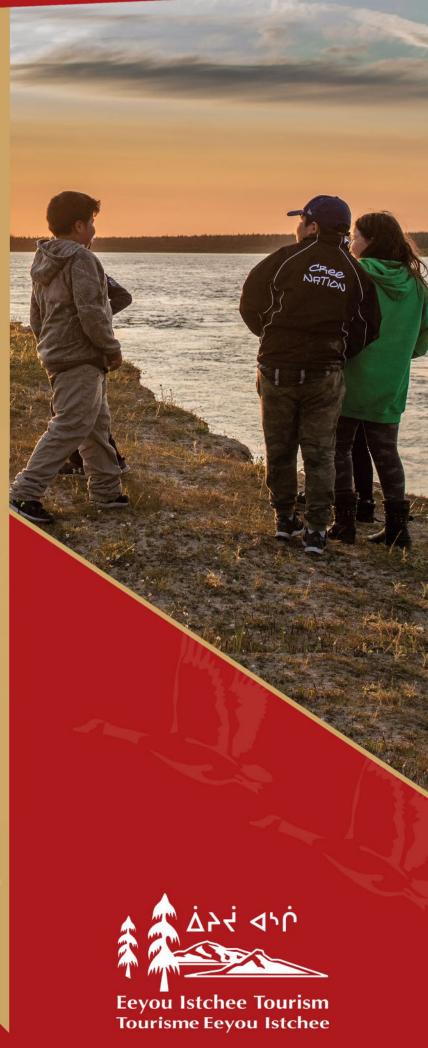
2024-2025

ANNUAL REPORT







Our Address

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418.745.2220 or 1.888.268.COTA (2682)



Email Us

info@creetourism.ca



Find Us

www.creetourism.ca



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https://www.linkedin.com/company/cree-outfitting-and-tourism-association



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A Message from our President



Edward Bearskin

As President of Eeyou Istchee Tourism (EIT), I'm pleased to reflect on a year of steady progress, growing partnerships, and continued commitment to the future of tourism in our region. From advancing long-term planning projects, supporting local initiatives, and celebrating Cree culture, the past year has shown how tourism continues to play a vital role in community development, cultural preservation, and economic growth.

A primary focus this year has been the development of the Community Destination Master Plans. These locally led plans are rooted in Cree values and created through ongoing collaboration with each community, reflecting their distinct identities, strengths, and vision for tourism. While the work is still underway, these plans are already helping to coordinate efforts, strengthen local involvement, and support a future for tourism that is both respectful and community-driven.

We're also seeing the impact of strategic funding partnerships. The Entente de partenariat régional et de transformation numérique en tourisme 2022-2025 (EPRTNT) has been a key driver of tourism development, advancing priority projects that align with our long-term vision. With this support, a diverse range of initiatives has taken shape—from infrastructure upgrades and cultural experiences to business development and technology improvements. These projects help enhance visitor offerings while supporting tourism operators across Eeyou Istchee.

Our team at EIT has been dedicated to assisting Cree tourism entrepreneurs in navigating the EPRTNT funding process—ensuring they received the support needed to secure funding, grow their businesses, and launch projects that enrich the visitor experience.

One notable initiative this year was the second edition of the Cree Knowledge Festival, which has become a meaningful event for celebrating and sharing Cree culture. Beyond showcasing the talents of Cree artists and performers, the Festival highlights Cree history and traditions. The event featured traditional storytelling, powerful musical performances, and thought-provoking panel discussions with elders and Cree leaders, creating a meaningful space for learning, engagement, and connection.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our partners, team, community members, and tourism operators. Your dedication and collaboration make it possible to imagine—and build—a thriving, sustainable future for tourism in Eeyou Istchee.

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VILLE VILLE

— OUR HISTORY

On August 15, 2007, the Québec government provided the Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association (COTA) with the status of Regional Tourism Association (RTA).

In light of the fact that its roles and responsibilities differed from those required of an RTA, COTA decided to create a separate organization, namely Eeyou Istchee Tourism, to fulfill these specific requirements.

— MANDATE

Québec's ministry of tourism has mandated EIT to boost and grow its region's economy and vitality through tourism. EIT must fulfill this mandate through targeted action in the following areas:

- Promotion and marketing
- Reception, information, and signage for tourists
- Strategic innovation and digital technology

EIT must contribute to the transition toward responsible and sustainable tourism by leveraging its role as a regional consultative body and implementing promising tourism development solutions. In addition, it must provide regional leadership with respect to tourism development and work with other players in the province's tourism industry in accordance with their respective mandates.

EIT

EIT works closely with
COTA and Tourisme
Baie-James to support
members and strengthen
the Cree tourism industry.
Through collaboration,
long-term planning, and the
celebration of Cree culture,
tourism plays a vital role in
community development,
cultural preservation, and
economic growth across the
region.

OBJECTIVES

- Position and promote Eeyou Istchee Baie-James as an appealing destination for cultural, adventure, and eco-tourism as well as outfitter services;
- Support the development of marketable tourism products and upgrade existing products so as to grow the regional economy;
- Enhance regional tourism infrastructure by making information on tourism products and services easily accessible;
- Ensure the regional tourism sector embraces sustainable development principles, provides benefits to youth and Elders, and bolsters the region's cultural vibrancy.





EIT's

Year in Review

EIT partners with tourism businesses across the region to create meaningful, innovative experiences that highlight sustainability and celebrate cultural authenticity.

1. PROJECTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 Comprehensive Approach Towards Destination Excellence for Cree Communities of Eeyou Istchee

The goal of this project is to equip tourism stakeholders in the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee with the knowledge and resources needed to foster a sustainable tourism industry that celebrates the region's natural beauty, culture, heritage, and residents' well-being.

To achieve this, the project uses two tools from the World Centre of Excellence for Destinations (CED): the System of Measures for Excellence in Destinations (SMED) and the Happiness Index. These tools help improve management practices and guide sustainable tourism development in Eeyou Istchee.

The SMED system is an innovative approach that focuses on both short-term and long-term goals for sustainable tourism. Communities evaluated with SMED receive actionable recommendations to improve and grow their tourism offerings. This allows them to build on their strengths while addressing key challenges to remain competitive in the global tourism market.

The SMED process includes these 7 key steps:

- 1. Memorandum of Understanding
- 2. Creation of a Destination Profile
- 3. Stakeholder Engagement
- 4. Start-Up Seminar for all Tourism Stakeholders
- 5. Community Workshops and Questionnaires
- 6. Actions to Improve Destination Performance
- 7. Presentation of Results

1.1.2 Progress to Date

In June 2024, visits were made to several communities, including Chisasibi, Wemindji, Eastmain, Waskaganish, and Nemaska, where the process of building the regional strategy was initiated. One key outcome has been the launch of the Community Destination Masterplan Project, which helps each community develop its unique tourism identity.

This initiative is funded by the Société du Plan Nord, the Cree Nation Government, EIT and COTA.

1.2 Community Destination Masterplans

In the winter of 2025, EIT began working closely with communities across Eeyou Istchee to develop Community Destination Masterplans—tailored strategies that showcase each community's unique tourism potential.

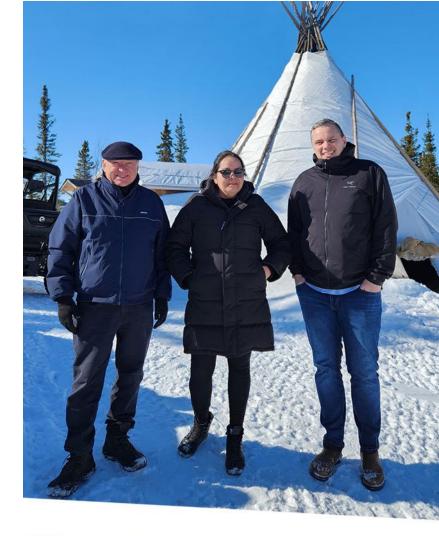
Every community in the region offers its own distinct blend of culture, history, landscapes, and experiences. This initiative is designed to support each one in becoming a tourism destination with offerings that reflect local stories, values, and priorities. At the same time, the master plans contribute to the broader development of tourism across the region.

Each masterplan focuses on:

- ♦ Establishing local tourism governance structures
- ♦ Identifying key assets and signature experiences
- Developing strategies for sustainable tourism development
- ♦ Enhancing the overall visitor experience

Initial work began in Waswanipi, Oujé-Bougoumou, and Wemindji, with plans to expand to additional communities over the next year. By supporting locally driven tourism development and leadership, this initiative strengthens the regional network and ensures that each community's voice and vision remain central to the visitor experience.

This project is made possible thanks to funding from Indigenous Services Canada and Société Plan Nord.





Looking Ahead

As the initiative moves forward, additional communities will develop locally driven strategies to enhance their tourism potential. These masterplans will support sustainable economic growth, preserve cultural identity, and foster long-term community benefits. Collectively, these efforts are shaping a regional tourism landscape that reflects the strength, diversity, and hospitality of Eeyou Istchee.

1.3 Product Development and Monthly Support with Houle Conseils

Houle Conseils offers specialized expertise in tourism development, focusing on accommodations, customer service, and catering operations. Their services include hands-on development support, operational assistance, coaching, and customized training tailored to Cree tourism businesses.

This year, Houle Conseils provided invaluable support to members preparing their EPRTNT funding applications. With expert guidance, businesses successfully navigated the process, leading to positive outcomes that will strengthen operations and enhance the guest experience. This also helped improve market readiness, positioning businesses to meet industry standards and attract more visitors.

Additionally, Houle Conseils offers monthly support to Cree tourism enterprises, providing expert advice suited to the sector's unique needs. This assistance helps businesses strengthen their offerings and competitiveness through product structuring and data-driven studies, polls, and surveys for strategic planning.

Businesses benefiting from the monthly support include Wiinipaakw Tours, Wemindji Tourism, Nibiischii, and the Cree Nation of Mistissini's lodge.

We would like to thank the Ministère du Tourisme via the Entente Mandat with EIT and Canada Economic Development for funding.

1.4 EPRTNT Funding Stream

The Regional Tourism Partnership Agreement (Entente de partenariat régional et de transformation numérique en tourisme- EPRTNT) is a funding program led by the Ministère du Tourisme du Québec, with additional support from regional partners including Société de développement de la Baie-James. It helps develop tourism offerings that reflect the cultural character of Eeyou Istchee, while aligning with government priorities.

The program is designed to support responsible and sustainable tourism, encourage innovation, and develop market-ready experiences that attract visitors while protecting the environment and celebrating local culture. By investing in community-driven projects, the EPRTNT contributes to long-term success and growth in the regional tourism sector.



Winipisky.

Looking Ahead

EIT will continue to support Cree tourism businesses by working alongside partners like Houle Conseils to strengthen operations, enhance visitor experiences, and improve market readiness. Ongoing efforts will focus on providing tailored guidance, developing high-quality tourism offerings, and promoting sustainable growth rooted in cultural authenticity.

2. MARKETING AND PROMOTIONAL PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TBJ

2.1 DIGITAL AND MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

2.1.1 Traditions Autochtones Campaign

As part of the Traditions Autochtones campaign, EIT partnered with Tourisme Autochtone Québec (TAQ) to promote the Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute. The campaign was featured in major publications, including Le Figaro and Le Monde, as well as on popular digital platforms such as Yahoo, Facebook, and Google.

Highlights:

- Over 17,500 more visits than projected on Le Monde
- ♦ High engagement on Facebook and Instagram
- ♦ Podcast promotion garnered double the typical traffic
- ♦ 3,556 leads generated through Yahoo

This campaign successfully increased visibility for the region's cultural attractions and Indigenous tourism experiences.

2.1.2 Indigenous Experience Web Campaign – Truly Surreal

The Truly Surreal campaign is a tourism initiative that invites visitors to discover all that Eeyou Istchee has to offer.

Centered on immersive and memorable experiences, the campaign showcases the region's unique blend of natural beauty and cultural richness.

At the heart of the campaign is a video titled Discover the Cree Nation, available on YouTube. The video highlights the warmth of Cree hospitality, vibrant cultural traditions, breathtaking landscapes, and diverse wildlife. It also features one-of-a-kind attractions rooted in Cree heritage, offering viewers a vivid and authentic introduction to our remarkable region.

Looking Ahead

Building on the momentum of 2024–2025, EIT will continue to collaborate on marketing efforts that raise the profile of Eeyou Istchee Baie-James across Québec, Canada, and beyond. Through media outreach, partnerships, and targeted campaigns, we remain committed to showcasing the region's rich culture, stunning landscapes, and authentic experiences—while supporting the growth of local tourism businesses.





When the Aurora Borealis lit up the skies over Montréal, we seized the opportunity to inspire curiosity and connection with this timely message: "Missed them? Come and experience them for real!" This simple yet powerful call captured the imagination of audiences, inviting them to discover the beauty and wonder of Eeyou Istchee, where the Northern Lights are not just a rare event, but a natural part of the landscape. Moments like these highlight the importance of strategic, responsive storytelling that connects people to place—reinforcing Eeyou Istchee's position as a unique

2.1.3 Stunt Aurora Borealis

In collaboration with OASIS, this fun and creative campaign featured the Aurora Borealis as a signature tourism attraction.

Content was shared through two popular Québec-based digital platforms—TPL Moms and NIGHTLIFE—supported by Facebook posts and additional media coverage via MediaTonik, a Montreal-based advertising network that reaches over 12 million users each month.

This well-timed message helped position EIBJ as one of the premier destinations to experience the beauty and wonder of the Northern Lights.

2.1.4 BIG REGION Campaign

The BIG REGION campaign, created in collaboration with OASIS, highlighted what makes EIBJ a unique and distinctive tourism destination. Centered around the new "Truly Surreal" tagline, the campaign focused on three main themes:

- ◆ Regional identity
- Fishing and the outdoors
- ♦ Indigenous culture and experiences

The campaign was shared across multiple platforms to raise awareness, reach new audiences, and encourage interaction.

Campaign Results:

- ♦ Reached 7.3 million people
- ♦ Delivered 22.35 million impressions
- ♦ Generated nearly 90,000 clicks

2.1.5 Québec à Moto Campaign

EIBJ is pleased to partner with Québec à Moto, an organization that brings together regional tourism associations to promote motorcycle tourism throughout the province. This collaboration allows us to showcase the region's scenic riding routes, local services, unique experiences, and welcoming accommodations.

As part of the initiative, we contribute six Facebook posts annually and regularly supply content for Québec à Moto's newsletter.

The campaign reached an average of 2,500 people per post, with a newsletter audience of 9,778 recipients.

2.1.6 Snowmobile Campaign

In collaboration with Alliance de l'industrie touristique du Québec (AITQ) and Bonjour Québec, a targeted snowmobile campaign was launched to promote EIBJ as a premier destination for snowmobiling adventures. The campaign focused on reaching experienced riders and outdoor enthusiasts, particularly in Ontario and the eastern United States.

Campaign elements included:

- ♦ A 15-second promotional video featured on Amazon
- ♦ Sponsored content on Supertrax and Sled Magazine
- ♦ Digital ads on Facebook, Instagram, and Google
- ♦ High-visibility on the Bonjour Québec website

2.1.7 Online Article - La Presse

An online feature in La Presse helped bring attention to EIBJ, highlighting two local businesses, including Maître Renard and our very own Wiinipaakw Tours. The article introduced readers to the region, providing a glimpse into its culinary diversity and cultural richness.

With La Presse reaching nearly 4 million readers each month, the article served as an excellent platform to showcase the unique tourism experiences in EIBJ and enhance its reputation as a one-of-a-kind travel destination.

2.1.8 Co-Branded Article with URBANIA

In a strategic effort to reach younger, digitally engaged audiences, a co-branded article highlighting EIBJ's winter attractions was created in collaboration with the editorial team at URBANIA—a prominent media outlet in Québec recognized for its strong presence across digital platforms, print, television, and podcasts.

Targeting URBANIA's core demographic of 18–35-year-old readers, the article was published on the outlet's blog and promoted via social media campaigns and Google Display ads.

This collaboration significantly boosted visibility and brand awareness for the region, positioning EIBJ as an exciting and authentic winter destination for younger travellers.









2.2 TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

2.2.1 Un Chef au Bout du Monde

An episode of the popular series Un Chef au Bout du Monde was filmed at Nibiischii and in Mistissini. The episode featured celebrity chefs Philippe Etchebest and Stéphane Modat, who explored local Cree culinary traditions and ingredients.

The show, known for highlighting remote culinary destinations, provided audiences with distinctive insight into the culture, land-based activities, and traditional foods of Eeyou Istchee.

2.2.2 Rencontre Autochtone

An episode of the series Rencontre Autochtone, produced for TAQ, was filmed at Nibiischii featuring well-known host Dave Morissette. The episode showcases the territory's unique experiences and natural beauty, offering viewers an authentic glimpse into Eeyou Istchee's tourism offerings.

Set to launch in September 2025 as part of TAQ's new promotional campaign, this episode will position Eeyou Istchee at the forefront of Indigenous tourism in Québec, reaching a broad audience across the province.

2.2.3 Saveurs: À la rencontre des cuisines autochtones

In collaboration with TAQ, Télé-Québec, and the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec (ITHQ), an episode of the web series Saveurs: À la rencontre des cuisines autochtones was filmed in Waskaganish. The episode highlights Indigenous culinary traditions, focusing on key practices such as hunting, fishing, and harvesting.

Filmed during the community's annual gathering at Smokey Hill, the episode provided an authentic and meaningful backdrop to showcase Cree food, culture, and hospitality.

Culinary tourism offers a meaningful way to experience Indigenous culture through traditional foods, local ingredients, and land-based practices. In Eeyou Istchee, it invites visitors to connect with Cree heritage and the rhythms of life on the land.

2.3 PRINT MEDIA AND GUIDES

2.3.1 2025-2026 Regional Tourist Guide

The Regional Tourist Guide is a valuable resource that highlights the diverse tourism attractions, businesses, and experiences that EIBJ has to offer. With over 30,000 copies distributed across Québec, Ontario, the northeastern United States, and Europe, the guide reaches a broad audience of travellers. Updated annually, it is designed to inspire and assist visitors as they plan their trip to EIBJ.

The 2025–2026 edition features recommendations on must-see attractions, cultural events, accommodations, and practical travel information, including tips on safety and sustainable tourism. It is available in print and digital formats and can be downloaded at www.eeyouistcheebaiejames.com.

2.3.2 Outfitters Guide

EIBJ was featured in the Outfitters Guide, an annual publication targeting hunting, fishing, and outdoor enthusiasts. Over 2,000 copies were distributed at major hunting and fishing shows in Pennsylvania (northeastern U.S.) and Toronto (Ontario). This strategic outreach significantly enhanced the region's visibility among a targeted audience with an interest in outdoor, wilderness experiences.

2.3.3 Petit Futé Guide-Magazine

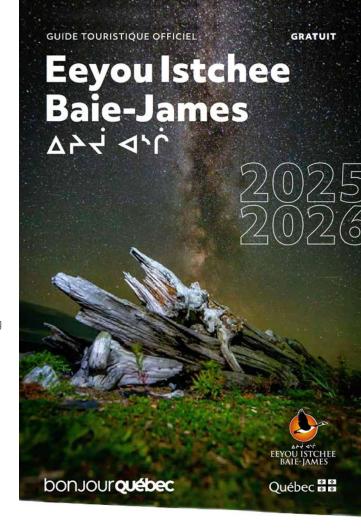
EIBJ was prominently featured in a 10-page spread in the popular travel publication Petit Futé, accompanied by a paid advertisement. The feature highlighted the region's rich culture, natural beauty, and unique tourism experiences.

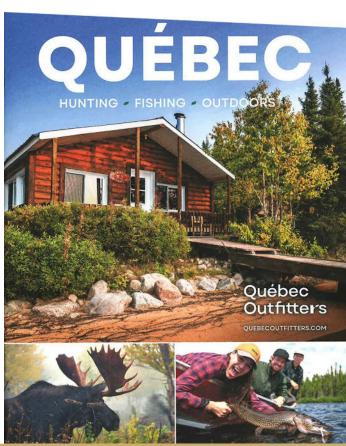
As a widely read guide among French-speaking European travellers, Petit Futé offered valuable exposure, helping to attract interest from international visitors planning their next adventure in Québec.

2.3.4 Tourisme Autochtone Québec Newsletter - Spotlight on EIBJ

A dedicated newsletter from TAQ highlighted their recent visit to Eeyou Istchee, emphasizing our leadership and engagement in the Indigenous tourism sector. As part of the visit, TAQ representatives participated in our AGM and Tourism Conference while also hosting their own sessions focused on collaboration and industry development.

This communication showcased our active role in shaping the future of Indigenous tourism and helped reinforce key partnerships within Québec's broader Indigenous tourism network.





2.4 CONTESTS

2.4.1 A Truly Surreal Experience

In the summer of 2024, we launched a contest titled "A Truly Surreal Experience," featuring several of our member businesses and offering the winner a \$2,000 credit to enjoy a memorable stay in EIBJ.

The contest winner could choose from one of three unique trips: Indigenous Fishing Adventure, Boreal Immersion, or Northern Epicurean Escape. This initiative not only showcased the participating businesses but also generated significant public interest and engagement.

Key Results:

- Over 10,000 new newsletter subscribers
- ♦ 42,000+ views on the contest web page
- 32,000+ clicks from our Meta (Facebook/Instagram) ad campaign

This initiative delivered strong visibility and engagement, underscoring its success as both a promotional and marketing effort.

2.5 TRADESHOWS AND EVENTS

2.5.1 KWE! Festival

EIT was pleased to participate in the 2024 edition of the KWE! Festival with a dedicated kiosk highlighting the region and showcasing the talent of Cree artist Deborah Ratt. Held from June 14 to 16 at Place Jean-Béliveau in Québec City, this annual festival celebrates the cultures and traditions of Québec's 11 Indigenous Nations.

Our kiosk offered a unique platform for Deborah Ratt to share her artistic knowledge and engage directly with visitors. It also provided Felicity Blacksmith from EIT an opportunity to present information about EIBJ and promote the region's growing Indigenous tourism offerings.

Visitors discovered the cultural richness, natural beauty, and immersive experiences that await travellers. The festival itself featured a vibrant array of live performances, artisan markets, traditional craft demonstrations, tastings of Indigenous cuisine, and thought-provoking discussions on Indigenous knowledge and contemporary issues. These diverse and meaningful activities created a dynamic and educational experience for all who attended.



Looking Ahead

Participating in events is an essential part of advancing Indigenous tourism. They provide valuable opportunities to raise awareness, build strategic partnerships, and promote the unique cultural and natural experiences our region has to offer. By engaging directly with the public, media, and industry professionals, EIT is able to strengthen its visibility, and foster meaningful connections. EIT will continue to take part in events that help position EIBJ as a must-visit destination within Québec's vibrant tourism landscape.

2.5.2 Bourse des Médias | Winter 2024-2025

Bourse des Médias (the Media Exchange), organized by AITQ, is a key networking event that brings together media professionals and Regional Tourism Associations (RTAs) from across the province.

The winter edition offered a valuable opportunity to share updates, strengthen partnerships, and promote regional tourism initiatives.

At the event, our marketing delegate met with representatives from 13 well established media outlets, building meaningful connections and sharing updates about EIBJ.

Key Highlights:

- 105 media professionals registered, representing a 15% increase over the previous year
- 13 one-on-one meetings held with our delegate
- 30 partners represented by 46 delegates (including 20 RTAs, 7 sectoral associations, and 3 permanent Alliance members), reflecting a 22% increase in participation
- 95 attendees at the opening conference, a
 30% increase from the previous edition





To promote Nibiischii's exciting new winter offerings, a targeted advertisement was placed directly on the Bourse des Médias platform—an industry hub that connects tourism organizations with key media and travel trade contacts. This placement ensured direct exposure to all 105 registered media professionals and industry partners, including travel writers, bloggers, tour operators, and content creators. It helped raise awareness of Nibiischii's growing range of winter experiences—such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and cultural programming—while positioning the destination as a unique and accessible winter getaway. The initiative also supported efforts to build stronger industry relationships and encourage future media coverage.

2.6 MEDIA AND FAMILIARIZATION TOURS

2.6.1 Familiarization Tour – Showcasing Winter Experiences in Eeyou Istchee

In collaboration with TAQ and the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC), a group of nine international media outlets and tour operators visited Eeyou Istchee to experience Nibiischii's new winter tourism offerings. The tour showcased our unique winter landscapes, outdoor activities, and cultural experiences.

During their visit, participants explored the renowned Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute, gaining a deeper understanding of the history, culture, and traditions of the Cree Nation.

This initiative, supported by TAQ, ITAC, and Destination Canada, played a vital role in raising international awareness of Eeyou Istchee as a distinctive and authentic Indigenous winter tourism destination.





2.6.2 Ambassador Tour

In collaboration with AITQ, TAQ, and photographer Olivier Langevin, a regional tour was organized—from Matagami to Chisasibi—to capture and showcase the natural beauty and cultural richness of EIBJ through compelling photos and videos.

As a Bonjour Québec ambassador, Olivier Langevin shared his journey with his 25.2K Instagram followers, posting a series of photos and videos that highlighted the region's landscapes, communities, and experiences. His content was also featured on Bonjour Québec's official platforms, helping to significantly boost visibility and inspire a broader audience across Québec to discover and explore EIBJ.

2.6.3 Media Tour

In collaboration with AITQ, TAQ, and AuQuéb — a website promoting unique travel destinations in Québec — a media tour was organized to showcase the outdoor experiences and Indigenous culture of EIBJ. Content creator AuQuéb visited several local tourism businesses, including the Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute and Nibiischii.

The visit yielded engaging photos, videos, and compelling written content, which were shared across social media platforms, significantly increasing awareness of the region and its distinctive tourism offerings.

Looking Ahead

Media and familiarization tours play an important role in increasing visibility for Eeyou Istchee. By sharing authentic stories and experiences, they help attract new visitors and build stronger connections with the tourism industry. EIT will continue to support these tours to showcase the region and grow interest in Indigenous tourism.

AUDITED

FINANCIALS

Eeyou Istchee Tourism Financial Statements March 31, 2025

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Directors of Eeyou Istchee Tourism

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Eeyou Istchee Tourism (hereafter "the Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the schedule and supplementary information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control;
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our

conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern;

 Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Raymond Cholot Grant Thornton LLP

Val-d'Or August 28, 2025

¹ CPA auditor, public accountancy permit no. A116128

Eeyou Istchee Tourism Operations Year ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2004
	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Revenues (Schedule A)	1,815,944	1,208,488
Expenses		
Services agreements	397,007	315,310
Travel	37,758	55,984
Professional fees	140,678	55,405
Supplies and office expenses	40,522	31,778
Cancellation of sales taxes receivable	•	27,629
Partnership expenses – TBJ / EIT	660	21,136
Subscriptions and memberships	8,620	11,811
Legal fees	2,596	3,003
Training	17,402	2,331
Insurance		2,159
Meetings and conventions	31,188	1,651
Advertising	209	809
Bank charges	572	129
Doubtful accounts (recovery)	(3,492)	11,787
Other expenses	31,755	17,001
Amortization of tangible capital assets		1,886
	705,475	559,809
Project expenses	346,385	420,888
Project disbursements – Regional Tourism Partnership Agreement	,	-,
(RTPA)	674,332	40,054
	1,726,192	1,020,751
Excess of revenues over expenses	89,752	187,737

The accompanying notes, schedule and supplementary information are an integral part of the financial statements.

Eeyou Istchee Tourism Changes in Net Assets Year ended March 31, 2025

			2025	2024
		Appropriated for		
		marketing plan,		
		products		
		development		
	Unappropriated	and innovation	Total	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	186,675	550,000	736,675	548,938
Excess of revenues over expenses	89,752		89,752	187,737
Balance, end of year	276,427	550,000	826,427	736,675

The accompanying notes, schedule and supplementary information are an integral part of the financial statements.

Eeyou Istchee Tourism Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	89,752	187,737
Non-cash item		
Amortization of tangible capital assets		1,886
	89,752	189,623
Net change in working capital items	699,098	476,379
Cash flows from operating activities INVESTING ACTIVITIES	788,850	666,002
Term deposit and cash flows from investing activities	(20,110)	
Net increase in cash	768,740	666,002
Cash, beginning of year	967,885	301,883
Cash, end of year	1,736,625	967,885

The accompanying notes, schedule and supplementary information are an integral part of the financial statements.

Eeyou Istchee Tourism Financial Position

March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	1,736,625	967,885
Term deposit, 4%	10,011	10,011
Trade and other receivables (Note 3)	16,407	81,362
Contributions receivable (Note 4)	345,921	254,638
Prepaid expenses	295	201.049.040.00
	2,109,259	1,313,896
Long-term Term deposit, 2.5%	820,110	800,000
Term deposit, 2.5%		
	2,929,369	2,113,896
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Trade payables and other operating liabilities (Note 5)	410,849	232,287
Long-term Cong-term		
Deferred contributions (Note 6)	1,627,101	1,077,449
Marketing credit payable	64,521	67,014
Due to Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association, without interest or		474
repayment terms	<u>471</u>	471
	2,102,942	1,377,221
NET ASSETS		
Unappropriated	276,427	186,675
Appropriated for marketing plan, products development and	,	
innovation	550,000	550,000
	826,427	736,675
	2,929,369	2,113,896

The accompanying notes, schedule and supplementary information are an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board,

Director Direct

March 31, 2025

1 - GOVERNING STATUTES AND PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Organization was incorporated under Part III of the *Companies Act (Quebec)* for the purpose of providing support to Cree outfitters and promoting tourism of the Nord-du-Québec region. It is a not-for-profit organization under the *Income Tax Act*.

2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The Organization's financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recorded in the financial statements, notes to financial statements, schedule and supplementary information. These estimates are based on management's knowledge of current events and actions that the Organization may undertake in the future. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revenue recognition

Contributions

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Under this method, contributions restricted for future period expenses are deferred and are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are reported as direct increases in net assets.

Financial assets and liabilities

Initial measurement

Upon initial measurement, the Organization's financial assets and liabilities are measured at fair value, which, in the case of financial assets or financial liabilities that will be measured subsequently at amortized cost, is increased or decreased by the amount of the related financing fees and transaction costs. The Organization's financial assets and liabilities from related party transactions are measured at cost.

Subsequent measurement

At each reporting date, the Organization measures its financial assets and liabilities from transactions not concluded with related parties at amortized cost (including any impairment in the case of financial assets), whereas those from related party transactions are measured using the cost method (including any impairment in the case of financial assets).

March 31, 2025

2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

With respect to financial assets measured at amortized cost or using the cost method, the Organization assesses whether there are any indications of impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and if the Organization determines that, during the year, there was a significant adverse change in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from a financial asset, it will then recognize a reduction as an impairment loss in operations. The reversal of a previously recognized impairment loss on a financial asset measured at amortized cost or using the cost method is recognized in operations in the year the reversal occurs.

3 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

2025	2024
\$	\$
11,591	21,537
7,748	44,878
7,909	29,280
27,248	95,695
10,841	14,333
16,407	81,362
2025	2024
\$	\$
125,765	125,765
50,000	59,618
113,401	
56,755	56,755
	12,500
345,921	254,638
2025	2024
\$	\$
89,587	46,446
321,262	185,841
410,849	232,287
	\$ 11,591 7,748 7,909 27,248 10,841 16,407 2025 \$ 125,765 50,000 113,401 56,755 345,921 2025 \$ 89,587 321,262

March 31, 2025

6 - DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS		
	2025	2024
	\$	\$
RTPA 2016-2020		
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec	120,998	169,713
Cree Nation Government	25,880	36,300
Cree Outfitting Tourism Association	38,714	54,301
RTPA 2020-2022		
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec	309,669	352,989
RTPA 2022-2025		
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec	524,458	286,100
Cree Outfitting Tourism Association	242,373	
Société de Développement de la Baie-James	57,563	
Other		
Ministère du Toursime du Québec – Strategy to Enhance Tourist		
Reception	44,550	
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec – Climate Change	50,000	
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec (hotel tax)	164,403	164,403
Gouvernement du Québec – Plan Nord	34,850	
Cree Nation Government	13,643	13,643
Other Revenues		
	1,627,101	1,077,449

7 - FINANCIAL RISKS

Credit risk

The Organization is exposed to credit risk regarding the financial assets recognized in the statement of financial position. The Organization has determined that the financial assets with more credit risk exposure are trade accounts receivable and contributions receivable since failure of any of these parties to fulfil their obligations could result in significant financial losses for the Organization.

Market risk

The Organization's financial instruments expose it to market risk, in particular, to interest rate risk, resulting from its investing activities.

Interest rate risk

The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to financial assets bearing fixed interest rates.

The term deposits bear interest at a fixed rate and the Organization is, therefore, exposed to the risk of changes in fair value resulting from interest rate fluctuations.

Liquidity risk

The Organization's liquidity risk represents the risk that the Organization could encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with its financial liabilities. The Organization is, therefore, exposed to liquidity risk with respect to all of the financial liabilities recognized in the statement of financial position.

March 31, 2025

8 - COMMITMENTS

As part of the Regional Tourism Partnership Agreement and by resolutions, the Organization has committed an amount of \$703,820 as grants. The outstanding commitment may be effected in accordance with the signed agreement.

3 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Approved disbursements	Amount disbursed	Amount to be disbursed
	\$	\$	\$
RTPA 2016-2020	·	•	,
Tawish Development Corporation			
Equipment purchases	18,000		18,000
Cree Nation of Nemaska	,		,
Story of Our Elders and stairway and			
boardwalks	65,000	39,000	26,000
Cree Nation of Mistissini - Tourism Division			,
Mistissini Outfitting Camps	180,000	180,000	
Cree Nation of Chisasibi	,	,	
Equipment purchases	6,541	2,721	3,820
RTPA 2020-2022	-,	_,,	0,000
Wiinipaakw Tours Solidarity Cooperative			
Wiinipaakw boat tours	141,032	101,032	40,000
Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute	,	,	,
Augmented reality self-guided tour	11,086	6,652	4,434
Nibiischii Corporation	,	-,	-,
360' Cultural Heritage Museum	59,600	35,760	23,840
Winter Fun Family	108,300	108,300	,
Auberge Capissisit Lodge	,	,	
Equipment purchases	1,465		1,465
Auberge Kanio-Kashee Lodge	.,		.,
Equipment purchases	7,088		7,088
Cree Nation of Chisasibi	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		,
Equipment purchases	184,827		184,827
Cree Nation of Waskaganish			
Waskaganish Tourism Products	121,625	72,975	48,650
RTPA 2022-2025	,		,
Nibiischii - Tourism Optimization phase for Lake			
Waconichi site	200,000	120,000	80,000
Waswanipi - Welcome Centre and exhibition	96,124	57,674	38,450
Cree Outfiiting and Tourism Association - Hotel			
technology improvement	95,000	57,000	38,000
Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association - Cree			
knowledge festivals	60,100	36,060	24,040
Niniischii – Square tail log	260,000	156,000	104,000
Cree Nation of Waskaganish – Historical			
interpretative products	96,579	57,947	38,632
Tawich Tourism - Canoe and kayak Wemindji	56,434	33,860	22,574
	1,768,801	1,064,981	703,820

March 31, 2025

9 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS	<u>2025</u> \$	2024 \$
Organization under common control	*	•
Revenues		
Contributions	34,604	30,154
Expenses		
Services agreements	334,230	315,310
Travel	-	24,063
Supplies and office expenses	21,632	21,135
Other expenses	13,829	1,938
Project expenses	30,000	57,368
Project disbursements – RTPA	93,060	40,054

These transactions were concluded in the normal course of operations and measured at the exchange amount, excluding the resulting instruments.

Eeyou Istchee Tourism Schedule Year ended March 31, 2025

		SCHEDULE A
	2025	2024
	\$	\$
REVENUES		
Contributions		
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec	885,176	613,117
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec (hotel tax)		285,585
Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions	113,401	135,625
Cree Nation Government	7,841	,
Revenue from the territory	•	
Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association		23,665
General contributions	18,305	5,837
Other	,	25,000
RTPA		,
Regional Tourism Partnership Agreement Fund	30,892	
Ministère du Tourisme du Québec	421,615	36,499
Société de développement de la Baie-James	55,835	3,555
Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association	158,150	-,
Unclaimed marketing credits	25,000	50,000
Other Contributions	29,872	15,400
Management Fees	21,458	
Interest	47,000	14,205
Other	1,399	,
	1,815,944	1,208,488

		2025		2024
	Revenues	Expenses	Revenues	Expenses
PROJECTS Cooperative Advertising Program (promotion Intra-Québec) (in partnership with Tourisme	\$	\$	\$	\$
Baie-James and TAQ) Internal contribution – EIT Partnership expenses –	20,127		18,750	
EIT / TBJ Professional fees		18,750 1,377		18,750
	20,127	20,127	18,750	18,750
Promotion Multi-Marché (in partnership with Tourisme Baie-James)				
Internal contribution – EIT Partnership expenses –	144,550		127,688	
EIT / TBJ		144,550		127,688
	144,550	144,550	127,688	127,688
Human resources: Director of ACCORD niche (in partnership with Tourisme Baie-James)				
Internal contribution – EIT Partnership expenses – EIT / TBJ			16,254	16,254
			16,254	16,254
Wachiya Internal contribution – EIT Professional fees	3,144	3,144		
	3,144	3,144		
Hotel Implementation Technology Internal contribution – EIT Travel	2,608	2,608		
	2,608	2,608		
Implementation of marketing plan – product development Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions			20,635	
Internal contribution – EIT Travel Professional fees			18,360	9,426 29,569
FTUIESSIUTIAI TEES			38,995	38,995

		2025		2024
•	Revenues	Expenses	Revenues	Expenses
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Implementation of marketing plan				
Canada Economic Development	112 401		00 067	
for Quebec Regions Contribution from territory	113,401		98,867	
Internal contribution – EIT	(49,563)		13,662	
Advertising	(,,	58,010	,	47,120
Services agreements				62,054
Travel		3,585		1,675
Meetings and convention		4 007		943
Professional fees Telecommunications		1,827		271
Supplies and office expenses		416		2/1
Other		410		466
	63,838	63,838	112,529	112,529
Community Destination – Master				
Plan	4.052			
Internal contribution – EIT Travel	1,853	1,583		
Meeting and convention		270		
Meeting and convention	1,853	1,853		
•				
Tourist guide Eeyou Istchee				
Baie-James (in partnership with				
Tourisme Baie-James) Internal contribution – EIT			733	
Partnership expenses			133	733
			722	
		-	733	733
Promotion générale intra Québec				
SRÉ	4.005			
Internal contribution – EIT Advertising	1,635	1,635		
Advertising				
	1,635	1,635		
Traduction Autochtone B2C - TBJ				
Internal contribution EIT	4,537			
Supplies and office expenses	-,	355		
Advertising		3,708		
Travel		474		
	4,537	4,537	-	

		2025	2024		
	Revenues	Expenses	Revenues	Expenses	
		\$	\$	\$	
CREEtopia					
Cree Outfitting Tourism Association			23,665		
Wiinipaakw Tours Solidarity			20,000		
Cooperative			4,127		
Internal contribution – EIT	7,797		6,097		
Other Revenues	1,049	0.046		22.464	
Professional fees Telecommunications		8,846		33,464 425	
releasimmentations	8,846	8,846	33,889	33,889	
Excellence Destination					
Cree Nation Government	00.700		25,000		
Internal contribution – EIT Professional fees	88,798	68,557	24,478	41,652	
Travel		18,449		7,826	
Partnership expenses		1,780		.,020	
Other fees		12			
	88,798	88,798	49,478	49,478	
Charging station					
Canada Economic Development					
for Quebec Regions Professional fees			16,123	16 122	
				16,123	
		: :	16,123	16,123	
Propulso (in partnership with					
Tourisme Baie-James) Internal contribution – EIT	6,449		6,449		
Partnership expenses	0,110	6,449	0,440	6,449	
	6,449	6,449	6,449	6,449	
	346,385	346,385	420,888	420,888	
				-,	

	2025			2024
	Revenues	Expenses	Revenues	Expenses
	\$	\$	\$	\$
RTPA PROJECTS				
RTPA – Nibiischii – Tourism Optimization phase for the lake				
Waconichi site				
Société de Développement de la				
Baie-James	10,235			
Gouvernement du Québec -				
ministère du Tourisme	75,650			
Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association	34,115			
Project disbursements	34,113	120,000		
	420,000			
DTDA Nibiashii Corporation	120,000	120,000		
RTPA – Nibischii Corporation Gouvernement du Québec –				
ministère du Tourisme	40,026			
Société de développement de la	,			
Baie-James	3,294			
Project disbursements		43,320		
	43,320	43,320	-	-
RTPA – Waswanipii – Pavillon				
d'acccueil et exposition de la				
première nation Cree de Wawanipi				
Québec Government – Ministère du Tourisme	36,359			
Cree Outfitting and Tourism	30,333			
Association	16,396			
Société de Développement de la	,			
Baie-James	4,919			
Project disbursements		57,674		
	57,674	57,674	.	-
RTPA - Cree Outfitting Tourism				
Association (CREEtopia)				
Gouvernement du Québec –			26.400	
ministère du Tourisme Société de développement de la			36,499	
Baie-James			3,555	
Project disbursements			0,000	37,050
Administration fees				3,004
			40,054	40,054

		2025		2024
	Revenues	Expenses	Revenues	Expenses
RTPA PROJECTS (continued) RTPA – Mailasi Music Festival Regional Tourism Partnership Agreement Fund	\$	\$	\$	\$
Québec Government – Ministère du Tourisme Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association	23,798 10,732			
Société de Développement de la	10,732			
Baie-James Project disbursements	3,220	37,750		
	37,750	37,750	-	.
RTPA - COTA - Hotel Technology Improvement Québec Government – Ministère				
du Tourisme	35,934			
Cree Outfitting and Tourism Association Société de Développement de la	16,205			
Baie-James	4,861	E7 000		
Project disbursements		57,000		
DTDA COTA COME	57,000	57,000		
RTPA – COTA – Cree Knowledge Festivals Québec Government – Ministère	00.700			
du Tourisme Cree Outfitting and Tourism	22,733			
Association Société de Développement de la	10,252			
Baie-James	3,075			
Project disbursements		36,060		
	36,060	36,060		
RTPA – Niniischii – Square Tail Log Québec Government – Ministère du Tourisme Cree Outfitting and Tourism	98,345			
Association	44,350			
Société de Développement de la Baie-James	42 205			
Project disbursements	13,305	156,000		
	156,000	156,000		
	130,000			

		2025		2024
	Revenues	Expenses	Revenues	Expenses
RTPA PROJECTS (continued) RTPA – Cree Nation of Waskaganish	\$	\$	\$	\$
Québec Government – Ministère du Tourisme Cree Outfitting and Tourism	36,531			
Association Société de Développement de la	16,474			
Baie-James Project disbursements	4,942	57,947		
	57,947	57,947		
RTPA – Canoe Kayak Wemindji – Tawich Tourism Québec Government – Ministère				
du Tourisme Cree Outfitting and Tourism	21,346			
Association Société de Développement de la	9,626			
Baie-James Project disbursements	2,888	33,860		
r roject diobal comerne	33,860	33,860		
RTPA – Cree Nation of Chisasibi Québec Government – Ministère				
du Tourisme Regional Tourism Partnership	1,257			
Agreement Fund Société de Développement de la	1,257			
Baie-James Office expenses	207	2,721		
	2,721	2,721	-	
RTPA – Mistissini Outfitting Camp Regional Tourism Partnership Agreement Fund Québec Government – Ministère	29,635			
du Tourisme Cree Nation Governement	29,635 7,841			
Société de Développement de la Baie-James	4,889			
Project disbursements	4,003	72,000		
•	72,000	72,000		
	674,332	674,332	40,054	40,054