

THE CREE HUNTER AND TRAPPER

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE CREE HUNTERS
AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY BOARD
NUMBER 19 / DECEMBER 2015



Office de la sécurité du revenu
des chasseurs et piégeurs cris

Cree Hunters and Trappers
Income Security Board

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THE CREE HUNTER AND TRAPPER

To help promote, maintain, and facilitate the participation of Cree people in the traditional lifestyle and harvesting activities as a way of life.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Cree Hunter and Trapper is the official magazine of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board. S. Larivière, Director-general, acted as editor-in-chief and provided photographs. A special thanks to Jimmy Trapper for his willingness to share his life story.

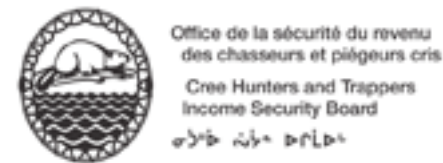
REQUEST FOR STORIES

The Cree Hunter and Trapper is interested in receiving stories and articles from the beneficiaries of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Program. It will also consider stories about any activities related to the traditional lifestyle of the Cree. All submissions are welcome.

Editorial comments, submissions, and inquiries should be submitted to:

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Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board
2700, Boulevard Laurier, Édifice Champlain
Bureau 1100, Québec (Québec) G1V 4K5
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Cover of the magazine: Isaac Trapper from Mistissini. Photo: Serge Larivière
Graphic Design: Nadia Bélanger, Michel Lachance, and Isabelle Simard



THE INFORMATION CONTAINED
IN THIS MAGAZINE REMAINS
UNDER THE INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY OF THE BOARD.

EDITORIAL

THERE ARE ANIMALS PRESENT IN THE CREE TERRITORY THAT WE ALMOST NEVER SEE.



The American mink is one of those rarely seen animals that occupy the vicinity of rivers across the territory of Eeyou Istchee. Recently, while traveling on the Cree territory, I had the chance to observe two mink along the James Bay Highway between Matagami and Wemindji. For sure, trappers who set marten traps near watercourses, and those who set traps for muskrats and even beavers will catch mink. You can also catch mink on purpose with a few simple sets.

You may not often see them, but they are there!

Serge Larivière, Ph.D., MBA, ASC
Director-general
Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board

ANIMAL PROFILE

American Mink

English Name: American Mink

French Name: Vison d'Amérique

Scientific (Latin) name: *Neovison vison*

Cree Name: acikâs

Cree Syllabics: ᐱᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ

THE AMERICAN MINK IS A MUSTELIDAE, A MEMBER OF THE WEASEL FAMILY. IN THIS FAMILY, WE ALSO FIND THE AMERICAN MARTEN, THE FISHER AND THE RIVER OTTER. MINK ARE VERY DISCREET AND VERY SMALL AND THIS IS WHY THEY ARE RARELY SEEN. HOWEVER, NEAR LAKES, RIVERS AND ALL STREAMS, YOU CAN SOMETIMES NOTICE THEIR PRESENCE BY FOOTPRINTS OR DROPPINGS.

The mink is an opportunistic feeder, and feeds mainly on small rodents, such as mice and voles, but also on small fish or frogs. Occasionally, mink can also hunt in the forest for snowshoe hares. Excellent swimmer, it dives without difficulty, and on earth, loves to explore root systems, hollow trees, cavities in rocks and other places prey could hide.



You can sometimes notice their presence by footprints or droppings.

Mink is also an excellent muskrat predator and is often caught by trappers in muskrat traps. Occasionally, mink will also visit beaver lodges or explore their dams. In winter, you can sometimes observe mink tracks along frozen rivers and especially if there is access to water, you can observe mink tracks in and out of these holes.

During cold periods of winter, mink can remain under the ice for several days feeding on small fish and accessing dens or underground cavities to breathe and rest. Very opportunistic, mink will not hesitate to eat food left close to streams, including fish left unattended by fishermen!

The mink is ubiquitous in Eeyou Istchee. If you pay attention during your next shore lunch in summer, you may notice some small footprints on the sand. This is often the only way to detect the presence of mink unless one you are one of the few who had the chance to see one!

For hunters, the mink is harvested mainly for its fur, but their glands, which have a very strong and musky scent, are a great lure to attract larger predators, such as foxes and bobcats. Although some Cree elders say it can be eaten when food is scarce, the American mink is caught mainly for its fur.

The mink is an excellent swimmer



News & Reports



NEW LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR IN WHAPMAGOOSTUI

In August 2015, the Board was very fortunate to hire a new local administrator for the community of Whapmagoostui, Mr. Bertie Kawapit. Mr. Kawapit will now serve as a full time employee for this community and he has already met the beneficiaries during the September 2015 interviews.

Welcome to the team Mr. Kawapit!



FUR INSTITUTE MEETING IN SASKATOON

The Annual meeting of the Fur Institute of Canada was held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on June 12 and 13 of this year. This meeting provides a great networking opportunity for biologists, fur managers and trappers from all over Canada. Social activities, updates on the industry, challenges and issues affecting the fur industry are all discussed during this important Pan-Canadian meeting.

Director-general, Serge Larivière, was elected as secretary of the institute for the coming year.



NATIONAL TRAPPERS CONVENTION IN HAMBURG, NEW-YORK

The annual meeting of the National Trappers Association was held in Hamburg, New-York within driving distance of the province of Québec! Trappers from all over the United-States and Canada attended this weekend event to share experiences, techniques, sets and exchange trapping supplies. This meeting continues to be the largest gathering of trappers in North America and is a great event to attend. Next year's meeting will be in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



ISP BOARD MEETING IN VAL D'OR

The members of the Board met in Val d'Or on August 26, 2015 for one of their annual Board meetings. During this meeting the members discussed a variety of topics related to the administration of the Board as well as the plans for the coming months. The Board usually meets between 4 and 5 times each year, in various locations, to oversee the administration of the Program.



PROGRAM REVISION IN QUÉBEC CITY

All the staff from the Income Security Board gathered in Québec City for the annual revision of files during the last week of July and first week of August 2015. This gathering of staff enables the Board to review files from all beneficiaries at the Head Office in Québec City and ensure that the Program follows the same rules in all communities.



Make that set!

MINK CUBBY

BY SERGE LARIVIÈRE

ONE OF THE MOST CLASSIC TECHNIQUES TO CAPTURE MINK IS TO BUILD A SMALL CUBBY WITH ROCKS, TO PLACE A BAIT AT THE BACK AND PUT A TRAP AT THE ENTRANCE.

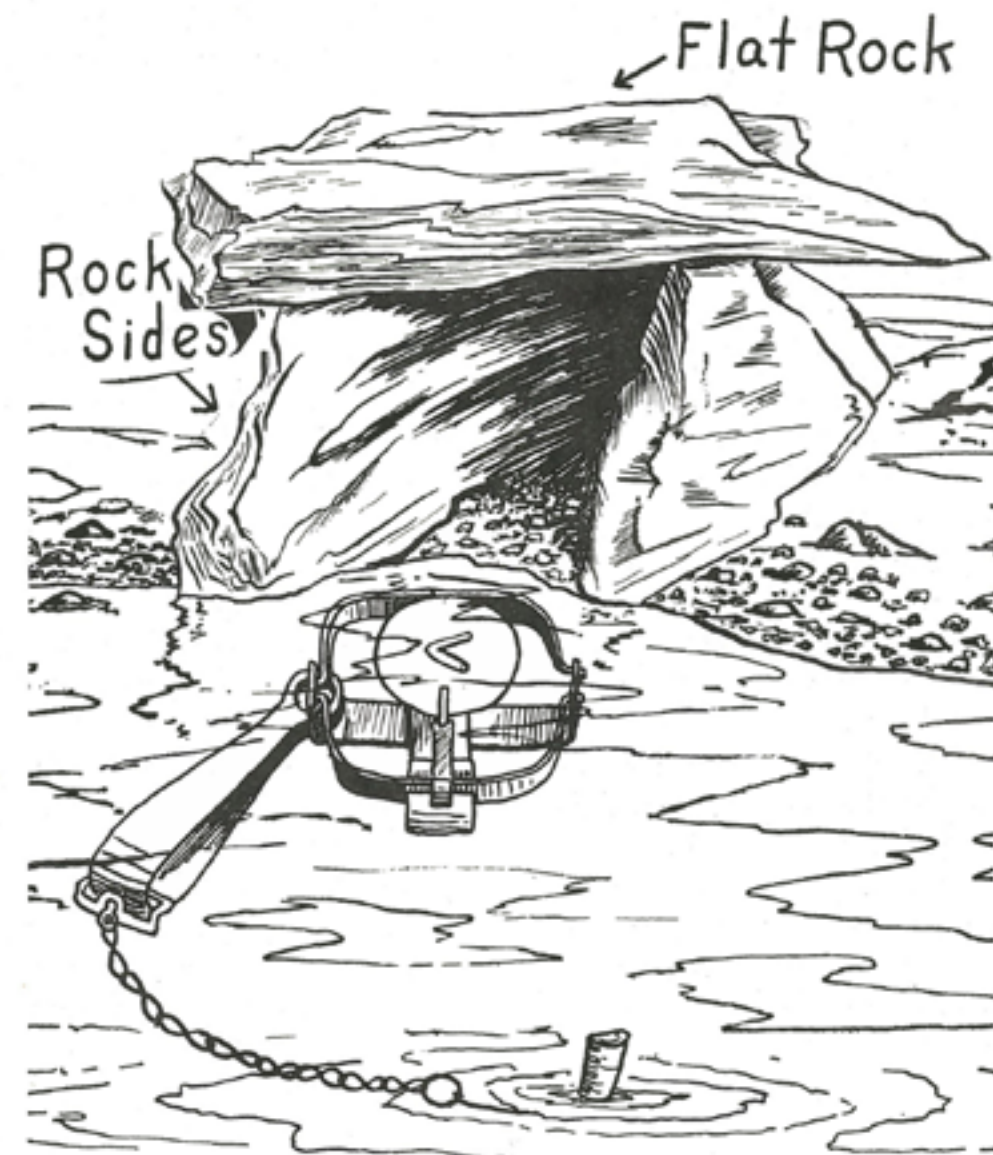
Generally, trappers prefer to use a foothold trap size 1 or 1.5 connected to a drowning system. This allows the captured animal to access deep water after capture. The preferred baits for mink are fish, rabbit or the guts of ducks or partridge. It is important to ensure there are no holes at the back of the cubby, because mink can easily access even small holes and crevices!

Preferred locations for mink cubbies are near bridges and culverts, docks, or wherever the hunter can have easy access to waterways. After freeze-up, it is better to use a body gripper (Ex: Conibear traps), size 120, well anchored on dry land to resist frost and snow accumulations. To capture mink, trappers must first find places that mink frequently visit. Tracks and droppings are a sure sign that a mink has been there, and that others will return in the future!



ENTICEMENT SETS

Fig 15
Cubby Set



Simply build a rock cubby at the water's edge, lure and bait. Have 1/2 inch of water covering the trap and stake trap to deep water.

(See Fig. 15)

PHOTO FROM BOOK CANADIAN TRAPPER'S MINK METHODS BY REG BAIRD, NOVA SCOTIA

ISP

IMPORTANT DATES

CALENDAR OF CHEQUES AND DIRECT DEPOSITS

FOR BENEFICIARIES WITH REGULAR PAYMENTS

CHEQUE
DECEMBER 1
2015

CHEQUE
MARCH 30
2016

FOR BENEFICIARIES WITH MONTHLY* PAYMENTS

CHEQUE
DECEMBER 1
2015

CHEQUE
MARCH 30
2016

Direct deposit
JANUARY 5
Direct deposit
FEBRUARY 1
Direct deposit
MARCH 1

Direct deposit
MAY 2
Direct deposit
JUNE 1

WHAT ARE MONTHLY PAYMENTS?

- MONTHLY PAYMENTS ARE ISP BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE **EVERY MONTH**, INSTEAD OF 4 TIMES A YEAR.
- YOUR ISP CHEQUE IS DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF MONTHS UNTIL THE NEXT INTERVIEW.
 - AT YOUR INTERVIEW.....**YOU RECEIVE A CHEQUE**
 - EACH MONTH.....**YOU RECEIVE A DIRECT DEPOSIT** INTO YOUR ACCOUNT.

* MONTHLY PAYMENTS MUST BE REQUESTED AT THE TIME OF THE **JULY INTERVIEW ONLY**, AND APPLIES FOR THE WHOLE YEAR. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO CHANGE THE METHOD OF PAYMENTS DURING THE COURSE OF THE PROGRAM-YEAR.

ASK YOUR LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR ABOUT MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

MEETING OF INTEREST NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

JANUARY
19-22
2016

- 2016 The Shooting, Hunting, Outdoor Trade Show and Conference
- Sands Expo Center, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
- shotshow.org

MARCH
8-10
2016

- StyleLab Fur and Fashion Exhibition
- Palais des congrès, Montréal
- stylelabmontreal.com

MARCH
11-13
2016

- 39^e Salon du Trappeur (39nd Provincial Trapper's Convention)
- Centre des congrès et hôtel Le Montagnais, Chicoutimi
- ftgq.qc.ca or 418 872-7644 (In French)

APRIL
8-9
2016

- Fur Harvesters Annual Trappers Convention
- Fur Harvesters Auction, North Bay, Ontario
- furharvesters.com/convention.html or 705 495-4688

JULY
7-9
2016

- 2016 Fur Takers of America Convention
- Douglas County Fairgrounds, Lawrence, Kansas
- furtakersofamerica.com/convention.html

Moose and winter ticks

STATE OF THE SITUATION IN EEYOU ISTCHEE BAIE-JAMES

IN RECENT YEARS, THE WINTER TICK (*DERMACENTOR ALBIPICTUS*), A MITE THAT CAN AFFECT MOOSE AND CARIBOU, HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN EEYOU ISTCHEE. THIS PARASITE HAS BECOME A GREAT CONCERN FOR MOOSE HUNTERS AND MANAGERS IN THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE PROVINCE AND IN NORTHERN STATES.

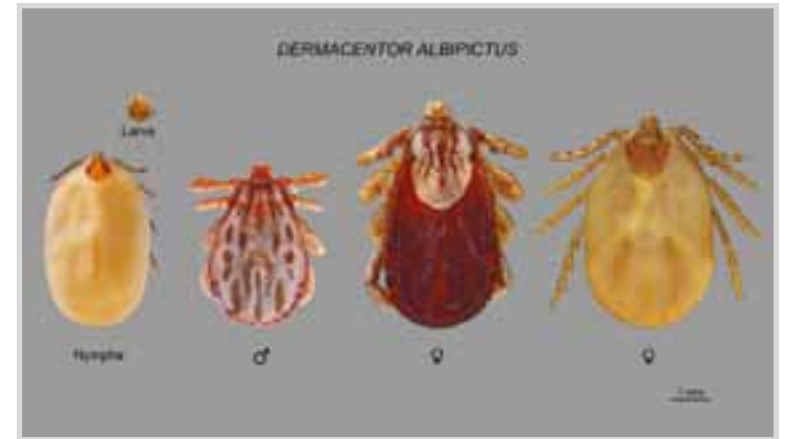
Depending of the severity of the infestation, moose may present abnormal behaviour such as confusion, excessive grooming and be less fearful of humans. Side effects are mostly observed in severe infestations and visible mainly towards the end of winter. The main visible symptoms are fur loss, poor physical condition, scabs and bleeding wounds from the excessive grooming. Severe infestations can make moose more vulnerable to predators, road accidents and may directly induce the mortality of infected moose in extreme cases. Young moose are particularly vulnerable.

A FEMALE GORGED WITH BLOOD DURING WINTER

Photo credit: Jean-Guy Tremblay, MFFP



Among cervids, moose are particularly affected by the parasite mainly because their mating period coincides with the highest tick larvae abundance in the habitat. During the summer, tick larvae climb to the vegetation and accumulate in clusters. They then transfer onto animals that pass close by to complete their life cycle. The moose move around frequently early fall, increasing their risk of encounter with the parasite's larvae before the frost kills the remaining clusters.

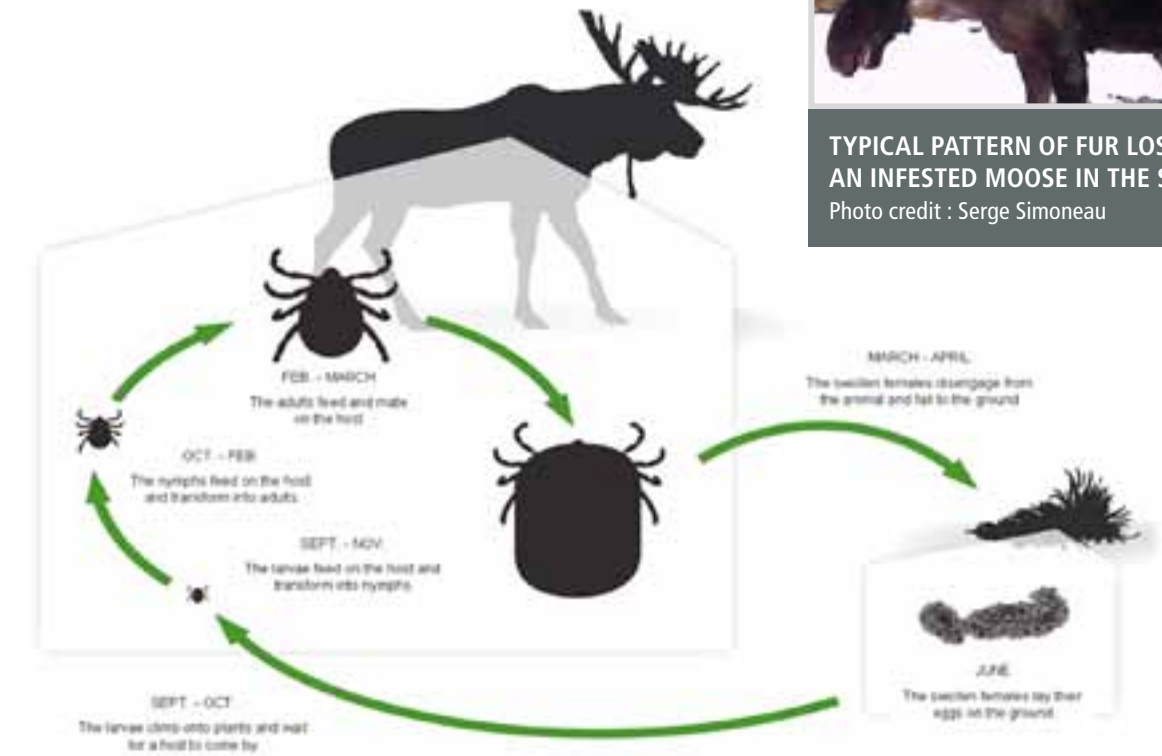


WINTER TICK AT DIFFERENT LIFE STAGE

Photo credit: INSPQ

Once on the animal, the ticks larvae feed off the host's blood and continue to develop in the moose fur during winter, gradually transforming into nymphs and then adults. Ticks then mate at the end of winter. Early spring, the blood-filled adults drop to the ground where eggs are laid in snow free patches. The eggs hatch during the summer; the life cycle then begins again. Moose are therefore free from ticks during the summer season.

LIFE CYCLE OF THE WINTER TICK



TYPICAL PATTERN OF FUR LOST OF AN INFESTED MOOSE IN THE SPRING

Photo credit : Serge Simoneau

Photo credit : MFFP

Unlike the black-legged ticks that carry the Lyme disease, the winter tick is not recognized as a vector of infectious diseases to humans and the meat from infested moose can be safely consumed. There is, however, a few precautions to take while handling an infested animal to avoid ticks on your skin:

- Wear long clothing
- Apply an insecticide
- Carry out a self-examination (body and clothing) after handling a carcass
- Keep pet animals away from carcasses
- Throw away or destroy untreated skin and hair to limit the risk of spreading ticks to other animals

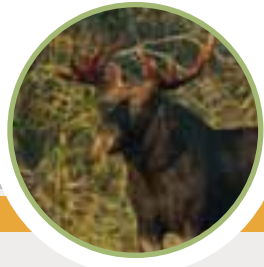
The main factor influencing the abundance of ticks is the moose density. Climatic conditions in the spring are also determinant in the reproductive success of ticks. The temperature and precipitation have a major effect on the survival of female winter ticks and their eggs after they leave the moose. Thus, the number of larvae that hatch and seek hosts in the following fall will be higher following a warm, dry spring. In the Eeyou Istchee region, late spring and lasting snow cover significantly reduce the survival and reproductive success of ticks.

In order to document the progression of ticks across the province, the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) coordinates, since 2012, winter tick counts on moose killed during the fall sport hunt. Ticks are counted systematically along specific areas on the moose. In Eeyou Istchee, 11 out of the 22 examined moose carried winter ticks, all of which were hunted south of the 50th parallel. The relatively low moose density combined with boreal climatic conditions explain the moderate proportion of moose affected by the winter tick at this latitude. In comparison, 96% of the moose are infested south of the St-Lawrence River. However, climate changes leading to warmer temperatures in spring could influence the distribution patterns of this parasite.



COUNTING TICKS IN SPECIFIC TRANSECTS ON THE SKIN MOOSE IN THE FALL

Photo credit : Isabelle Laurion, MFFP



The MFFP is grateful of the hunter's collaboration in the monitoring of the evolution of winter ticks. There is currently no solution to cure infested animals. At northern latitudes, the mortality caused by winter ticks is not a concerning management issue. The monitoring of the winter tick will continue to describe the abundance and severity of infections.

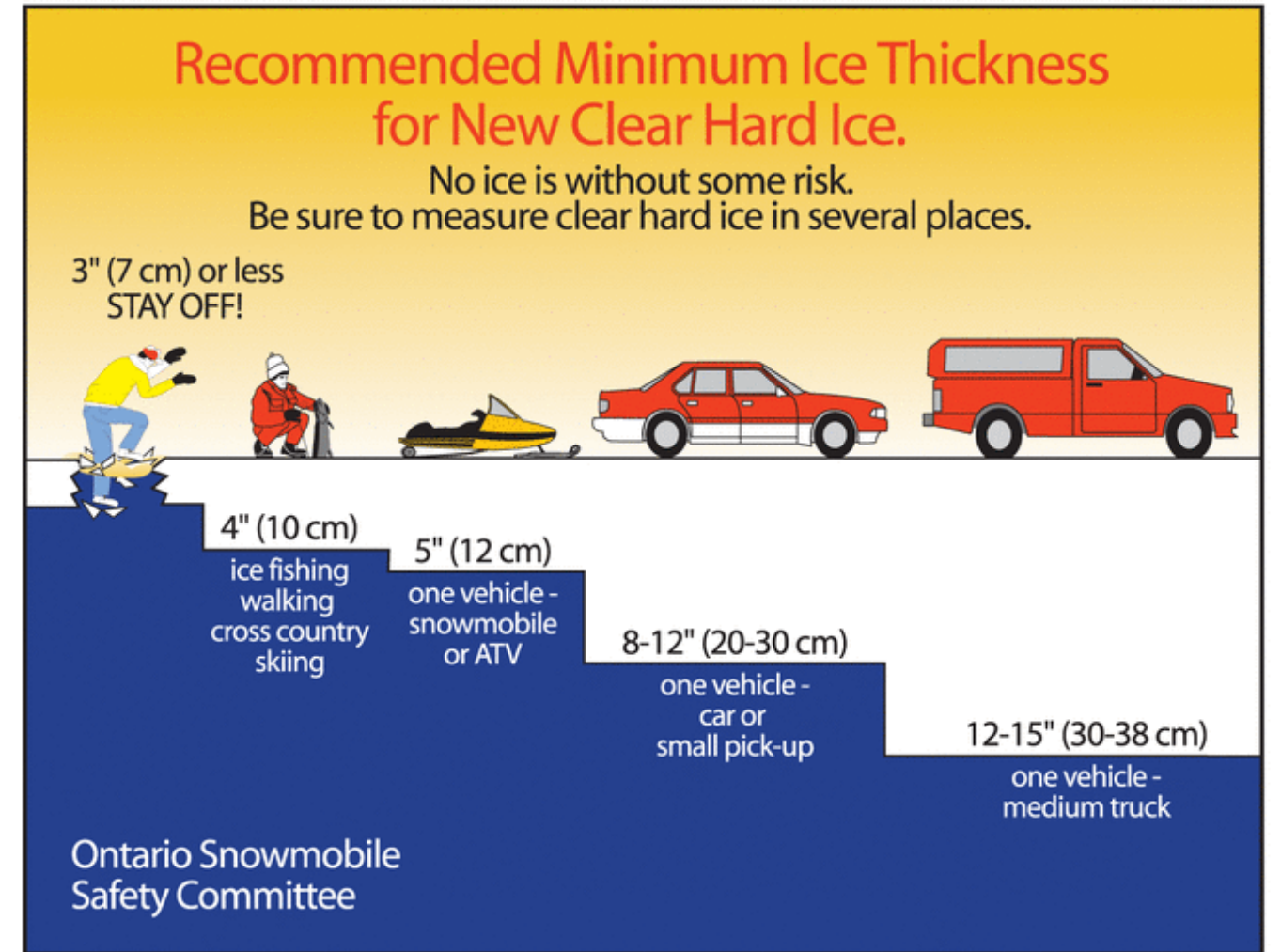
Cree hunters can contribute to improve the monitoring of moose on Eeyou Istchee in three ways: First, note the number of hunted moose by trapline and report your hunt to the CTA local officer by participating to the Big game survey.

Second, in any time of the year, if you hunt an infected moose or encounter a moose with strange behaviour or showing poor physical health, you can also contact your CTA local officer or directly the MFFP office based in Chibougamau by calling biologists:
- Laurie Beaupré: 418 748-7701 # 252 or
- Julie Hébert: 418 748-7701 #240

Finally, the MFFP encourages hunters to continue their participation to the moose jaw collection, in place since 1993, to monitor the age of the hunted moose. The age structure of a moose population is a fundamental indicator of its health.

SAFE TRAVEL ON ICE

During winter, hunters often have to travel on frozen waterways and lakes. In late fall, when the ice just begins to form, some waterways can be extremely dangerous when ice is not thick enough to support the hunters and/or their vehicles. Be safe! Take the time to ask elders where the dangerous spots are near your community so you can avoid them. The following chart is used by many organizations to explain the different thicknesses of ice that are considered safe to support the hunter on foot, a snowmobile or even a larger vehicle. Remember that moving water always leads to weaker or thinner ice and play it safe. Winter is a great time for harvesting but frozen waterways can sometimes be dangerous. Use this chart, talk to elders and have fun harvesting during winter!



NO ICE IS WITHOUT SOME RISK... MINIMIZE YOUR RISK

It is critical that the ice quality or type of ice is evaluated before your travel

Clear hard, new ice is the only kind of ice recommended for travel.

Avoid

- slushy ice
- ice on or near moving water i.e., rivers, currents
- ice that has thawed and refrozen
- layered or rotten ice caused by sudden temperature changes

Other risk factors that weaken or "rot" ice: snow on ice that acts as a blanket to prevent hardening of ice pressure ridges due to wind or current pressure

HUNTING CHRONICLE

SALT AND MINERAL LICKS FOR MOOSE

CREE HUNTERS KNOW THAT SALT BLOCKS CAN ATTRACT MOOSE TO SPECIFIC LOCATIONS. MOOSE HUNTERS FROM THE SOUTH TAKE THIS PROCESS A STEP FURTHER BY ESTABLISHING PERMANENT SALT/MINERAL LICKS AT LOCATIONS THAT ARE EASILY ACCESSED FOR HUNTING.

Director-general, Serge Larivière, recently had the chance to meet a well known moose guide from the Rimouski area, Mr. Mario Ross. Mr. Ross was a long time moose guide for the Rimouski Wildlife Reserve and now owns two hunting stores in Rimouski and Amqui. Mr. Ross explains what is needed for a good salt lick:

“A good salt lick should include 3 or 4 salt blocks, along with several bags of granular slat. The best location for salt lick is an old stump in a shaded area frequented by moose. In the spring, the salt can be deposited on that stump, along with several types of minerals that will enhance its attraction for moose. On the market, a wide variety of minerals are available and the best way to find the right combination for your area is to ask the local store owner. Usually, moose will respond very well to almost any combination of minerals and salts added to an old stump. Once a salt lick is established, moose will continue to visit the salt lick for several months, from spring to fall, and even during early winter. For sure, as soon as spring arrives, moose will return to the salt lick to obtain the minerals necessary for antler growth and the development of the foetus in the females. Permanent salt licks are great magnets for moose and they allow you to either keep moose near your hunting camp or in an area that is easy access for hunting. If you take the time to establish a permanent salt lick on your trapline in the spring, you will rapidly see the result. For a few hundred dollars of salt and minerals you can create a superb moose magnet on your trapline!”



“MOOSE WILL RESPOND TO ALMOST ANY COMBINATION OF MINERALS AND SALTS “
— MARIO ROSS



STAFF PROFILE

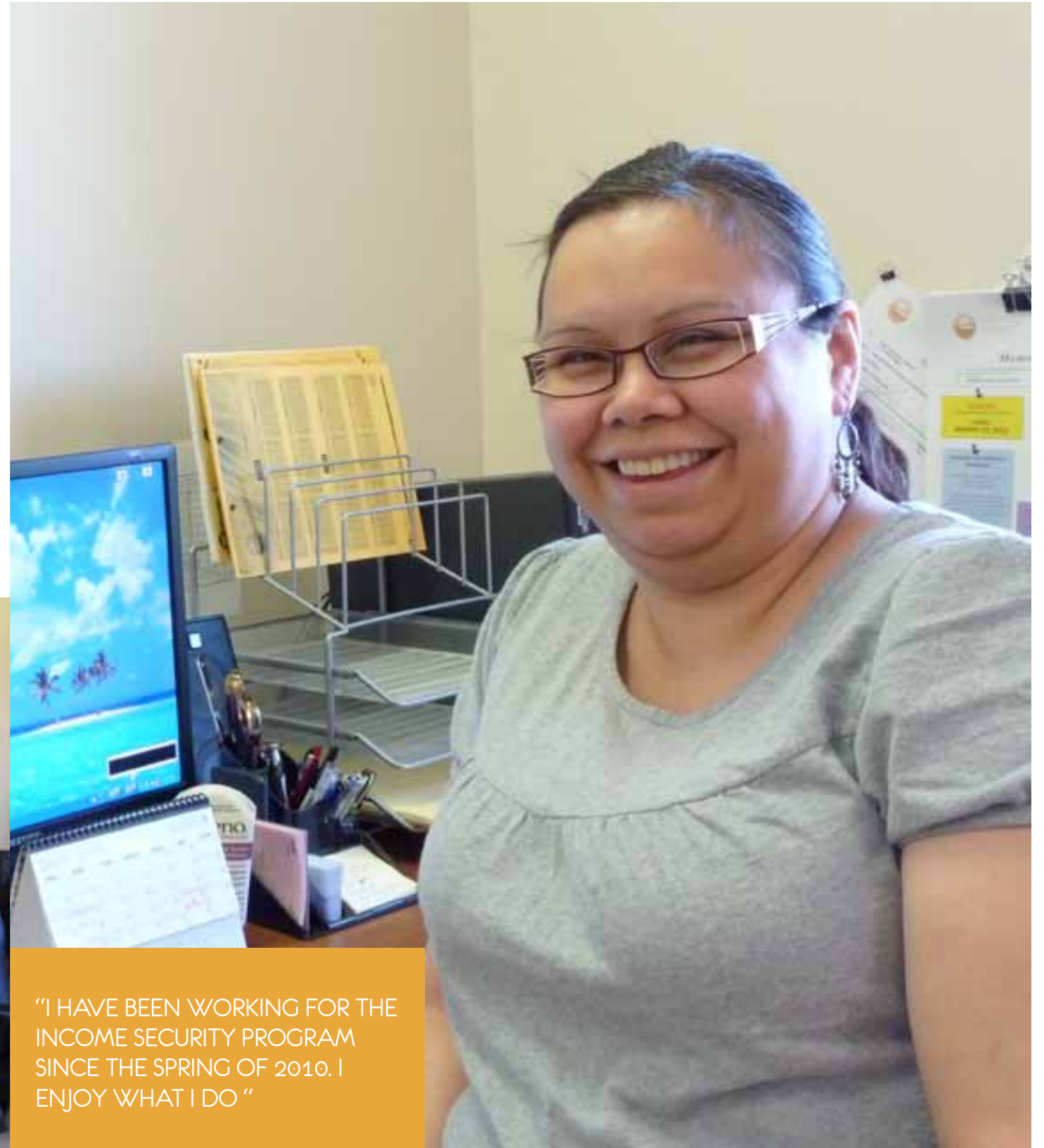
THE CREE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL FOR OVER 35 YEARS BECAUSE OF THE DEDICATION OF ITS STAFF. THIS COLUMN "STAFF PROFILE" PRESENTS A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF THE PEOPLE THAT WORK TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM. IN THIS ISSUE, WE ARE PROUD TO PROFILE MR. GEORGE HEAD OUR LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR, IN CHISASIBI.

Dolores Ottereyes- Tapiatic

EMPLOYED BY THE BOARD SINCE: MAY 17, 2010
CURRENT POSITION: LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR
WORK LOCATION: CHISASIBI

My name is Dolores Ottereyes-Tapiatic. I was born in Chibougamau Qc to Annie & Willie Ottereyes. I am 5th of 7 children in our family. I lived in Mistissini Qc with my parents up until I decided to move to Chisasibi in 1997 to be close to my future husband Robbie Tapiatic. We got married in 2002 and we have two beautiful children.

When I was young, I would live with my late grandparents Tommy Neeposh & Kitty Husky-Neeposh in the bush. They both taught me a lot about the traditional way of life. My grandma would teach me how to tan hides, sew, getting water, cooking, etc. There's a lot that I still keep from her teachings. She also taught me how to make a hammock (swing) for my dolls because I would eventually need it for my own children. My grandpa also taught me so many things a man does for his family. He taught me how to chop wood, and start the fire in the woodstove.



"I HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR THE INCOME SECURITY PROGRAM SINCE THE SPRING OF 2010. I ENJOY WHAT I DO "

TRUTH ABOUT FUR

5 REASONS *Why Fur Is a Good Fashion Choice*

By Alexandra Suhner Isenberg
From *Truth about fur - The blog*

He showed me how to set up traps and when & how to check them. He also taught me how to fish and how to put up fishing net. He taught me never to play with skidoos because they could be dangerous. His skidoo was his main way of transportation to and from his traps. I have lots of memories of my late grandparents and I am happy I got to live with them and that they taught me so much while their life on this earth. Those are memories that I will cherish forever. Now that I have a family of my own, my husband & I plan to teach our children the importance of our tradition. We go to our camp in Caniaupiscau on CH-32 every spring & fall and sometimes in the winter to harvest for the summer & winter.

I have been working for the Income Security Program since the spring of 2010. I enjoy what I do. I enjoy chatting with my beneficiaries; they have a lot of knowledge. They teach me a lot about our traditional way of life just by listening to their stories about their time in the bush. I have been on maternity leave twice since I started work and each time I missed my beneficiaries. When I see them around town, they would ask if I would be going back to work soon. That makes me feel happy because I know that I am appreciated!



“NOW THAT I HAVE A FAMILY OF MY OWN, MY HUSBAND & I PLAN TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR TRADITION.”



3. Your fur coat purchase probably supports a small business

The fur industry might be large, but most of the people involved in the supply chain are small farmers, designers, processors, or individual trappers. Many of us long to buy from small businesses who invest their earnings back into the communities they live in - so why not choose fur?

4. It's local

Well, it is not always local, but if you are Canadian, American, Danish, Swedish, or from any other fur-producing country, there is a very good chance you can buy a product that was homegrown in your own country. Most fashion products have a complicated supply chain that involves sourcing raw materials, weaving, processing, and construction from all around the world, but there are plenty of fur products that are made, from start to finish, in the place the animal was raised.



Canada Goose uses coyote fur as a trim because it is the best material for harsh conditions.

You've probably seen celebrities wearing fur coats and pelts all over the catwalk, but that's not necessarily a reason to choose to invest in fur. Here are a few more reasons why it is a good fashion choice.

1. It is sustainable

Resources are not infinite on our planet, but the responsible use of animals is a safe and renewable way to clothe ourselves. Farmed and wild fur all come from species that are in abundance and whose populations are managed properly. Why buy synthetics made from petroleum by-products, when you can opt for fur? Read more about fur's sustainability here.

2. It is long-lasting

How often do you see someone wearing their grandmother's old polyester blouse? Probably not very often (although those things are most likely still clogging up our landfills). Fur is a long-lasting material; if cared for properly, you can easily get 30 years out of a well-made garment, but we've seen many older than that. We live in a time where we are increasingly concerned about waste and lack of resources, so it makes sense to buy things that are built to last. Here are some tips for ensuring your furs last a long time.

5. It keeps you warm

There is no arguing that. Nothing beats being wrapped in a beautiful soft pelt. Even the technical companies who specialize in Arctic clothing insist on including fur (you know who I am talking about.) Read about why this famous outerwear company uses real fur.

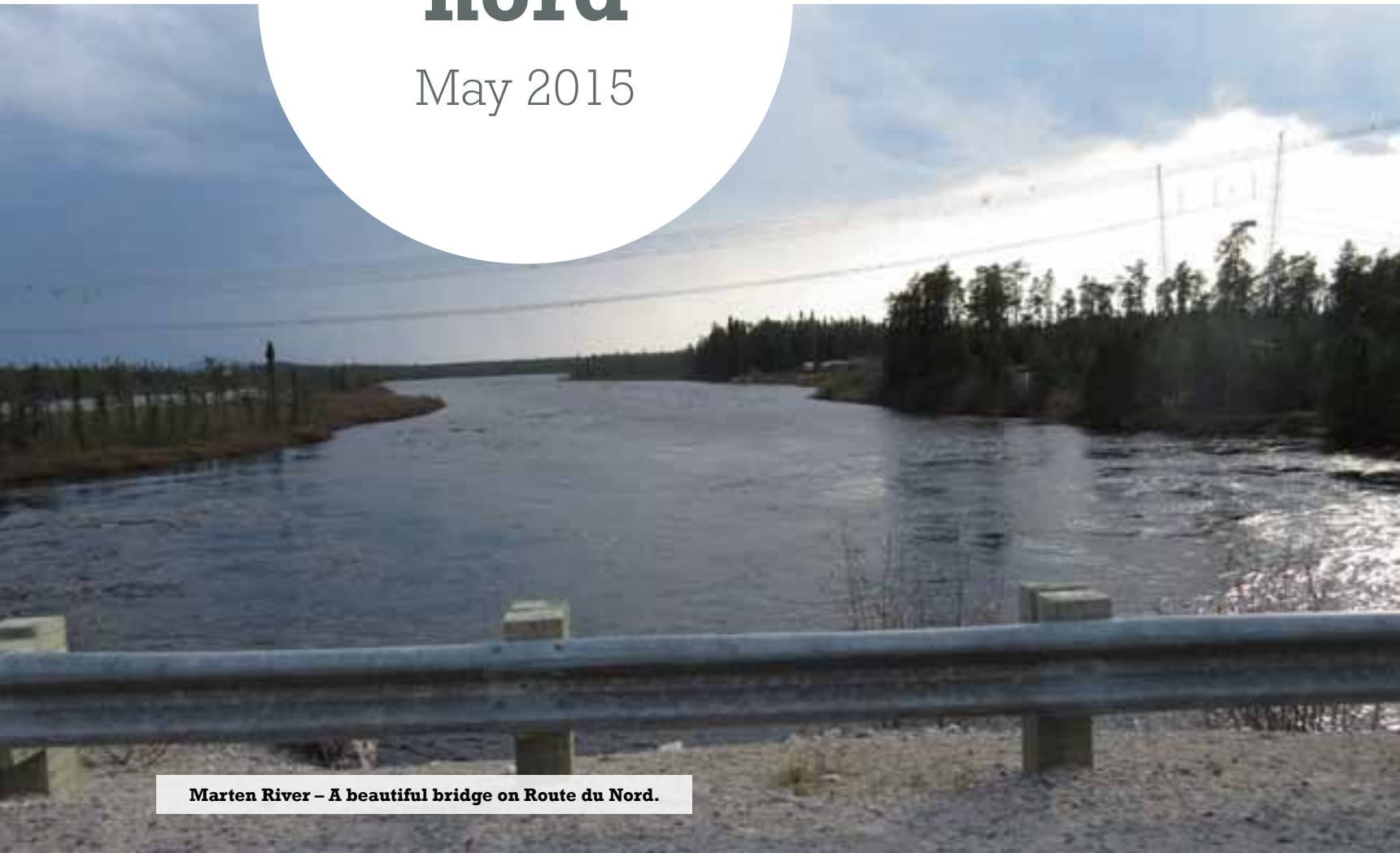
Read more about the fur industry at www.truthaboutfur.com



THE TRAVELING DIRECTOR
HERE ARE SOME PHOTOS TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL DURING HIS RECENT TRIPS TO CREE COMMUNITIES.



Route du nord
May 2015



Marten River – A beautiful bridge on Route du Nord.



Local Assembly for Washaw Sibi in Amos.

Washaw Sibi
July 2015



OldNemaska
July 2015

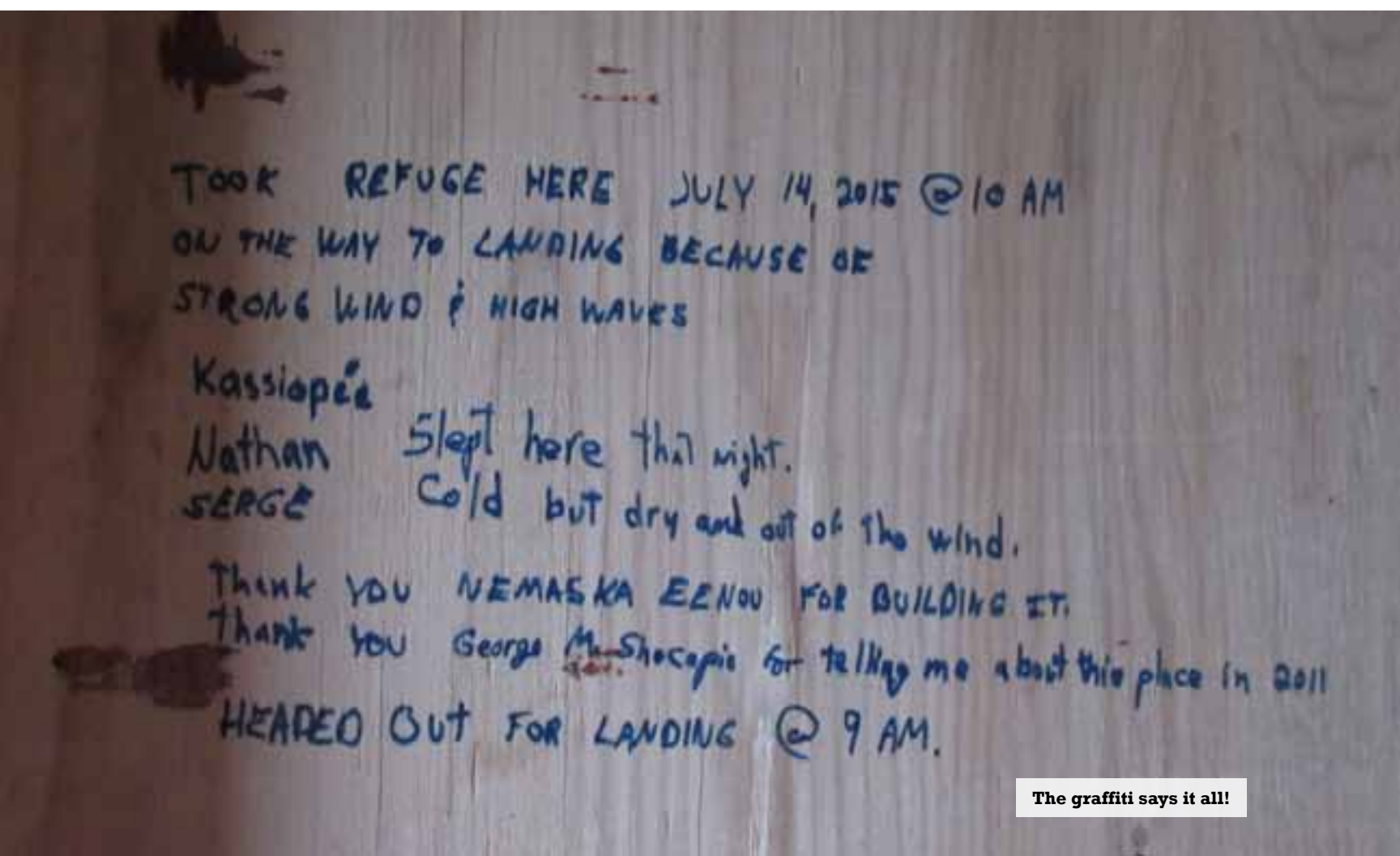


Fred Mowatt shares some of his life story.





A small refuge, where Director-general chose to stay overnight to be safe and avoid the big waves on his way back to landing.



TOOK REFUGE HERE JULY 14, 2015 @ 10 AM
ON THE WAY TO LANDING BECAUSE OF
STRONG WIND & HIGH WAVES

Kassiopée
Nathan SLEPT here that night.
SERGE Cold but dry and out of the wind.

Thank YOU NEMASKA EENOU FOR BUILDING IT.
Thank YOU George M. Shocapic for talking me about this place in 2011
HEARD OUT FOR LANDING @ 9 AM.

Old Nemaska - Always a welcome sight

The graffiti says it all!



Director-general from the Income Security Board, Serge Larivière along with Director of Cree Québec relationships for the Cree Nation Government, Ms. Melissa Saganash, met in the plane on the way to Val d'Or.

CNG EXEC YVO July 2015



From left to right: Gérald Lemoyne - Vice-Chairman of ISP, Serge Larivière - Director-general, Philip Awashish - ISP Board Member, Willie Iserhoff - Chairman of ISP, Bill Namagoose and Grand chief, Matthew Coon-Come during an ISP presentation for the CNG Board in Chapais.

Chapais July 2015



The executive of the Cree Nation government during the recent meeting with ISP representatives in Val d'Or.



Henry Mianscum (left) talks with Gérald Lemoyne (right), while in the background Grand Chief Matthew Coon-Come and Philip Awashish have a good time!



CNG AGA
Oujé-Bougoumou
 August 2015



Philip Awashish and Willie Iserhoff talk about ISP at the Cree Nation Government General Assembly.



A big crowd gathered for the Annual General Assembly of the Cree Nation Government in Oujé-Bougoumou



Alfred Loon and Henry Mianscum.

BENEFITS OF HOMEOWNERSHIP

- 1. Building equity
- 2. Building according to your design
- 3. A transferable family asset
- 4. Pride of ownership and repair

FIRE PROTECTION PROTECTION CONTRE L'INCENDIE

STATISTICS SUMMARY (EEYOU/EENOU ISTCHEE)

CMHC (2014-2015)	59%
RAND (2014-2015)	23%
PRIVATE (2014-2015)	9%
CD (2014-2015)	3%
RENT TO OWN (2014-2015)	2%
CHB (2014-2015)	2%
CRA (2014-2015)	0.07%
OTHER (2014-2015)	0.03%
TOTAL	100%



Frank Moar and Abel Wapachee.



Chisasibi
August 2015



Lawrence Shecapio (left), Sam R. Bosum (center) and George Shecapio-Blacksmith (right)



Representatives from the Income Security Board met with some of the Local Committee members of Chisasibi. From left to right: George M. Shecapio, Natalie Scipio, Sally Herodier, George Head, Richard Pepabano and Clarence Pepabano.



Whapmagoostui
August 2015



The Co-op motel in Whapmagoostui.



The Band Office seen from the back.



A group of visitors having fun in Whapmagoostui. From left to right: Gaston Cooper, George M. Shecapio, Bently Mianscum, Redfern St-Pierre, Walter Jolly, Simeon Trapper.



View of Whapmagoostui from the hill.

Annual

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

Cree Trappers Association

Wemindji, Q

August 18, 19

Wemindji

August 2015



From left to right: Albert Gilpin, Alexa Atsynia, Keanna Atsynia and Frank Atsynia.



Some of the trappers that attended the CTA General Assembly in Wemindji : From left to right: Fred Blackned (standing), William Mistacheesick, Norman Shanush, Frank Gilpin, Norman Gilpin, Bobby Neacappo and Fred Cheezo.



Musicians at the dance: Roy Ratt at the bass, David Ratt at the fiddle, Irvin Kakabat at the guitar.



Meeting time



Serge Larivière, Ron Zachary from Eastmain and Sidney Ottereyes from Waswanipi.



Dance time!



George M. Shecapio tells some funny stories to Clarence Tomatuk (middle) and Henry Atsynia (right).



CTA ladies: Vanessa Jacob, Judy Coon-Come and Winnie Coon-Come.



Jacob Dick from Whapmagoostui and Allan House, the new treasurer for the Cree Trappers Association.



Side benchers at the CTA Assembly. From left to right: Roderick Petawabano, David Kakabat, Norman Gilpin, Jimmy Blackned, Abel Visitor and Jerry Kakabat.



The Eastmain group is having a good time. At the table: Clayton Tomatuk, Marcel Moses, Marjorie Weapenicappo from Eastmain and Anna Bosum from Oujé-Bougoumou.



Nemaska
September 2015



Offices of the Cree Nation Government and the Nemaska Motel.



There is always somebody towing a boat somewhere in or near Nemaska!



Steven Neeposh, local Fur Officer for the Cree Trappers Association and ISP beneficiary, Mary Jolly.



David Tanous and Monica Capassisit from Nemaska.



Local assembly in Waswanipi.

Waswanipi

September 2015



Willard Jolly and Pearl Herodier arrive for their interview on a 4-wheeler at the Nemaska Office.



While people meet for the General Assembly, young Cree hunters know it's a good time to go fishing! From left to right: Johnny Trapper, Isaac Bowen and Malachi Saganash.



Willie Iserhoff, Chairman of ISP (left) and Gerald Lemoyne, Vice-Chairman of ISP visit two ladies at the Culture Camp, Cecile Happyjack (center) and Anna Grant (right).

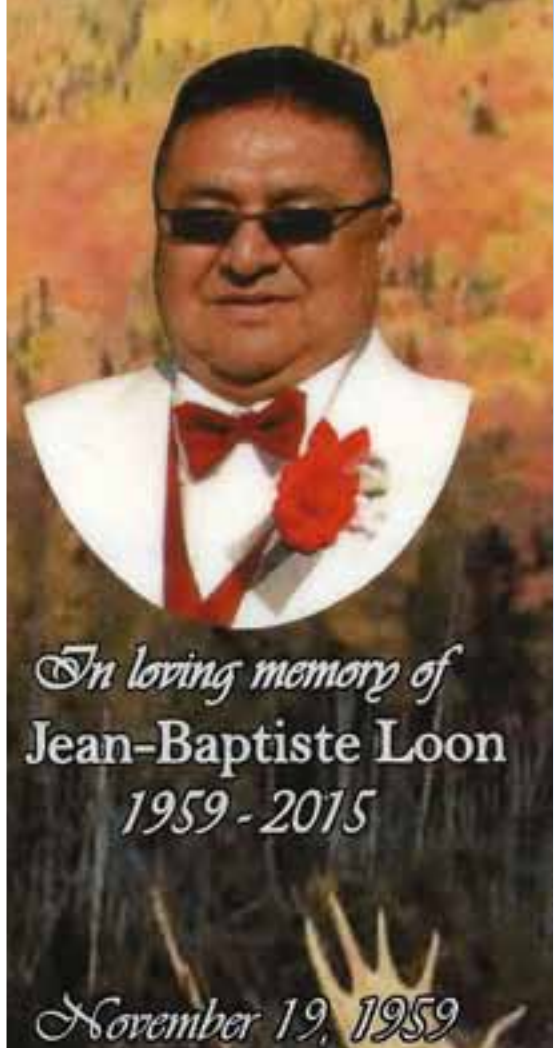


Jacob Ottereyes showing off on "Jacob's ladder"!



Annual Budget: \$30 Million
-\$28 Million benefits for Cree hunters
-\$2 Million Administration (6-8% administration!)
-(11 offices, 18 staff incl. 12 Cree)
• Since 1976 over \$556 Million in benefits!

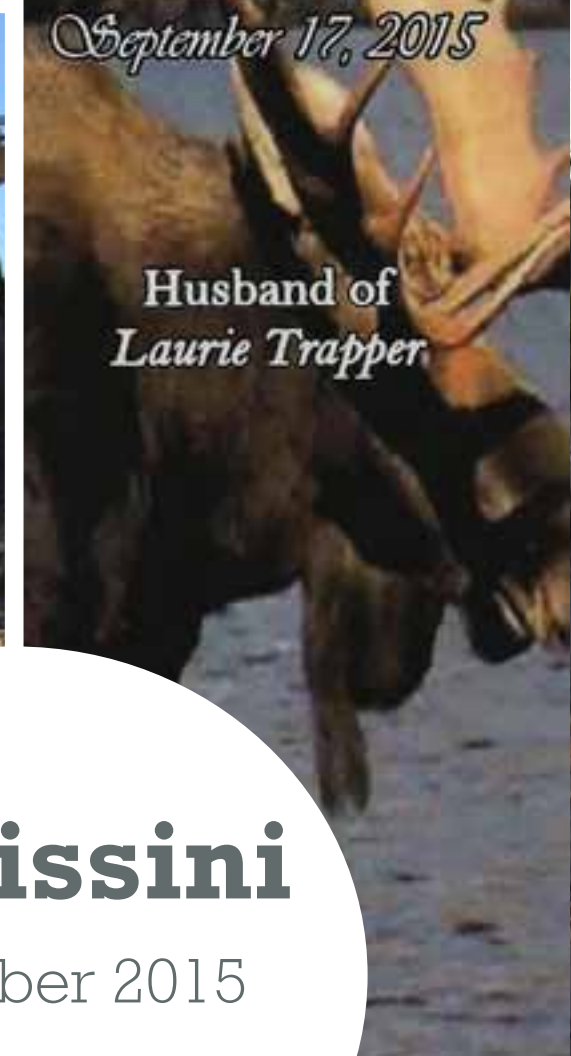
Willie Iserhoff explains some of the key statistics of the Income Security Program at a recent local General Assembly of the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi.



*In loving memory of
Jean-Baptiste Loon
1959 - 2015*

*November 19, 1959
September 17, 2015*

*Husband of
Laurie Trapper*



Mistissini

September 2015



Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board

The Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board is now on Facebook!

Like us!

Check out our Facebook page for important dates and news *about the Program.*

Information that you will find:

- Dates of Payments
- Dates of Direct Deposits
- How and when to apply
- Etc.

Aimez-nous!

L'Office de la sécurité du revenu des chasseurs et piégeurs cris est maintenant sur Facebook!

Venez consulter notre page Facebook afin d'être au courant des dates importantes et des nouvelles *au sujet du programme.*

Information que vous y trouverez:

- Dates des paiements
- Dates des dépôts directs
- Quand et comment s'inscrire
- Etc.

ÉDITORIAL

IL Y A DES ANIMAUX QUI SONT PRÉSENTS SUR LE TERRITOIRE CRI, MAIS QUE LES GENS NE VOIENT PRESQUE JAMAIS.

Parmi ces animaux, le vison d'Amérique en est un qu'on retrouve aux abords des cours d'eau à la grandeur du territoire d'Eeyou Istchee. Pourtant, bien des gens n'ont pas la chance d'observer cet animal sauf dans de rares occasions. Récemment, lors d'un voyage en territoire cri, j'ai eu la chance d'en observer deux le long de la route de la Baie James, entre Matagami et Wemindji, ce qui m'a confirmé que le vison est bel et bien présent même s'il est très discret. Les trappeurs qui posent des pièges à martre à proximité des cours d'eau en capturent parfois ainsi que ceux qui posent des pièges destinés aux rats musqués ou même aux castors. Le vison est un animal à fourrure que certains pêcheurs ont parfois la chance d'observer surtout si vous avez laissé des poissons sans surveillance à votre retour de la pêche!

C'est l'automne, les chasseurs sont actifs, les feuilles ont changé de couleur, la neige commence à arriver et c'est le temps préféré des chasseurs. Bon automne!



Serge Larivière, Ph.D., MBA, ASC
Directeur général, OSRCPC

PSR

Les ABUS au programme

Pendant l'été 2015, les membres de l'Office de la sécurité du revenu des chasseurs et piégeurs cris ont lancé une série de présentations à diverses entités cris pour mettre en évidence certains défis du Programme. Parmi eux, un sujet a suscité beaucoup de discussion: l'abus du Programme par certains bénéficiaires.

Abuser du programme c'est :

- **Encercler des jours sur votre calendrier lorsque vous n'êtes pas en train de mener des activités traditionnelles en forêt;**
- **Encercler des jours sur votre calendrier lorsque vous avez passé la journée dans un établissement (Exemple : Communauté crie, réserve autochtone non-Crie, village, ville, etc.)**
- **Réclamer des jours au Programme de sécurité du revenu, lorsque ces jours sont déjà payés par une autre entité;**
- **Défaut de déclarer des revenus de travail pour vous ou votre conjoint;**
- **Réclamer des jours pour des activités traditionnelles qui ont été menées en DEHORS du territoire d'Eeyou Itschee.**

Le Programme de la sécurité du revenu a été créé pour soutenir les activités traditionnelles de récolte en fournissant une sécurité économique pour les personnes qui choisissent ce mode de vie. Il est conçu pour aider les gens d'Eeyou Itschee en fournissant un soutien économique pour les chasseurs qui, autrement, ne seraient pas en mesure de chasser, pêcher et piéger comme activité PRINCIPALE.

S'il vous plaît, respectez le Programme de sécurité du revenu ainsi que les membres du personnel qui servent sa mission.

Ce programme est considéré par beaucoup comme le meilleur programme du genre pour les chasseurs. Nos membres du conseil d'administration et notre personnel sont là pour veiller à ce programme demeure équitable pour tous et qu'il continue d'aider les chasseurs cris qui ont besoin d'un soutien économique.

Merci de votre coopération.

Serge Larivière

Directeur général, au nom de l'Office de la sécurité du revenu des chasseurs et piégeurs cris

Essayez cette installation!

LA CABANE À VISON

BY SERGE LARIVIÈRE

UNE DES TECHNIQUES LES PLUS CLASSIQUES ET ANCIENNES POUR CAPTURER LE VISON CONSISTE À FABRIQUER UNE PETITE CABANE AVEC DES ROCHES, À DISPOSER UN APPÂT AU FOND ET DE PLACER UN PIÈGE À L'ENTRÉE DE LA CABANE.

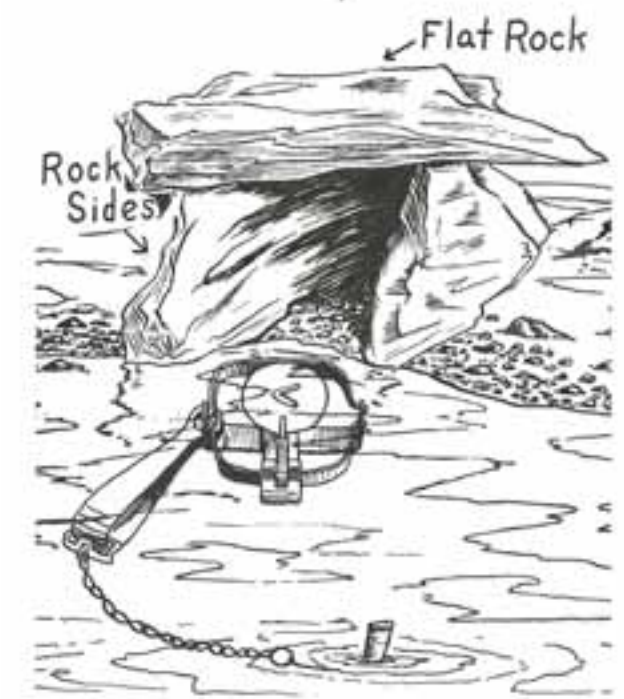
Généralement, les trappeurs préfèrent utiliser un piège à rétention de grosseur 1 ou 1.5 relié à un système de noyade. Ceci permet à l'animal capturer d'accéder à l'eau profonde après sa capture. Les appâts préférés pour le vison sont le poisson, le lièvre ou les déchets d'oiseau tel canard ou perdrix. Il est important de s'assurer qu'il n'y a pas de trous à l'arrière de la cabane, car le vison est très habile et peut facilement accéder à une cabane qui n'est pas étanche!

Les endroits préférés pour la disposition de ces cabanes de roches sont des endroits faciles d'accès pour le chasseur, soit à proximité des ponts et pontons, des quais ou partout où le chasseur peut avoir un accès facile aux cours d'eau. Bien sûr après le gel, les pièges sous l'eau seront difficiles de garder en fonction et à ce moment, il est préférable d'utiliser un piège en X, grosseur 120, bien ancré, étendu hors de l'eau afin de résister au gèle et aux accumulations de neige. Pour capturer des visons, il faut d'abord trouver des endroits que le vison fréquente et la détection de pistes ou d'excréments est un signe certain que non seulement un vison est déjà passé par là, mais que d'autres visons reviendront dans le futur!

ILLUSTRATION TIRÉE DU LIVRE CANADIAN TRAPPER'S MINK METHODS
BY REG BAIRD, NOVA SCOTIA

ENTICEMENT SETS

Fig 15
Cubby Set





Vison d'Amérique

Nom français : Vison d'Amérique

Nom anglais : American Mink

Nom (Latin) scientifique : *Neovison vison*

Nom en cri : acikâs

Syllabique cri : ʌrɪb

LE VISON D'AMÉRIQUE EST UN MUSTÉLIDÉ, C'EST-À-DIRE UN MEMBRE DE LA FAMILLE DES BELETTES. DANS CETTE FAMILLE, ON RETROUVE AUSSI LA MARTRE D'AMÉRIQUE, LE PÉKAN ET LA LOUTRE DE RIVIÈRE. LE VISON EST TRÈS PETIT ET TRÈS DISCRET ET C'EST POUR CELA QU'IL EST RAREMENT OBSERVÉ SUR LE TERRITOIRE. POURTANT, AUX ABORDS DES LACS, DES RIVIÈRES ET DE TOUS LES COURS D'EAU, ON PEUT PARFOIS DÉTECTER SA PRÉSENCE EN REMARQUANT SES EMPREINTES OU SES EXCRÉMENTS.

Le vison est un animal qui se nourrit de façon opportuniste, principalement de petits rongeurs, tels les souris et les campagnols, mais aussi de poissons ou de grenouilles. À l'occasion, le vison peut aussi chasser en forêt les rongeurs et même le lièvre. Excellent nageur, il plonge sans difficulté et sur terre, il adore explorer les systèmes de racines, des arbres creux, les cavités dans les roches et tous les autres endroits où pourraient se cacher des proies.



On peut parfois détecter sa présence en remarquant ses excréments.

Le vison est aussi un excellent chasseur de rats musqués et c'est souvent dans les pièges à rats musqués que les trappeurs vont capturer le vison. À l'occasion, le vison va aussi visiter les huttes de castors ou explorer les amoncellements de branches de leurs barrages. En hiver on peut parfois observer les pistes de vison le long des cours d'eau gelés et surtout s'il y a un accès à l'eau claire, on observera souvent les traces de vison qui entrent et sortent de ces trous d'eau accessibles.

Durant les périodes froides de l'hiver le vison peut demeurer sous la glace pendant plusieurs jours se nourrissant de petits poissons et accédant à des terriers ou des cavités souterraines pour respirer et se reposer. Très opportuniste, le vison n'hésitera pas à se nourrir de nourriture laissée en bord des cours d'eau, dont notamment les poissons capturés par les pêcheurs qui sont laissés sans surveillance, parfois même près des embarcations!

Le vison est omniprésent sur le territoire d'Eeyou Istchee. Si vous portez attention lors de votre prochain arrêt sur une plage lors d'un repas de poissons en été, vous risquez probablement de remarquer quelques petites empreintes sur le sable qui circulent à travers les roches. C'est souvent la seule façon de détecter la présence du vison à moins d'être un des rares qui a eu la chance d'en observer!

Pour les chasseurs, le vison est récolté principalement pour la fourrure, mais les glandes du vison, qui ont une odeur très forte et musquée, sont un excellent leurre pour attirer de plus gros prédateurs, comme les renards ou les lynx. Bien que certains aînés cris disent que c'est un animal que l'on peut consommer en cas de disette, le vison demeure aujourd'hui principalement capturé pour sa fourrure.

Le vison est un excellent nageur



PROFIL D'UN EMPLOYÉ

LE PROGRAMME DE SÉCURITÉ DU REVENU DES CHASSEURS ET PIÉGEURS CRIS A ÉTÉ UN FRANC SUCCÈS DEPUIS PLUS DE 35 ANS ET CE, EN RAISON DE L'ENGAGEMENT DE SON PERSONNEL. NOTRE ARTICLE « PROFIL D'UN EMPLOYÉ » PRÉSENTE UNE COURTE BIOGRAPHIE DES EMPLOYÉS QUI TRAVAILLENT À ASSURER LE SUCCÈS DU PROGRAMME. DANS LA PRÉSENTE ÉDITION, NOUS RENDONS HOMMAGE À M. GEORGE HEAD, NOTRE ADMINISTRATEUR LOCAL, À CHISASIBI.

Dolores Ottereyes- Tapiatic

EMPLOYED BY THE BOARD SINCE: MAY 17, 2010
CURRENT POSITION: LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR
WORK LOCATION: CHISASIBI

Mon nom est Dolores Ottereyes-Tapiatic. Je suis née à Chibougamau de mes parents Annie et Willie Ottereyes. Je suis la 5e de 7 enfants dans notre famille. Je vivais à Mistissini avec mes parents jusqu'à ce que je décide de déménager à Chisasibi en 1997 pour être près de mon futur mari Robbie Tapiatic. Nous nous sommes mariés en 2002 et nous avons 2 beaux enfants.

Quand j'étais jeune, je vivais avec mes grands-parents Tommy Neezosh et Kitty Husky-Neezosh en forêt. Les deux m'ont appris beaucoup de choses sur le mode de vie traditionnel. Ma grand-mère m'a appris à tanner les peaux, coudre, trouver de l'eau, cuisiner, etc. Je garde encore beaucoup de ses enseignements. Elle m'a aussi appris à faire un hamac (balançoire) pour mes poupées parce que je finirais par en avoir besoin pour mes enfants. Mon grand-père m'a appris tout ce qu'un homme fait pour sa famille. Il m'a appris à couper du bois, et de commencer le feu dans le poêle à bois. Il m'a montré comment installer des pièges et quand et comment les vérifier. Il m'a aussi appris à pêcher et comment mettre en place un filet de pêche. Il m'a appris à ne jamais jouer avec les motoneiges, car ils pourraient être dangereux.



« JE TRAVAILLE POUR LE PROGRAMME DE SÉCURITÉ DU REVENU DES CHASSEURS ET PIÉGEURS CRIS DEPUIS LE PRINTEMPS 2010. J'AIME CE QUE JE FAIS. »

Sa motoneige était son principal moyen de transport pour se rendre à ses pièges. J'ai beaucoup de souvenirs de mes grands-parents et je suis heureuse d'avoir pu vivre avec eux et qu'ils m'aient appris tellement de choses pendant leur vie. Ce sont des souvenirs que je chérirai toujours. Maintenant que j'ai ma propre famille, mon mari et moi avons l'intention d'enseigner à nos enfants l'importance de notre tradition. Nous allons à notre camp à Caniapiscau sur CH-32 chaque printemps et automne et parfois en hiver afin de récolter pour l'été et l'hiver.

Je travaille pour le Programme de sécurité du revenu des chasseurs et piégeurs cris depuis le printemps 2010. J'aime ce que je fais. J'aime bavarder avec mes bénéficiaires; ils ont beaucoup de connaissances. En écoutant leurs histoires de leur vie en forêt, j'apprends beaucoup de choses sur notre mode de vie traditionnel. J'ai été en congé de maternité à deux reprises depuis que je travaille pour le Programme et chaque fois, je m'ennuie de mes bénéficiaires. Quand je les vois en ville, ils me demandent si je retourne bientôt au travail. Cela me rend heureuse, car je me sens apprécié.



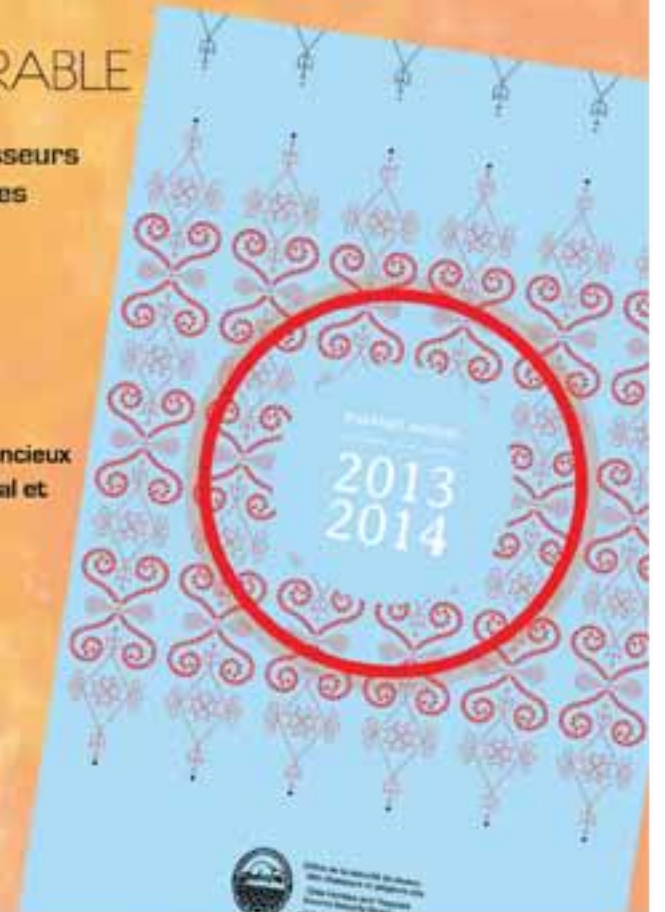
« MAINTENANT QUE J'AI MA PROPRE FAMILLE, MON MARI ET MOI AVONS L'INTENTION D'ENSEIGNER À NOS ENFANTS L'IMPORTANCE DE NOTRE TRADITION. »

PSR & DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

L'Office de la sécurité du revenu des chasseurs et piégeurs cris est heureux d'annoncer les mesures suivantes entreprises afin de s'engager dans la démarche globale vers un développement durable.

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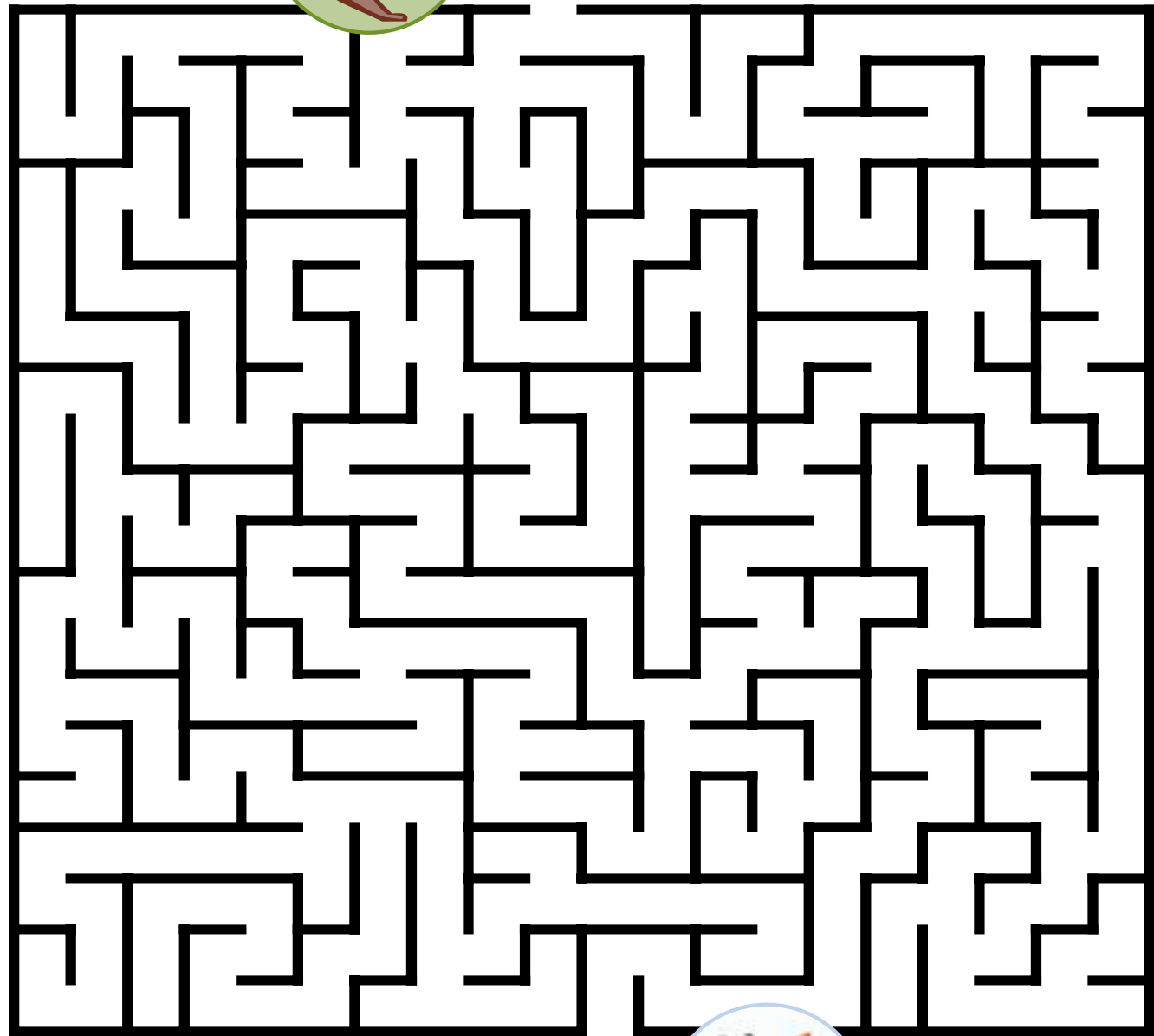
L'Office s'engage à poursuivre ses efforts vers un développement durable.

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