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Message on the anniversary of the signing of the Cree-Canada New Relationship Agreement

The Federal New Relationship Agreement, signed on February 21, 2008, established a new relationship between Canada and the Cree Nation in order to improve implementation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement of 1975- our Treaty. Over the last 45 years, we have consistently placed our rights and our treaty at the centre of our struggles, our negotiations and our agreements. We have successfully built upon the recognition of those rights by translating them into meaningful tangible benefits for our communities, our people, and our Nation.

This 20-year Agreement transfers many Federal responsibilities under the JBNQA to our communities and the Cree Nation Government with regards to justice, economic and community development, human resources development, along with the financial resources to carry them out. With these resources, we have been able to advance the development of our communities through new community facilities and infrastructure, some additional housing, paved roads and establish standards for sanitation and community services that better meet the needs of our people.

The Agreement also reaffirmed our jurisdiction to govern ourselves and our affairs, helping us to participate more fully in the economic development of Eeyou Istchee. With this Agreement, we set out a process leading to the Cree Nation Governance Agreement and Cree Constitution of 2017, putting into place key elements required for the building of a proud, self-governing and effective Cree Nation.

Dr. Abel Bosum Grand Chief/Chairperson ⊲≻∧∽ >ℋ ເຜ⊳ເ⊥"⊳</୯ଁ⊓>∙∆∝ ⊳ເ⊥° Mandy Gull Deputy Grand Chief/Vice-Chairperson Lori ⋅i⊧ r⇔⊳ri-าiь ก่ะ"าาง่.จ่เ∕i่าก>ง∆∘ ⊳ri∘ ก่ะ"าง่งจ่เ