CREE SCHOOL BOARD

Introduction

The Cree School Board (CSB) was created by the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in 1975 to serve the Cree people living in communities and further self-determination in education. In 1988, the official transfer of control took place from the federal school system to the CSB.

The School Board has the exclusive mandate to provide pre-school, elementary, secondary and adult education as well as funding post-secondary education to the James Bay Cree population. Following QEP (Quebec Education Plan) guidelines, the CSB develops programs and pedagogical material in Cree, French and English.

Most of our schools maintain three language sectors with English being the working language. Cree language and culture are taught throughout and in most schools the students are immersed in English or in French from Grade one on. Cree language and culture programs are developed alongside regular programs outlined in the QEP’s guidelines.

We are looking for qualified elementary, secondary and adult education teachers committed to our vision of advancing the Cree Nation through education, and inspired by innovative teaching methods, our community living, and the natural beauty of James Bay.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Eight of the nine communities serviced by the CSB are accessible by both air and road, with one - Whapmagoostui - by air only.

Employees have access to all the following services in all the communities: health services, daycare, post office, police station, fire brigade, grocery store, hotel, restaurant, sports complex, internet and telephone.

Employees can purchase food and do general shopping locally within the community.

THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The average summer temperature (June to October) ranges from 10 to 25 degrees Celsius and the winter average temperature varies from -5 to -25 degrees Celsius.

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Plentiful sunny summer days allow for gardening with the Northern lights often brightening the night skies. Summer days are longer and winter days shorter and drier compared to southern Quebec.

THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES

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James Bay

The vast area of James Bay has been populated by Cree communities for over 4,000 years. More than 15,000 Cree live in nine coastal and inland communities. The territory covers a surface of 297,330 sq. kms (20% of the surface of Quebec) extending from the 49th to the 55th parallel.

The boreal forest stretches over the southern part of the land and the taiga further north. The existence of aurora borealis (luminous phenomenon characterized by a kind of extremely colorful but predominantly green light) adds to the loveliness of the region, as well as the many rivers and lakes, which are amongst the largest in the province.

Our goal is to provide for life-long learning while instilling the Cree identity in partnership with our communities to allow each student to attain the qualifications and competencies to become a successful contributor to the Cree Nation and society at large.

Community Education Administrator is present in all the communities: health services, daycare, post office, police station, fire brigade, grocery store, hotel, restaurant, sports complex, internet and telephone.

Experience the beauty of the North, while doing meaningful work.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

A Quebec teacher’s annual salary is based on school-ing and experience. This base salary is supplemented with a northern allowance determined by marital status (dependants) and location. Also, a retention premium is paid to teachers holding a Quebec teaching permit.

Benefits, some of these taxable, include return trips to the place of residence by car or air for the employee and their dependents, subsidized housing, moving, storage, and cargo costs for personal effects.

Housing includes access to subsidized apartments for employees at a minimal monthly rent. All major applic-ances, heating and electricity are part of the subsidized housing benefits. Only bedding, dishes and small elec-trical appliances must be supplied by employees.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cree Communities</th>
<th>Population (2016 estimates)</th>
<th>Students enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whapmagoostui</td>
<td>984</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chisasibi</td>
<td>4,872</td>
<td>1,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wemindji</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>420</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastmain</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nemaska</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>194</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nishnashihkooz</td>
<td>3,523</td>
<td>913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oqiktok/Bongonow</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wujalik Waskaganish</td>
<td>1,719</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wemindji</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>17,141</td>
<td>4,615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Mission statement

Cree School Board