



## Cree Mineral Exploration Board

# SOCIAL ACCEPTABILITY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES OF THE EXPLORATION COMPANIES



***Youcef Larbi***  
***Director General and Chief Geologist***



# Cree Mineral Exploration Board



*Not for profit Cree entity*

*Under Cree Nation Government*

*Encourage mining development in Eeyou Istchee*

*Geological knowledge of the land (Data)*

*Training*

*Board of Directors composed of 4 Cree representatives and one representative identified by the Government of Québec*

***CMEB** relies on the services of a Chief Geologist and a Geologist*

# Mineral Exploration in Eeyou Istchee



## NUMBER OF COMPANIES WITH ACTIVE CLAIMS ON EYYOU ISTCHEE TRAPLINES

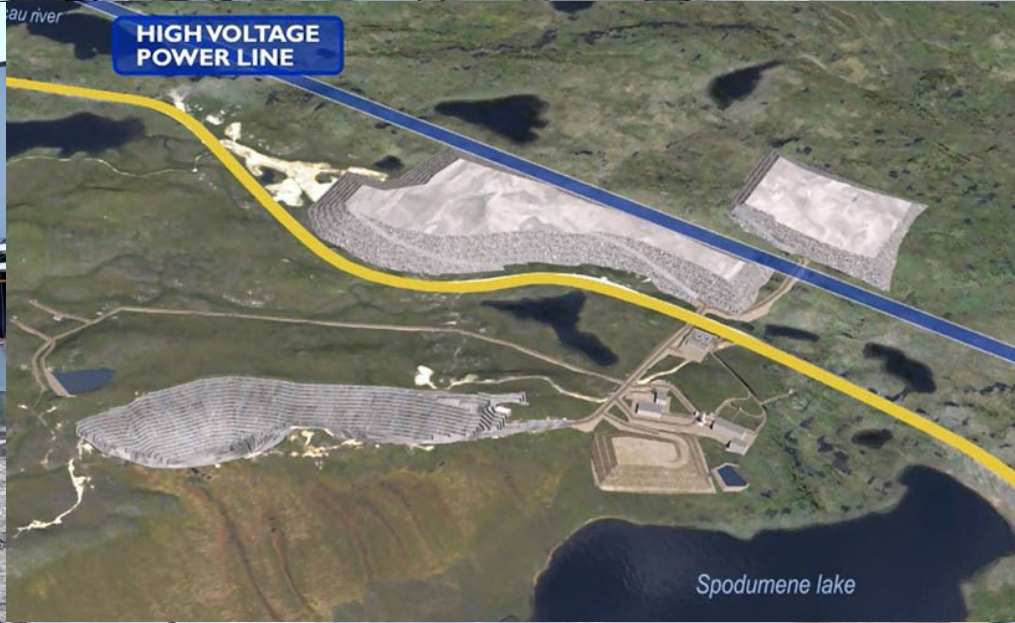
UPDATED: 2017-01-12

COMMUNITY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
CHISASIBI	28	31	26	28	30	21	19	18
EASTMAIN	32	33	29	32	26	19	21	22
MISTISSINI	64	68	73	69	61	68	77	78
NEMASKA	15	18	10	10	8	9	21	21
OUJE-BOUGOUMOU	52	50	51	58	62	53	52	53
WASKAGANISH	30	42	45	37	33	28	28	28
WASWANIPI	83	82	110	105	91	89	90	90
WEMINDJI	41	29	35	35	30	27	29	28
WHAPMAGOOSTUI	9	9	6	6	4	4	3	3

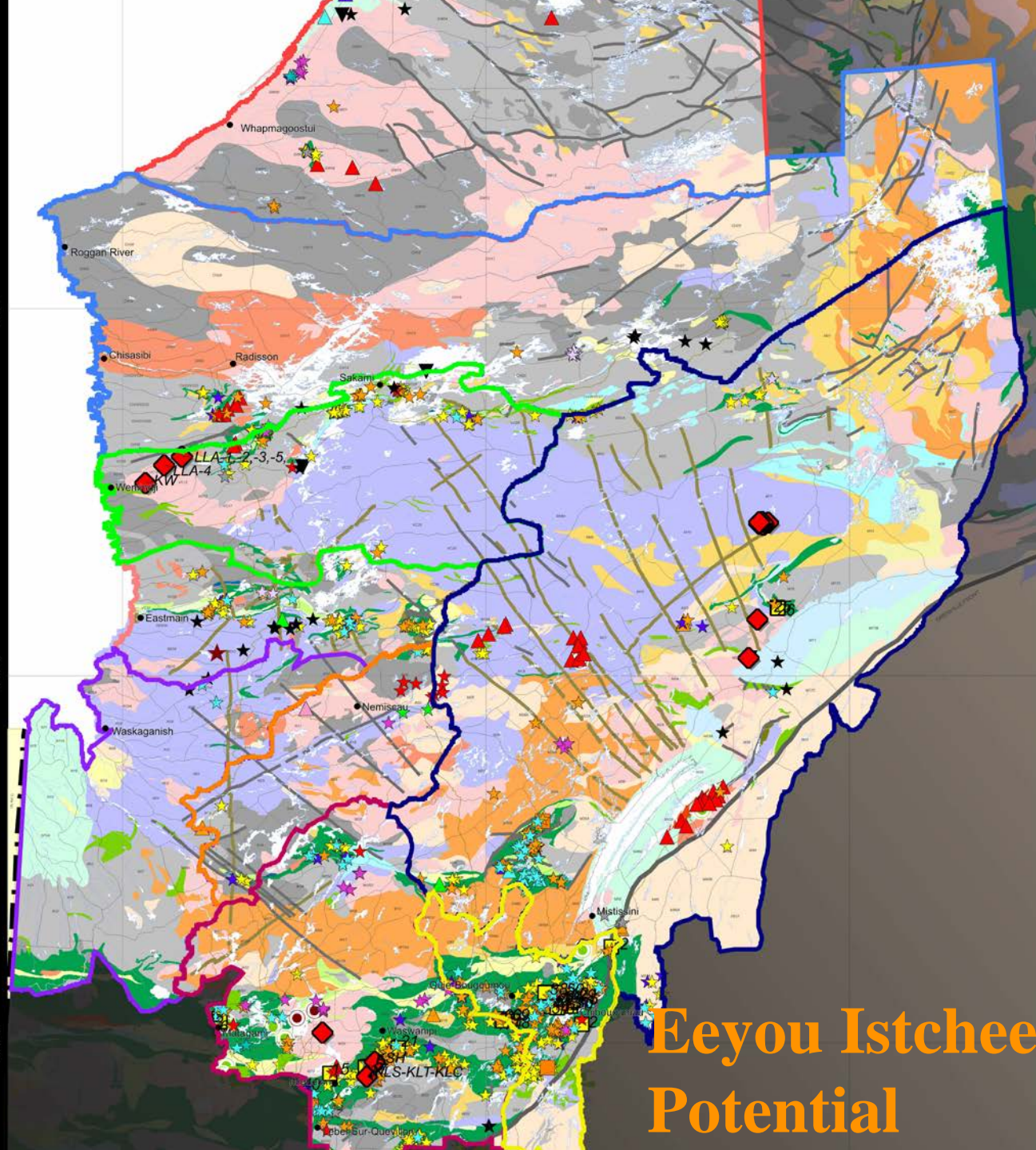




# This is Mining Under control of the Community and the Cree Government







**Eeyou Istchee  
Potential**





Chisasibi Fuchsite





## Education: The Nation cares about the kids





ᑕᕐᕐ ᑕᕐᕐ ᑕᕐᕐ ᑕᕐᕐ ᑕᕐᕐ ᑕᕐᕐ  
Cree Nation Mining Policy



Policy 2010-07







## WHY WE SHOULD BE AWARE



Several opposition groups to either commodities, or specific operations, or overall activity of resource extraction

Negative legacy, orphan sites, dark examples of pollution, contamination, or resources exhaustion, possibly lopsided economic returns, and the like...





Mongolie ( Désert de Gobi)  
Turquoise Hill Resources ( Rio Tinto)  
Cu-Au-Ag ; Investissement total 13 G\$  
Revendications of locals nomades (2012)

San Leon Energy began drilling on the mainland near the town of  
El Ayouné in March 2015. Nonviolent resistance in occupied  
Western Sahara: human rights, socio-economic demands and  
independence

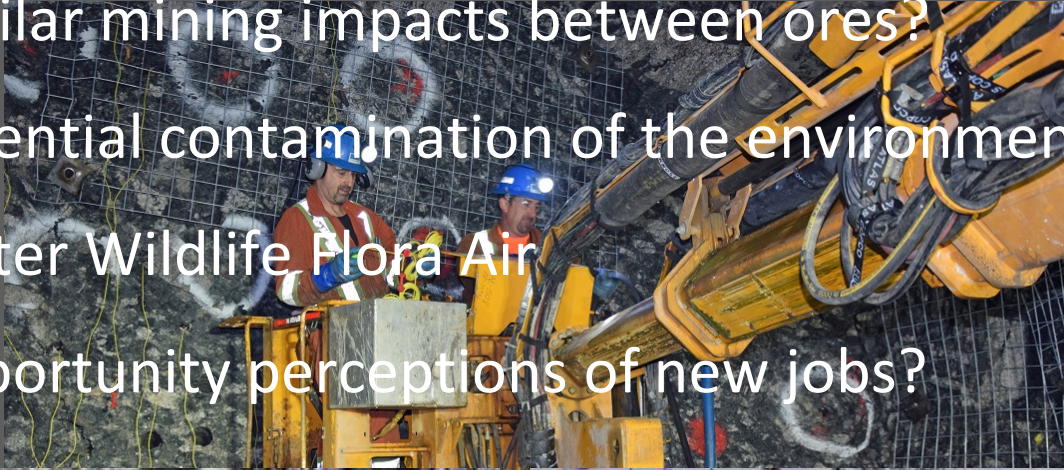




# Questions about beliefs



Similar mining impacts between ores?  
Potential contamination of the environment?  
Water Wildlife Flora Air  
Opportunity perceptions of new jobs?



# WHAT THE LOCALS WANT



numerous instances where mining operations are

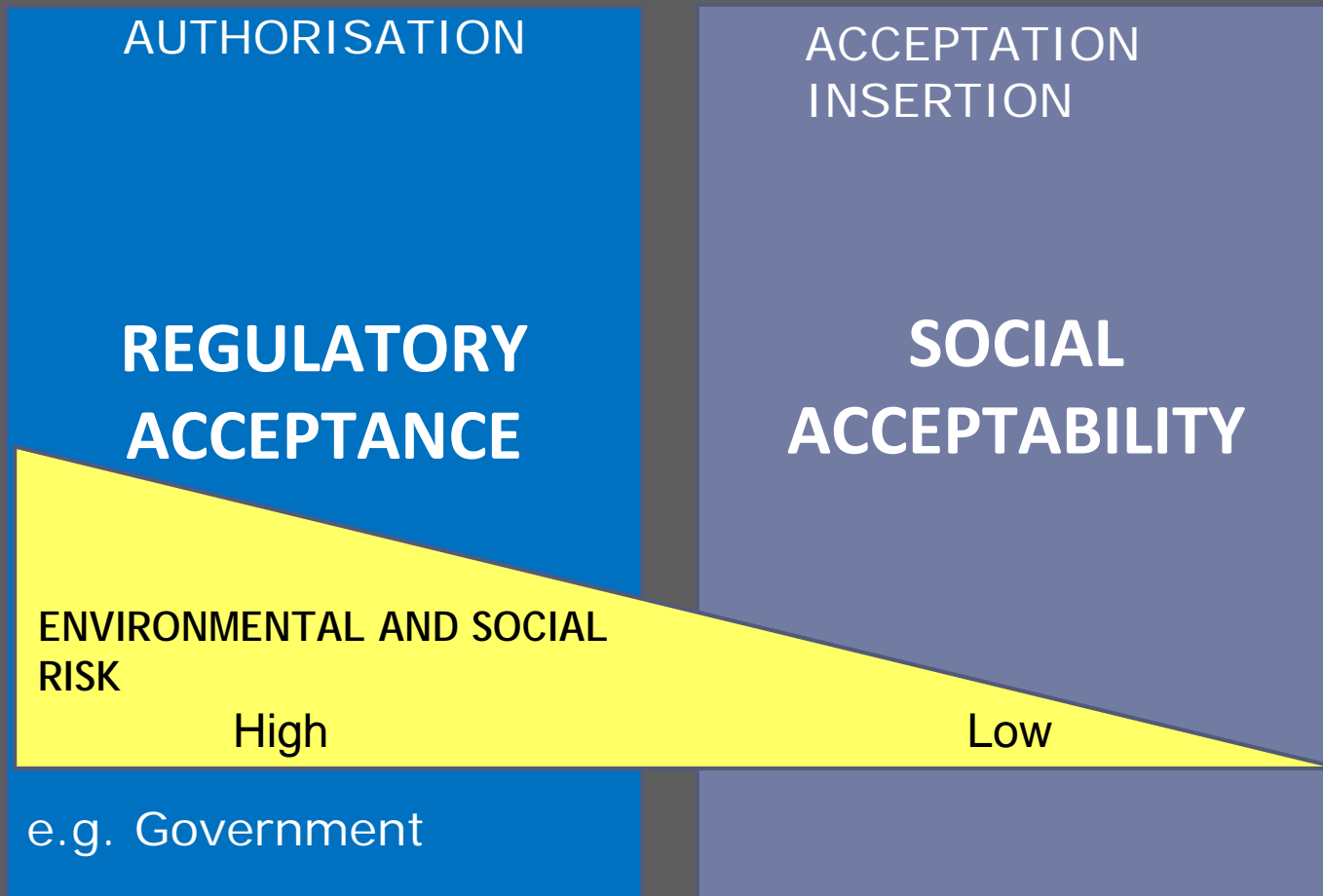
- a) optimally conducted
- b) as per the highest environmental standards meeting all environmental and social obligations required by laws and regulations,
- c) and providing substantial wealth and economic returns to neighbouring populations and host nations

Still those projects may not be viewed as acceptable by many; they are not entirely “accepted”.





Therefore we can think of a dual requirement for mining operation, one that we may call regulatory acceptance, and another one, now called “social acceptability”.





- A number of external and internal pressures and incentives bring mining companies to search for “social acceptability” (SA) in addition to regulatory authorization.
- There is pressure from funding agencies, banks and Equator Principles Financial Institutions, investors and shareholders who altogether push for corporate environmental and social responsibility (CSR)
- There is incentive as well, as most companies realize that clearly, projects are not viable if they alienate the neighbouring populations, with possible ensuing delays and extra-costs.







- While regulatory acceptance is well understood, and well integrated into common environmental and social management systems of most mining companies, the notion of social acceptability (SA) remains fuzzy with no clear rules on how to achieve it.
- It has been morphed into the concept of “social licence to operate”, (SLO) something that can perhaps, hopefully, be managed under the purview of the company





# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES OF THE MINING







**MACROECONOMIC, ETHICAL AND  
POLITICAL ISSUES**



**GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL  
ACCEPTABILITY ISSUES**



**« CLASSICAL » ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND SOCIAL IMPACTS AND RISK  
ASSESSMENT ISSUES**



## **SOME STRATEGIC ISSUES**

- **PRESSURE ON WATER RESOURCES**
- **PRESSURE ON ENERGY DEMAND**
- **LAND MANAGEMENT CONFLICTS**
- **PRESSURE ON ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURES**
  - **ROAD SYSTEM**
  - **PORTS AND AIRPORTS**
- **OPENING UP (DÉSENCLAVEMENT)**







## CONSEQUENCES

**Whatever positive effects will materialize, they will never be to the level that was anticipated by the neighboring community.**

**« "Consists of the fact that no matter the fallout, the mining industry will rarely meet the" expectations "and hopes, sometimes excessive, that were created by his anticipated arrival" »**





# COMPONENTS

## LEGITIMACY

- 1) respect and inclusion
- 2) will to abide by all laws and get all regulatory acceptances

## CREDIBILITY

- 3) Transparency
- 4) will to listen
- 5) will to respond swiftly

## RELIABILITY

- 6) demonstration that you do what you say
- 7) demonstration that the company goes by rules and principles

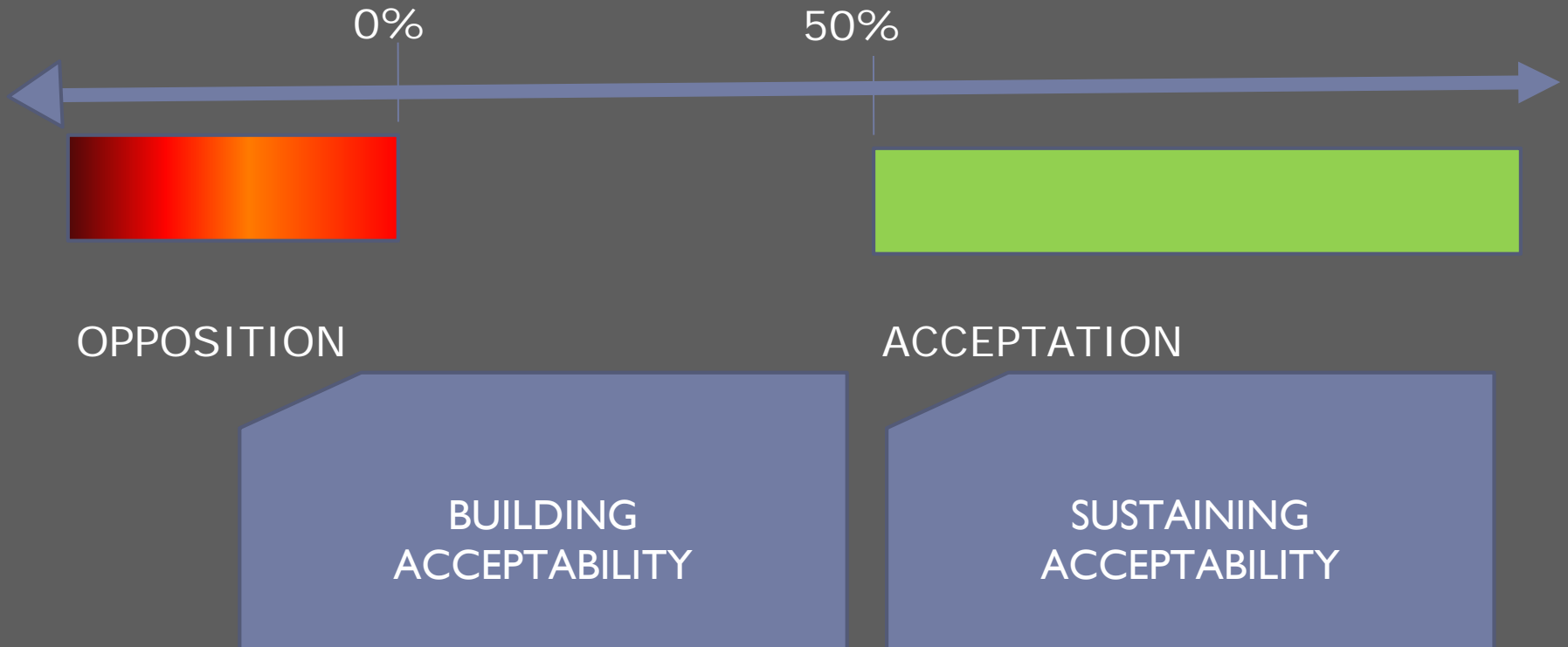
**(MODIFIED FROM THOMPSON ET BOUTILIER, 2011)**







# Building and sustaining Quantum of acceptability





## **DISTORTIONS**

- 1) MAY BECOME A SLANTED LEVEE FOR NEGOCIATION BY LOCAL COMMUNITY IF SEEN AS A VETO POWER**
- 2) MAY LEAD TO INTERCULTURAL OR INTERCOMMUNAL DISPUTES**
- 3) OTHER DISTORTIONS — « PARALLEL REGULATION »**





# What Tallyman and the Crees Expect?

Even if we keep the same content,  
two letters to be sent separately:

A letter to The Tallyman

A letter to the Chief and the deputy  
Chief

It could be sent by mail or by  
email:  
(we prefer e-mail)

CMEB will be pleased to provide  
you those information.

The present letter is to inform the (Tallyman or Chief of the Cree nation of .... one letter addressed for each please) Mr xxxxxxx, about COMPANY.xxx activities for the 2016 field season. Our claims (project name)xxxxxx is located in the Trapline xxxxx and the base camp situated in the middle of our claims at approximate coordinates: 5900000 m N , 400000 m E. UTM NAD 27 zone 19 (see attached map).

We plan to be actively working in the general area from June 10<sup>th</sup> to sep 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. During this period prospecting, sampling and radiometric surveys will be carried out on boulders, till and outcrop to search for uranium deposits.

The work will be done by a team of xxxx geologists and x prospectors and x field assistants. Access to the camp will be by hydro-plane and movements on the properties will be by helicopter, ATV, canoe and on foot.

As part of our planning we would like the opportunity to provide summer employment to two qualified candidates from the local community of xxxxx. The successful candidates will be working under the supervision of a geologist and much of the work will comprise soil sampling, including the excavation of shallow pits to collect till samples. We also plan to use the local services in technical or accommodation domains.

We would appreciate if you could pass on this information to interested candidates or Cree organisations which could contact us for more detailed information, if necessary. Looking forward to hear from you or from interested parties,

Finally, please be free to ask any additional information.

Yours truly,

---

XXXXXC XXXXX  
President.....  
CC. Cree Mineral Exploration Board

MAPS: Global location, Claims Location

# What Tallyman and the Crees Expect?

## Exemple: Mistissini

### Francais

#### **Pour Tallyman:**

Envoyez la lettre à cette adresse courriel:

M. Willie Loon, Local Fur CTA Officer: [williejloon@ctaoffice.ca](mailto:williejloon@ctaoffice.ca)

Les gens du Cree Trappers Association CTA nous rendent un énorme service en transmettant les lettres aux tallymen. je vous prie de m'aider à garder ce privilège. Exprimez votre gentillesse dans le e-mail Par Example: Mister NAME you will be kind to transmit the letter to the Tallyman Mister NAME traplene M56. Thank you for your help.

#### **Pour la lettre au chef Richard Shecapio:** Utilisez ces courriels:

Chief Richard Shecapio <[chief@mistissini.ca](mailto:chief@mistissini.ca)> et

En CC » Chief Richard Shecapio <[Rshecapio@mistissini.ca](mailto:Rshecapio@mistissini.ca)> et

En CC. Deputy Chief Gerald Longchap <[glongchap@mistissini.ca](mailto:glongchap@mistissini.ca)>



## Concluding remark

**For a long time Mining was OK if it was profitable (economic justification) and law-abiding**

**Mining is now OK only if seen as**

- 1) Desirable and useful (societal justification)**
  - 2) Sensical (commodities, material stewardship)**
  - 3) Fair**
- and**
- 4) Clean ( Environmental and social risk management)**







# Conclusion

Politics are way of life in all aboriginal communities and this is a big challenge to properly address when considering mining projects; but if we respect the land and develop the proper network based on consultation at the very beginning, the process will benefit all parties concerned .

A mutual understanding lead to sustainable development.

