

November 21, 2025

Frédéric Guay
Provincial Administrator of Section 23 of the
James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement
Marie-Guyart Building, 30th floor, Box 86
675 René-Lévesque Blvd. East
Quebec City, QC
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Terence Hubbard
Federal Administrator of Section 23 of the
James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement
Place Bell Canada, 22nd Floor
160 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON
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SUBJECT: Special meeting of northern committees to highlight the JBNQA's 50th anniversary

Dear Mr. Guay and Mr. Hubbard,

On September 23, 2025, the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee (KEAC), the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment (JBACE) and the Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Coordinating Committee (HFTCC) held a tri-committee meeting in Kuujjuaraapik-Whapmagoostui.

The main objective of the meeting was to reflect on the 50th anniversary of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA) as well as the creation of the environmental and social protection regimes and the hunting, fishing and trapping regime under Sections 22, 23 and 24 of the Agreement. Additionally, the three northern committees revisited achievements and discussed historical issues of the territories under agreement in Quebec, current topics and prospects for collaboration.

During the morning portion of this special meeting, representatives from both the Inuit community of Kuujjuaraapik and Cree community of Whapmagoostui were invited to attend. During this time, each committee offered a presentation on their mandate, membership, secretariat and principal work. But more importantly and given JBNQA's aim to empower Indigenous communities to participate in decisions that affect their environment and well-being, the representatives were provided with an opportunity to express their

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environmental concerns and questions regarding the role of the committees. This exchange highlighted the importance of the northern committees to be present on the territories, to converse with community representatives and to visit with the people and places they are mandated to protect.

In the afternoon, the three northern committees presented their files of interest to highlight key issues, updates, or decisions related to their specific area of responsibility. They also showcased positive outcomes or achievements to demonstrate the effectiveness of their mandate.

The meeting ended with a group activity that encouraged an open discussion between members and staff regarding their vision for the JBNQA committees moving forward and potential opportunities to foster collaboration and leverage diverse expertise and resources to tackle common issues and achieve mutual objectives. As a result, the three northern committees are currently exploring prospective venues for enhancing collaboration.

Through this letter, the KEAC wishes to highlight the truly unique and essential roles each of the northern committees play in administrating and managing environmental and social protection, as well as the hunting, fishing and trapping regimes established under the JBNQA.

Best regards,

Michael Barrett

Chairperson, KEAC

M. Las Barrell

cc. Adamie Delisle Alaku, Chairperson, HFTCC Melissa Saganash, Chairperson, JBACE