



EYYOU ISTCHEE JAMES BAY REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 22, 2020 AT 10:39 AM BY VIDEOCONFERENCE IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE HEAD OFFICE OF THE EYYOU ISTCHEE JAMES BAY REGIONAL GOVERNMENT 2 DES RAPIDES STREET, MATAGAMI

ATTENDING:

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum
Chairperson

Manon Cyr
Vice-Chairperson

Daniel Bellerose
Councillor

Franko Bolduc
Councillor

Curtis Bosum
Councillor

Kenneth Cheezo
Councillor

René Dubé
Councillor

André Elliott
Councillor

Christina Gilpin
Councillor

Mandy Gull
Councillor

Marcel Happyjack
Councillor

Daisy House Lameboy
Councillor

Clarence Jolly
Councillor

Robbie Kawapit
Councillor

Thomas Neeposh
Councillor

Alain Poirier (Lebel-sur-Quévillon)
Councillor

Julie Rivard
Councillor

Alain Poirier (Chibougamau)
Councillor

Clarke Shecapio
Councillor

Nelson Tremblay
Councillor

ABSENTEES:

Steve Gamache
Councillor

Mélanie Hébert
Councillor

ALSO ATTENDING:

Johanne Lacasse, Director General
Aline Bougie, Deputy Director General
Paméla Duquette, Office Technician
Réal Fugère, external consultant
Sarah Cain, Esq., external lawyer

THE QUORUM IS PRESENT.



Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum chairs the meeting and Mrs. Aline Bougie acts as secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order by the Chairperson, Grand Chief, Dr. Abel Bosum, at 10:39 AM.

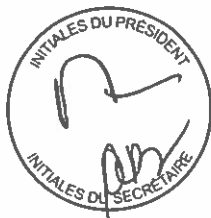
1. Approval of the agenda

ON A MOTION BY MR. CURTIS BOSUM, DULY SECONDED BY MR. RENÉ DUBÉ, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO APPROVE the following agenda of the special meeting of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government:

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of By-law No. 215 of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes, compensations and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021
3. Approval of By-law No. 41 of the Locality of Valcanton regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021
4. Approval of By-law No. 120 of the Locality of Villebois regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021
5. Approval of By-law No. 83 of the Locality of Radisson regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021
6. Compensation for the maintenance of some access roads to resort lakes
7. Notice of motion and presentation of By-law No. 109.4 repealing By-law No. 109.3 regarding the collection, transportation, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge and replacing By-laws No. 109, 109.1 and 109.2
8. Non-renewal and end of the *Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge*
9. Payment of remaining vacations as of December 31, 2020 to the permanent employees of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6
10. Change of hours of operation of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6
11. Elimination of position and termination of employment of employee No. 264
12. Hiring of a seasonal garbage collector (part-time)
13. Support to the CRSSBJ (Region 10 – Nord-du-Québec) – Request for a prioritization for the allocation of vaccines in the context of an isolated and remote health region
14. Question period
15. Adjournment

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



TREASURY

2. **Approval of By-law No. 215 of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes, compensations and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021**

WHEREAS under Section 474 of the Cities and Towns Act (CQLR, c. C-19), the Regional Government must prepare and approve the budget of the Regional Government for the next fiscal year and include revenues that are at least equal to the expenses included;

WHEREAS under Section 485 of the Cities and Towns Act and part III.4 of chapter XVIII of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation (CQLR, c. F-2.1), the Regional Government may impose property taxes at various rates based on the categories to which the assessment units belong for the fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS besides the various rates of general property tax that can be imposed based on the categories to which the assessment units belong under Section 244.30 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government may also impose various rates of this tax based on the parts of the territory that it determines under Section 34 of the Act establishing the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (CQLR, c. G-1.04);

WHEREAS under Sections 244.1 and 244.2 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government can anticipate that its goods, services or operations are financed, in whole or in part, through a fees system;

WHEREAS according to Section 356 of the Cities and Towns Act, Mr. André Elliott, member of Council of the Regional Government, gave, on September 24, 2020, a notice of motion pertaining to a by-law regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes, compensations and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS the proposed By-law no. 215 was presented to the members of Council during the meeting held on September 24, 2020.

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MANON CYR, DULY SECONDED BY MR. CLARENCE JOLLY, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO APPROVE By-law No. 215 of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes, compensations and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Approval of By-law No. 41 of the Locality of Valcanton regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021**

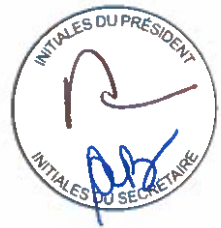
WHEREAS under Section 474 of the Cities and Towns Act (CQLR, c. C-19), the Regional Government must prepare and approve the budget of the Locality of Valcanton for the next fiscal year and include revenues that are at least equal to the expenses included;

WHEREAS under Section 485 of the Cities and Towns Act and part III.4 of chapter XVIII of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation (CQLR, c. F-2.1), the Regional Government may impose property taxes a different rates based on the categories to which the assessment units belong for the fiscal year 2020;

WHEREAS under Sections 244.1 and 244.2 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government can anticipate that its goods, services or operations are financed, in whole or in part, through a fees system;

WHEREAS besides the various rates of general property tax that can be imposed based on the categories to which the assessment units belong

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under Section 244.30 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government may also impose various rates of this tax based on the parts of the territory that it determines under Section 34 of the Act establishing the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (CQLR, c. G-1.04);

WHEREAS according to Section 356 of the Cities and Towns Act, Mr. André Elliott, member of Council of the Regional Government, gave on September 24, 2020, a notice of motion pertaining to a by-law regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS the proposed by-law was tabled to the attention of the Council members of the Locality of Valcanton;

WHEREAS the Council of the Locality of Valcanton, through the approval of its resolution No. SS-CLVAL-3046, recommended to the Council of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government, to approve By-law No. 41 regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS to give full effect to Resolution No. SS-CLVAL-3046 of the Local Council of Valcanton, the legal entity of reference that is the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government, needs to approve the said by-law;

WHEREAS it is necessary to impose property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021.

ON A MOTION BY MR. RENÉ DUBÉ, DULY SECONDED BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (CHIBOUGAMAU), IT IS RESOLVED:

TO APPROVE By-law No. 41 of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government – Locality of Valcanton regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Approval of By-law No. 120 of the Locality of Villebois regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021**

WHEREAS under Section 474 of the Cities and Towns Act (CQLR, c. C-19), the Regional Government must prepare and approve the budget of the Locality of Villebois for the next fiscal year and include revenues that are at least equal to the expenses included;

WHEREAS under Section 485 of the Cities and Towns Act and part III.4 of chapter XVIII of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation (CQLR, c. F-2.1), the Regional Government may impose general property taxes at different rates based on the categories to which the assessment units belong for the fiscal year 2020;

WHEREAS under Sections 244.1 and 244.2 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government can anticipate that its goods, services or operations are financed, in whole or in part, through a fees system;

WHEREAS besides the various rates of general property tax that can be imposed based on the categories to which the assessment units belong under Section 244.30 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government may also impose various rates of this tax, based on the parts of the territory that it determines under Section 34 of the Act establishing the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (CQLR, c. G-1.04);

WHEREAS according to Section 356 of the Cities and Towns Act, Mr. André Elliott, member of Council of the Regional Government, gave on September 24, 2020, a notice of motion pertaining to a by-law regarding the imposition

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of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS the proposed by-law was tabled to the attention of the Council members of the Locality of Villebois;

WHEREAS on December 9, 2020, the Council of the Locality of Villebois, through the approval of its resolution No. V-446-LV-2506, recommended to the Council of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government, to approve By-law No. 120 regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS to give full effect to Resolution No. V-446-LV-2506 of the Local Council of Villebois, the legal entity of reference that is the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government, needs to approve the said by-law;

WHEREAS it is necessary to impose general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021.

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ON A MOTION BY MRS. MANON CYR, DULY SECONDED BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (LEBEL-SUR-QUÉVILLON), IT IS RESOLVED:

TO APPROVE By-law No. of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government – Locality of Villebois, regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Approval of By-law No. 83 of the Locality of Radisson regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021

WHEREAS under Section 474 of the Cities and Towns Act (CQLR, c. C-19), the Regional Government must prepare and approve the budget of the Locality of Radisson for the next fiscal year and include revenues that are at least equal to the expenses included;

WHEREAS under Section 485 of the Cities and Towns Act and part III.4 of chapter XVIII of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation (CQLR, c. F-2.1), the Regional Government may impose property taxes a different rates based on the categories to which the assessment units belong for the fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS besides the various rates of general property tax that can be imposed based on the categories to which the assessment units belong under Section 244.30 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government may also impose various rates of this tax based on the parts of the territory that it determines under Section 34 of the Act establishing the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (CQLR, c. G-1.04);

WHEREAS this by-law imposes, for the fiscal year 2021, rates for each category of user established under section 5 of By-law No. 109.3 pertaining to the collection, transportation, processing and elimination of septic sludge of the Regional Government;

WHEREAS under Sections 244.1 and 244.2 of the Act respecting Municipal Taxation, the Regional Government can anticipate that its goods, services or operations are financed, in whole or in part, through a fees system;

WHEREAS according to Section 356 of the Cities and Towns Act, Mr. André Elliott, member of Council of the Regional Government, gave on November 24, 2020, a notice of motion pertaining to a by-law regarding the imposition of general property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;



WHEREAS the proposed by-law was tabled to the attention of the Council members of the Locality of Radisson

WHEREAS on December 2, 2020, the Council of the Locality of Radisson, through the approval of its resolution No. R2020-12-122, recommended to the Council of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government, to approve By-law No. 83 regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021;

WHEREAS to give full effect to Resolution No. R2020-12-122 of the Local Council of Radisson, the legal entity of reference that is the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government, needs to approve the said by-law.

WHEREAS it is necessary to impose property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for the fiscal year 2021.

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ON A MOTION BY MR. ANDRÉ ELLIOTT, DULY SECONDED BY MRS. MANON CYR, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO APPROVE By-law No. 83 of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government – Locality of Radisson regarding the imposition of property taxes at various rates, special taxes and fees for the provision of specific municipal services for fiscal year 2021.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TECHNICAL SERVICES

6. Compensation for the maintenance of some access roads to resort lakes

WHEREAS according to Section 10 of Part IV of By-law No. 143.8 regarding the financial assistance from the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government to associations of cottage owners for the repair and maintenance of access roads to resort areas, the associations of cottage owners and their members authorise the Regional Government to collect any contribution that will have been determined by the association;

WHEREAS these amounts were identified for the year 2021 and the associations of cottage owners on resort lakes have sent a resolution to the Regional Government authorising the Regional Government to collect from each owner the amount determined by the association;

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ON A MOTION BY MR. DANIEL BELLEROSE, DULY SECONDED BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (LEBEL-SUR-QUÉVILLON), IT IS RESOLVED:

TO INVOICE, when sending the notices of assessment and the municipal tax invoices, the fees to cottage owners, based on the following amount:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Opémisca Lake: | Cottage or residence owner: | \$125/unit |
| | Empty lot: | \$125/unit |
| | Opémisca Lake campground: | \$250/campsite |
| 2. Cavan Lake: | Cottage owner: | \$150/unit |
| | Residence: | \$150/unit |
| | Empty lot: | \$150/unit |
| 3. David Lake: | Cottage owner: | \$250/unit |
| 4. Matagami Lake: | Cottage owner: | \$100/unit |
| 5. Dunlop Bay: | Cottage owner: | \$100/unit |
| 6. Demers Bay: | Cottage owner (seasonal): | \$300/unit |
| | Cottage owner (permanent residence): | \$600/unit |
| 7. Buckell Lake: | Cottage owner: | \$200/unit |
| 8. Josée Lake | Cottage owner: | \$100/unit |

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



7. Notice of motion and presentation of By-law No. 109.4 repealing By-law No. 109.3 regarding the collection, transportation, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge and replacing By-laws No. 109, 109.1 and 109.2

WHEREAS the service for the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge for businesses involves several environmental requirements and risks related to the dumping of septic sludge;

WHEREAS for these reasons, it is necessary to terminate the service for the collection, treatment and elimination of the septic tank sludge for businesses;

WHEREAS through its resolution SE-CM-7594 the Regional Government approved By-law No. 109.3 regarding the collection, transportation, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge and replacing By-laws No. 109, 109.1 and 109.2;

WHEREAS By-law No. 109.3 must be repealed due to the end of the service for the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge for businesses;

WHEREAS under Section 366 of the Cities and Towns Act (CQLR, c. C-19) a by-law can only be repealed by the approval of another by-law;

WHEREAS under Section 356 of the Cities and Towns Act, any by-law must, on pain of nullity, be preceded by a proposed by-law and a notice of motion given at a prior Council meeting;

WHEREAS the proposed By-law No. 109.4 repealing By-law No. 109.3 regarding the collection, transportation, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge and replacing By-laws No. 109, 109.1 and 109.2 is presented to the Council members during the special Council meeting held on December 22, 2020.

NOTICE OF MOTION No. 2020-010:

According to Section 356 of the *Cities and Towns Act* a notice of motion is given at this meeting by Mrs. Manon Cyr that By-law No. 109.4 repealing By-law No. 109.3 regarding the collection, transportation, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge and replacing By-laws No. 109, 109.1 and 109.2 will be tabled at a future meeting for approval.

8. Non-renewal and end of the Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge

WHEREAS the service for the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge for the businesses involves several environmental requirements and risks associated to the management of the dumping of septic tanks;

WHEREAS for these reasons, it is necessary to put an end to the service for the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge for businesses;

WHEREAS a notice of motion was presented on December 22, 2020 and the proposed By-law No. 109.4 repealing By-law No. 109.3 regarding the collection, transportation, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge and replacing By-laws No. 109, 109.1 and 109.2 was tabled on the same date to the Council members;

WHEREAS the termination of the service for the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge involves the termination of the agreement to this effect between the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government and the Town of Matagami;



WHEREAS the Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge was supposed to be renewed automatically on December 31, 2020 and both the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government and the Town of Matagami mutually waive the two (2) month notice required to terminate the said agreement before the date of automatic renewal;

WHEREAS the access right granted in Section 3 b) of the Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge remains in effect for the lifetime of the facilities but a compensation must be paid to the Town of Matagami for the maintenance of the road;

ON A MOTION BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (CHIBOUGAMAU), DULY SECONDED BY MRS. MANON CYR, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO WAIVE the two (2) month notice required before the termination of the Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge;

TO TERMINATE the Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge signed between the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government and the Town of Matagami;

TO MANDATE the Director General, Mrs. Johanne Lacasse, to complete all necessary actions to terminate the Agreement regarding the collection, treatment and elimination of septic tank sludge, including the negotiation of the amount of compensation to be paid to the Town of Matagami under Section 13 of the said Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

HUMAN RESOURCES

9. **Payment of remaining vacations as of December 31, 2020 to the permanent employees of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6**

WHEREAS the extended absences of the employees of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6 due to the COVID-19 situation which caused the closure of the Tourist Information Centre;

WHEREAS the 4th section of the Human resources management policies and procedures guide states that the Executive Management may, with the approval of Council, change the application of the Human resources management policies and procedures guide since it is impossible to anticipate every situation in this document;

WHEREAS, exceptionally, it is necessary to pay the remaining vacations as of December 31, 2020 instead of postponing the vacations stated in Section 2.10 of Chapter 4 of the Human resources management policies and procedures guide;

ON A MOTION BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (LEBEL-SUR-QUÉVILLON), DULY SECONDED BY MR. DANIEL BELLEROSE, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO AUTHORISE, for the four permanent employees of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6, the payment of remaining vacations as of December 31, 2020;

TO AUTHORISE the Director General, Mrs. Johanne Lacasse, to take all the necessary actions for the execution of this resolution and, namely, to proceed with the payment of remaining vacations to the four permanent employees.

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MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Change of hours of operation of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6

WHEREAS the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (hereinafter the "EIJBRG") proceeded with the approval of the 2021 budget on December 22, 2020;

WHEREAS due to budget restrictions, the operating hours of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6 will now be from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM;

ON A MOTION BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (LEBEL-SUR-QUÉVILLON), DULY SECONDED BY MR. CLARENCE JOLLY, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO MODIFY the operating hours of the Tourist Information Centre located at Km 6 so that it is only open from 8:00 AM to 8:PM, 7 days a week;

TO TERMINATE the night shift that would start at 7:00 PM and end at 7:00 AM;

TO PROCEED with the amendment of Section 2.2 of Chapter 2 of the Human resources management policies and procedures guide to remove the night shift from the work schedule of the Tourist Information Centre and to adjust the day shift that will now be from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM;

TO MANDATE the Director General, Mrs. Johanne Lacasse, to proceed with the necessary changes to Section 2.2 of Chapter 2 of the Human resources management policies and procedures guide and to authorise Mrs. Johanne Lacasse, to take all the necessary actions for the implementation of these changes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Elimination of position and termination of employment of employee No. 264

WHEREAS the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (hereinafter the "EIJBRG") proceed with the approval of the 2021 budget on December 22, 2020;

WHEREAS due to budget restrictions the position of Land Management Coordinator will need to be eliminated;

WHEREAS the elimination of the position brings the termination of employment of employee No. 264;

ON A MOTION BY MR. ALAIN POIRIER (CHIBOUGAMAU), DULY SECONDED BY MRS. MANON CYR, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO PROCEED with the elimination of the position of Land Management Coordinator;

TO TERMINATE the employment of employee No. 264 as Land Management Coordinator;

TO MANDATE the Director General to establish the terms of the end of employment;

TO AUTHORISE the Director General, Mrs. Johanne Lacasse, to take all necessary actions to execute the termination of employment of employee

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No. 264, including the signing of the end of employment agreement and the payment of all amounts included in the said agreement;

THAT this decision is effective December 22, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Hiring of a seasonal garbage collector (part-time)

WHEREAS a shortage of personnel in the Public Works department due to retirement;

WHEREAS the Executive Management wishes to ensure a consistent service to the residents;

WHEREAS through its resolution No. CE-2019-04-194, the Executive Committee authorised the Executive Management to hire part-time or temporary employees to fill short-term vacancies;

WHEREAS these hirings must be confirmed by the Council of the Regional Government during a regular or special meeting.

ON A MOTION BY MR. CLARENCE JOLLY, DULY SECONDED BY MRS. MANON CYR, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO HIRE Mr. Jean-Yves Fortier as seasonal garbage collector (part-time) at pay grade 1, step 9 of the salary scale according to the conditions indicated in the standards and policies in effect at the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COVID-19

13. Support to the CRSSSBJ (Region 10 – Nord-du-Québec) – Request for a prioritization for the allocation of vaccines in the context of an isolated and remote health region

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec recently announced a COVID-19 immunisation program for the distribution of vaccines in a context of limited and progressive availability;

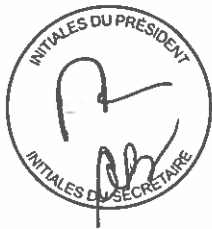
WHEREAS the James Bay CRSSS (Region 10 – Nord-du-Québec) submitted a request to the Government of Quebec in order to prioritise the allocation of vaccines in Region 10 - Nord-du-Québec considering the vulnerability of the population in an isolated and remote region;

WHEREAS the population of the Cree communities of Eeyou Istchee is included in the priority clientele for the access to the vaccine against COVID-19;

WHEREAS the Cree and Jamesians live in the same isolated and remote area of Eeyou Istchee James Bay and are regularly in the same locations when accessing health care and social services, in businesses, in schools, in businesses and during sports and recreation activities;

WHEREAS the two health and social services systems of health regions 10 and 18 offer basic healthcare services sharing a similar vulnerability. In this regard, the following factors must be taken into consideration in recognising a prioritisation of allocation of vaccines to the population in region 10:

- Limited personnel working in the health and social services field in region 10 and particular concern regarding the replacement capacity in case of isolation of workers;



- Limited capacity within the James Bay CRSSS and the James Bay Cree Council of Health and Social Services to perform the screening tests and epidemiological investigations;
- Reduced capacity of hosting and providing healthcare and patient transfers in case of an outbreak or community transmission of COVID-19, especially since there are currently no possibility of hospitalisation of COVID-19 patients in health regions 10 and 18;
- Challenges related to the logistics regarding the reception of a limited quantity of vaccines in an isolated and remote area, especially regarding the transportation of the vaccines and the mobilisation of human resources to offer the vaccination on a small scale;
- Challenges related to the transportation of patients in isolated and remote regions;

WHEREAS only the Chibougamau health centre can host Jamesian and Cree patients in that area of Eeyou Istchee James Bay and only offers basic service: to patients waiting for a transfer, as opposed to the other health centres of regions 10 and 18 that transfer their patients outside the region;

WHEREAS the James Bay Cree Council of health and social services has supported the request from the James Bay CRSSS to become priority client: for the vaccination against COVID-19;

WHEREAS the vaccination of Jamesians will support the collective immunity of residents of the two health regions that inhabit the same geographic region

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ON A MOTION BY MR. CURTIS BOSUM, DULY SECONDED BY MR. DANIEL BELLEROSE, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO SUPPORT the request from the James Bay regional health and social services centre to the ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux in order to classify health region 10 at rank 4 in the prioritisation strategy for the vaccination against COVID-19;

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the following people:

- Mr. François Legault, Premier of Quebec
- Mr. Christian Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services
- Mrs. Dominique Savoie, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services
- Dr. Horacio Arruda, National Director of Public Health
- Mr. Pierre Dufour, Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks and Minister responsible for the Nord-du-Québec region
- Mr. Denis Lamothe, MNA for Ungava
- Mrs. Nathalie Boisvert, CEO of the James Bay Regional Health and Social Services Centre
- Mr. Bertie Wapachee, Chairperson – James Bay Cree Council of Health and Social Services
- Mr. René Dubé, Chairperson, James Bay Regional Administration

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



CONCLUSION

14. Question period

No question is asked to the Council members of the Regional Government.

15. Adjournment

ON A MOTION BY MR. DANIEL BELLEROSE, DULY SECONDED BY MR. RENÉ DUBÉ, IT IS RESOLVED:

TO ADJOURN the meeting at 10:57 AM.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grand Chief Dr. Abel Bosum
Chairperson

Aline Bougie
Secretary

RG2020-12-1381