



PRESS RELEASE

JOINT DENOUNCEMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED CARIBOU HUNTING AND GUIDING PRACTICES AS EFFORTS IN REACHING A TRADITIONAL HARVEST UNDERSTANDING IN EYYOU ISTCHEE CONTINUE

(Eeyou Istchee, December 20, 2023) – The Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee, the Cree Nation of Chisasibi, and the Innu Nation jointly denounce unauthorized hunting or guiding activities in Eeyou Istchee.

The caribou population in Québec remains vulnerable and fragile especially in light of the devastating 2023 forest fire season. Discussions are ongoing between our nations to safeguard the caribou population and ensure the sustainable management of caribou harvest in Eeyou Istchee. *No Traditional Understanding* has been concluded at this time, therefore hunters who are not beneficiaries of the JBNQA are not authorized to harvest caribou and are subject to Québec laws and regulations. It is imperative that beneficiaries of the JBNQA respect the areas of interest to which they are restricted and refrain from acting as unauthorized guides.

The Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee and the Innu Nation remain dedicated in fostering respectful and cooperative relationships with community members and all nations involved in the conservation and harvesting of caribou. Encouraging open communication and collaboration, the nations extend appreciation to community members for their understanding and cooperation during this crucial time. Through our joint efforts, we strive to ensure the responsible stewardship of our ancestral lands, protect the caribou population, and secure their continued presence for generations to come.

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