities, whereas the lake whitefish is more abundant in the inland communities.

SL

**What is the importance of whitefish to the Cree?**

We estimate that in Waskaganish, the Cree currently catch 25,000 fish a year, which is the equivalent of 25,000 pounds of fish. This fish is distributed to families, visitors, and in the communities. Whitefish represents a food source that is high quality, great tasting, and very good for people's health. Thanks to its place in the food chain, whitefish does not accumulate mercury the same way as predator fish like walleye, pike, and trout. Whitefish is therefore a very healthy food, and one that is highly valued by the Cree.

RD

Cisco is commercially available elsewhere in Canada, particularly in Manitoba, where it is called "tullibee." The Cree usually eat cisco smoked. It should be noted that the Cree consume not only the flesh of the cisco but also the intestines and the eggs, which they prepare as part of a prized traditional dish.



SL

**You mention the importance of cisco to the Cree. How important is this fish to other wildlife?**

RD

The cisco is an important food species for pike, walleye, and lake trout. In the Rupert River near Waskaganish, you can even see belugas occasionally entering the river to feed on cisco during their fall spawning run.

SL

**What methods do the Cree use to harvest these fish?**

RD

The principal methods used to catch whitefish are net fishing and dip netting during the annual run. ▶

SL

**When you talk about dip net fishing during the run, are you referring to the activities in the Smokey Hill area near Waskaganish?**

RD

That's right. Smokey Hill, on the Rupert River near Waskaganish, remains the primary area for whitefish harvesting. The main catch there is cisco. These fish spend their life at sea, but migrate upriver to spawn. During their run, they must fight the Rupert River's current and, over the years, the Cree have developed methods to make it easier to catch them.

SL

**So cisco are born in the river, swim down to the sea, and then swim upriver?**

RD

Exactly. Cisco are born in the river, migrate to the sea in June, and then return upstream to spawn when they are around five years old. As part of a study carried out in Waskaganish, we discovered that the oldest cisco were twelve years old, which makes the returning fish between five and twelve years old. The spawning run generally occurs at the beginning of fall, in August or September. That's when the Cree can take advantage of the migration.

SL

**When they travel upriver to spawn, do they spawn in the rapids?**

RD

Cisco mainly spawn at the foot of large rapids, generally in pebble or gravel substrates. The river's current is therefore of prime importance during the cisco spawning season.

SL

**Can cisco live in fresh water year-round?**

RD

Yes. Many cisco populations live in fresh water year-round. As with brook trout and Atlantic salmon, some populations live in fresh water year-round, while others spend a part of their lifecycle in the sea.

SL

**Do they taste the same?**

The Cree generally maintain that the cisco that spend a part of their life in the sea taste better, which explains the popularity of the cisco from Smokey Hill in Waskaganish.

SL

**What is, to your knowledge, the biggest that a cisco or lake whitefish can get?**

RD

The cisco is a fish that never gets very large. A cisco measuring 60 centimeters, or 24 inches, is considered a very big fish. As for lake whitefish, that's a whole different story. We're talking record sizes of up to 25 pounds, or 10 kilos. A Chisasibi Cree, George Lameboy, is said to have caught one near Chisasibi that measured 30 inches.

SL

**Let's come back to the topic of Smokey Hill. Why are Smokey Hill and the Rupert River so important to the cisco fishery?**

RD

It is largely due to the size of the rapids. For many years, Cree elders said that cisco could navigate the Rupert River rapids without any problem. Recent studies carried out by Hydro-Québec have confirmed their claim. Cisco are amazing swimmers. They are able to weave their way through rapids, even the Rupert River's most perilous ones, in order to reach spawning grounds.

SL

**What do you think will happen to cisco spawning in the Rupert River after the Rupert River diversion planned for November 2009?**

RD

It is hard to predict exactly what will happen. According to the models and the projections carried out so far, river flow is expected to drop by about 40%. This drop in flow will obviously lead to a drop in the river level. Most of the fish traps currently set up will end up high and dry. There is every reason to believe that cisco will continue to come up the Rupert River to spawn, but it seems clear that the Cree will have to find new places to catch them, possibly by setting up new fish traps. It should be mentioned that the 2009 fishing season will be the last one prior to the diversion. It will therefore be the last chance to witness cisco fishing as traditionally practiced by the Waskaganish Cree.

SL

**Do you think the James Bay Cree will continue to fish for cisco using dip nets?**

RD

I think so. The Cree have always managed to adapt to changes in their environment over the years. In this case, the Rupert River, even with reduced flow, will remain an important spawning river for cisco. It is simply a question of finding new areas to catch them. When it comes to harvesting wildlife, the Cree have the necessary knowledge and skills, and I am certain that they will find a way to adapt to this new reality.

**These "fish traps" are essentially funnels that control the movement of the cisco, making it easier to collect and harvest them.**





# entrevue

avec **René Dion**

LA PÊCHE DU CORÉGONE ET DU CISCO SONT D'UNE TRÈS GRANDE IMPORTANCE POUR LES CRIS.

LE DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL DU PROGRAMME DE SÉCURITÉ DU REVENU DES CHASSEURS ET PIÉGEURS CRIS, M. SERGE LARIVIÈRE, A EU LA CHANCE DE RENCONTRER, LORS D'UN RÉCENT VOYAGE À MONTRÉAL, M. RENÉ DION, BIOLOGISTE AU SERVICE DE L'ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE, À SON BUREAU DE LA RUE DUKE, À MONTRÉAL.



SL

**Bonjour M. Dion et merci d'avoir accepté de nous parler de la pêche du corégone et du cisco pour le magazine *The Cree Hunter and Trapper*. Tout d'abord, vous êtes biologiste à l'Administration régionale crie depuis combien de temps?**

RD

J'ai commencé à travailler chez les Cris dès l'obtention de ma maîtrise en biologie de l'Université McGill, en 1988. J'ai d'abord été embauché par l'Administration régionale crie comme gestionnaire des pêcheries commerciales de Waswanipi. À cette époque, je m'occupais principalement de la pêche des poissons blancs, soit le grand corégone et le cisco de lac, ainsi que de la pêche de l'esturgeon. J'ai accompli cette tâche jusqu'en 1991. Par la suite, mon mandat s'est élargi aux dossiers fauniques en général, qui comprenaient la grande faune, la petite faune et, bien sûr, les poissons.

SL

**Vous parlez du corégone et du cisco de lac. Pouvez-vous nous dire brièvement ce qui les différencie?**

RD

La différence la plus simple, c'est la position de la bouche. Le corégone est en général plus gros et a la bouche dans la partie inférieure de la tête. Par contraste, le cisco est plus petit et a la bouche directement au milieu de la tête.

SL

**Je présume qu'il y a aussi des différences dans l'alimentation?**

RD

En effet, le corégone est un poisson qu'on dit «benthique», c'est-à-dire qu'il se nourrit dans les parties profondes des cours d'eau, tandis que le cisco de lac est un poisson «pélagique», c'est-à-dire qu'il se tient en suspension dans les cours d'eau. Cependant, tous deux se nourrissent principalement d'invertébrés, soit de larves, d'insectes et de petits crustacés.

SL

**Y a-t-il des différences dans la distribution de ces deux espèces?**

RD

De façon générale, les poissons blancs sont très abondants sur le territoire cri et présents dans presque tous les cours d'eau. Le cisco est plus commun dans les communautés côtières, tandis que le corégone est plus abondant dans les communautés intérieures.

SL

**Quelle est l'importance des poissons blancs pour les Cris?**

RD

On estime que les Cris capturent actuellement 25 000 poissons, soit 25 000 livres de poissons par année à Waskaganish. Ces poissons sont distribués aux familles, aux visiteurs et dans les communautés. Les poissons blancs représentent une nourriture de première qualité, savoureuse et très bonne pour la santé. En effet, par leur position dans la chaîne alimentaire, les poissons blancs n'accumulent pas le mercure au même titre que les poissons prédateurs, tels que les dorés, les brochets et les truites. Les poissons blancs sont donc une nourriture très saine et prisée par les Cris.

Ailleurs au Canada, le cisco est vendu commercialement, notamment au Manitoba, sous le nom anglais de *tullibee*.

RD

Les Cris consomment habituellement le cisco fumé. Il est important de noter que les Cris consomment non seulement la chair du cisco, mais aussi les intestins et les œufs, qui entrent dans la composition d'un mets traditionnel très prisé.



SL

**Vous mentionnez l'importance des ciscos pour les Cris. Quelle est l'importance de ces poissons pour les autres espèces fauniques?**

RD

Les ciscos sont une importante proie pour les brochets, les dorés et la truite grise. Dans la rivière Rupert, près de Waskaganish, il est même possible d'observer, à l'occasion, des bélugas qui entrent dans la rivière Rupert pour se nourrir de ciscos durant leur remontée automnale.

SL

**Quelles sont les méthodes utilisées par les Cris pour récolter ces poissons?**

RD

Les principales méthodes de capture des poissons blancs sont soit la capture au moyen de filets, soit la pêche par épuisette.

SL

**Vous avez mentionné la pêche par épuisette durant la remontée en rivière. Faites-vous allusion aux activités de Smokey Hill, près de Waskaganish?**

RD

En effet, Smokey Hill demeure le principal lieu de pêche des poissons blancs, sur la rivière Rupert, près de Waskaganish. ►

RD

À Smokey Hill, on capture principalement des ciscos de lac. Ces ciscos passent leur vie en mer et remontent en rivière pour frayer. Durant leur remontée en rivière, ils doivent combattre le courant de la rivière Rupert, et les Cris ont développé, au fil des années, des méthodes qui facilitent leur capture. durant la remontée en rivière.

SL

**Les ciscos naissent en rivière, descendent à la mer et remontent en rivière?**

RD

C'est exact. Les ciscos naissent en rivière, descendent à la mer en juin et remontent en rivière lorsqu'ils ont environ cinq ans pour frayer. Dans le cadre d'une étude réalisée à Waskaganish, nous avons découvert que les plus vieux ciscos étaient âgés de douze ans. L'âge de ces poissons se situe donc entre cinq et douze ans. La remontée s'effectue généralement au début de l'automne, pendant les mois d'août et de septembre. Les Cris peuvent alors profiter de la remontée des poissons.

SL

**Lorsqu'ils remontent en rivière pour frayer, est-ce qu'ils frayent dans les rapides?**

RD

Les ciscos de lac frayent principalement au pied des gros rapides, généralement dans des substrats de petites roches ou de gravier. L'importance du courant est donc primordiale pour le frai des ciscos en rivière.

SL

**Les ciscos peuvent-ils vivre en eau douce toute l'année?**

RD

Oui, plusieurs populations de ciscos vivent en eau douce toute l'année. Comme la truite mouchetée et le saumon atlantique, certaines populations vivent en eau douce toute l'année, tandis que d'autres passent une partie de leur cycle de vie dans la mer.

SL

**Est-ce que le goût est le même?**

RD

Les Cris affirment généralement que les ciscos qui passent une partie de leur vie en mer ont meilleur goût, d'où l'intérêt pour les ciscos de Smokey Hill, à Waskaganish.

«Les principales méthodes de capture des poissons blancs sont soit la capture au moyen de filets, soit la pêche par épuisette.»

SL

**Quelle est, à votre connaissance, la taille maximale d'un cisco ou d'un corégone?**

RD

Le cisco est un poisson qui n'atteint jamais de grandes tailles. Un cisco qui atteint 60 centimètres, soit 24 pouces, est un très gros poisson. Pour le corégone, c'est une autre histoire. On parle de tailles records pouvant aller jusqu'à 25 livres, soit plus de 10 kilos. Un Cri de Chisasibi, George Lameboy, en aurait capturé un de 30 pouces près de Chisasibi.

SL

**Revenons à Smokey Hill. Pourquoi Smokey Hill et la rivière Rupert sont-ils aussi importants pour la pêche du cisco?**

RD

C'est principalement en raison de la grosseur des rapides. Pendant plusieurs années, les aînés cris ont affirmé que le cisco pouvait traverser les rapides de la rivière Rupert sans problème. De récentes études menées par Hydro-Québec ont confirmé les renseignements recueillis auprès des aînés. Les ciscos sont d'incroyables nageurs. Ils réussissent à se faufiler à travers les rapides, même les plus périlleux de la rivière Rupert, pour atteindre des sites de frai. L'importance de Smokey Hill tient à la position de la rivière Rupert, qui rejoint à cet endroit le lac Mistissini. Ce lieu de passage a toujours été important pour les Cris. Avec le temps, les Cris ont établi Smokey Hill à la base des rapides, pour en faire un lieu de repos avant ou après les grands portages. Plus tard, ils y ont aménagé des endroits pour capturer les ciscos durant le frai. Ces «pièges à poissons» ressemblent à des entonnoirs qui dirigent le mouvement des ciscos, facilitant leur cueillette et leur récolte.

SL

**Que pensez-vous qu'il adviendra du frai des ciscos de la rivière Rupert après la dérivation de la rivière Rupert prévue pour novembre 2009?**

RD

Il est difficile de prédire exactement ce qui arrivera. Selon les modèles et les essais d'extrapolation effectués, on prévoit une baisse du débit de la rivière de l'ordre de 40%. Cette baisse de débit entraînera évidemment une baisse du niveau de la rivière. La majorité des pièges à poissons actuellement en place se retrouveront donc à sec. Il y a tout lieu de penser que les ciscos continueront de revenir à la rivière Rupert pour frayer, mais il semble évident que les Cris devront trouver de nouveaux endroits pour capturer les ciscos, possiblement en aménageant de nouveaux pièges à poissons. Il est à noter que la pêche de 2009 sera la dernière à avoir lieu avant la dérivation. Ce sera donc la dernière occasion de l'observer, telle qu'elle a été pratiquée traditionnellement par les Cris de Waskaganish.

SL

**Croyez-vous que la pêche du cisco par épuisette se poursuivra chez les Cris de la Baie-James?**

RD

Je crois que oui. Les Cris ont toujours su s'adapter, au fil des ans, aux changements de leur environnement. Dans ce cas, la rivière Rupert, même à débit réduit, demeurera une rivière importante pour le passage des ciscos. Il suffira simplement de trouver de nouveaux endroits pour les capturer. Quand il s'agit de récolter la faune, les Cris ont les connaissances et l'expertise nécessaires, et je suis certain qu'ils sauront

trouver une façon de s'adapter à cette nouvelle réalité.

«...Smokey Hill demeure le principal lieu de pêche des poissons blancs, sur la rivière Rupert, près de Waskaganish.»



SL

**Avez-vous quelques commentaires pour terminer cette entrevue?**

RD

Mon seul commentaire est que tous les gens qui s'intéressent à la culture crie devraient visiter un endroit de pêche traditionnel, tel que Smokey Hill. Cet endroit permet vraiment d'observer les pratiques de pêche traditionnelles et des aménagements qui reflètent l'adaptabilité des Cris à la capture des poissons.









See how the fur trade is fighting back against activist mis-information campaigns!



A new vision of Fur,  
for an Eco-Conscious world

# Meetings of interest National and International

## JULY

J U L Y  
30 TO 2  
A U G U S T  
2 0 0 9

■ **EVENT:** 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

■ **LOCATION:** ALLEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, LIMA, OHIO, USA

**DESCRIPTION:** THIS YEAR: 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY! ONE OF THE LARGEST TRAPPER'S CONVENTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, THIS GATHERING INCLUDES TRAPPERS, TRAP SUPPLY DEALERS, OUTDOOR FLEA MARKETS, TRAPPING DEMONSTRATIONS, VARIOUS CONTESTS, SKINNING DEMONSTRATIONS, ETC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: VISIT  
[HTTP://WWW.NATIONALTRAPPERS.COM](http://www.nationaltrappers.com)  
OR CONTACT DAN SKURSKI  
231 590-9288 OR 231 988-4432

## AUGUST

A U G U S T  
2 0 0 9

■ **EVENT:** CREE TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION GENERAL ASSEMBLY

■ **LOCATION:** EASTMAIN, QUEBEC

**DESCRIPTION:** ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE MEMBERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
PAUL COON-COME, GENERAL  
MANAGER, 418 923-3276

## NOVEMBER

N O V E M B E R  
13 TO 15  
2 0 0 9

■ **EVENT:** 39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WATERFOWL FESTIVAL

■ **LOCATION:** EASTON, MARYLAND, USA

**DESCRIPTION:** THE WATERFOWL FESTIVAL IS ALL ABOUT WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, THE PROMOTION OF WILDLIFE ART, AND THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE ON MARYLAND'S EASTERN SHORE. IT IS ALSO THE LOCATION WHERE THE WORLD GOOSE CALLING CHAMPIONSHIP IS HELD. DUCK CALLING CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE ALSO HELD, AND CASH PRIZES RANGE FROM \$ 250 TO \$ 10,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: VISIT  
[HTTP://WATERFOWLFEStIVAL.ORG](http://waterfowlfestival.org)



**Allen Neacappo** from Chisasibi worked for the Board for over 32 years, and he was always very proud of the beneficiaries of the Program. Shortly before he passed away, Allen Neacappo had submitted the following photos that he had himself captured while attending traditional activities in Chisasibi. **Thank you Allen for being such a great ambassador of the Income Security program!**



*Winter Gathering  
2007*







# The traveling DIRECTOR

HERE ARE SOME PHOTOS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL DURING HIS RECENT TRIPS TO CREE COMMUNITIES.



Dec. 2008 **Chisasibi**



PETER SHECAPIO SAYING ONE LAST GOODBYE TO HIS FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE ALLEN NEACAPPO.

## Dec. 2008 **Jonah's Camp: Waskaganish**



PETER SHECAPIO, JAMES JONAH AND KENNY LOON ENJOY SOME BEAVER MEAT.



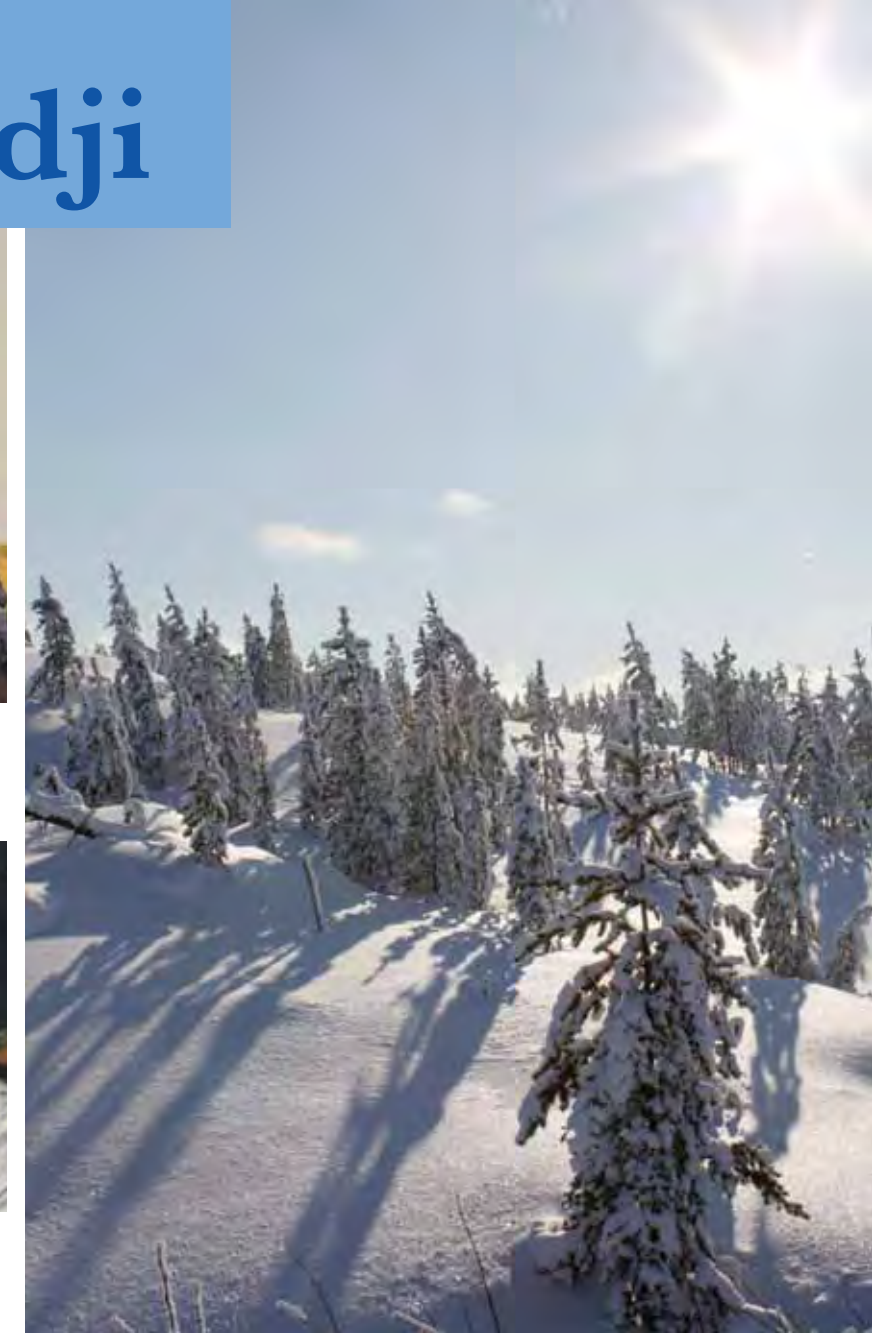
FAMILY OF ALLEN NEACAPPO AT THE FUNERAL. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JIMMY NEACAPPO (BROTHER), JOHN NEACAPPO (BROTHER), MILLER PEPABAND (BROTHER IN LAW), AND CONNIE PEPABAND (ALLEN'S SISTER).



Jan. 2009 **Wemindji**



HARRY STUART AND RODERICK GEORGEKISH DURING THE CONSULTATIONS IN WEMINDJI.



# Laforge Area

Dec. 2008



ALLEN MATOUSH FROM MISTISSINI IS A CREE GUIDE FOR KISKIMAASTAKIN OUTFITTER.



ALLEN MATOUSH AND SERGE LARIVIÈRE



BENEFICIARY OF THE ISP, SAMUEL HUGHBOY WITH KRISTA KAKABAT, LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR.



A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE GATHERED IN WEMINDJI FOR THE ISP CONSULTATIONS.



FRED TOMATUK SURROUNDED BY THREE OF HIS BENEFICIARIES. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: WINNIE STOCKEN, FLORRIE MOSES AND FLORENCE GILPIN.



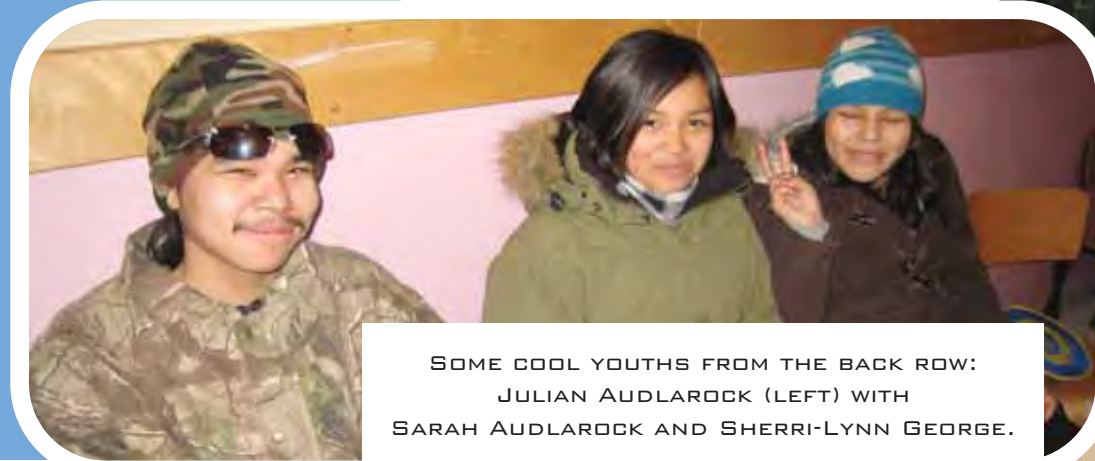
SANDY PETAGUMSKUM AND HIS WIFE FLORRIE JOLLY PETAGUMSKUM



THREE GENERATIONS OF HUNTERS: JOHN PETAGUMSKUM SR., BRUCE-LEE PETAGUMSKUM AND SANDY PETAGUMSKUM.



FOLKS FROM THE INCOME SECURITY MEET FRIENDS FROM THE CREE TRAPPERS ASSOCIATIONS. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PHILIP AWASHISH, FRED TOMATUK, RON ZACHARY, GORDON LOUITTIT, RICK CUCIUREAN, PAUL COON-COME, FRANCES TOMATUK.



SOME COOL YOUTHS FROM THE BACK ROW: JULIAN AUDLAROCK (LEFT) WITH SARAH AUDLAROCK AND SHERRI-LYNN GEORGE.



PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED THE EASTMAIN CONSULTATIONS.

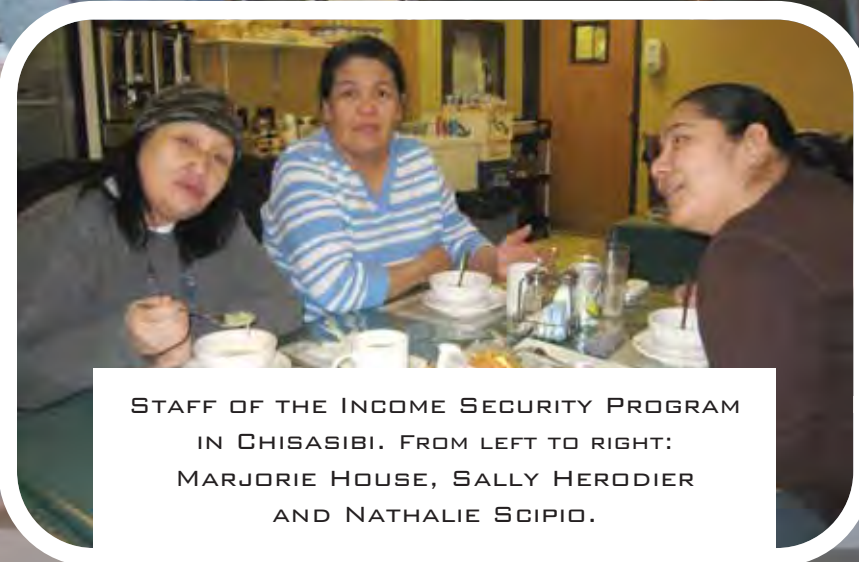


GROUP PICTURE OF SOME BENEFICIARIES FROM WHAPMAGOOSTUI.

Feb.  
2009 **Chisasibi**



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JULIET BEARSKIN, FREDDY RATT (BACK ROW), DAVID CHAKAPASH, JOSEPH BENJAMIN, FREDDY SCIPIO AND JAMES STUART (FRONT ROW).



STAFF OF THE INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM IN CHISASIBI. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MARJORIE HOUSE, SALLY HERODIER AND NATHALIE SCIPIO.



CHISASIBI BENEFICIARIES WHO ATTENDED THE ISP CONSULTATIONS.

March  
2009 **Waswanipi**



WASWANIFI CHIEF JOHN KITCHEN WITH OSRCPC BOARD MEMBER WILLIE ISERHOFF.



JACKIE BARNEY, LILY SUTHERLAND, EMILY GULL AND IRENE OTTER SMILE FOR THE CAMERA DURING LUNCH BREAK.

March 2009

Waswanipi



SIMEON MIANSCUM PLAYS DRUM TO OPEN THE WASWANIPi CONSULTATIONS.



LITTLE GIRL HAD FUN DURING THE WASHAW SIBI CONSULTATIONS.

# March 2009 Washaw Sibi



SERGE LARIVIÈRE WITH DOROTHY POLSON AND CHIEF BILLY KATAPAYTUK



BETTY TRAPPER AND FREDA SMALL SMILE AT THE PICTURES IN *THE CREE HUNTER AND TRAPPER*.



MITCHELL ICEBOUND EXAMINES AN OLD ISSUE OF *THE CREE HUNTER AND TRAPPER*.



WASHAW SIBI BENEFICIARIES WITH BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM.

# Make that set!

## Trail set for fox or lynx

By  
Serge Larivière

Photo: Luc FARRELL©



**« Among the best locations for unbaited snares are rabbit or other game trails... »**

**O**n most Cree teraplins, red foxes are omnipresent and they frequently are observed near camps, along lakes or even near roads and highways.

Red foxes are nervous animals that seldom can be approached. Lynx are also found on most Cree traplines, especially if snowshoe hares are common. Both lynx and fox can be captured easily in properly set snares.

The best snares for fox or lynx are made of galvanized aircraft cable, typically in size 1/16 or 5/64. Loop size should be about 6-8 inches (15 to 20 cm) across, and height from the ground should be 8 inches (20 cm) for fox, but up to 12-14 inches (30 to 35 cm) off the ground for lynx. Snares should be anchored to a sapling of a diameter of 1 inch or more, and fastening wire should be 14 gauge, with 16 gauge wire being the smallest gauge that will safely hold the two species.

Snares set blind in natural trails will catch both species. Among the best locations for unbaited snares are rabbit or other game trails, old trails or roads through forest, four-wheeler trails, trails along lakes, portages, and even on top of beaver dams. Because both species often travel in pairs or small groups, setting multiple snares in the same location may yield multiple catches!



Photo: Luc FARRELL©



Photo: Luc FARRELL©

# Essayez cette installation!

## Installation au sentier pour renard et lynx

Par  
Serge Larivière

Sur la plupart des lignes de trappe cris, les renards roux sont présents et sont fréquemment observés près des camps, des lacs, des autoroutes et des routes forestières.

Les renards roux sont des animaux nerveux, qu'il est difficile d'approcher et de récolter par la chasse. Sur la plupart des territoires cris, il y a aussi des lynx du Canada, surtout si les lièvres sont communs. Les lynx et les renards roux peuvent être tous les deux capturés facilement dans des collets bien tendus.

Les meilleurs collets pour le renard et le lynx sont faits de câble d'aviation galvanisé, généralement dans les grosseurs 1/16 et 5/64. Le diamètre du collet devrait être de 6 à 8 pouces (15 à 20 cm) environ et sa hauteur, du sol, devrait être de 8 pouces (20 cm) pour le renard, mais de 12 à 14 pouces (30 à 35 cm) pour le lynx, ce dernier ayant de plus grandes pattes. Les collets devraient être attachés à un arbuste d'un diamètre de 1 pouce minimum, avec de la broche de calibre 14 ou 16, le 16 étant le plus petit calibre qui peut retenir de façon sécuritaire les deux espèces.

**« Un collet tendu sans appât dans un sentier naturel récoltera les deux espèces. »**

Un collet tendu sans appât dans un sentier naturel récoltera les deux espèces. Parmi les meilleurs emplacements pour tendre, se retrouvent les sentiers de lièvres et autres espèces animales, les vieux sentiers pédestres ou les routes abandonnées dans la forêt, les sentiers de véhicules tout-terrains, les sentiers qui suivent le pourtour des lacs, les portages et même le dessus des barrages de castors. Comme les deux espèces voyagent souvent en paires ou en petits groupes, tendre de multiples collets au même endroit peut produire de multiples captures.



Photo: Luc FARRELL©



# ISP USEFUL

## ROLE OF THE INTERVIEW WITH THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

By Tanya Lynn Strong, Program Assistant-Administration

*As seasoned beneficiaries of the program know, meetings with the Local Administrator of your community have always been necessary. But do you know why it is so important?*

### Why do I need to do an interview?

If you want to receive the ISP benefits that are payable to you, you must meet with your Local Administrator who will give you your cheque in person – cheques are not sent to you in the mail.

### What happens during an interview?

The interview is the moment when you give your calendar to your Local Administrator and tell them about your harvesting activities. You also tell them about any other activities since the last interview, for **both you and your consort**, such as for example:

- time in the bush
- time working and confirmation of income earned
- marriage / common-law
- training
- confirmation of employment insurance
- separation / divorce
- birth of a child
- out of the community for health reasons
- children in foster placement



#### IMPORTANT

YOUR ISP CHEQUE  
HAS AN  
EXPIRATION DATE!

Cheques are cancelled by the Head Office one (1) month after the date of issue.

### What happens if I am not in the community at the time of the interview?

If you want to receive your cheque, you must meet with your Local Administrator. If you cannot meet with them at the time of the interview, you must contact them and provide an explanation. Your cheque will be “on hold” until you can meet with them.

### Does my consort have to accompany me during the interview?

The consort of the file is not obliged to be present for an interview.

### What happens if there is a change in my situation in between interviews?

You do not have to wait for an interview to contact your Local Administrator. If there is a change in your situation, you should notify them as soon as possible.

### I receive Monthly Payments. Do I have to come for an interview each month?

No, you only have to meet with your Local Administrator for the 4 quarterly interviews.

#### IMPORTANT FACTS TO REMEMBER

- CHEQUES WILL NOT BE GIVEN TO A BENEFICIARY IF NO INTERVIEW IS CONDUCTED.
- INTERVIEWS MUST BE CONDUCTED WITH THE HEAD OF THE BENEFICIARY UNIT.
- CHEQUES WILL NOT BE GIVEN TO ANOTHER PERSON.

### When are the interviews conducted?

Interviews are scheduled four (4) times a year:  
September • December • April • June-July



# PSR

À PROPOS du...

## LE RÔLE DE L'ENTREVUE PÉRIODIQUE AVEC SON ADMINISTRATEUR LOCAL

Par Tanya Lynn Strong, Adjointe au programme-administration

*Les bénéficiaires d'expérience le savent, il est essentiel de rencontrer périodiquement son administrateur local. Mais savez-vous pourquoi ces rencontres sont si importantes?*

### Pourquoi faut-il rencontrer l'administrateur local?

Si vous souhaitez recevoir les prestations auxquelles le PSR vous donne droit, vous devez rencontrer votre administrateur local. Celui-ci vous remettra votre chèque en mains propres – les chèques ne sont pas envoyés par la poste.

### À quoi servent ces entrevues?

Vous devez rencontrer votre administrateur local pour présenter votre calendrier d'activités et lui décrire vos activités d'exploitation. Vous devez également l'informer de toute autre activité ou de tout changement de situation vous concernant, vous ou votre conjoint, et survenus depuis votre dernière entrevue, par exemple :

- temps passé dans le bois;
- temps consacré à un emploi et confirmation du revenu gagné;
- mariage ou union de fait;
- formation;
- confirmation de prestations d'assurance-emploi;
- séparation ou divorce;
- naissance d'un enfant;
- séjour à l'extérieur de la communauté pour des raisons de santé;
- placement d'un enfant en famille d'accueil.



### IMPORTANT

VOTRE CHÈQUE PSR COMPORTE UNE DATE D'EXPIRATION !

Le personnel du siège social de l'Office annulera les chèques un (1) mois après la date d'émission.

### Que se passe-t-il si l'on est absent de la communauté au moment de notre entrevue?

Si vous souhaitez recevoir votre chèque, vous devez rencontrer votre administrateur local. Vous devez communiquer avec ce dernier et lui expliquer les raisons de votre empêchement, si vous ne pouvez pas vous présenter à votre entrevue. Votre chèque sera alors retenu jusqu'au moment de votre entrevue.

### Le conjoint doit-il assister aux entrevues?

Le conjoint inscrit au dossier n'est pas obligé d'assister aux entrevues.

### Que se passe-t-il lorsque la situation change entre deux entrevues?

Vous n'avez pas à attendre votre prochaine entrevue pour communiquer avec votre administrateur local. Vous devez lui faire part de tout changement de situation dans les meilleurs délais.

### Si l'on reçoit des paiements mensuels, faut-il avoir des entrevues mensuelles?

Non, vous ne devez rencontrer votre administrateur local que quatre (4) fois par année.

### RAPPELEZ-VOUS CES FAITS IMPORTANTS...

- AUCUN CHÈQUE NE SERA REMIS À UN BÉNÉFICIAIRE EN DEHORS D'UNE ENTREVUE.
- LES ENTREVUES DOIVENT SE DÉROULER EN PRÉSENCE DU CHEF DE L'UNITÉ DE PRESTATAIRES.
- LES CHÈQUES NE SONT REMIS QU'AUX CHEFS DES UNITÉS DE PRESTATAIRES.

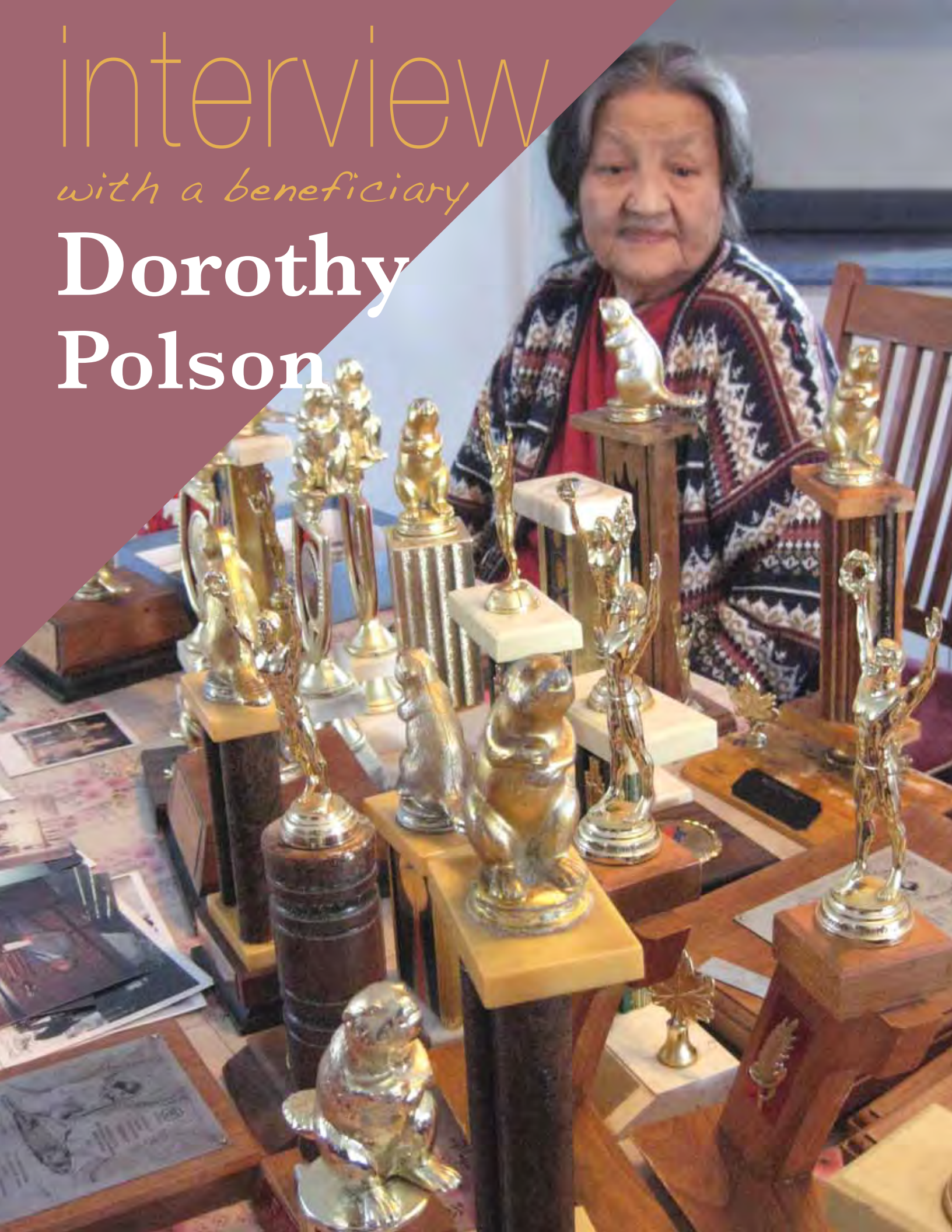
### À quel moment ont lieu ces rencontres?

Vous devez rencontrer votre administrateur local quatre (4) fois par année, durant les mois suivants : **Septembre • Décembre • Avril • Juin-Juillet**

# interview

with a beneficiary

## Dorothy Polson



During the last consultation held in Amos for the community of Washaw Sibi, the Director general of the Income Security Board, Dr. Serge Larivière, was honoured to meet a very fascinating and well-known beneficiary of the Income Security Program, Ms. Dorothy Polson. The Director-general has known Ms. Polson for many years and even remembers her doing skinning demonstrations at trappers meetings over 25 years ago when the Director general was just a young trapper, accompanying his own father to the meetings. It is therefore a real privilege and a great honour for the Director-general to meet Ms. Dorothy Polson at her home in Pikogan, Québec to talk about her life and involvement in the trapping industry.



**SL** Ms. Polson, I must say that I am honoured to be granted this privilege to be in front of you today and to visit with you. I have known you for many years and I still remember the first time I saw you doing your beaver skinning demonstration at one of the conventions for trappers. Please tell me about your family and background.

**DP** My name is Dorothy Reuben Polson, I was born in Amos during the fall of 1932. My father is the late George Reuben, from Waskaganish and my mother, Maggie Blackned was also from Waskaganish.

**SL** Where did you grow up and how were you initiated to trapping?

**DP** I was born and raised in the bush. I grew up near Sturgeon River in Ontario and spent my summers either on the shores of the Harricana River in Amos or on Lake Abitibi near La Sarre. I also spent a lot of time in the bush with my husband, Hector Polson, whom I married in 1952. When I was young, my dad would go hunting and he would always let me skin the small animals, such as the weasels or the squirrels. When I was eight years old, I skinned my first beaver, and I have been skinning beavers ever since.

**SL** Was your husband a hunter?

**DP** Hector Polson was an Algonquin from Notre-Dame-du-Nord and we met on Lake Abitibi. Hector and I lived in the bush for many years. Together we have had 13 kids, 8 girls and 5 boys and most of them were raised in the bush. My bush skills, I learnt from both my mother and my father as well as from my husband. Hector was a good hunter, he was chief of Pikogan for eight years, but he passed away in 1985 from a heart attack while in a meeting in Québec City.

**SL** Did you continue hunting after the death of your husband?

**DP** Yes, I kept trapping and living the bush life even after the passing away of my husband. With my husband, I had trapped many animals.

**SL** So you both hunted and trapped to support your family?

**DP** Yes, I set traps and I hunted. After my husband passed away, I did not know how to hunt moose, so I received advice from Eddy Moses in Eastmain, who at the time had told me: "If you see a moose, don't get scared before you shoot, get scared after!" ▶

SL

**Tell me some stories about your life growing up in the bush.**

DP

There were a lot more animals back then, a lot of lynx, beavers and martens. But, there were also some very tough years. One year was especially tough, sometime in the mid 1940's. I remember well because I was 9 years old and there were 4 families living together, our family and 3 others. During that time, we had to go many days without hardly any food. One day, one of the men came back with partridge that he had killed. We boiled it and we had to share it among the four families because nobody had anything else to eat. I remember an elder saying "Now that we have this partridge, we're all going to be fine". And then, the next day, the men went out again to hunt and this time they brought back more partridge and more game. And that was the end of the tough period.

I have learned over the course of my years in the bush that you must always listen to elders, to what they say and what they teach you. Elders have a lot of knowledge and if you listen you will learn something.

SL

**What is your favourite time of the year in the bush?**

DP

Fall and spring are my favourite times, mostly because of trapping and hunting. But then, I like the whole year!

SL

**Ms. Polson, do you think that kids today are as interested in the bush life as you were when you were young?**

DP

Kids are always interested when they are small. If you take young kids with you in the bush, they will learn to discover, understand and love the bush life. As kids, we were taught that if you killed it, you had to fix it, clean it and eat it. Today, I still teach these values to my grandchildren. It is important for kids to experience bush life when they are young.

SL

**Over the years you became known as one of the best beaver skimmers in the province. Tell me about that.**

DP

I trapped a lot of beavers using mostly foothold traps until the 1980's when a new trap was brought to our attention, the Conibear trap. Because I was trapping so much, I was offered to take a one month course to learn how to use this trap and to be able to teach others how to use it. So I became involved with the trapping course and since then I have become a trapping instructor and I have been giving trapping courses in Lac-Simon, Maniwaki and in many Cree communities.

SL

**How did you get involved in the skinning competitions?**

DP

I always fixed fur for the white people and prepared their pelts for the market. One time, two wardens came to my camp and asked me to skin a beaver because they did not know how it had been killed and suspected that it had been killed by a poacher. While I skinned the beaver the wardens were talking and when I finished one warden mentioned that it had taken only 20 minutes for me to clean the beaver and they said that if I agreed to go to the competition in Rouyn, they would pay for my travel expenses. The first time I went, I cleaned and skinned the beaver within 18 minutes and came in second place. At the time, Ms. Grenier, the wife of a well-known fur buyer in Barraute came first. The next year, Indian Affairs offered to pay my way to these conventions so that I could skin beavers. I went to the competitions for many years, and almost every year I won first place.



SL

**What was your fastest record time for skinning and preparing a beaver pelt?**

DP

My record was 13 minutes total: 5 minutes to skin and 8 minutes to tack the beaver pelt and sew the leg holes.

SL

**You took part in these conventions for many years?**

DP

Yes, for many years I went to the annual convention in Québec and the fur competitions in North-Bay. My last competition was in North-Bay around 1987. I still have a lot of the trophies from these days but some of them were too big and I no longer have them.

SL

**Ms Polson, would you be kind enough to show me some of your trophies from your years of doing the skinning competitions?**

DP

Yes, I will ask my daughter Gloria and son Glen to get them from the shed.

SL

**Ms. Polson, I cannot tell you how much I have appreciated this time with you. As I have said before, you were one of my heroes when I was growing up and you really are an ambassador for anyone interested in trapping.**

**I am glad to see that you look very healthy and I must ask you one final question, do you and can you still skin beavers today?**

DP

Of course! I still skin beavers every year. I love beavers, they are one of my favourite animals!•





# Staff profile

THE CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL FOR OVER 30 YEARS BECAUSE OF THE DEDICATION OF ITS STAFF. THIS COLUMN «STAFF PROFILE» PRESENTS A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF THE PEOPLE THAT WORK TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM. IN THIS ISSUE, WE ARE PROUD TO PROFILE MS. MONIQUE LATOUCHE, OUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AT THE HEAD OFFICE, IN QUÉBEC CITY.

# Monique Latouche

**Employed by the Board since:**

December 5, 1988

**Current position:**

Executive Secretary

**Work Location:**

Head office, Québec City



**Monique Latouche** was born in Quebec City. She discovered horseback riding at a young age, quickly became hooked, and even won a ribbon at a riding camp. She also enjoyed going for motorcycle rides with her brother.

During the summer she turned 16, Monique started doing occasional contract work for a variety of Quebec government ministries. After earning her high-school diploma a year later, she began a vocational diploma in secretarial studies and was hired as a shorthand typist by Sûreté du Québec.

Later on, Monique moved first to Montreal to work as an office clerk at Hydro-Québec's headquarters, and then to Chicoutimi to work as an assistant for a film crew. She eventually returned to Quebec City to work for Le Soleil newspaper as a secretary for their Télé Magazine, an information technician, and as secretary to the news editor.

## «...she chose to travel all over the world.»

In April 1986, Monique started to work on contract for the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board with Monique Caron, Victor Doré, and Claude Bolduc. She was hired as secretary in 1988, and became Executive Secretary of the Board in January 2005.

Monique has two older brothers and two adult nephews. She is not married and does not have any children. Instead, she chose to travel all over the world. Her many destinations include Sweden, Spain, Morocco, Greece, Turkey, Tunisia, the Bahamas,

Cuba, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, the United States, and Mexico. During her visit to Egypt, Monique took a trip down the Nile and crossed the desert riding horses, camels, and donkeys. She has also sailed in the West Indies and French Polynesia, and hitchhiked along the California coast after taking a 75-hour bus trip from Montreal to San Diego. In 2007, she visited her first Cree community, Mistissini.

In the summer of 2008, Monique suffered a stroke. Today, she continues to face her rehabilitation with determination.





# Profil d'un employé

LE PROGRAMME DE SÉCURITÉ DU REVENU DES CHASSEURS ET PIÉGEURS CRIS A ÉTÉ UN FRANC SUCCÈS DEPUIS 30 ANS ET CE, EN RAISON DE L'ENGAGEMENT DE SON PERSONNEL. NOTRE ARTICLE «PROFIL D'UN EMPLOYÉ» PRÉSENTE UNE COURTE BIOGRAPHIE DES EMPLOYÉS QUI ONT TRAVAILLÉ À ASSURER LE SUCCÈS DU PROGRAMME. DANS LA PRÉSENTE ÉDITION, NOUS RENDONS HOMMAGE À MME MONIQUE LATOUCHE, NOTRE SECRÉTAIRE DE DIRECTION, AU SIÈGE SOCIAL À QUÉBEC.

# Monique Latouche

**Employé par l'Office depuis:**

5 Décembre, 1988

**Position actuelle:**

Secrétaire de direction

**Lieu de travail:**

Siège social, Québec

**Monique Latouche** est née à Québec. Dès son jeune âge, elle découvre l'équitation et en devient passionnée au point de gagner un ruban lors d'une compétition dans un camp d'équitation. Elle aime aussi faire de la moto avec son frère.

À l'été de ses 16 ans, Monique commence à travailler occasionnellement comme employée de bureau dans divers ministères du gouvernement du Québec. L'année suivante, elle obtient son diplôme d'études secondaires et entreprend un diplôme d'études professionnelles en secrétariat qui lui permet de décrocher un emploi de sténodactylo à la Sûreté du Québec.

Par la suite, Monique déménage à Montréal et travaille au siège social d'Hydro-Québec comme employée de bureau, puis à Chicoutimi comme assistante à la réalisation au sein d'une équipe de tournage.

«...elle a choisi de parcourir le monde en voyageant.»

Elle revient finalement s'installer à Québec, où elle travaille pour le journal Le Soleil comme secrétaire au Télé Magazine, comme technicienne en information et comme secrétaire du chef des nouvelles.

En avril 1986, Monique commence à travailler occasionnellement à l'Office de la sécurité du revenu des chasseurs et piégeurs cris auprès de M<sup>re</sup> Monique Caron et de MM. Victor Doré et Claude Bolduc. Embauchée comme secrétaire en 1988, elle devient secrétaire de direction de l'Office en janvier 2005.

Monique a deux frères aînés et deux neveux maintenant adultes. N'ayant ni conjoint ni enfants, elle a choisi de parcourir le monde en voyageant. Parmi ses nombreux périples, Monique a visité la Suède, l'Espagne, le Maroc, la Grèce, la Turquie, la Tunisie, les Bahamas, Cuba, le Venezuela, la République dominicaine, les États-Unis et le Mexique. Pendant un voyage en Égypte, Monique a fait la descente du Nil et a parcouru le désert à dos de cheval, de dromadaire et d'âne. Elle a aussi visité les Antilles et la Polynésie française en voilier de même qu'elle a parcouru la côte californienne en auto-stop après 75 heures d'autocar entre Montréal et San Diego. En août 2007, elle s'est rendue pour la première fois dans une communauté crie, celle de Mistissini.

À l'été 2008, Monique a subi un infarctus cérébral (ACV). Elle poursuit aujourd'hui sa réadaptation avec détermination.



# Consultation

## FOR CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM

Members of the Board and staff will be completing their 2009 consultation tour in the communities of Waskaganish and Nemaska, scheduled for July 09.

For exact dates and location, consult your local administrator or watch for posters. Radio announcements will also be made when dates are known.

### ISP IMPORTANT DATES

### FOR BENEFICIARIES OF THE CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM

#### JUNE 2009

Period of inscription to the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Program.

#### JULY 13 TO 17, 2009

Consultations on the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Program in Waskaganish and Nemaska.

#### JULY 20 TO AUGUST 7, 2009

Local Administrators are in Québec City for to the revision of files.

#### SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

First cheque of Income Security Program for the Program-year 2009-2010. Retroactive payment for 2008-2009, if applicable.

#### OCTOBER 1, 2009

Direct deposit for beneficiaries who chose monthly payments.

#### NOVEMBER 2, 2009

Direct deposit for beneficiaries who chose monthly payments.

#### DECEMBER 1, 2009

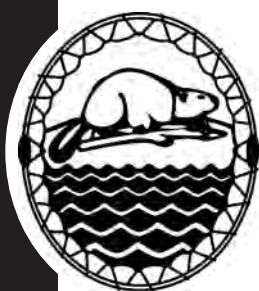
Direct deposit for beneficiaries who chose monthly payments.

#### DECEMBER 7, 2009

Second cheque for beneficiaries of ISP for the Program-year 2009-2010.

#### JANUARY 5, 2010

Direct deposit for beneficiaries who chose monthly payments.



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