



Moose Cree
First Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Moose Cree First Nation Acknowledges the Dedication of the Omushkego Walkers

Moose Factory, ON - February 26, 2014

On January 4, 2014 the Omushkego walkers, led by Danny Metatawabin, Paul Mattinas and Brian Okimaw departed the Attawapiskat First Nation bound for Ottawa to bring greater awareness to the importance of the Treaties and to the need for a dialogue between Treaty partners on how to fully honour and implement the Treaties today.

The walkers undertook their 1,700 km journey under the banner of *Reclaiming Our Steps - Past, Present and Future* and arrived in Ottawa on February 24, 2014. "The Moose Cree First Nation acknowledges the commitment of these individuals and we are grateful for their dedication to bringing a greater awareness for the need to implement the Treaty principles in a modern context in a manner that respects what our ancestors agreed to when they entered into Treaty 9 in 1905," stated Chief Norm Hardisty Jr.

The Moose Cree First Nation was proud to welcome the Omushkego walkers when they passed through the Moose Cree First Nation traditional territory. Deputy Chief Earl Cheechoo, who also travelled to Ottawa to welcome the walkers upon their arrival, stated "Our First Nation was proud to honour the walkers by walking with them and by supporting them on their journey. The message they carried is important to all First Nation peoples and all Canadians."

Chief Hardisty stated that the Moose Cree First Nation will continue to work with all First Nations in protecting and asserting Treaty and Inherent rights. "The Moose Cree First Nation has worked diligently over the years to protect and assert our rights and we will continue to do so in the future. We believe that First Nations across the Omushkego territory and across Canada must stand together in this effort," said Chief Hardisty.

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