



REGARDONS  
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SECRETARIAT TO THE CREE NATION  
ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE  
ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

# SeCREEtariat

January 2022 Newsletter



LOOKING  
AHEAD  
TOGETHER

## In summary :

Business Exchange Day 2021  
PAGE 01-02

The Great Economic Circle  
PAGE 03

Governance  
PAGE 04

CREECO and Fonds Écoleader  
PAGE 05

To stay connected  
PAGE 06

## Business Exchange Day 2021



Louie-Rene Kanatewat, President/CEO of Kanapio Holdings, during his presentation at the 18th Edition of the Business Exchange Day on December 7, 2021.

« Although it was a virtual conference, the organization and the technical aspects were at a very high level. We managed to connect with current clients and make new contacts. Thank you for organizing the conference under such difficult conditions. »

- Peter Chabursky, Triodetic

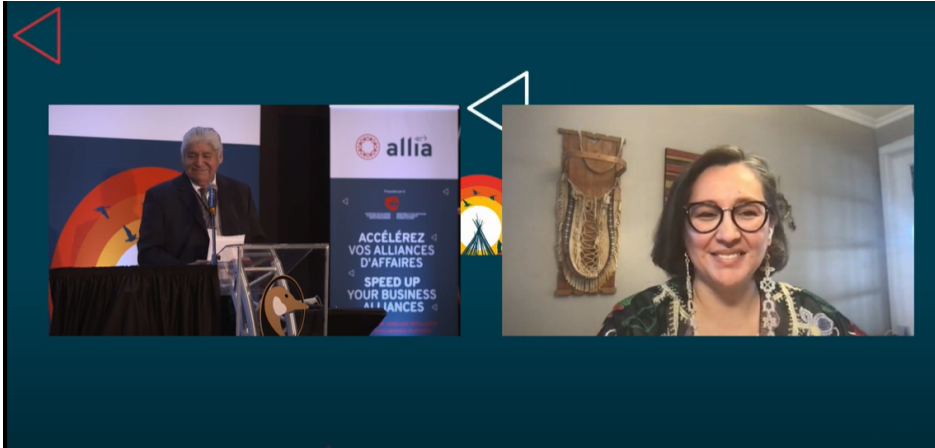
Once again, this year the Secretariat's Business Exchange Day was a remarkable success. Dedicated to the creation of links between businesspeople from the regions of Eeyou Istchee, Jamésie, Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Nunavik, this Day annually marks the meeting of entrepreneurs, decision-makers, and leaders of these four corners of the province. This event, which promotes the harmonious development of economic alliances, has once again stimulated mutual understanding and the desire to cooperate.



Nearly 300 planned business meetings were organized in person and virtually on the Allia platform.

Our guests of honour, Mrs. Bella Moses, Mrs. Elsa Moses, Drs. Ted Moses, Mrs. Céline Brindamour, Mr. John Kitchen and Mr. Pierre Corbeil.





Drs. Ted Moses, President of the Secretariat, introduces Mrs. Mandy Gull-Masty, Grand Chief of the Cree Nation Government, during the dinner-conference.

Despite the pandemic and the obligation to reduce the number of people in attendance, the day went off without a hitch, with openness and respect for everyone. The hybrid format made it possible again this year to facilitate encounters that would otherwise have been impossible. The mini survey carried out following the event tells us that a majority of participants stated having had great encounters and appreciated the general organization of the day. Several people who attended for the first time were charmed by the event and promise to come back. Our guests, including Grand Chief Mandy Gull-Masty, and our speakers, Mr. Louie-Rene Kanatewat and John Kitchen, also touched the audience with their relevant and inspiring words. We would like to thank them warmly, as well as to thank all participants.

« First time attending the Business Exchange Day. I met a lot of wonderful, very professional businesspeople, and I recommend that all young entrepreneurs attend future Business Exchange Day events in the near future. »

- Lawrence Pepabano,  
Sheedou corporation



Mr. John Kitchen, President of the Miyuu Kaa Corporation, during his presentation.

« Despite the Covid conditions, everything was fine, my appointments all worked out and I even had extra time left. »

- Daniel Plante, Petronor



Participants were able to experience the very first hybrid formula at this 18th Edition of the Business Exchange Day on the Allia platform.



Several exhibitors from the region were on site to meet the participants. (In the photo, CREECO and Orizon Mobile kiosk)



Mr. Ian Lafrenière, Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs, during the opening of the event, at the Centre Sheraton Montreal.



Great meetings, in person, were able to bring together the Secretariat team and the Grand Chief as well as members of her team at the Cree Nation Government.



Mrs. Robin McGinley, Executive Director of the Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association and member of the SAENCAT Board of Directors during a panel discussion on local tourism.

## A Look Back at the Great Circle and Our commitment to a Collaborative Regional Event

The Great Economic Circle of Indigenous and Quebec Peoples, held in Montreal on November 25 and 26, 2021, brought together hundreds of political and economic leaders, including the Secretariat team and President, to discuss issues relating to wealth creation for Indigenous Peoples.

This historic event, which constitutes a further step towards reconciliation, is only the beginning of a movement that the attending leaders hope to see spread to all regions of Quebec and in all areas of activity.

The Great Circle Declaration includes more than a dozen commitments involving, among other things, the recognition of Indigenous cultures and territories, contribution to an increased standard of living in the communities, as well as the fight against racism and discrimination: The full text of this Declaration is available at the following address: <https://grandcercle.ca/en/get-involved/declaration-dengagement/>

The Secretariat, which has devoted itself for more than 18 years to the creation of harmonious partnerships between Nations, was delighted with such progress at the provincial level and undertook to participate in this process by organizing a regional business meeting at the end of November 2022, in Val-d'Or.





## Governance

Changes have taken place within the Secretariat's Board of Directors, and we are pleased to announce the appointment of Céline Brindamour, new Mayor of Val-d'Or.

It is worth noting the sustained involvement of Mr. Pierre Corbeil throughout his terms of office. The entire council thanks you and wishes you much happiness in your future projects.

It should be recalled that the composition of the Secretariat's Board of Directors is a unique model reflecting the regional and interregional mobilization around its mission. The Board of Directors is representative of the financial support provided by each of the partners and is characterized by a significant presence of Cree Nation members and the mayors of the three main cities of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region. It is composed of fifteen members, seven of whom are appointed by the Grand Council of the Crees – Cree Nation Government: This council is chaired by Drs. Ted Moses.



Mr. Pierre Corbeil, former mayor of Val-d'Or and former vice-president of SCNATEA.



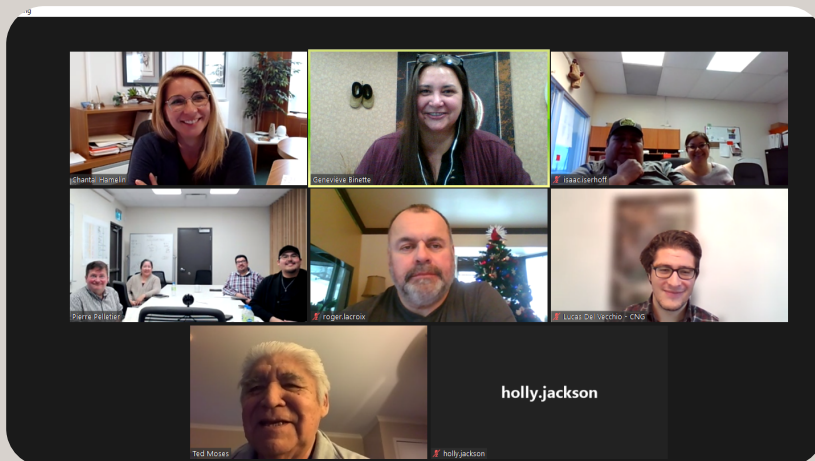
Mrs. Céline Brindamour, new mayor of Val-d'Or and administrator of SCNATEA.



During Networking Day, the Secretariat wanted to thank the members of its Board of Directors, who left their position in the past year, by offering them a painting from the Cree artist, Claudette Happyjack.

## A New Year Begins

The 2022 Action Plan and budget proposed by the Secretariat team were approved by the Board of Directors on December 9. This new year heralds increased collaboration with the Department of Commerce and Industry of the Cree Nation, as well as many other initiatives to bring people together: stay tuned.



A virtual meeting took place on December 16, 2021 between the Secretariat and the team from the Department of Commerce and Industry of the Cree Nation Government.





## Congratulations to CREECO for this new real estate project in the heart of Old Montreal!

The design of Odea is the result of a collaboration between the architectural firm Lemay and the Aboriginal architect Douglas Cardinal, who, from the first visit to the project, had a strong vision of the shape of a canoe. [See the press release](#)

Condo presales should begin in March 2022. Be among the first to receive exclusive news, offers and promotions:

[www.odeamontreal.com](http://www.odeamontreal.com)



“ The canoe represents the incredibly creative technology that enabled communication, trade and commerce, not only for the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island, but as adopted by European (Quebecois) voyageur. ”  
– Douglas Cardinal



## Fonds Écoleader

Would you like your company to build eco-responsibility into its business model? **Fonds Écoleader** provides grants of up to 75% of eligible expenses incurred in hiring experts to help you implement environmentally friendly business practices or prepare for the acquisition of clean technologies.

Eligible projects may cover a broad range of applications: Sustainable building, energy efficiency, eco-responsible design, circular economy, responsible procurement, sustainable development approaches, water, waste, and greenhouse-gas management, sustainable transport, and more.

Does your company provide expertise to improve your clients' environmental performance? If so, Fonds Écoleader may acknowledge you as an expert and enable your clients to apply for funding.

Contact your agent – Marie-Claude Bisson – to find out more: 418 692-5888 x228 or [mc.bisson@fondsecoleader.ca](mailto:mc.bisson@fondsecoleader.ca)

Here are some inspiring examples of companies that have carried out eco-responsible projects:

- [A sustainable building for a bird-of-prey interpretation centre](#)
- [Aéro Mag 2000 re-uses energy at its facilities](#)
- [The Raglan Mine replaces diesel use with wind energy](#)

## Important Notice to Northerners

Please note that the Vallée-de-l'Or mining companies have planned shutdowns in the week of **March 7 to 12, 2022**. Issues with accommodation may arise during these periods. If you plan to travel to Val-d'Or on these dates, it is strongly recommended that you reserve your hotel rooms in advance. Note that debit cards marked “visa” can be accepted as credit cards. In the event that you do not have one, it is sometimes possible to make an agreement with the reception. Please share this information!



# LA GRANDE ALLIANCE

**CONNECT. DEVELOP. PROTECT.**

## Subscribe to the newsletter

## CALLING ON CREE COMPANIES!

We need your input! One of the major components of both the Phase I Feasibility Study and Phases II/III Pre-Feasibility Study is a Market Survey to better understand the transportation needs for the many different companies operating in Eeyou Istchee.

If you are interested in participating in the survey, please contact Michel Simard at [Msimard@systra.com](mailto:Msimard@systra.com) or Ha Doa at [Ha.Doa@WSP.com](mailto:Ha.Doa@WSP.com).



CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE  
DE VAL-D'OR



ccirn

Chambre de commerce  
et d'industrie  
de Rouyn-Noranda

To learn more about the benefits offered to members of the CCVD : [Avantage aux membres | CCVD](#)

## Promotional Code

CCVD250

Members of the CCIRN also benefit from a reduced rate for registering on the platform.

## Promotional Code

CCIRN225

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