## **PRESS RELEASE**

Whapmagoostui ⊲∧Ld<sup>∞</sup>⊃∆

Chisasibi

Wemindji ∆r°ċ

Eastmain

Nemaska

Waswanipi マンマン

Ouje-Bougoumou

Mistissini 「こっしょ

Washaw Sibi

MoCreebec

## Congratulations to Newly Elected Premier-designate Mr. François Legault of the Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ)

Nemaska, Eeyou Istchee (October 5, 2018) – The Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government congratulates newly elected Premier-designate Mr. François Legault of the Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ) as well the party's newly elected Members of National Assembly in a victory resulting in a majority government.

The Cree Nation Government looks forward to working with Mr. Legault, Mr. Lamothe and other representatives of the CAQ to build on the foundation provided by the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement and the Agreement Concerning a New Relationship Between the Government of Québec and the Crees of Québec (Paix des Braves Agreement). With mutual respect and appreciation, the Cree Nation is prepared to find innovative and mutually beneficial ways of addressing challenging areas such as housing and social services, protection of the environment and climate change, resource development.

In keeping with tradition with a newly elected provincial government, the Cree Nation remains open to meaningful collaboration and exchange with the Premier and his cabinet to ensure that our young and growing population continue to assume an ever more meaningful role in Québec's economy and governance in a territory that continues to be key to Québec's economic development. Neighboring regions and provinces can attest to the positive impacts of this important relationship between the Cree Nation and the province of Québec.

"I was very pleased to note during the campaign the intention on the part of Mr. Legault and the CAQ to implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. I consider this to be an important step in the right direction in addressing a wide range of Indigenous issues," stated the Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum, "and I also look forward to receiving the new Premier and his Ministers and showing them the beauty and potential of our communities and Eeyou Istchee."

With the interest of our people at the core of all government relationships, the Cree Nation Government invites Premier-designate Legault and the Coalition Avenir Québec to continue building this partnership that has grown over the last 40 years and that has proven beneficial for all citizens of the province.

-30-

For more information: Melissa Saganash, Cree-Québec Relations

(418) 691-1111