

Mr. President, members of the Comex Committee and Community members:

Wachiya and welcome to Nemaska. It is an honor and a privilege to address you this evening with my thoughts and concerns on the Whabouchi Project.

My name is Matthew Wapachee, former Chief of Nemaska, presently unemployed, Tallyman of R-19 since 25 years. I have family and friends with camps situated 2 to 3 kms from the potential Whabouchi Mining site.

Early Fall of 2014, the Council of the Cree Nation of Nemaska approved the Chinuchi Agreement regarding the development and operation of Nemaska Lithium's Whabouchi project in Eeyou Istchee. This was when I was Chief of Cree Nation of Nemaska.

The Chinuchi Agreement is an opportunity for the Cree Nation of Nemaska to take a major step of progress in the direction of in a prosperous and healthy community. This Agreement offers an opportunity for us to realize our common vision, which is to be proud community, respectful of our individual and collective obligations, demonstrating strong ethics in order to achieve growth through sustainable human and economic development. An opportunity for us to seriously address our housing back-log. An opportunity for us to establish a solid economic base through employment and business opportunities **tax free**.

An opportunity for the community to be able to offer to its members, numerous and diverse community projects. The Chinuchi Agreement is an opportunity for the Cree Nation of Nemaska to continue evolving for the benefit of the Youth of this generation and the next. An opportunity to leave a legacy left by the people of the present for future generation.

Also, the Chinuchi Agreement ensures that we, the Cree Nation of Nemaska, will participate in all important issues deriving from the development project including employment and business opportunities as well as social, cultural, and environmental matters.

We as leaders must recognize these opportunities as they arise and seize them in order to advance our common vision. These opportunities cannot be denied (**they may never come around again**). It is through such partnerships and co-operation that our community shall prosper without sacrificing our traditional values.

I have been involved in the discussions of the CQNRA Paix des Braves Agreement. I have been an impacted Tallyman and land-user of the EM1 Project. I have been a Tallyman and land-user of the EM1-A Project. I have witnessed and experienced and seen opposition to all these projects. I have also seen the benefits of these projects and agreements. I have seen the very same people that oppose these projects line up so aggressively pursue the monetary benefits that these agreements have provided. I survived, I thrived, I lived through these projects; I know I will survive, I will thrive and live through the

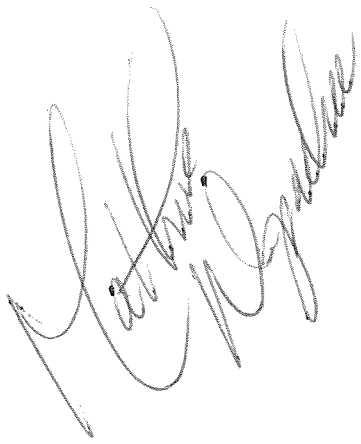
Whabouchi Project because we are a people strong and vibrant who have been able to adapt to many challenges and obstacles over the years.

I know there will be some environmental, social, and cultural impacts but this is a project that comes with sustainable development that can be mitigated and restored.

We strongly believe that the Chinuchi Agreement, which is unprecedented will benefit the Cree Nation of Nemaska, the Cree Nation Government, the people of Quebec and all First Nations across Canada.

On behalf of the 100+ petitioners that support the Whabouchi Project, I say “Issue the Permit and let us move forward”.

Meegwetch, Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Wapachee", written in a cursive style.