

# Introduction to Environmental Justice

## ENVR E-145

James Hoyte & Timothy Weiskel

<http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~envre145>

### History and Background to Hydro-Quebec Power Production

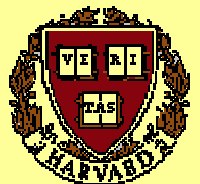
Larry House

Cree Elder

Class Session 10 – 10 April 2007



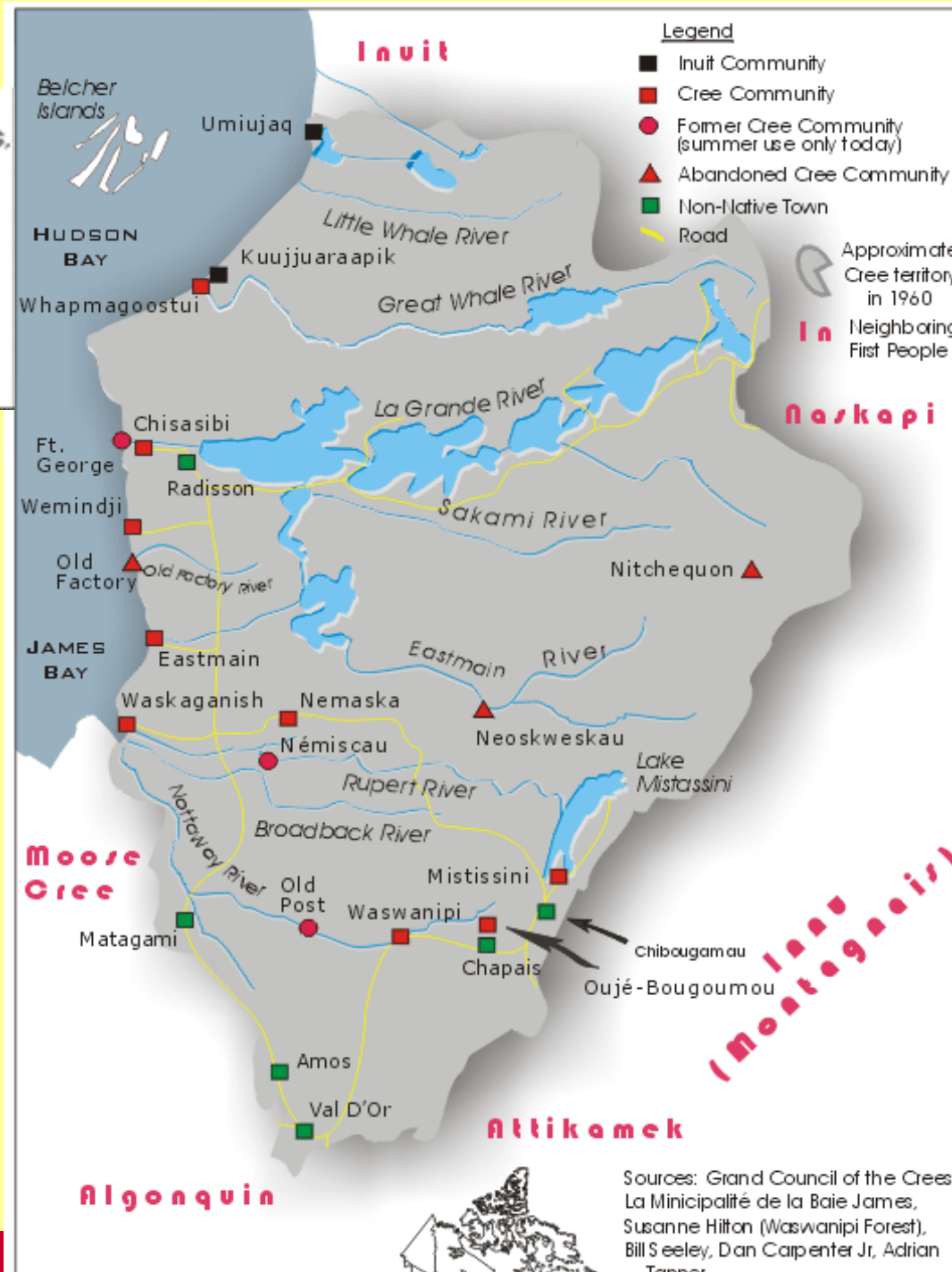
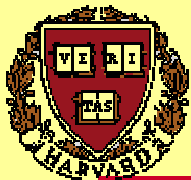
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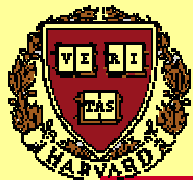


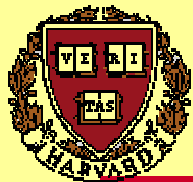
Sources: Grand Council of the Crees,  
La Municipalité de la Baie James,  
Susanne Hilton (Waswanipi Forest),  
Bill Seeley, Dan Carpenter Jr, Adrian  
Tanner

The Cree Nation  
occupies a vast area of  
the James Bay region  
of Canada.

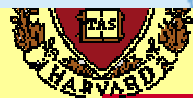
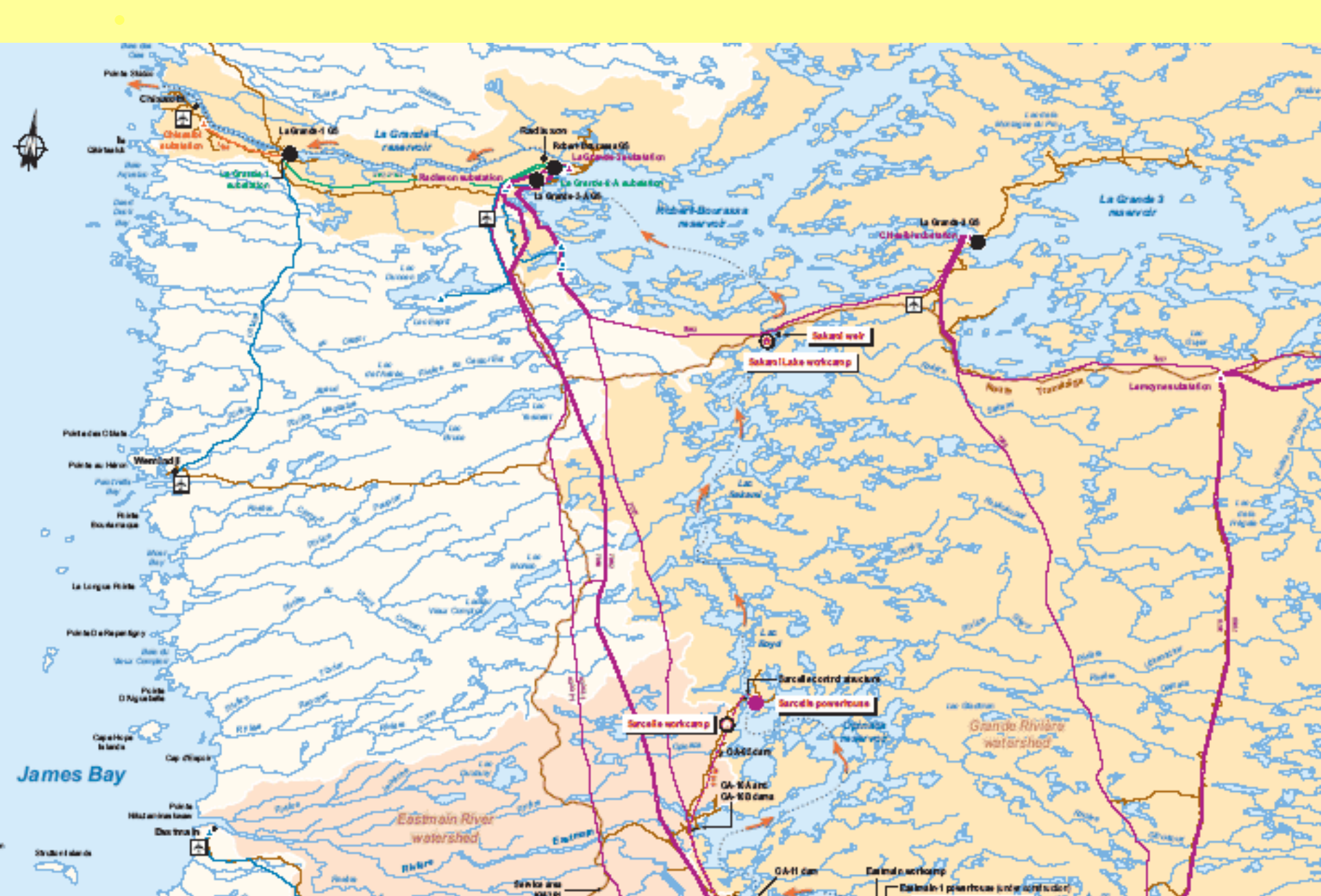


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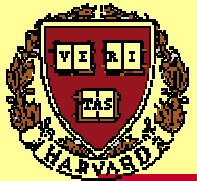








A landscape of flowing waterways.

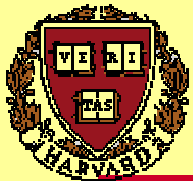




Arial view of town of Chisasibi, of the James Bay Cree

## Background

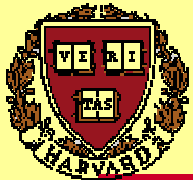
- Announcement of the project in 1972
- Divide and conquer
- Boundaries extension act of 1912
- 1973 court case won (balance of convenience)
- 1975 Land Claim Settlement
- Community legal strategy
- 1978 relocating
- The Engineering of consent
- 2002 referendum
- Not just hydro, but minerals, water, forestry
- Coming off the land and onto the wage economy (faster than other communities)
- Population growth





## Current situation

- Issues of this size in general – massive changes in geography
- Impacts on local people
- We buy the hydro here, but it affects other people elsewhere
- Hydro power is not “green” power
- The issue of dissent/ three communities opposed to new Rupert diversion
- The tensions WITHIN the community – example of “now it’s you guys talking like this”
- Chisasibi only community to vote against new deal



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