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FINAL REPORT ON FACILITATED COMMUNITY  
SESSIONS

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MARCH 2020



MCLEOD WOOD ASSOCIATES INC.  
#201-160 St David St. S., Fergus, ON N1M 2L3 phone: 519 787 5119

Selection of a Preferred Location for the New Community

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Table Summarizing Comments from Focus Groups

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## The New Community – a Five Step Process

### Background:

The MoCreebec Council of the Cree Nation was formed on February 6, 1980 to contend with economic and health concerns and the social housing conditions facing the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) beneficiaries that lived in Moose Factory and Moosonee. The JBNQA beneficiaries were mainly registered with three principal bands from Northern Quebec including Eastmain, Wemindji and Waskaganish.

In June 1993, MoCreebec adopted a constitution, which sets out their governance structure, how leaders are selected and how members can participate in the leadership selection process. MoCreebec is not governed by the Indian Act, is not a municipality and is not governed by Ontario laws, but is a nonprofit corporation that is now known as MoCreebec Eeyoud, and the current Chief is Allan Jolly. The next election is scheduled for June 6, 2020.

For some time, MoCreebec has been working on two ambitious goals: the first is achieving official recognition from the federal and provincial governments as a First Nation community, and the second is to relocate the community, as there is no room left on Moose Factory island for future development as all of the land on Moose Factory Island is currently frozen due to the Moose Cree First Nation's treaty land entitlement process.

Consultations were carried out with each of the ten Quebec Cree Nation communities. A resolution recognizing MoCreebec Eeyoud as the 11th Cree community and promising to "support the development and self-determination of MoCreebec Eeyoud" was passed in November 2017 at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Grand Council of the Cree Nation Government. MoCreebec has had observer status on the Cree Nation Board, as well as observer status on the Cree Health Board, Cree Education Board, Cree Youth Council and the Cree Trappers Board since 2012.

For some JBNQA beneficiaries, there have been issues with obtaining services as off reserve members. According to section 3.2.7 of the JBNQA, a Cree beneficiary is entitled to exercise his or her rights and benefits under the Agreement unless he or she "is absent from the Territory during ten continuous years and is domiciled outside the Territory." Many beneficiaries that

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reside outside of Northern Quebec can't access education, health, economic development or other benefits due to this "ten-year clause" in the JBNQA.

With support from the Cree Nation government, MoCreebec continues to work towards formal recognition as a community by the provincial and federal governments. The next steps towards this goal are to set up a negotiations table with the various governments. The Grand Council of the Cree Nation has required that MoCreebec determine the location of the new community prior to going to the Federal and Provincial governments seeking formal status as a First Nation. The Cree Nation has offered funding for topographical, geotechnical, architectural and archeological studies for the new community location, and LIDAR mapping has been completed for the potential sites at Smooth Rock Falls and near Moosonee.

#### Steps Leading to Relocation:

In the 1980's MoCreebec surveyed its members three times over three years, asking them "What are your intentions? Do you intend to go back to where your families' historical roots are?". The results of the surveys were that 85 per cent of respondents indicated that they weren't planning to return to Quebec. The leadership interpreted this as a clear mandate that they had to look for solutions resolve the socio-economic issues they were facing at that time, which would allow the members to stay in Ontario.

At this time, it is estimated that there are about 1,200 Cree's of Eeyou Istchee who reside or have resided in Moose Factory or Moosonee. Approximately 830 of the JBNQA beneficiaries in the area are registered with the community of Waskagonish, which represents about 75% of the beneficiaries. As of March 2020, MoCreebec has 334 registered members.

The off reserve portion of Moose Factory island doesn't currently have an official local government, and an ad hoc governance structure has been developed, comprised of a local services board, which provides community services (water, sewer, streetlights, and garbage collection) and allows access to provincial government monies. This is a provincially legislated body.

MoCreebec had identified two potential areas for a new community, the first being downstream from Moosonee at the Qwatboaghan River inside the municipal boundaries of Moosonee. The second is inside the municipal boundary of the community of Smooth Rock

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Falls. Recently additional sites are under consideration, including Timmins, Cochrane, New Liskeard, and Moose Factory.

There are several considerations to be taken into account in deciding where the new community will be including environmental concerns, access to traditional pursuits, employment, population growth, cost of living, economic opportunities, energy efficiency, state of the existing infrastructure, etc.

MoCreebec initiated a five-step process during which they will discuss with their members the pros and cons of forming a new community and determining its location.

- Step One was a preliminary survey of the members, where community members were asked their preferred location for a new community: Moosonee or Smooth Rock Falls. Approximately 70% of the surveys were returned, with preliminary results leaning towards the Smooth Rock Falls site.
- Steps Two and Three were facilitated community meetings that were held in late November 2019 in Moose Factory and Moosonee.
- Step Four was a group meeting held February 25, 2020 during which the results of Steps Two and Three were reviewed, and a presentation made on the site downstream of Moosonee.
- Step Five will be a referendum/vote on the preferred location, in June 2020.

### Summary of Steps Two and Three

MoCreebec members and members of the general public were invited to attend community sessions in Moose Factory (November 26, 2019) and Moosonee (November 28, 2019), each of which had the same format. Mike Jolly was the master of ceremonies for both meetings. The meetings started with introductions. After introductions, Chief Jolly opened the meetings with an overview of where the Council is to date including an overview of the history of the organization and how they have gotten to this point. He explained that MoCreebec has been recognized by the Cree Nation as the eleventh community. To be an official First Nation, the Federal government needs to declare that MoCreebec is recognized as a First Nation. He noted that although they are not a signatory to Treaty #9, MoCreebec is a member of Nishnawbe Aski Nation, and it is not part of the Mushkegowuk Council. Chief Jolly defined a community as a “group of people that have a common history, common language and common culture”.

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Chief Jolly indicated that he met with Chief Cheechoo of the Moose Cree First Nation. He also indicated that relocation of the community would likely take at least ten years, once a location has been selected. This is assuming that it would take one year to set up a negotiations table and three years for the actual negotiations with the various levels of government for the new community. Further meetings would need to be held with the selected community, as MoCreebec would want to be partners with the host community.

The next part of the meeting involved facilitated focus group discussions of the pros and cons of each of the proposed locations. Each of the focus group was comprised of 5 to 7 meeting participants. Meeting participants were also asked if there are other locations that should be considered. Representatives of each of the focus groups were then invited to present to the group about what they discussed.

#### Summary of the Focus Group Discussions:

The results of the discussions were fairly consistent between the Moose Factory and Moosonee meetings. The summaries of the focus groups can be found in Appendix One and Two.

#### Topics Discussed:

**Infrastructure/Land Base** – The meeting participants acknowledged that some infrastructure exists for the Moosonee site but expressed concern about the quality of water and sewage issues in Moosonee due to the advanced age of the infrastructure. Both Moosonee and Smooth Rock Falls have access to grid-based electricity. Some participants stated that they had concerns about the Moosonee site being on muskeg/swampland, and the potential for future flooding and mold in the new community.

**Traditional Activities:** Meeting participant were split on this issue. Some were content to access their familiar sites for traditional activities from the Moosonee. site, and others noted that the Moosonee. site was on an existing trapline of a Moose Cree family. Others were excited about the potential for access to new traplines and moose hunting areas in the Smooth Rock Falls area. One participant mentioned access to a new wood (poplar) supply. Others acknowledged that in Smooth Rock Falls, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry rules would have to be followed, including the need to get hunting, fishing and trapping permits.

**Concerns About the Impact of Overlapping Territories:** Meeting participants discussed the tensions with the Moose Cree First Nation and mentioned that the Moosonee. site is still on

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Moose Cree territory, and that there are existing traplines in the area. The Smooth Rock Falls site is still in Treaty #9 so there could be issues with other First Nations.

**Access to Health Services and Educational Opportunities:** It was noted that there is an existing school in Moosonee so a move to the new Moosonee. site wouldn't disrupt the children's education. Some participants noted that there is an existing hospital in Moose Factory. Others discussed the fact that there are no permanent doctors in the area, and that the access to the hospital in Moose Factory can be complicated involving several modes of transportation. There is no elder's facility close to the Moosonee. site, and children would have to be bussed to the schools in Moosonee. The Smooth Rock Falls site appears to have easier access to health care and easier access to education and training opportunities as it is on the provincial highway system. Education standards are likely higher than in Moosonee. The predominant language in Smooth Rock Falls is French which brings both pros and cons. It was noted that high school students studying in English would need to be bussed to Kapuskasing, approximately 15 minutes away. There is also no elder's facility in Smooth Rock Falls.

**Access to Economic Development and Employment Opportunities:** The Moosonee. site would allow some MoCreebec members to keep their existing jobs and would likely create jobs in Moosonee. Some participants expressed the belief that there would be increased business opportunities in Moosonee., and that the community could build on their existing businesses in the area. Meeting participants discussing the Smooth Rock Falls site indicated that they believed that there would be better economic and business opportunities and more and possibly better job opportunities for MoCreebec members. Some concern was expressed that there would be a possible loss of local jobs if people relocated to Smooth Rock Falls.

**Personal Safety:** In both meetings, meeting participants expressed concern about a higher potential for kidnapping and human trafficking in Smooth Rock Falls. The Moosonee. site had the benefit of being safer, where parents could allow their children to roam without being concerned about their safety.

**Transportation/Ease of Travel:** Meeting participants noted that the Moosonee. site did not have all season road/highway access but did have access to the Ontario Northland Railway (ONR), to the Moose River and is relatively close to the airport in Moosonee. It was noted that the ONR train schedule has been cut back. Some participants stated that the Moosonee. site

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would bring an increased likelihood of development of an all-season road to Moosonee. The cost of transporting goods to the Moosonee. site would likely be higher, leading to a higher overall cost of development due to the cost of transporting building materials to Moosonee. It would likely be a longer development time as a result of the complication of transporting goods to the site. The Smooth Rock Falls site would likely bring transportation cost savings as it is highway accessible. The Wetum road would allow people to access their relatives that live in Moosonee and Moose Factory. It was acknowledged that Smooth Rock Falls does not have an airport (closest is Timmins), nor does it have bus transportation connections. There would be additional costs to bring community members vehicles to the standard that would be required to license and certify them to travel on the Ontario road system, but likely lower insurance costs for vehicles.

**Access to Recreational Opportunities:** Meeting participants noted that they could have access to the arena in Moosonee year-round, but that there were not enough recreational activities in the area. It was thought that there was more access to sports in Smooth Rock Falls, and likely played at a higher level than in Moosonee.

**Social Issues:** Meeting participants noted that the Moosonee site is closer to home and closer to family and friends. This means that members could maintain closer ties to family that may choose to stay in Moose Factory. Construction of a new community may help in bringing Moosonee/Moose Factory together allowing them to feel more connected. It was noted that the Moosonee. site would mean that community members would get to stay around the Moose River where more Cree is spoken. Meeting participants expressed concern about increased access to drugs and alcohol and the resulting social issues. It was noted that the Moosonee. site on the Quarry Road is isolated, and too far out – the community’s youth could still feel isolated.

One meeting participant noted that a new community in Smooth Rock Falls would be exciting because it would feel like “ours”. Drawbacks of the Smooth Rock Falls site was exposing children to another society – there may be language issues as well as French is the dominant language. Since Smooth Rock Falls is on the road system, there would be increased access to alcohol and drugs. Some participants were concerned about feeling alienated due to racism. It



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was noted that some people won't move, and family social ties could be impacted as they would be far from family.

**Miscellaneous Issues:** Some participants stated that due to the proximity to the existing community, the Moosonee site could be built on a shorter timeline. Drawbacks included the comments that:

- The proposed Moosonee site is too small,
- food prices are higher due to a lack of competition,
- people's employment income would be taxable,
- the price of hydro is too high, and
- the river is too shallow and is drying up.

Benefits of the Smooth Rock Falls site would that:

- there could be more potential membership increasing the size of the community,
- the fact that it is in a more southern location, increasing the potential for agriculture and a community garden.
- hydro may be less expensive,
- there is the potential for access to propane and natural gas as heating alternatives,
- there is more land available, and
- the cost of living would be more affordable.

Drawbacks of the Smooth Rock Falls site is that:

- employment income may be taxable,
- there are different laws as it is inside of town limits,
- there is no grocery store in the community, and
- the fact that the new community could be seen as a bedroom community.

During both meetings there was discussion among meeting participants around making the current community location in Moose Factory work.

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At the meeting, there were a number of questions and comments, which have been addressed by Chief Jolly below:

#### Questions and Comments:

1. What influence would the town/township have on Treaty Rights? ***Most likely very little to none.***
2. How much authority would the town have over the new community? ***Almost none, but this would negotiable.***
3. Where would the kids go to high school? ***Most likely the Town's high school.***
4. Can our Cree dialect be taught at the high school level? ***I would see this being done at elementary school level.***
5. What happens with Health Care? Will it be under the Cree Health Board? ***Eventually in the long term under the Cree Health Board as I see it.***
6. Will we get our own hospital or clinic? ***For sure our own clinic.***
7. Policing - OPP or NAPS? ***This could be a negotiable item.***
8. Would it be faster to purchase non/treaty land? Can we buy some land instead of waiting? ***Yes, that could be the way to go in order to speed things up.***
9. If the new community was on the border of Quebec/Ontario would it help the beneficiaries to access their JBNQA rights more easily? (like Akwesasne) ***Yes, it could. But the thinking is to bring JBNQA rights/benefits into Ontario. Or at least comparable rights/benefits.***
10. How does the land sale work? How do the two towns have the authority to sell the lands? ***Within municipalities, they can do either a land transfer or even sale.***
11. JBNQA - \$ flow to MoCreebec? ***The only \$\$ we get is from Grand Council/Cree Nation Government is to fund our Political Process.***
12. Political recognition – what does it mean? ***Not legal.***
13. Negotiations with Ontario? ***Province of Ontario should be involved like the Province of Quebec in the JBNQA.***
14. Separate community focus, schools, business, etc. ***Yes, strategic*** planning sessions.
15. Negotiation process with Grand Cree Council? ***If necessary.***
16. Focus on where funding will come from. ***That will be the next major job.***

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17. Home is home in Moose Factory. In 1985 85% voted not to move so there is an assumption that people want to stay in Moose Factory and work on a partnership with Moose Cree First Nation. Put the politics aside. There is a high degree of family ties between Moose Cree and MoCreebec. Moving to another community is not necessarily what people want. ***This could work if we can get political support from Moose Cree to build our community in this area.***
18. Not under the Indian Act? Or will it be considered a band/reserve? ***The idea is to pursue something similar what was done in JBNQA where both federal and provincial jurisdiction are used.***
19. Is there going to be a new treaty? (JBNQA) ***There possibly could be a new Treaty as part of settling on the Ontario Land Claim.***
20. What will the new community be called? ***We could put it out for suggested names with the membership.***
21. What are the other options? ***Yes, there could be other options that may materialize as we go forward.***
22. Can we start our own dialect? ***Yes.***
23. How big is the land parcel? How much land will we get? ***I would suggest 10k acres would suffice for quite a while.***
24. Do you have housing plans yet? i.e. room layouts, square footage etc. ***Not yet, but this will need to be done before construction of houses.***
25. Is there water? ***Hopefully, we will be near a body of water. I.e. A river or lake or even underground water.***
26. What happens to our assets in Moose Factory? ***We sell them and put the money towards the cost of the new community.***
27. How would housing work. ***Homeownership and also social housing rental units.***
28. Would the new community have paved roads? ***Yes.***
29. Agricultural lands – do we buy them? ***We could. We should start to focus on farming and growing gardens etc.***

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30. Should consider building the new community with renewable energy. **Yes. We would like the new community to be energy self-sufficient. Keep the money in the community rather than paying it all out to hydro.**
31. What are the total estimated costs? **If we build the community the right way, it be in hundreds of millions. We did a preliminary cost estimate for a just over 400 million dollars.**
32. What would be our hunting and fishing rights? **This would be part of the land claim negotiations.**
33. What about the issues of licensing, hunting, trapping, driving and insurance? **These can be dealt with through negotiations.**
34. Is it going to be a dry community? **Maybe and maybe not. Depends on what majority says.**
35. Will gambling be allowed? **Depends what the community decides on this.**
36. What will be our political positions? (i.e. Chief and Council, Mayor). **We could have both.**
37. Will there be an integration process? If so, over how many years? **To be realistic this may take place over 10 – 20 years.**
38. Will our children still have to live six months in Quebec? **Not if we can negotiate extension of JBNQA into Ontario or we negotiate an agreement similar or comparable to JBNQA.**
39. How long will the negotiation process be? **Three to five years, maybe more. It's hard to say. The Cree are good negotiators. They know how to get the job done (in good time).**

### Other Locations to be considered:

- Area outside of Cochrane which would also have road access but also access to the train.
- Area between Smooth Rock Falls and Moosonee
- Quebec side location

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#### Step Four:

A community meeting was held in Moosonee on February 25, 2020 to present the results of steps Two and Three, hopefully moving towards Step Five, which is a community referendum. Chief Jolly explained how the community got to this point, reviewing the history of MoCreebec and its aspirations to be formally recognized as a First Nation and to build a new community. He also discussed the sources of revenue available to the community and reviewed the various businesses that MoCreebec has started over the years.

McLeod Wood Associates presented the results of the meetings that had been held in Moose Factory and Moosonee in November 2019. One of the concerns that was brought out during the focus group sessions was that the potential Moosonee site could be prone to flooding. Jean Pierre Chabot, Senior Development Officer for MoCreebec Eeyoud gave a presentation on the flood plain mapping that has been done on the site by consultants hired by MoCreebec. The final report has not been released yet, but areas have been identified for potential community development on higher ground that would not be prone to flooding.

Following the presentation, Nancy Wood and Chief Jolly read out the questions and comments from the November sessions. Following this, Chief Jolly asked the meeting participants for their comments. He noted that since the November meetings he has been in contact with the municipal leaders in Timmins, Cochrane and New Liskeard to gauge their interest in MoCreebec building a new community within their municipal boundaries. It will take further meetings to research the suitability of these communities. Chief Jolly also proposed having the referendum question be: Should the new community be North (meaning Moosonee/Moose Factory) or South (other potential host communities)?

One community member's comment was that the referendum should list all potential options for a new community as follows:

1. Smooth Rock Falls
2. Moosonee
3. Timmins
4. Cochrane
5. New Liskeard
6. Moose Factory

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#### 7. Other

Another community member stated that there should be higher levels of participation for this kind of question. He suggested approaching people who are signed on and making them vote, so that 300 people are making the decision, not 30. It was suggested that MoCreebec hire people to go door to door and talk to people. It was also suggested that the youth of the community need to be included in the decision-making process.

One community member asked if other sites had been identified and do the potential host communities understand what MoCreebec is looking for – opportunities for employment and good health care are going to be important.

It was proposed that the referendum vote be postponed from March to June 9, after the community's election.

A motion reaffirming that MoCreebec Eeyoud want their own community was moved, seconded and passed.

A second motion that the ballot for the referendum on the location of the new community should show all seven potential options (see above) was moved, seconded and passed.

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Topics Discussed:	Pros of Moosonee Site	Cons of Moosonee Site	Pros of Smooth Rock FallsSite	Cons of Smooth Rock FallsSite
Infrastructure/Land base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close to infrastructure that is already in place such as water and sewer, arena, gymnasium, potential new hospital</li> <li>• Access to Moose River – close to water - Lots of creeks - Fresh water?</li> <li>• On the mainland</li> <li>• Moosonee water and sewer has capacity for new site?</li> <li>• Access to electrical power</li> <li>• High ground so less prone to flooding</li> <li>• Existing fire roads etc.</li> <li>• K site is bigger - More room to expand</li> <li>• Access to the train tracks – right along the tracks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No highway access</li> <li>• Would need to build infrastructure such as roads</li> <li>• Water/sewage issues - Water system in Moosonee is bad</li> <li>• Development fees for new water and sewer</li> <li>• Limited services like gas, electricians, plumbers</li> <li>• River is getting dry</li> <li>• Land is muskeg - Potential flood lands, bugs, swampy</li> <li>• Potential mold issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar/green energy could be used for the new community</li> <li>• Higher ground so won't flood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possible forest fires</li> <li>• Would need to maintain facilities such as water, sewer and garbage.</li> </ul>

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<p>Traditional Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close to existing trap lines / hunting areas - familiar sites for traditional activities</li> <li>• Access to hunting and fishing</li> <li>• Within traditional hunting area</li> <li>• Able to hunt &amp; fish whenever - freedom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building on trap lines</li> <li>• No available traplines – for the existing traplines, families are on the land and we would be imposing on their traditional territories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New traplines</li> <li>• Access to traditional practices, better moose hunting</li> <li>• Access to wood supply – poplar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restricted from hunting / fishing</li> <li>• Being away from family traplines</li> <li>• May be denied land</li> <li>• Would need to follow MNR rules and get hunting and trapping permits/licenses. Need to be aware of regulations regarding hunting and fishing</li> </ul>
<p>Concerns about the impact of Overlapping Territories</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could be on treaty land – still in Moose Cree territory</li> <li>• Existing trap lines in the area</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still in Treaty #9 so could be issues with other First Nations</li> <li>• Imposing on land</li> </ul>
<p>Access to health services, educational opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a school already in Moosonee so it wouldn't disrupt the children's education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No permanent doctors</li> <li>• No hospital</li> <li>• No elder's facility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faster internet</li> <li>• Easier access to Post-Secondary Education</li> <li>• Students closer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No college facility</li> <li>• High school students would need to travel for high school</li> <li>• No elder's facility</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospital in Moose Factory. Potential of a new hospital in Moosonee?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School access – kids would have to be bused.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing home – French?</li> <li>• Better and easier access to health care</li> <li>• Easier and better access to education and training opportunities</li> <li>• Educations standards are likely higher</li> <li>• Equal opportunities</li> <li>• Access to other schools (French)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health services availability?</li> </ul>
Access to Economic Development and Employment Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closer to work for some people so they could keep existing jobs</li> <li>• Would create jobs in Moosonee</li> <li>• Easier for business ventures – build from what we already have - May be able to still</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better economic and business opportunities (casino)</li> <li>• Economic impact</li> <li>• More and possibly better job opportunities for MoCreebec</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possible loss of jobs if people relocate</li> </ul>

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	<p>run existing businesses such as cable, housing, EcoLodge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More business opportunities / jobs</li> <li>• Services exist – MTO and Service Canada</li> <li>• Police Services – OPP</li> <li>• Bar and LCBO in Moosonee</li> <li>• Grocery store in Moosonee is better than in Moose Factory</li> <li>• Direct Shipping</li> </ul>		<p>members – broader job market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More opportunities for growth</li> </ul>	
Personal Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safer for community members</li> <li>• Kids free to roam</li> <li>• Safe for children</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns regarding children’s safety and possible abductions.</li> <li>• Higher risk of kidnapping and human trafficking</li> <li>• Higher potential for runaways</li> </ul>
Transportation/Ease of travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less travel from Moose Factory</li> <li>• No highway access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No say in transport access to south</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easier cost on vehicles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May have to travel for work</li> </ul>

Selection of a Preferred Location for the New Community

Table Summarizing Comments from Focus Groups

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing Airport in Moosonee</li> <li>• Closer to airport</li> <li>• May increase potential for an All-season road</li> <li>• Bridge?</li> <li>• Close to rail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No all-season road access so still can't drive south</li> <li>• Expensive cost of transportation</li> <li>• More expensive to build and likely a longer development and building time due to transportation issues</li> <li>• Not accessible to the river</li> <li>• Bumpy ride to Moosonee "past the dump"</li> <li>• Higher flight costs as compared to Smooth Rock Falls(Timmins)</li> <li>• Winter road (North)</li> <li>• Higher cost of gas</li> <li>• Train schedule is being cut back</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation cost savings</li> <li>• Paved roads - Road/highway accessible</li> <li>• River access</li> <li>• Easy to see relatives elsewhere</li> <li>• Lower insurance costs</li> <li>• Access to the Wetum winter road means access to home</li> <li>• Less costs to build homes and other buildings due to lower cost of transportation and materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower income families may not have vehicles for transportation</li> <li>• No airport</li> <li>• No bus transportation</li> <li>• No res bombs – vehicles would have to be insured and roadworthy</li> <li>• Have to pay insurance</li> </ul>
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<p>Access to Recreational Opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rink all year round</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough recreation opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to arena and sports facilities</li> <li>• Bigger sports plex</li> <li>• Closer to competitive hockey</li> </ul>	
<p>Social Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everybody knows everybody</li> <li>• Closer to home and closer to family and friends - Closer ties to family that may choose to stay in Moose Factory</li> <li>• Get to stay around the Moose River - More Cree is spoken</li> <li>• Building our own resources</li> <li>• Helping the people of Moosonee (resources, programs, economy)</li> <li>• Bringing Moosonee/Moose Factory together - Feel more connected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isolated – too far out - Youth could still feel isolated</li> <li>• Concerns about leaving Moose Factory - some people won't move</li> <li>• Drugs/alcohol abuse/Public intoxication</li> <li>• Social issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new community would feel like it is ours</li> <li>• More restaurants</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culture shock</li> <li>• Exposing children to another society – there may be language issues as – French is the dominant language</li> <li>• Increased access to alcohol and drugs</li> <li>• May feel alienated - social issues –</li> <li>• Concerns about facing racism</li> <li>• Starting from scratch</li> <li>• Some people won't move - family social ties</li> </ul>

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				could be impacted as we would be far from family
Other Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could be built quicker – possible shorter timeline</li> <li>• Can still use 4 wheelers &amp; ski doos</li> <li>• Possibility of separate community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site is too small</li> <li>• LCBO</li> <li>• Homeowners – people own houses in MF</li> <li>• High cost of living store – no competitor so higher food prices</li> <li>• Would be taxable</li> <li>• Price of hydro is high</li> <li>• River drying up - shallow river</li> <li>• Disturbing the land</li> <li>• Bridge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More potential membership leading to a bigger community</li> <li>• Potential of a community garden</li> <li>• Higher potential for agriculture</li> <li>• More land is available</li> <li>• Less expensive hydro?</li> <li>• Possible access to propane and natural gas for less expensive heating</li> <li>• More affordable cost of living - less expensive prices for goods and services, rent, gas, groceries and more of a selection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paying taxes</li> <li>• Different laws</li> <li>• Inside of town limits</li> <li>• No grocery stores</li> <li>• Would be a bedroom community</li> <li>• Homeowners – people own houses</li> <li>• No shooting on New years</li> <li>• Pollution to rivers</li> </ul>

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Table Summarizing Comments from Focus Groups

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less worry of flooding</li> <li>• Better housing</li> <li>• Farming</li> <li>• Second language</li> <li>• Lower cost of hydro</li> <li>• More opportunities and jobs</li> <li>• Highways</li> <li>• Cheaper food costs – cheaper materials</li> <li>• Better health care</li> <li>• Cheaper gas</li> <li>• Urban way of life – more services</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• More activities for children</li> </ul>	
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