



**SECRETARIAT AUX ALLIANCES
ÉCONOMIQUES NATION CRIE
ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE**

**SECRETARIAT TO THE CREE NATION
ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE
ECONOMIC ALLIANCE**

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Interregional Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples to be held in Val-d'Or A call for commitment is being launched to the business community

Val-d'Or, September 28, 2022 – The Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance (SCNATEA) is joining forces with the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) to present the Interregional Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples. The event will take place on November 14 and 15 at the Forestel Hotel in Val-d'Or. It will be followed, on November 16, by a special edition of the The Business Exchange Day. The whole event will be held under the theme of indigenous languages to highlight the International Decade of Indigenous Languages as declared by the United Nations.

The Interregional Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples will bring together the Anicinabek, Cree, Atikamekw, and Inuit communities, as well as elected officials from Abitibi-Témiscamingue and leaders of major companies that could become business partners for all Indigenous Peoples. The event is a direct result of the Grand Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples and Quebec held in Montreal in November 2021. The AFNQL aspires to create a movement in Quebec towards greater economic inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the economy.

A Call for Commitment

Businesses and organizations in the region are invited to make public commitments to promote the full inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the interregional economy. These commitments will be shared at the Interregional Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples in Val-d'Or. The commitments must be realistic and lead to concrete and significant results in the concerned regions.

The Secretariat President, Drs. Ted Moses, is calling on businesses and organizations: "With the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation just a few days away, the population must mobilize and speak with one voice to address the challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples. The Interregional Economic Circle is an opportunity to demonstrate that we can take concrete action and contribute to the movement towards reconciliation, which also includes the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the Quebec economy.

For his part, the President, and Director General of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec (FCCQ), M. Charles Milliard, invites all businesses in Abitibi-Témiscamingue to be present at the event to see how they could get involved, just as the FCCQ has already done following the Grand Economic Circle of Indigenous Peoples and Quebec where it attended in November 2021. "At the FCCQ, in particular, we made a commitment to review our statutes and regulations in order to reserve a seat for a representative of the Indigenous communities on our Board of Directors in order to promote the inclusion of Indigenous peoples in the economic development of Quebec. I am proud to announce today that this commitment will become a reality at our next Annual General Meeting, which will be held on October 19."

Over the next few weeks, the SCNATEA will be meeting with businesses and organizations in Abitibi-Témiscamingue to invite them to mobilize and get involved in the movement.

Those who are interested are invited to register for the event as of October 4th. To make sure you don't miss out on anything, please visit the event's website at www.creenation-at.com.

- 30 -

Source :
Chantal Hamelin
chantalhamelin@creenation-at.com
819-824-9888

About the Secretariat to the Cree Nation Abitibi-Témiscamingue Economic Alliance: The Secretariat's mission is to promote sustainable relations and socio-economic alliances between the Cree Nation (Eeyou Istchee), Jamésie, Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Nunavik regions in order to foster harmonious development.