

1997 Annual Report



C r e e - I n u i t - N a s k a p i

*The James Bay
and Northern Quebec Agreement and
the Northeastern Quebec Agreement*

Canada

1997 Annual Report



Cree – Inuit – Naskapi

The James Bay

and Northern Quebec Agreement and

the Northeastern Quebec Agreement

Canada |



Indian and Northern
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Minister's Foreword



As the Minister responsible for coordinating the implementation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) and the Northeastern Quebec Agreement (NEQA), I am pleased to present the 1997 Annual Report, in accordance with the

James Bay and Northern Quebec Native Claims Settlement Act. Included in the 1997 report is an outline of the funding made available to beneficiaries of the agreements under federal programs for First Nations.

In 1997, the Government of Canada and the Cree of Northern Quebec agreed to enter into discussions and negotiations to renew their relationship and to pursue the implementation of JBNQA obligations. An important element of this new relationship is the establishment of the Cree-Canada Round Table. This forum will promote a government-to-government relationship between both parties, define broad priorities, and provide general direction on Cree-Canada exchanges. The federal government and the Cree also reached an agreement on firefighting and essential sanitation services in accordance with federal obligations under the JBNQA. Also in 1997, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Cree Regional Authority signed a five-year agreement under the federal government's new policy on Aboriginal housing.

In relation to the JBNQA Implementation Agreement with the Inuit, Canada provided this year the necessary funds to build 18 new houses for Inuit families in Chisasibi. Other concrete results are also expected soon, such as the Northern Quebec Marine Infrastructure Program.

A Treasury Board submission is being prepared to seek the authority to sign an agreement with the Makivik Corporation, and an inventory of federal programs and services provided to the Inuit has been prepared for the upcoming tripartite negotiations regarding self-government in Nunavik.

Following the 1990 NEQA Implementation Agreement, the Canadian government and the Naskapi signed an agreement in March 1997 for a job creation strategy for the Naskapi of Kawawachikamach.

The federal government, in partnership with First Nations, launched initiatives to help develop strong and flourishing Aboriginal communities in the territory covered by the JBNQA and NEQA and elsewhere in Canada. These initiatives in the areas of housing, economic development and job creation, especially for Inuit and First Nations young people, are concrete examples of programs that were improved in 1997.

In light of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, the Government of Canada recognizes that it is time to shape a new vision of the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples. The JBNQA, the NEQA, and the relationship based on mutual respect, trust and participation in the decision-making process that stems from them, are the corner stones for building a stronger partnership. I would ask the signatories of the agreements and their representatives at all levels to work together on renewing this relationship that promises a better future for everyone.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Stewart". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

The Honourable Jane Stewart, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern
Development

Table of contents

Minister's foreword	3
Introduction	6
Map of Cree, Inuit and Naskapi communities in Quebec	7
Principal provisions of the agreements	8
Lands	9
Environmental and Social Protection	9
Economic Development	10
Education	10
Hunting, Fishing and Trapping	10
Local and Regional Administrations	11
<i>Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act</i>	11
Cree-Naskapi Commission	11
Role of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development	11
Current status of the implementation of the agreements	12
Background	12
The Cree	12
The Inuit	13
The Naskapi	13
Summary of federal government expenditures, 1992-1997	14
Activities and expenditures of federal departments and agencies, 1996-1997	15
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	15
Education	15
Capital, Operations and Maintenance	15
Electricity	16
Social Development	16
Economic Development	16
Environment	17
Resource Access Negotiations	18
Indian Registration	18
Cree-Naskapi Land Registry	18
Financial Aid	18
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	19
Human Resources Development Canada	20
Health Canada	21
Solicitor General Canada	22
Transport Canada	22
Canadian Heritage	23
National Defence	24
Industry Canada	24
Fisheries and Oceans	25
Natural Resources Canada	27
Canadian Forestry Service	27
Geomatics Canada	28
Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec	28
Environment Canada and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency	28
Justice Canada	30
Canadian Food Evaluation Agency	30

Introduction

There are a number of key dates marking important events that shaped the lengthy process leading to the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and the North-eastern Quebec Agreement.

The first such date comes around the turn of the century, in 1898, when the boundaries of Quebec were first extended north to the 52nd parallel. In 1912, Quebec's boundaries were again extended, to Hudson Strait in the north and to Labrador in the east.

The Cree, Inuit and Naskapi peoples, among others, inhabited these vast federal territories which now constitute Northern Quebec, known at the time as Rupert's Land.

The 1912 Quebec Boundaries Extension Act carried certain obligations. Under this federal statute, the Quebec government was to reach an agreement on land-related issues with the inhabitant Aboriginal in the region. However, talks on these matters would not begin until 61 years later, after the Cree and Inuit peoples of Quebec filed a motion to halt the James Bay hydroelectric development work which had begun in Northern Quebec.

In November 1973, Judge Albert Malouf of the Quebec Superior Court ordered that all work be stopped immediately, in particular because Quebec had not yet fulfilled its obligation under the 1912 Act.

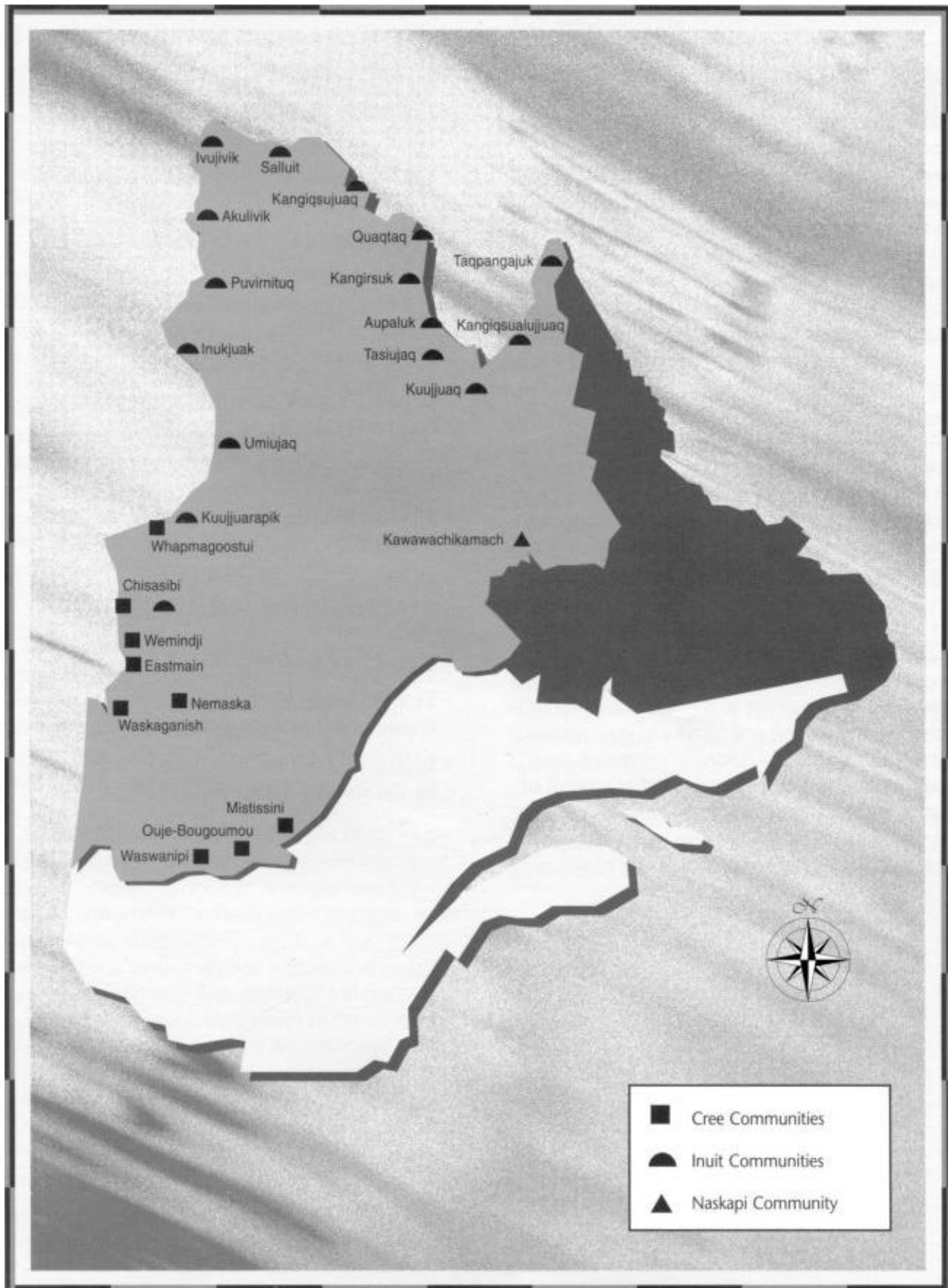
Judge Malouf's decision was reversed by the Quebec Court of Appeal in 1974 but in late 1973, the parties had already begun negotiations that would lead to the ratification of Canada's first modern treaties with Aboriginal communities.

The James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) was signed in 1975 by the Cree and Inuit peoples of Quebec, the governments of Canada and Quebec, the James Bay Development Corporation, the James Bay Energy Corporation and Hydro-Québec. Three years later, in 1978, the Naskapi of Schefferville signed a similar agreement, the Northeastern Quebec Agreement (NEQA).

As at June 30, 1997, 12,103 Cree, 8,164 Inuit and 660 Naskapi made up a total population of 20,927 Aboriginal people who were beneficiaries of these agreements.



Map of Cree, Inuit and Naskapi communities in Quebec



Principal Provisions of the Agreements

Under the terms of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and the Northeastern Quebec Agreement, the Aboriginal communities in the region have exchanged their claims, rights and territorial interests for other rights and benefits, as specified in the agreements. In addition to settling land claims, the signing of the agreements laid the foundations for a new kind of relationship with the Cree, the Inuit and the Naskapi, who are the first Aboriginal communities in Canada to have negotiated agreements with very substantial self-government components.

The JBNQA and NEQA define the land regime applicable to the Cree, the Inuit and the Naskapi, as well as their rights in such areas as resource management, economic development, policing and administration of justice, health and social services and environmental protection.

As compensation, the Cree and Inuit received \$225 million under the JBNQA, and the Naskapi received \$9 million under the NEQA. They are also entitled to a range of services and pro-grams to which the federal and provincial governments contribute annually. Additional lump-sum payments have also been provided as a result of treaty implementation agreements and specific agreements, most of which are connected with a complementary agreement to the JBNQA.

The Cree have received:

- \$50 million under the Chisasibi Agreement (1978);
- \$25.5 million under the Sakami Lake Agreement (1979);
- \$112 million under the La Grande Agreement (1986);
- \$18 million under the Mercury Agreement (1986);
- \$50 million (for the Chisasibi and Wemindji communities) under the Opimiscow-La Grande Agreement (1992).

The Inuit have received:

- \$48 million under the Kuujuaq Agreement (1988);
- \$22.8 million under the JBNQA Implementation Agreement (1990).

The Naskapi have received:

- \$1.7 million under the NEQA Implementation Agreement (1990);
- \$900,000 under the Job Creation Strategy for the Naskapi Agreement (1997).

Lands

A land regime divides the territory covered by the agreements into three categories (I, II and III). It specifies the total land area involved in each: over 14,000 square kilometres of territory are category I lands, 150,000 square kilometres are category II lands and 1,000,000 square kilometres are category III lands. It also specifies the rights pertaining to each category, many of which are for the exclusive benefit of the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi.

Category I lands are set aside exclusively for the Aboriginal communities that are signatories to the two agreements. Cree and Naskapi Category I lands are further subdivided into categories IA and IB: "A" for lands under the jurisdiction of Canada, and "B" for those under that of Quebec. To distinguish them from Cree lands, Naskapi lands are classified as IA-N and IB-N. Lands under federal jurisdiction are go-vern-ed by Aboriginal institutions as defined in the Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act. Lands under Quebec's jurisdiction are governed by municipalities and corporations composed exclusively of Aboriginal people.

Category II lands come under provincial jurisdiction, but the Aboriginal people participate in the management of hunting, fishing and trapping and the development of outfitting operations. They also have exclusive hunting, fishing and trapping rights on these lands.

Category III lands are Quebec public lands where Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples may hunt and fish. However, Aboriginal people exercise certain rights on these lands under the agreements. They have exclusive rights to the harvesting of certain aquatic species and certain fur-bearing animals; they participate in the administration and development of the territory; and lastly, they enjoy a right of first refusal, until the year 2015, in the event of applications to transfer or set up new outfitting operations. The Aboriginal people must, however, relinquish this right for 30 percent of transfers or new operations proposed by non-Aboriginal people.

Environmental and Social Protection

The JBNQA and the NEQA provide for consultative bodies to advise the governments on policies and regulations that may have an impact on the environment and the social conditions of the Aboriginal communities.

For this purpose, two committees have been set up under the JBNQA: the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment for the area south of the 55th parallel and the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee for the area north of that parallel. Each committee includes representatives from the Aboriginal communities and from the two levels of government.

The JBNQA also establishes evaluation procedures for development proposals. The Cree participate in the evaluation of projects affecting lands below the 55th parallel, whereas to the north of the 55th parallel it is the Inuit who participate in the evaluation. The federal administrator—appointed by the Governor in Council—is responsible for the evaluation process for projects involving the jurisdiction of the federal government. For matters under provincial jurisdiction, a provincial administrator is appointed by the Quebec government. Projects in Category I Cree lands come under the authority of the local Cree administrator.

The NEQA includes similar provisions assuring the Naskapi of participation in the environmental protection of the territory covered by that agreement.

Economic Development

Compensation funds paid under the agreements by the governments of Quebec and Canada and by Hydro-Québec are administered by three organizations. The Cree Board of Compensation, the Makivik Corporation and the Naskapi Development Corporation handle the funding of projects for the economic development of the Aboriginal communities in Northern Quebec.



The Nabakatuk Forest Products sawmill that opened in Waswanipi in June 1997 is a good example of economic development made possible through a partnership with the private sector.

In addition, under the agreements, the Cree, the Inuit and the Naskapi continue to benefit, in the same way as other Aboriginal peoples, from the economic development programs offered by the governments.

Education

The JBNQA provided for the establishment of the Cree School Board and the Kativik School Board. Both these boards, which operate under Quebec's jurisdiction, possess special powers and ensure that the educational programs are culturally relevant to the communities.

Under the terms of the NEQA, educational services for the Naskapi are provided for by a school created to fulfill the needs of the Naskapi community. The Eastern Quebec Regional School Board is responsible for its general administration. In addition, the Naskapi Education Committee was set up to perform the

same advisory functions as those assigned to school committees under the *Education Act* at the time, and now known as the *Education Act for the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi Native Persons*.

The JBNQA and the NEQA established that Canada and Quebec would contribute to the funding of these institutions on the basis of annual operational and capital budgets, subject to their approval. The proportion to be contributed by Canada was set at 75 percent of the approved budgets of the Cree School Board and the Naskapi school, and 25 percent of the approved budgets of the Kativik School Board.

Hunting, Fishing and Trapping

The Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Coordinating Committee was created under the JBNQA. Composed of government and Aboriginal experts, the Committee reviews hunting, fishing and trapping management in the territory covered by the agreements. It also makes recommendations to the two levels of government. The Coordinating Committee holds annual meetings, among others, with the northern communities to explain its activities and to consult with the local people about its mandate and its broad objectives. Sub-committees, also made up of Aboriginal and government representatives, have been formed to deal with more specific issues, such as big game, parks, fishing, outfitting operations, marketing of caribou meat and land use.



Members of the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Co-ordinating Committee at a meeting held in 1997 at Lake Mistinibi in the Naskapi territory.

Local and Regional Administrations

Since 1984, the Cree communities and the Naskapi community have been incorporated. They have local administrations with the power to adopt bylaws concerning public order, environmental protection, taxation for local purposes, roads and transportation, local business and the use of lands and resources. Two additional bodies—the Cree Board of Compensation and the Cree Regional Authority (CRA), which is responsible for organizing common services for the Cree communities were set up under Quebec legislation.

The Inuit communities of Nunavik, located above the 55th parallel, are incorporated as municipalities under Quebec legislation. The Kativik Regional Government is their regional structure, and the Makivik Corporation was set up to protect the interests of the Inuit with regard to the implementation of the JBNQA. Both organizations were established under Quebec legislation.

Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act

In 1984, the Parliament of Canada passed the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act* to implement the agreement provisions regarding local government for the Indian communities. This Act supersedes the *Indian Act*, except for matters pertaining to Indian status. It institutes a form of self-government and establishes the land management system for Category IA lands (Cree) and IA-N lands (Naskapi).

Cree-Naskapi Commission

The *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act* also provided for the establishment of the Cree-Naskapi Commission, whose role is to investigate disputes concerning the Act's application. It must also produce biennial reports on the application of the Act, following hearings. These reports are submitted to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to be tabled in Parliament. The Cree-Naskapi Commission is made up of no more than three commissioners appointed by the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Cree Regional Authority and the Naskapi community.

Role of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Since the signing of the agreements, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) no longer provides direct delivery of services to the Cree, the Inuit or the Naskapi. Its role is mainly now to provide funding to finance communities, capital spending projects and programs delivered by Aboriginal administrations. The Department also offers technical expertise in many areas and participates in several regimes for the management of resources and lands covered by the agreements.

Finally, DIAND is responsible for implementing the agreements with respect to the overall obligations of the Government of Canada. In so doing, it must ensure the co-ordination of the various activities on the part of other federal departments and agencies in their dealings with Aboriginal communities.



View of an outfitting operation in Naskapi territory.

Current Status of the Implementation of the Agreements

Background

The implementation process of the JBNQA and the NEQA, signed in 1975 and 1978 respectively, proved to be longer and more complex than expected.

In 1981, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Indian Affairs urged the federal government to examine the problems relating to the JBNQA. Following the tabling of a departmental report—the Tait Report—in 1982, the federal government instituted a series of measures designed to solve all the problems related to the implementation of the Agreement.

In June 1986, Cabinet approved a process for implementing the government's obligations under the JBNQA.

Four years later, in September 1990, the federal government signed separate agreements with the Makivik Corporation and the Quebec Naskapi Band on the implementation of the JBNQA and the NEQA. These agreements released the federal government from certain obligations under the JBNQA and the NEQA. In return, the government awarded a one-time grant of \$22.8 million to the Inuit and \$1.7 million to the Naskapi. The government also made other commitments to these communities. A number of activities have been carried out under the implementation agreements signed in 1990 with the Inuit and the Naskapi, and various working groups and organizational structures have been set up.

Also in 1990, the James Bay Implementation Office was created within DIAND to co-ordinate and monitor the Agreements' implementation activities. The Implementation Office was transferred to the Quebec Regional Office in 1992 and relocated to the Department's National Headquarters in the National Capital Region in 1996.

Discussions between the federal government and the Cree of Northern Quebec, related to the implementation of the JBNQA, are continuing on a regular basis.

Since the signing of the JBNQA in 1975 and the NEQA in 1978, several federal departments and agencies have been actively working to fulfill the federal government's obligations arising from the agreements and have developed the various structures required to achieve this end.

The Cree

In 1997, discussions between the Cree and the federal government led to the signing of a \$15 million agreement in accordance with the federal government's obligations under the JBNQA, specifically with regard to fire protection and essential sanitation services. The parties also committed themselves to the establishment of the Cree-Canada Round Table, known as *Ochimawinch*, meaning "Leaders' Place" in Cree. This forum will facilitate discussions between federal Ministers and the Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec) and cooperative dialogue between the parties. It will also define broad priorities and provide general direction for the Cree-Canada exchanges on issues most important to both parties. Although the Round Table participants have not yet met, the negotiators Michel Vennat and his Cree counterpart Dr. Ted Moses are currently identifying topics for discussion and negotiation to take place during the coming year.

As part of a new approach arising out of the federal government policy with respect to housing in Aboriginal communities, DIAND and the Cree Regional Authority signed a five-year (\$6.5 million) agreement (1997-2002) in August 1997. This new initiative emphasizes community control of projects, local resources and flexibility in design, and workforce requirements.

The Inuit

In relation to the JBNQA Implementation Agreement, signed by Canada and the Inuit of Nunavik in September 1990, the federal government continued its efforts with regard to the financing of the marine infrastructure in Nunavik. A Treasury Board submission is currently being prepared in this regard. Technical and environmental studies are currently under way in three Inuit communities prior to the start of work on the Marine Infrastructure Program.

In 1997, DIAND, other federal departments and the Makivik Corporation compiled an inventory of the services and programs made available to Inuit organizations by the federal government, that could become the future responsibility of a Nunavik government and assembly. This inventory will support tripartite negotiations involving the Makivik Corporation, the Quebec government and the Canadian government regarding an autonomous government in Nunavik.

The Naskapi

Under the NEQA Implementation Agreement, which was signed in September 1990 by Canada and the Quebec Naskapi Band Council, the parties concluded a \$900,000 agreement in March 1997 on a job creation strategy for the Naskapi of Kawawachikamach. The Government of Canada has also continued to fulfill its obligations with respect of issues involving the Naskapi.



Summary of federal government expenditures,¹ (\$) 1992-1997

	1992-1993	1993-1994	1994-1995	1995-1996	1996-1997
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	109,578,050	109,448,407	109,493,023	122,829,350	147,479,910 ²
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation³	33,337,409	38,196,909	42,289,524	43,713,641	37,865,052
Human Resources Development Canada	8,517,274	8,015,000	8,599,218	10,103,816	11,341,260
Health Canada	2,186,641	2,719,646	4,119,744	5,526,116	5,761,864
Solicitor General	60,000	1,362,712	2,913,253 ⁴	4,750,889 ⁴	5,757,931
Transport Canada	674,650	1,329,870	1,452,271	986,726	2,206,666
Canadian Heritage	2,416,702	2,294,750	2,258,260	2,135,492	1,842,141
National Defence	see note ⁵	see note ⁵	1,986,600	1,023,000	1,074,000
Industry Canada	844,213	2,573,652	3,720,246	279,042 ⁶	881,580
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	1,582,000	2,533,500	1,959,100	847,169	744,470
Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec	580,316	379,119	250,367	486,261	424,291
Natural Resources Canada Canadian Forestry Service	730,175	728,661	429,700	453,200	333,250
Environment Canada⁷	938,718	884,540	650,527	188,898 ⁸	176,740
Justice Canada	70,000	47,700	40,000	40,000	nil
TOTAL	161,516,148	169,288,025	180,161,833	193,363,600	215,889,155
TOTAL FEDERAL EXPENDITURES BETWEEN 1992 AND 1997:	\$ 920,218,761				

1 These figures are supplied by the departments.

2 Excluding \$100,300,000 paid by DIAND to settle a claim filed by the Quebec Department of Education and including \$300,000 from HRDC's financial participation under the job creation strategy for the Naskapi.

3 Calendar year.

4 Increases as the results of the agreements concluded in 1994 with the Cree and the Naskapi and the one concluded in 1995 with the Kativik Regional Government. In the 1996 Annual Report, the Department's expenditures should have read as follows: \$136,271 in the 1993-1994 fiscal year and 2,913,253 in the 1994-1995 fiscal year.

5 Financial data from the Department for the territory covered by the agreements for 1991-1992 to 1993-1994 was not available for the report.

6 Decrease as a result of a national moratorium placed on Aboriginal Business Canada for the fiscal year 1995-1996.

7 Including the expenses of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

8 Decrease as a result of the termination of activities related to the environmental review of the Great Whale project shelved following a decision by the Quebec Government.

Activities and Expenditures of Federal Departments and Agencies, 1996-1997

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development spent \$147,479,910 on Cree, Inuit and Naskapi communities in accordance with the JBNQA and NEQA, and various programs provided to Aboriginal peoples. This funding does not include an additional \$100,300,000 allocated to the Quebec Department of Education.

Education

DIAND contributed \$75,466,914 to cover education expenses during the 1996-1997 fiscal year. Most of these funds \$70,632,903 went toward the cost of education services and were distributed to the school boards concerned through the Quebec Department of Education. The Cree School Board received \$55,585,333, the Kativik School Board received \$13,231,740 and the Eastern Québec Regional School Board was given \$1,815,830 for education of the Naskapi.

In addition, DIAND spent \$100,300,000 to settle a claim filed by the Quebec Department of Education with respect to the funding of Cree and Inuit education under the JBNQA. As part of the settlement, the federal and Quebec governments reached an agreement in April 1996 on procedures for approving the budgets of the Cree and Kativik school boards.

Expenditures on school infrastructure during the 1996-1997 fiscal year amounted to \$3,709,297 for all Cree, Inuit and Naskapi educational institutions.

During the 1996-1997 school year, 6,063 pupils and students were registered at the pre-school, elementary and secondary levels in the territory covered by the agreements, including 3,169 students under the Cree School Board, 2,706 under the Kativik School Board and 186 students at the Naskapi School.

DIAND allocated \$437,813 to Cree and Inuit students away from the territory covered by JBNQA in the form of direct grants for post-secondary education assistance. It also contributed \$372,226 to the Inuit for Avataq Cultural Institute activities.

To implement new programs introduced by DIAND in 1996 under the federal government's Youth Employment Strategy, the Cree Regional Authority (CRA) was given \$15,000, the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) \$15,000 and the Naskapi \$1,150. For the First Nations and Inuit Science and Technology Summer Camp Program, the CRA received \$18,604, the KRG \$21,849 and the Naskapi \$691. For the First Nations Schools Co-operative Education Program, the Department gave the CRA \$122,573, the KRG \$114,252 and the Naskapi \$5,556.

Capital, Operations and Maintenance

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, a total of \$59,016,517 was spent by DIAND on capital projects in Cree, Inuit and Naskapi communities and on operations and maintenance of Cree and Naskapi communities.

The Cree and Naskapi received capital grants totaling \$14,676,693. Part of this sum \$4,800,000 was used for health, sanitation, and safety-related projects in the Chisasibi community. These contributions were the final installment of \$22.2 million earmarked for emergency measures in five Cree communities under a section of the agreement reached with the Cree in August 1993. DIAND also paid out \$1,850,000 in additional capital contributions to complete projects in Eastmain, Chisasibi and Wemindji.

In addition, \$3,914,750 in capital contributions was made to the community of Waskaganish, of which \$2,822,750 was used to relocate the drinking water supply intake and \$1,092,000 to carry out road repairs on the Smokey Hill highway.

The Department also allocated \$1,425,000 in contributions to the Makivik Corporation to refund the cost of building houses for the Inuit in Chisasibi.

In addition, the Department paid out \$37,150,074 in grants for operations and maintenance in Cree and Naskapi communities.

Electricity

The findings of the Hydro-Québec evaluation study of energy conservation potential in the Waskaganish community were submitted in March 1997. Discussions are being held between the Waskaganish community, DIAND and Hydro-Québec on the new option to implement an energy efficiency program for the generators currently in use.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department provided the following amounts to cover electricity expenses in two Cree communities:

Wemindji	
• Electricity system	\$727,458
• Soil Decontamination	247,721
Sub-total:	975,179
Waskaganish	
• Electricity system	2,851,142
Total	\$3,826,321



Tanks being installed in 1997 to increase the fuel storage capacity of the Waskaganish electric power station.

Social Development

The Quebec government provides social assistance services for most of the communities in the territory covered by the agreements. DIAND contributed \$3,023,615 for the delivery of these services in the communities of Mistissini, Waswanipi and Kawawachikamach.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, these three communities received the following amounts:

Mistissini	\$1,111,312
Waswanipi	988,646
Kawawachikamach	923,657
Total	\$3,023,615

The federal government also finances two additional programs: the National Strategy for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities (NSIPD) and the Federal Initiative on Family Violence (IFV).

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the beneficiaries of the agreements received- the following amounts:

	NSIPD	IFV	Total
Cree	\$23,192	\$144,253	\$167,445
Inuit	25,744	159,417	185,161
Naskapi	1,764	10,956	12,720
Total	\$50,700	\$314,626	\$365 326

Economic Development

DIAND participates in the economic development of Aboriginal peoples by contributing funds to Community Economic Development Organizations (CEDOs), which were created under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) and provide technical and financial assistance for projects.

The Department continued to support the CEDOs during the 1996-1997 fiscal year by contributing the following amounts:

Cree	\$1,016,695
Inuit	870,440
Naskapi	43,930
Total	\$1,931,065

This sum includes \$140,568 allocated to the Cree Regional Authority, \$94,804 allocated to the Kativik Regional Government and \$5,253 to the Naskapi under a new DIAND employment program the First Nations and Inuit Student Summer Career Placement Program.

On March 29, 1996, the federal government also introduced a new policy called the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business (PSAB), the objective of which is to purchase goods and services from Aboriginal suppliers. This federal initiative was adopted to increase the participation of Aboriginal businesses in government procurement operations. The PSAB provides for mandatory procedures and, since January 1, 1997, selective procedures to set aside contracts; promotional activities for suppliers; and the awarding to businesses of a larger share of contracts by each federal department and agency.



Workers' campsite of the Raglan mine at Kattinip, south-west of Kangiqsujuaq.

Environment

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, DIAND provided \$452,917 to the Cree Regional Authority to continue work on the Environmental Issues Inventory in Cree communities. Analyses of the health and environmental risks were conducted at sites where contamination had been detected the year before. The quality of the ground water was assessed at waste disposal sites and contaminated sites that have observation wells. Storage tanks for used petroleum have been set up in Waskaganish and Waswanipi.



Drilling carried out during the environmental characterization of a site in Eastmain in 1997.

In addition, the pilot project launched in 1996 to develop an environmental management system in Cree communities was completed this year. An environmental code of practice was drawn up and an information session to explain the code was given to local environment managers in each of the nine Cree communities.

The Department also gave the Waskaganish community \$61,000 in funding assistance through the Indian Environmental Assistance Fund to carry out a study on riverbank erosion along the section of the Bank River bordering the community.

Resource Access Negotiations

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Cree community of Eastmain received \$22,000 from DIAND under the Resource Access Negotiations Program (RAN). The funding is intended to help the Eastmain community in its negotiations with the James Bay Energy Corporation concerning a multipurpose service centre located at Kilometre 381.

The Department also granted \$18,517 to the Kativik Regional Development Council to continue negotiations between the Inuit communities of Salluit and Kangiqsujuaq and the Société Minière Raglan du Québec Ltée, a Falconbridge Ltd subsidiary.

Indian Registration

It is the responsibility of DIAND and the Cree and Naskapi communities to manage Indian registration records. During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department contributed \$94,355 to maintain the registry in these communities.

Cree-Naskapi Land Registry

The organization of a registry of rights and interests pertaining to Category IA and IA-N lands and in buildings located on those lands is provided for under the Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act and the Cree-Naskapi Land Registry Regulations.

In 1997, DIAND's Central Registrar visited the Cree and Naskapi communities to provide training sessions on a case-by-case basis to communities operating their own local land registry offices. All of the communities, except Waswanipi, were given training sessions. The Registrar continued to help the Waswanipi community set up its own local land registry office.

In addition, the Central Registrar, in cooperation with the local land registrars, recorded the rights and interests submitted for registration. Together with Geomatics Canada, the Cree Regional Authority and the Mistissini community, the Central Registrar also set up a project to update registry maps using the Geographic Information System (GIS).

The Central Registrar and Geomatics Canada also finished the drafting of an information pamphlet on this particular registration system in the territory

covered by the agreements. The pamphlet, primarily for local registrars and other users of the land registry system has been available since the middle of December 1997. Because some Cree communities have expressed a growing interest in the registration of residential rights granted to their members, the Central Registrar disseminated relevant information for this purpose. Finally, aerial photographs were taken of four coastal Cree communities to draw up land registry maps to meet the land registry requirements put forward by these communities.

Financial Aid

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Cree Regional Authority received \$774,000 in financial aid from DIAND. Of this amount, \$739,000 was used to cover the expenses of negotiating the implementation of the JBNQA; an initial payment of \$25,000 was made to pay for a study on fire prevention in the nine Cree communities; and the sum of \$10,000 was used to hold a workshop in Oujé-Bougoumou on the economic development of Cree communities. The community of Mistissini received \$2,500 to organize a regional conference on the healing process in Cree communities. DIAND also contributed funding for activities carried out under the First Nation Forestry Program administered by the Canadian Forest Service of Natural Resources Canada.

The Makivik Corporation obtained a \$267,000 grant to help pay the operating costs of the agencies established to implement the JBNQA and the overall costs of Agreement implementation activities. DIAND also allotted \$275,000 to cover the costs of negotiations on the inherent right to self-government.

For its part, the Naskapi Development Corporation received \$15,000 to continue its work of collecting the accounts of elders in order to eventually publish a book on the history of the Naskapi at Fort McKenzie. During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, DIAND, with funding participation from Human Resources Development Canada, allocated \$900,000 to the Quebec Naskapi Band Council under the agreement on a job creation strategy.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), in co-operation with DIAND, is directly involved in the Cree and Naskapi communities through a housing program funded under Section 95 of the National Housing Act.

The housing program for the Inuit is administered by the Société d'habitation du Québec under federal-provincial cost-sharing agreements.

In 1996, 45 subsidized new housing units were added to the housing stock of Cree communities and four to that of the Naskapi community. The CMHC grants were used to cover the operating expenses of these housing units and allow occupants to pay rents proportionate to their incomes. The Cree communities innovatively chose new products, such as duplex, triplex and multiple-family housing units, that had rarely been used before in remote communities. Significant savings can be realized from these types of residential construction, which house a greater number of households.

Under the Remote Housing Program, a special initiative announced in 1996, \$2,086,795 was

invested in the construction of 24 additional housing units in Cree communities and two new housing units in the Naskapi community. The funds provided under this initiative were used to cover the construction costs of the housing units and top up the money invested by the community.

An improved version of the Section 95 program was introduced in 1997 and will go into effect in the Cree and Naskapi communities in 1998. The program gives the communities greater flexibility and allows them to protect themselves against interest rate fluctuations.

Another initiative launched in 1997 by the federal government under the Youth Employment Strategy helps young Aboriginals gain work experience and training in housing related fields. During the 1997-1998 fiscal year, this two-year initiative will enable CMHC to pay the salaries of ten young Aboriginals from throughout Quebec taking six-month apprenticeships. A Cree, an Inuit and a Naskapi will be included in the group of ten.

CMHC, Program Expenditures in Northern Quebec¹, 1996

	Cree	Inuit	Naskapi	Total
Pre-1986 Programs				
Federal subsidies	\$2,854,074	\$11,720,569	\$447,609	\$15,022,252
Number of subsidized units	639	1,027	70	1,736
Post-1985 Programs				
Federal Subsidies	8,480,476	13,877,524	484,800	22,842,800
Number of subsidized Units	939	649	34	1,622
Total	\$11,334,550	\$25,598,093	\$932,409	\$37,865,052

1 For the Cree and the Naskapi, programs and criteria for subsidies are different from those applicable to the Inuit.

Human Resources Development Canada

Over the past several years, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) has been helping the various Inuit, Cree and Naskapi communities develop their labour markets and their workers' employability. These efforts are in line with the thinking that greater autonomy should be given to the beneficiaries of the agreements, who are taking increasing control of the tools for their communities' economic growth and social development.

For close to a decade, Aboriginal communities have been steadily taking control of their human resources development. Initially they had advisory roles, but they have since gone on to become partners, co-managers, and finally managers. Tremendous strides have been made in transferring federal government authority to the communities whether it concerns the administering of tailor-made measures for those communities or the management by the Cree or the Inuit of services provided to their people. Each group is making progress towards self-government at its own pace and according to its own needs.

In May 1997, HRDC and the Kativik Regional Government renewed their agreement for the period from April 1, 1997 to March 31, 1999. Under this agreement, the KRG undertook to manage employment support and employability development measures as well as employment and employment insurance services. During the term of the agreement, the KRG will provide a new front-line service for income security programs. During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the KRG administered annual funding of \$4,585,000 from the Aboriginal Labour Market Program and the Inuit had access to \$954,368 from the Employment Insurance Fund. The Inuit also received \$743,000 from the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative and \$30,000 from the Youth Employment Strategy.

In the fall of 1997, the KRG entered into negotiations with HRDC with a view to no longer administering employment insurance services, but rather managing the Fund under Section 63 of the *Employment Insurance Act*. This additional measure will go ahead within a stricter accountability framework.

After concluding its negotiations with HRDC and signing the agreement in December 1996 to devolve programs and services, the Cree Regional Authority set out to implement the agreement in January 1997. Having progressed from the role of co-manager to now manager of employment measures, the CRA will henceforth take over the management of employment and employment insurance services using its own employees, many of whom have been transferred from HRDC to the CRA. During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Cree received \$2,781,000 in their capacity as co-managers of job creation and employability development and had access to \$1,102,000 in employment insurance funds. The Cree also received \$748,892 under the Child Care Initiative and \$26,000 from the Youth Employment Strategy to carry out activities for Aboriginal young people. In addition, the CRA received \$50,000 under the Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives program to implement the human resources development agreement.

Under an agreement between HRDC and the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador signed in September 1997, the Naskapi now manage human resources development measures funded from both the Aboriginal Labour Market Program and the Employment Insurance Fund. The Naskapi had access during the 1996-1997 fiscal year to a total of \$268,000 from these two funds and also received \$53,000 from the Child Care Initiative.

Health Canada

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, Health Canada's Medical Services Branch provided \$5,761,864 for various health care programs in the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi communities. The Department primarily funded projects in the areas of mental health, drug and solvent abuse, and family violence. The family violence component was merged into the Brighter Futures program, whereas funding for the Tobacco Demand Reduction Strategy was ended in the 1995-1996 fiscal year. Under the Green Plan, Health Canada has set up a drinking water monitoring system in the nine Cree communities.

Health Canada is also encouraging students in these communities to work in the health care sector through the Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program. The Department also paid for Non-Insured Health Benefits for beneficiaries living outside their affiliated communities.

Health Canada, Program Expenditures in 1996-1997

	Cree	Inuit	Naskapi	Total
National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program	\$650,800	\$692,716	\$34,749	\$1,378,265
Solvent Abuse	127,893	112,359	7,273	247,525
Brighter Futures	986,647	860,036	55,520	1,902,203
Prenatal Nutrition	45,884	89,608	nil	135,492
Building Healthy Communities Strategy	700,347	618,687	42,872	1,361,906
Canada's Drug Strategy	15,000	nil	nil	15,000
Green Plan	25,190	nil	nil	25,190
Indian and Inuit Health Careers	6,690	7,271	nil	13,961
Non-Insured Health Benefits	360,164	313,991	8,167	682,322
Total	\$2,918,615	\$2,694,668	\$148,581	\$5,761,864

Solicitor General Canada

In 1997, the Department of the Solicitor General followed up on three tripartite agreements reached with the Government of Quebec and, respectively, the Cree Regional Authority, the Kativik Regional Government, and the Naskapi.

The Department participated with Cree and Quebec government representatives in discussions on the implementation of Chapter 19 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

In the fall of 1997, the Department, together with the Quebec government, began negotiations with the Kativik Regional Government to renew the tripartite agreement expiring on April 1, 1998.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department of the Solicitor General provided funding contributions under the tripartite agreements of \$2,505,338 to the Cree, \$235,873 to the Naskapi and \$2,800,720 to the Kativik Regional Government.

In 1997, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) pursued its strategy of developing programs specially tailored to Aboriginal culture and realities. It stepped up its liaison officer services and the level of service provided by the elders in all of its institutions. CSC paid \$48,000 to Native Paralegal Services of Quebec, an organization responsible for counseling Aboriginal offenders in federal penitentiaries, including the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi, to facilitate correctional planning and follow-up until their release. A further \$42,000 was allocated for various treatment programs designed to deal with substance abuse, sexual offences and family violence and to promote literacy training and Aboriginal spirituality. These amounts do not include the direct costs of incarceration.

CSC also invested \$126,000 in accommodation, supervision, and treatment in halfway houses during parole.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department of the Solicitor General spent a total of \$5,757,931, of which \$216,000 was spent by the Correctional Service of Canada.

Transport Canada

Through its cooperation with the beneficiaries of the agreements, Transport Canada has continued its initiatives, investing a total of \$2,206,666 during the 1996-1997 fiscal year.

Under the 1996 contribution agreement, which runs from September 1, 1996, to December 31, 1999, governing the transfer of the management of Kuujuaq airport, Transport Canada paid \$808,000 to the Kativik Regional Government during the 1996-1997 fiscal year. A characterization study of the soil and underground water alongside an old pipeline supplying Kuujuaq airport was also carried out in 1997.



Kuujuaq Airport handled 33,845 passengers and 7,148 aircraft movements in 1996.

With regard to the three-year operating and maintenance contracts for their airports, signed in 1995, the Naskapi and Montagnais of Schefferville received \$230,000, the Cree of Eastmain received \$176,227, the Cree of Waskaganish received \$175,125 and the Cree of Wemindji, \$165,841. These contracts cover the provision of airport management services and the maintenance of the runways and facilities. This type of agreement between the local authorities is conducive to the deployment of expertise in the North, while at the same time encouraging the establishment of a structure appropriate to the community's needs.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, capital investment projects were completed at three airports. Transport Canada granted \$65,000 to Schefferville for repairs to the airport runway and \$139,000 to Eastmain for similar repairs and to reconstruct the drainage system. A grant of \$447,473 to Kuujuaq financed a number of projects, including repair of the perimeter fence and the removal of a pipeline, as well as the training of seven Kuujuaq residents who worked on runway reconstruction.

Under the Marine Infrastructure Program, technical studies and additional planning activities were carried out during 1997 at Kangirsualujuaq, Quartaq and Puvirnituaq.

Lastly, in view of the increase in the number of local vessels in Northern Quebec engaged in commercial fishing and hunting and the expansion of tourism-related activities, which require valid capacity certification, Transport Canada and the Kativik Regional Government have worked out a Memorandum of Understanding to train two Inuit representatives to issue inspection certificates. In the fall of 1997, the KRG participated in the selection of candidates and collaborated with Transport Canada in sharing of costs for the training they received at the Department's local offices in Québec City, Gaspé and Sept-Îles.

Canadian Heritage

Canadian Heritage, acting through the Citizens' Participation Directorate, supports a wide range of activities in Northern Quebec. Its main areas of intervention are in the operation of Aboriginal communication networks and friendship centres, the protection of Aboriginal languages and cultures, support for Aboriginal organizations and for the improvement of the situation of Aboriginal women. During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, Canadian Heritage provided support, through its programs, to Aboriginal communities in Northern Quebec, amounting to \$1,842,141.



Inukjuak's new generation". Inuktitut is the principal language used in radio and television productions originating in Nunavik, and it is in the school curriculum.

Canadian Heritage, Program Expenditures in 1996-1997

Northern Native Broadcast Access Program

James Bay Cree Communications Society	\$300,470
Taqramiut Nipingat Incorporated (TNI)	932,997

Aboriginal Representative Organizations Program

Makivik Corporation	141,749
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Native Friendship Centre Program

Senneterre Native Friendship Centre Inc.*	122,063
Val-d'or Native Friendship Centre Inc.*	183,094
Cree Indian Friendship Centre of Chibougamou Inc.	152,578

Aboriginal Women's Program

Cree Women Council	5,530
Grand Council of Naskapi	3,660

Total	\$1,842,141
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*The services provided by Native friendship centres are not offered exclusively to the agreements' beneficiaries.

National Defence

As part of the Canadian Forces of the Department of National Defence, Land Force Quebec Area (LFQA) manages all Land Force activities in Quebec. In the territory covered by the agreements, LFQA is responsible for three types of activities associated with the Canadian Ranger, Junior Ranger and Cadet programs.

The Canadian Rangers are volunteers between the ages of 18 and 60. They receive basic training so that, when necessary, they can support members of the Canadian forces in remote Northern and coastal areas. The Junior Rangers are young boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 17 from Northern communities that have Ranger patrols. The Cadets are between 12 and 18 years of age and are part of a civilian organization sponsored by the Cadet Leagues.



Inuit Junior Rangers being trained at the Nanooapik training camp north of Puvirnituq, August 1997.

In 1997, LFQA had 12 Ranger patrols in the Nunavik region with a total complement of 334 and nine Junior Ranger patrols with some 259 members, most of whom were Inuit. LFQA is also responsible, through the Eastern Region Cadets, for the management and supervision of a cadet corps in Schefferville. This cadet corps is made up of 35 young people, 15 of whom are Naskapi.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department of National Defence allocated \$1,074,000 for the Canadian Ranger, Junior Ranger and Cadet programs in Northern Quebec.

Industry Canada

Industry Canada offers a range of business services, advocacy activities and support which benefit business in all parts of Canada, including Aboriginal entrepreneurs and organizations. Activities include outreach and information sessions, provision of market intelligence and formation, facilitating access to programs and services, development of print and electronic information products, entrepreneurship training tools and websites, and extension of the Information Highway.

Industry Canada invested a total of \$881,580 during fiscal year 1996-1997 to support a total of twenty-eight business and economic development projects for the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi of the region. Funding was provided for the establishment or expansion of nine businesses. Eleven other businesses received financial assistance for the development of business, training or technology plans. Seven remote northern communities were assisted in gaining access to the Information Highway. Financial assistance was also allocated for one economic development research project.

Two principal organizations within Industry Canada support these activities. Aboriginal Business Canada provides business services and support to promote the growth of Aboriginal business through trade and market expansion, Aboriginal tourism development, innovation and enhancement of technology, youth entrepreneurship development, and strengthening business and financial institutions. The Community Access Program brings new economic development opportunities to communities throughout Canada by extending access to the Internet and the Information Highway.

Investments supported a number of industrial sectors, with a significant investment focused on developing the region's innovative Aboriginal enterprises.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

In addition to administering several research and development programs in Northern Quebec, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is responsible for numerous services including protection, vessel escort services, aids to navigation and marine telecommunications. DFO also manages marine fisheries and the fish habitat in cooperation with the Cree and the Inuit and is continuing its scientific studies in the Hudson Basin. DFO is not active in the Naskapi territory, as the Naskapi fish are exclusively freshwater species, for which Quebec has delegated management authority. However, the Department has established contacts through the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Co-ordinating Committee.

DFO is also a member of the environmental advisory committees and is involved in the working group evaluating marine infrastructure.

Northern Quebec Area and Native Affairs - Fisheries Management

In 1997, implementation of the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) and application of the five-year (1996-2000) Northern Quebec beluga management plan continued. As in the past, activities were carried out jointly by the 14 Nunavik municipal corporations, the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Association of Nunavik, the Makivik Corporation, the Kativik Regional Government and DFO.

Under the fisheries agreement signed with each of the 14 Northern Quebec municipal corporations, a community officer was assigned to each village in 1997. Their duties consisted of statistical monitoring of the beluga and walrus hunt, beluga sample gathering and the relaying of

of weekly harvest data. For the second consecutive year, the Kativik Regional Government also coordinated the work and observation patrols of three Aboriginal Fishery Guardians and the planning of patrols by Aboriginal multidisciplinary officers employed by DFO in Inukjuak.

All of the various special maritime fishery development projects of the Northern Quebec component, which generated significant socioeconomic spinoffs in Northern Quebec, are now finished.

Regional Science Branch

In 1997, the Fish and Marine Mammals Division carried out many activities, including the funding of data collection on subsistence hunting of belugas and a contract involving various aspects of beluga migration in eastern Hudson Bay. The Division also participated in several meetings, including meetings at Salluit and Kuujuaq, and visited communities located on the Quebec side of Hudson Strait during a protection patrol. It also paid for a beluga population structure study in Hudson Bay that was carried out by the Makivik Corporation and transferred a laboratory to the community of Salluit in return for certain other interests.

The Habitat and Environmental Science Division produced three atlases of Northern Quebec marine resources (James Bay, Hudson Bay and Strait, and Ungava Bay) that had been translated into Inuktitut and carried out assessments under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* of two projects to build highways to Waskaganish and the Broadback sector.

The Department's Regional Science Branch, through the Maurice Lamontagne Institute, continued its activities in connection with the program to conduct a multidisciplinary study of the Hudson Basin marine environment, which began in 1993 and is slated to end in 1998. The various projects set up under the program are almost completed and the last reports and manuscripts on the work carried out will soon be published. In 1997, a major study on the influence of fresh water discharges and circulation on the spatial distribution, abundance and specific composition of phytoplankton communities in Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait was published.

Coast Guard

The Coast Guard continues to administer several programs and provide a number of services, such as protecting the public's right of navigation, icebreaking, maintaining aids to navigation, telecommunications, escorting vessels, search and rescue, medical assessments, and providing supplies in the Arctic.



CCGS DES GROSEILLIERS at anchor in Iberville Fjord north of the 80th parallel during a supply mission in the High Arctic

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Laurentian Region, allocated a total of \$774,470 to its various projects and programs in the North, including \$616,270 from the Northern Quebec Area and Native Affairs Division and \$128,200 from the Regional Science Branch.



Natural Resources Canada

The Department of Natural Resources Canada (NRC) is active in the territory covered by the agreements through the Canadian Forest Service and Geomatics Canada.

Canadian Forest Service

The year 1997 marked the beginning of the First Nation Forestry Program (FNFP). The objective of this program is to increase the development capabilities of Aboriginal communities. In addition to a forestry component, it offers the following three other components focusing on the economic development of Aboriginal forestry: the development of Aboriginal businesses, cooperation between communities and partnerships with non-Aboriginal industries, and the creation of a development fund for the Aboriginal forest. The FNFP is jointly funded by DIAND and NRC.

In 1997, three Cree communities participated in the FNFP. A total of \$333,250 was allocated to the communities of Waswanipi, Mistissini and Oujé-Bougoumou to carry out projects and activities covered by the new program.

The A-Pit-See-Win co-operative in Waswanipi received \$186,620 to finance checkerboard clear cutting, precommercial thinning and site preparation work on 620 hectares of land. It also planted 500,000 trees and carried out 32 kilometres of bush road building and repair work. Funding from the program also provided financial support for the technical team.

The Cree community of Waswanipi also received \$15,000 from Canada's Model Forest Network to submit a proposal to obtain Aboriginal Model Forest status, as did seven other communities across Canada. After the proposals were studied, the Waswanipi community's proposal was selected.



The Cree Model Forest in Waswanipi became Canada's 11th model forest as well as Canada's first Aboriginal model forest. It will receive for its development a total funding contribution of \$500,000 over five years. The Model

Forest Network is an initiative introduced by the Government of Canada to give partners at the local, national and international levels training that promotes new ideas and looks for practical solutions in sustainable forest management.

The Eenatuk Forestry Corporation in Mistissini carried out a feasibility study of plans to set up a sawmill on its territory and used a \$113,330 contribution from the FNFP to support the technical team. Funding of the technical service made it possible to carry out checkerboard clear cutting and release cutting work on 420 hectares of land, build 12.6 kilometres of bush roads and plant 200,000 trees.

The community of Oujé-Bougoumou received \$18,300 to carry out a study of regional geomatics requirements and provide two community members with training on the Geographic Information System (GIS).

Under the terms of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, all projects proposed by the Cree communities under the FNFP were assessed, when required, by the Canadian Forest Service.

Geomatics Canada

Geomatics Canada is active in the territory covered by the JBNQA and the NEQA through its Eastern Regional Operations Centre, Legal Surveys Division.

The Centre's involvement with the region's Aboriginal communities consists mainly of producing cartographic information, measurements and map references for land interests as well as providing advice. The Centre supervises as well as manages surveying, photography and mapping contracts.

In 1997, at the request of DIAND's Central Registrar, the Quebec Client Services Unit (the Eastern Regional Operations Centre's local representative) drafted fifteen parcel plans of land interests to be registered on Cree and Naskapi lands. Through its Land Information Services Unit, the Operations Centre also drafted directives and managed photography and photogrammetric control contracts for four communities on the shores of James Bay, namely, Waskaganish, Eastmain, Wemindji and Chisasibi. Global Positioning System (GPS) technology was used to take aerial photographs for the photogrammetric control.

A brochure entitled Property Rights System on Cree and Naskapi Lands in Quebec has been available since mid December 1997. Since being released, it has been very well received by the different users of the registration system.

Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec

In support of the Government of Canada's priorities in the areas of job creation and economic growth, the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec (FORD-Q) is dedicated to promoting long-term economic development in the regions of Quebec. It emphasizes job creation and sustainable revenues and focuses its efforts on small and medium-sized businesses and on promoting entrepreneurship.

The approach taken by FORD-Q recognizes that the dynamism and development of SMEs are a driving force in the development of the regions' economic potential. It further recognizes the need for concerted and coherent action with a series of partners in order to help realize regional development opportunities. FORD-Q focuses its efforts on two priority areas: providing a series of services geared to clients' needs and coordinating federal economic activities in Quebec.

Under the IDEA-SME Program, FORD-Q granted Cree communities a total of \$109,675 in contributions, while the Inuit communities received total contributions of \$99,000. One of the projects that benefited from federal support was the feasibility study for a service centre along the Route du Nord. This study is a part of a business venture undertaken by two families from Mistissini.

Under the terms of the Community Futures Program, FORD-Q contributed \$215,616 to Cree communities. The objective of this program is to give SMEs access to commercial funding and management consulting services.

During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, the Department allocated a total of \$424,291 to its various programs in the Northern Quebec region.

Environment Canada and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Environment Canada and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (Agency) are working jointly with DIAND and DFO to implement the environmental and social protection regimes established under sections 22 and 23 of the JBNQA and the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping regime established under section 24.

Environment Canada

In 1997, Environment Canada, Quebec Region, continued to contribute to the implementation of environmental and social protection regimes and the hunting, fishing and trapping regime. The Minister of the Environment made new appointments to the federal delegation to the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment, the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee and the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Coordinating Committee.



Birds have been tagged in Hudson Bay and tracked by satellite as far as Greenland through Ungava Bay and along the Labrador coast.

In 1997, the Canadian Wildlife Service continued several conservation projects involving migratory bird populations that frequent the territory covered by the JBNQA. Canada Goose breeding study activities were stepped up and the Canada Goose population was monitored. A tour of the territory covered by the agreement was carried out for the second year in a row, with visits to the Cree communities of Oujé-Bougoumou and Chisasibi and the Inuit community of Salluit. The goose harvest was also documented by the communities themselves, with financial support from the Canadian Wildlife Service. In 1997, Cree and Inuit representatives were also encouraged to attend the winter meeting of the

Atlantic Flyway Council's technical committee. As a result, the concerns of beneficiaries who practice subsistence hunting were raised during the main discussion on migratory bird conservation issues, including Canada Goose conservation.

During 1997, the Canadian Wildlife Service also launched a Harlequin duck dispersal study. The Harlequin duck is a threatened species for which a hunting ban has been in effect for several years. The study will compare the species' movements in the Hudson Bay basin and the St. Lawrence River corridor and increase what is known about the species.

In the 1996-1997 fiscal year, Environment Canada spent some \$65,000 on implementation of the JBNQA, including \$52,400 for Canada Goose projects.

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

In accordance with Sections 22 and 23, the Agency assisted the federal administrator and various committees established under the JBNQA.

For the 1996-1997 fiscal year, expenditures by the Agency amounted to \$111,740. This included a federal contribution for the maintenance and joint funding with the Quebec government of the secretariats of the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment and Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee. It also included a contribution towards the operating expenses of the Evaluating Committee (COMEV).

Total expenditures by the Agency included the costs of federal review panel (COFEX-North and COFEX-South) activities.

Justice Canada

Through its new Aboriginal Justice Strategy, the Department of justice develops in partnership with Aboriginal communities and the provinces, long-term community based programming that facilitates the transfer of responsibilities for the administration of justice to Aboriginal people and encourages reduction in crime and incarceration rates. Also part of the Aboriginal Justice Strategy is the Aboriginal Justice Learning Network which brings together Aboriginal and nonAboriginals experts on matters related to the justice system and Aboriginal cultures.

In 1997, departmental activities in Quebec under the Strategy, more specifically those under the Aboriginal Justice Learning Network, focused on the sponsorship of justice professionals, community justice workers and community members, representing the beneficiaries of the JBNQA and NEQA, to participate in one province-wide Quebec Aboriginal community meeting, an information session on Family Group Conferencing and a series of national meetings designed to develop trust and partnership between the mainstream justice system and Aboriginal communities.

Given the interest shown so far by the Cree, Inuit and Naskapi and preliminary discussions between community and government representatives, substantial programming investments are expected for the 1998-1999 fiscal year. Particular emphasis will be placed on community-based programs that focus on activities relating to diversion, community sentencing, mediation and arbitration and justice of the peace courts.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, formerly the Food Production and Inspection Branch of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, is active among the Aboriginal communities of Northern Quebec in connection with the federal certification program that requires certification of any establishment wishing to export its production, in whole or in part, outside Quebec.

In 1997, no commercial slaughtering of caribou took place under federal inspection. However, two corporations representing Nunavik Aboriginals expressed interest in starting commercial slaughtering operations in early 1998. The slaughtering would be carried out outdoors under tents and supervised inspectors and veterinarians.



Caribou herd by the Rivière aux Feuilles at Inukjuak. Commercial production of caribou meat is another promising activity that could further Nunavik's economic development.