



Mocrebec Eeyoud Comprehensive Community Plan Update

April 2017



The Journey Continues ... MOVING FORWARD

Comprehensive Community Planning for MoCreebec Eeyoud:

What is Community Engagement?

- It is bringing people together to look at:
 - **“WHAT MATTERS MOST”**
 - Celebrating **“SUCSESSES”**
 - What can we do **“BETTER”**
 - What **“THREATS”** or **“FEARS”** do we need to address
 - What does a **“HEALTHY COMMUNITY”** look like in all sectors
 - What are our **“HOPE & DREAMS”** for the **“FUTURE”**
 - Setting a **“ROADMAP”** for the **“FUTURE”**

I highly recommend all members to watch the following video to get a better understanding of what community engagement can do for a community:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NpCzIniPZDU>

What is Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP)?

- CCP is a “Wholistic Process” that:
 - Enables a community to;
 - Build a “Roadmap” to;
 - Sustainability;
 - Self-determination
 - Self-sufficiency
 - Empowerment
 - Improved Governance
 - BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE

It is a step-by-step, on-going process and does not end at a certain point, but is a continuous process even after the plan is finalized and ratified by the membership, and approved by Chief & Council. It is a living document that will change as new opportunities and challenges arise.

The ultimate goal is to develop a ROADMAP, complete with ACTION PLANS, and WORK PLANS for the FUTURE of the MOCREEBEC EEYOD COMMUNITY, developed BY the PEOPLE, FOR the PEOPLE based on values, indigenous principles, goals, aspirations, hopes and dreams for the GREATER GOOD of the WHOLE.

Consult 87:

The MoCreebec Eeyoud members were involved in community planning back in 1987 which resulted in “25 Recommendations” from 122 respondents through individual interviews. A day-long meeting/workshop was also held which resulted in “30 Recommendations” specific to “Traditional

Pursuits,” “Land-base,” and “The James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.” Some of these recommendations have been addressed over the years, and some are still being addressed to this day.

Figure 1 shows the listing of the 25 recommendations from interviews, and their current status as of April 2017.

Please note that the different Sectors are shown in different colors as follows:

LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL
EDUCATION
EMPLOYMENT
HOUSING
HEALTH

Please also note that some recommendations overlap into other sectors and are noted accordingly.

Figure 1: Recommendations from CONSULT 87 through interviews and their status as at April 2017

	RECOMMENDATIONS	SECTOR	Current Status – April 2017
1	Establish an Elders conference and program to record cultural wisdom, knowledge and history.	LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL	In progress of establishing an Elders Council; continue to seek funding to achieve this goal; more could be done through volunteerism from MoCreebec Eeyoud members and an active Elders Council.
2	Establish a wilderness camp where traditional skills, knowledge and Cree culture can be passed on.	Same as above	There are wilderness camps/activities that are organized through the school or MCFN that is open to MoCreebec youth (i.e. Project George, Pilgrim Island). More could be done through volunteerism from MoCreebec Eeyoud members.
3	Establish a small business for the manufacture and sale of traditional tools and crafts, and where training in tool-making could take place.	Same as above and overlaps into “ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT” and “EMPLOYMENT”	Currently seeking funds to assist the Eeyoud Sisters sewing group to draw more participants to this volunteer program; could be expanded to training members in traditional tool making (paddles, snow shovels, snowshoes, tamarack birds, etc.); need funding for trainers
4	Return to traditional land-based activities, at least part of the time.	Same as above	Individual members continue to trap, hunt, fish, camp as families, but group land-based activities need to be developed; seek funding to pursue this goal
5	Revive Cree spirituality.	Same as above	Individual members practice Cree spirituality through freedom of choice;

			training programs could be developed; seek funding to pursue this goal
6	Establish culturally appropriate Cree-based counselling programs for drug and alcohol abuse.	Same as above and overlaps into "HEALTH"	The Moose Cree Healing Lodge (former Keewaytinok Drug & Alcohol Abuse Centre) provides services for the whole community; seek funding to include these services in the new community
7	Begin a local history project to record elders and to develop/cement MoCreebec community affiliation.	Same as above See also #1 above	Some research has been done; the Crees in James Bay area are all connected through marriages and there were "Y" dialect speaking Cree here prior to treaties, and borders; more fact-finding needs to be done
8	Introduce East Coast Cree language program in school.	Same as above and overlaps into "EDUCATION"	To be implemented in the school in our new community
9	Introduce East Coast Cree language program for adults through a continuing education program.	Same as above and overlaps into "EDUCATION"	Need funding to develop language program curriculum; teaching of conversational Cree could be done now through volunteerism through an active Elders Council;
10	Create parents' and elders' organizations to work for and support the introduction of East Coast Cree language and culture into the school system.	Same as above and overlaps into "EDUCATION"	In process of getting an Elders Council active; to be included in school in new community
11	Establish a Day Care Centre with East Coast Cree as the primary language.	Same as above and overlaps into "EDUCATION" #16	MoCreebec Eeyoud has a Healthy Babies program that could possibly be used to introduce East Coast Cree; need funding to hire a "Y" dialect Cree teacher
12	Use Cree more in meetings, newsletters, on television; generally, revive Cree as the primary means of communication in the community.	Same as above	Continue to pursue this goal starting with getting the Elders Council active as they are the ones who carry the language and can pass on the language to the rest of the membership
13	Use Cree more in the home.	Same as above	Up to each individual / family / clan MoCreebec Eeyoud could promote the use of Cree in the home
14	As part of a comprehensive plan, develop an education plan for the new community.	EDUCATION	To be included as part of CCP (Comprehensive Community Planning) process; WE NEED MEMBERSHIP'S INPUT
15	Establish a committee of parents and elders to introduce East Coast Cree and culture into current education system.	Same as above and overlaps #10 in "LINGUISTIC"	Get the Elders Council active to develop programming; contact other GCCEI communities who have Cree language

		AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL”	programs in their schools and communities to share their knowledge
16	Establish a Cree Day Care Centre	Same as above and overlaps into “LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL” #11	see #11 and #15 above. Day Scholars negotiations might help in this once agreement is concluded.
17	Start an adult Cree Language Centre	Same as above and overlaps into “LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL” #9	See #15 & 16 as per above.
18	Encourage the development of job training programs for locally-available employment opportunities.	Same as above and overlaps into “EMPLOYMENT”	There is an Employment & Training program located in the MoCreebec Eeyoud office funded through Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC). Contact person: debbie.jolly@mocreebec.com
19	Ensure that employment and development opportunities are considered when choosing a new landbase.	EMPLOYMENT	Included as part of CCP (Comprehensive Community Planning) process considerations; WE NEED MEMBERSHIP’S INPUT
20	Invest in rental housing and/or housing that is easily transportable.	HOUSING	Research in progress to identify energy-saving methods of heating and power for new housing and infrastructure of a new community
21	Ensure that the new community site is easily and fully serviced.	Same as above	Same as above; work in progress
22	Develop a program to assist members who move to the new site to sell their homes.	Same as above	Same as above; work in progress. Awaiting the outcome of Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) with MCFN.
23	Construct a new hospital.	HEALTH	Will depend where the new community will be; currently MCFN Homecare and Public Health programs provide services for the whole community of Moose Factory
24	Implement affirmative hiring of aboriginal staff at the hospital.	Same as above and overlaps into “EMPLOYMENT”	George Small is the current Board Rep on the WAHA Board; MoCreebec will continue to pursue representation on any hospital board wherever the new community gets established
25	Implement local involvement in the hiring of hospital staff.	Same as above and overlaps into “EMPLOYMENT”	Same as #24 above

Figure 2 shows the listing of the 30 recommendations from the day-long membership meeting and workshops that were held back in 1987, and their current status as of April 2017

Please note that the different Sectors are shown in different colors as follows:

TRADITIONAL PURSUITS
LAND-BASE
JBNQA (James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement)

Figure 2: Recommendations from the day-long meeting and workshops held in 1987 and their current status as of April 2017:

	RECOMMENDATIONS	SECTOR	Current Status – April 2017
1	Extend the JBNQA Income Security Program to MoCreebec trappers.	TRADITIONAL PURSUITS	Work in progress as part of pursuit to gain full benefits within the JBNQA
2	Improve fur marketing.	Same as above and overlaps “ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT”	Work with existing trappers with trap-lines and MNR to train interested members in learning traditional hunting/trapping/fishing management, conservation, and responsible methods of fur marketing
3	Expand trapping areas.	Same as above	Same as #2 above; work in progress
4	Organize a trappers’ association.	Same as above	The pool of trappers in Ontario has diminished over the last few years due in part to drop in demand for furs; explore joining other Trappers’ Associations in Ontario and within GCCEI
5	Establish a training program, in school, for young trappers, conducted by experienced MoCreebec trappers.	Same as above and overlaps “EDUCATION”	Ties in with #1, 2, and 3 above; local school does utilize local trappers to show how to set traps, snares to students in their “Outdoor Education” program
6	Restructure the school year so that children may participate in the spring hunt.	Same as above and overlaps “EDUCATION”	Was implemented at one point; elementary schools conduct surveys yearly to poll parents on this issue and school calendars developed according to results of surveys
7	Establish a training program for hunters.	Same as above and overlaps “EDUCATION”	Ties in with #1 – 6 above; also, Junior Ranger programs are available for those who wish to learn safety use of firearms and wilderness survival within the community
8	Designate exclusive aboriginal hunting areas.	Same as above	To be taken into consideration in the planning process of establishing a new community

9	Introduce resource management programs which incorporate Cree knowledge.	Same as above and overlaps "EDUCATION"	Ties in with #1 – 7 above
10	Sell wild meat in a co-operative store.	Same as above and overlaps "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT"	It is illegal to sell wild game in Ontario; Hunters can serve wild game to family and friends, or give it away. Licences are required to trap or hunt, or to operate a farm. For more info go to: https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/980666
11	Develop commercial fishing if fish stocks allow.	Same as above and overlaps "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT" and "EMPLOYMENT"	Licences are required to operate a commercial fishery. For more info go to: http://www.ocfa.ca/fisheries-industry/licensing Research into existing feasibility studies in the area can be explored to determine whether such an endeavour would be feasible
12	Train youth in traditional pursuits.	Same as above and overlaps "EDUCATION"	Some families continue to train their youth in traditional pursuits, but not all families have the financial resources to do so; there are local programs available such as "Project George"; funding such as CORDA, and GCCEI's Income Support program could be explored
13	Designate exclusive aboriginal fishing areas.	Same as above	Ties in with #8 above
14	Develop tourist fishing camps, if stocks allow.	Same as above and overlaps "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT"	There are members that continue to provide fishing and hunting guiding services, however, MoCreebec has not developed tourist fishing camps.
15	Develop fish farming.	Same as above and overlaps "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT" and "EMPLOYMENT"	See #11 above; further research can be done to explore other similar projects
16	Halt the pollution of rivers.	Same as above and overlaps "LAND-BASE"	Consideration to be taken into account in the development of a new community
17	Extend harvesting, planning and management rights as set out in the JBNQA to MoCreebec.	Same as above and overlaps "JBNQA" and "LAND-BASE"	Work in progress as we pursue recognition as 11 th community of GCCEI and our aboriginal and inherent rights within Canada
18	Ensure that new land-base can support the use and development of traditional pursuits.	Same as above and overlaps "LAND-BASE"	Consideration to be taken into account in determining where the new MoCreebec Eeyoud land-base will be

19	Establish jobs using traditional skills.	Same as above and overlaps "EMPLOYMENT"	Individual members make modest incomes through the sale of crafts, tools, and guiding, and some are licenced trappers. Offering traditional skills training could expand the pool of knowledge of traditional skills within the MoCreebec Eeyoud membership.
20	Provide education on traditional harvesting and the use of plants for medicine and food.	Same as above and overlaps "EDUCATION" and "HEALTH"	There are local people who know about medicinal plants but we lack the funding to offer training programs; there is information available online on medicinal plants but one must be responsible and cautious in using them without first consulting a doctor
21	The MoCreebec organization must work to gain a land-base.	LAND-BASE	MoCreebec is actively pursuing this goal; meetings with 8 of 10 GCCEI communities have been done; 2 more to do within the next few months; favourable response received by GCCEI communities visited thus far; anticipate response on request for recognition of MoCreebec as 11 th community within the JBNQA by Aug. 2017
22	The MoCreebec community must issue a declaration proclaiming its rights and existence.	Same as above	MoCreebec ratified the Constitutional Framework on June 6, 1993 as the foundation of its existence, and continues to pursue its aboriginal and inherent rights within Canada
23	The MoCreebec organization must solicit support for a MoCreebec land-base from other aboriginal peoples and the general public, and lobby for the support of Federal and Provincial governments.	Same as above	Support from 8 of 10 GCCEI communities has been obtained to date; two more communities have yet to be visited; work in progress in pursuing official aboriginal community status with rights to programs and services as any other aboriginal community within Canada
24	The MoCreebec organization must initiate a feasibility study of various potential land-base sites, and present the study results to the MoCreebec community in a referendum.	Same as above	Currently underway. A number of options were presented to membership on Aug. 29 and Sept. 1, 2016. There are a number of considerations to be taken into account in deciding where the new community will be such as environmental concerns, access to traditional pursuits, employment, population growth, cost of living, economic opportunities, energy efficient infrastructure, etc.
25	The MoCreebec organization must develop a comprehensive plan for the new community, including services, social	Same as above	Ties in with #24 above.

	services, zoning, and economic development.		
26	The MoCreebec organization must develop and implement its own appropriate programs and services.	Same as above (similar to #25 above)	Ties in with #24 and 25 above. See also #28 below. WE NEED MEMBERSHIP'S INPUT through the Community Planning process
27	Lobby or take court action to amend the JBNQA to remove the 10-year residency clause (3.2.7).	JBNQA (James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement)	In 2013 the court case was discontinued after a vote by the MoCreebec people in favour of a political process to resolve the issues; current practice by GCCEI communities is to consider education sponsorship applications from beneficiary members who live in the JBNQA territory for 6 months; MoCreebec Eeyoud continues to pursue full benefit status
28	Open negotiations to have the aboriginal rights recognized in the JBNQA extended to the MoCreebec resident in Ontario.	Same as above	GCCEI community consultation meetings almost complete; MoCreebec in process of determining best option to pursue aboriginal and inherent rights within Canada. Table of negotiations being pursued with Canada and Ontario.
29	Campaign for public and aboriginal support for MoCreebec rights and a land-base.	Same as above	Work in progress;
30	The MoCreebec organization and community must become a stronger, more united and active group to ensure success in all endeavours.	Same as above	Work in progress of bringing Clan Councils together; and develop committees to address specific issues

We all have experience with planning, whether it is at the grass roots level when a newly married couple plan for their family, and for our ancestors it was going on the trap-line, or in today's society, many communities engage their citizens in the planning process.

WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

There are crucial decisions to be made in the next few months and we need your voice for MoCreebec Eeyoud Council to move forward in the best interests of the MoCreebec Eeyoud community!