Femmes Autochthones du Quebec Native Women's Association of Quebec P.O. Box 1989 Kahnawake, QC JOL 1BO

Candidature for Presidency for Native Women's Association of Quebec

Dear MS. Claudette Dumont-Smith, and Board of Directors of FAQ/QNW,

I am interested in filling the position of President of Native Women's Association of Quebec because I have an interest in Native Women's Issues. I believe I am the best candidate for this position.

I am a member of the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach. I am a strong and resilient native woman. I am a mother, a grandmother, and a great grandmother. I speak my mother tongue which is Cree Naskapi and I have been brought up with Naskapi values and culture. I have worked with many decision-makers in different communities and organizations and with different age groups, both in public safety, health, and general administration. I have covered several aspects that touch our communities as well as our lives such as in health, social issues, education, lands and resources, economic development, and governance, and justice. I have a solid background proficiency to take the mission of President of Native Women's Association of Quebec.

I have been working for the Naskapi Community for several years as a Community Mobilization Coordinator. I believe my mandate has prepared me to tackle the responsibilities connected with the task of being President of Native Women's Association of Quebec. I have acquired skills in mobilization and in taking a leading role in developing a process to encourage involvement to contributing to creating healthy environments. Leadership for me is based on values, respect, integrity, and good principles following our values as native women, and collaboration about vision, responsibility, and determination.

I am currently responsibly for organizing the community greenhouse; and I have been mandated by the Director General of the Naskapi Nation (NNK) to produce Elder's Six (6) Year Program, which has recently been approved by the Council. I have recently finished a Project to have a Men's Shelter and it has been approved by the Chief and Council. However, at this time the Men's Shelter is temporary (Phase 1) till a new building for this Shelter is built. A Breast Cancer and Gynecologist Project has also been approved by Council which will enable these specialists to come to work within our community. I have also been mandated, at the last council meeting, to set up a Naskapi Youth Council. So, three (3) important projects have been approved: the Elder's Project, the Men's Shelter, and the Breast Cancer and Gynecologist Project.

I am the supervisor for the Naskapi Eco Patrol Program as well as supervising the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOC) Community Consultation that is still in the planning stage. I am also taking care of the Community Survey for *Changing the Composition of Council*. I have been appointed earlier this year by Council to be a board member for the Sichuun Internet Service Inc.

I know the three (3) levels of governments that influence our communities and our lives, as well as the legal aspects that influence our lives through the community files in Health and Social Services, Justice, Governance, Social Issues, Economy, Education, Environment, and Cultural, Youth, as well as Women's Issues, and Elders' issues, and Men's Issues.

I am aware of the contemporary colonial impacts had on our lives and the impact it had on our past histories. And our present struggles we face everyday as native women, such as racism, discrimination, exclusion, and intersectional discrimination to name a few.

Briefly I have listed some of the positions I had filled in different locations.

- ✓ Administrative Assistant New Millennium.
- Administrative Assistant Tata Steel Mineral of Canada
- Director for the Native Women's Association of Kawawachikamach
- Secretary Receptionist of Native Women's Association of Canada
- ✓ Coordinator for the Native Friendship Center in Sept-Iles
- ✓ Administrative Assistant to of the Naskapi Community Local Service Centre
- Administrative Assistant for the Director of Public Security of Chisasibi

- Administrative Assistant for the Director of Police in Chisasibi
- ✓ Consultant for the Head Start Program, Health Canada
- ✓ Secretary for the Chisasibi Martial Arts School
- ✓ Social Assistance Administrator Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach
- ✓ Native Para-Judicial Services of Quebec Matimekoush and Kawawachikamach
- ✓ Naskapi Justice Coordinator
- ✓ Community Mobilization Coordinator

My personal attributes

- o I speak Cree Naskapi, English, French
- Ability to read English, and French, (Most of my education is English)
- o Translate
- Strong political abilities
- Strong Leadership Skills
- Strong negotiator
- Strong connection with cultural roots
- Strong determination

- Large knowledge of contemporary issues surrounding Native people
- o Highly concerned in legal and natives' issues
- Look into the Financial Health of our Elders who may have financial struggles, and to promote their well-being
- I am educated: Bilingual Social Science Diploma, Administration, Pre-Law, Discrimination, Negotiation Techniques, Conflict resolution, Management in Community Based Programs, Funding Proposals

To conclude, I have a strong passion to work through the issues native women face and to rectify them for our grandchildren and great grandchildren's children.

Warm regards,

Caroline Einish

Member of Native Women's Association of Quebec

Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach