



**Cree  
Regional  
Economic  
Enterprises  
Company Inc.**

Fall 2019



Derrick Neeposh  
President

## A word from the President

Welcome,

I hope you've had an enjoyable summer with your family and friends.

In this issue, we've highlighted some of our events and activities such as adopting the "Go green" movement at our annual assembly by hiring FaunENord to help us reduce, reuse, and recycle. Eco-responsibility is important to us, especially when we host large gatherings. We'd like to thank FauneENord and everyone who supported this initiative.

You'll also read about some of our subsidiaries' activities; one of our ways to inform and reach out to our Youth is interviewing employees at work, seeing them on the job, and speaking to them at Career Fairs. This helps us to gain a closer understanding of their roles and relay that information to you through this newsletter. We have been invited to attend a few Career Fairs in the coming weeks. It is always a pleasure to meet with community members and speak with our Youth about their career goals.

With Fall upon us, we have the beginning of the school year. Education is the key to opportunity. I'd like to cheer on students at all levels to face their challenges for a successful year. Moose season is also approaching so for those who will practice this traditional harvest, have a safe and enjoyable hunt with your family and friends.

Meegwetch.

**Derrick Neeposh**  
President

### Our mission statement:

To be highly innovative  
in the delivery of excellent  
customer service and contribute  
to the development and  
self-sufficiency of the Cree Nation  
while maintaining  
long-term profitability.



The Holding Company for:



# CRECO ACTIVITIES

## The North and its Logistics on June 5 & 6 in Rouyn, hosted by Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Temiscamingue Economic Alliance

Derrick Neeposh, President of CRECO, was invited to participate in one of the panels: Challenges, Priorities, and Sustainable Development. We also had our booth set up which gave us the opportunity to share information and network. We also held a draw for our booth visitors and the recipients were the following:

**Gift certificate \$250**  
**Quality Inn & Suites, Val-d'Or:**  
 Charlotte Ottereyes

**BOC-CRECO Camouflage Bag:**  
 Viviane Papatie  
 Andrew Coon



Charlotte Ottereyes & Alexandre Audet, Manager of Quality Inn & Suites, Val-d'Or



Derrick Neeposh, President of CRECO

## Annual General Assembly on July 29-30-13 & Aug 1 in Ouje-Bougoumou

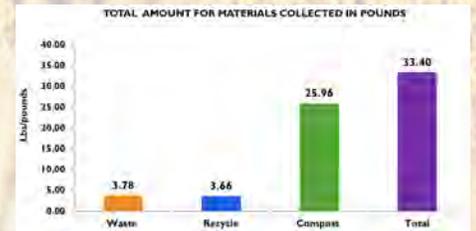
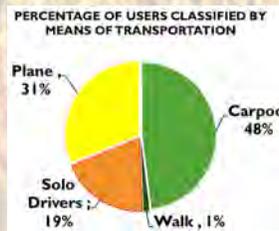
We were invited to host a booth during Ouje-Bougoumou's Annual General Assembly and it was a pleasure to talk with those in attendance. We always encourage Youth to stay in school and work hard. Our goal is to encourage them by asking about their interests, aspirations, and tell them about related career opportunities at CRECO and its subsidiaries.



Rosie Rabbitskin

## Board of Compensation 4th Annual Assembly, July 17 & 18 in Waskaganish

At our Annual Assembly, financial reports were presented along with activities reports from BOC, CRECO, and all subsidiaries. We invited a few local community members to share their experiences with insurance claims through CCDIP. For this event, we hired FauneNord to help us in our effort to "Go Green". We provided reusable kitchenware, used recycled and recyclable materials, and committed to reduce the amount of waste from the event. Thank you to all who helped and to the community of Waskaganish for their warm hospitality.



## Orientation Mission, SAENCAT, August 25, Ouje-Bougoumou

Derrick Neeposh gave a presentation to the Orientation Mission group that were visiting Ouje-Bougoumou on Monday August 26. It was part of their three-day tour to Waswanipi, Ouje-Bougoumou, and Mistissini.



# SUBSIDIARIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

## GESTION ADC



In November of 2018, we took important steps to open discussion with Bonterra Resources Inc. to offer our services to them, but they were not ready to make a commitment at that time. In the interim, through the persistence of John Kitchen, President and CEO through our Joint Venture – Miyuu Kaa, we were invited to bid on the management of the camp for the Gladiator deposit in Waswanipi. The competition was fierce, but Bonterra made the decision to work closely with the community and they awarded us the contract in early June of this year.



The Gladiator deposit is located approximately 45 minutes from Osisko Mining or 1.5 hours from Lebel-Sur-Quévillon to the south. This operation is mainly concerned with exploration of gold in the region. It is a small camp that has the capacity to house up to 88 people in all seasons, but at this time, there are only about 20 people on staff for the summer period.

Since this is a smaller camp, we have had to adjust our services since our experience has always been with much larger installations. This means, less resources, less time, less people, and generally more to do. It has involved a completely different way of thinking on our part and we are learning how to do it better every single day. Due to some fantastic planning, resourcefulness of our team, and a little bit of luck we were officially able to start operations on June 26th and did so under a very tight timeline.

Our future success is based on the foundations we are building to support the



relationships we are cultivating today. We look forward to working closely with not only Miyuu Kaa in bringing needed funds and other economic benefits to the community, but also Bonterra to surpass their expectations at every possible opportunity. We know that capturing this business is part of a much bigger puzzle and will do our utmost to be part of that process.

A big thank you to everyone in the team who worked hard to make this work. Congratulations.



## “Room to be Green” at QUALITY INN & Suites val-d’Or



Our guests are more environmentally conscious than ever before and being part of the Room to be Green program shows that we care about our impact on the environment. We received the level 3 Designation by complying with these requirements:

**Energy Conservation:**  
LED or CFL bulbs in all guest room lamps and light fixtures  
Energy Management Systems (lighting) in guest rooms

**Water Conservation:**  
Low-flow showerheads  
Dual flush toilets  
Rain sensors in landscape sprinkler systems

**Recycling and Waste Reduction:**  
Designated recycling receptacles for staff and guest use in every room  
Breakfast is served on ceramic plates instead of disposable  
Glass tumblers and disposable tumblers in guest rooms

**Smart, Safe, and Sustainable Product Usage:**  
Concentrated biotechnological cleaning products

For more information on Quality Inn & Suites Val-d’Or or a reservation, visit [www.qualityinnvaldor.com](http://www.qualityinnvaldor.com) or by calling 1-877-474-8884.



## Cree Collective Deductible Insurance Program

For insured period 2018-2019, the claim experience increased substantially which caused a major rise in the cost of damages including Premiums. New properties were acquired which also contributed to higher premiums. The claims experience reflected heavily on the premium. However, with awareness and prevention, incidents that lead to insurance claims can be prevented.

### 2018-2019 Claims Experience:

<b>Fire:</b>	<b>15 claims</b>
<b>Burst pipes:</b>	<b>6 claims</b>
<b>Sewer Backup:</b>	<b>3 claims</b>
<b>Flood:</b>	<b>3 Claims</b>
<b>Water Damage:</b>	<b>2 claims</b>
<b>Wind:</b>	<b>1 claim</b>

As you can see, fire is the major cause for losses leading to claims within the Cree Nation. Prevention is everyone's responsibility in order to save lives and property loss.

### Inspections:

It is vital to collaborate with local Fire Departments when Fire Prevention inspections are scheduled. Insurance companies often request inspections to verify safety regulations are being followed and that fire prevention is being practiced. In August 2019, Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company Canada (BI & I) performed thorough inspections in the Cree Nations of Mistissini and Ouje-Bougoumou, which included the Cree Nation Government's Justice and Eeyou Enou Police Force buildings. The results of the inspections were very good. The inspector was impressed; "Prevention is implemented."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Mario Torre, CPA auditor, CA,

Mario, born from Italian parents who immigrated to Canada in 1956, had always wanted to be a doctor. Actually, most Italian parents wanted their children to be a doctor, dentist, lawyer or engineer. In essence, successful. He started his collegial studies in health sciences at Vanier College and graduated in 1977. Not wanting to be a doctor any longer, he struggled with what to study, as every student does. He enrolled at McGill University and began his studies in a Bachelor of Arts, concentration in urban planning. He wanted to change Montreal! Maybe he should have, given all the



Mario Torre

ongoing construction! In his first semester, he chose Accounting 101 as an elective and scored a 99% without much effort. This made him rethink his educational path and Mario made the switch to Bachelor of Commerce with a concentration in Accounting from which he graduated in 1980.

In 1982, he was hired by Hyde Houghton, which later became BDO Canada, an audit firm. In 1984, he started working with various Cree organizations, such as the Cree Nation of Chisasibi in 1984, then James Bay Eeyou Compane in 1987, Niskamoon in 2006, and most recently working with the community of Waskaganish as of 2016. Mario spent 15 years working for CREECO, which he called the "crown jewel of Eeyou Istchee." He was very honoured to have the opportunity to do so.

Over the years, BDO gave back to the communities by attending events, such as Career Fairs, golf tournaments, and sponsored various community activities. BDO also had the opportunity to hire Cree students who wanted to pursue their careers in accounting by providing them a work stage and mentorship support.

Since working with the Cree, he had the opportunity to visit every community and feast on traditional food. When asked what part of his work provided memorable times, he said it would be when someone in the community he did not know would wave at him and call him by his name. This recognition for who he is and for his work warmed his heart.

When asked what his plans are for retirement, he says, "To enjoy life, enjoy time with my first grandchild, take care of my health which I have neglected, go to the gym, just be happier." Mario wants to stay in touch with his Cree friends by staying connected through social media such as Facebook.

From all of us at CREECO and subsidiaries, we wish him a Happy Retirement!

## MONTHLY FACEBOOK GIVEAWAY

Here are the winners of our monthly Facebook giveaways since the last newsletter:

### May

Jack Otter- BOC-CREECO Zoom Covert Security TSA 15" Computer Backpack & BOC-CREECO Hoodie

Joe-Max Loon- BOC-CREECO Zoom Covert Security TSA 15" Computer Backpack & BOC-CREECO Hoodie

### June

Betsy Shecapio- BOC-CREECO Zoom Covert Security TSA 15" Computer Backpack & BOC-CREECO Hoodie

### July & August

Lena Bates Blackned- BOC-CREECO Zoom Covert Security TSA 15" Computer Backpack

Terrence Duff- BOC-CREECO Zoom Covert Security TSA 15" Computer Backpack

### OUR TEAM:

Derrick Neeposh, President

Albert Rondeau, Chief Operating Officer

Karen St-Cyr, Chief Financial Officer

Effie Mark, Office Manager

Jonathan Bechard, IT/Network Administrator

Lorraine Poucachiche, Senior Accounting Clerk

Mary Loon, Accounting Clerk

Rachel Etapp, Communications Officer

Blanche Awashish, Administrative Agent

Abel Rabbitskin, Insurance Liaison Officer

Daisy Shecapio, Assistant to the Insurance Liaison Officer

Rosie Rabbitskin, General Assistant/Receptionist

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Visit us at [www.creeco.ca](http://www.creeco.ca)



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