



# WASKAGANISH

## DESCRIPTION

The Waskaganish territory consists of:

- category 1A lands, i.e. lots 2 and 3 of Rupert, Broadback and Nottaway river basins (New Québec), which cover an overall area of 492.5 square kilometres;
- category 1B lands, i.e. lots 1 and 4 of the same river basins, which cover an overall area of 295.5 square kilometres;
- category II lands were also granted to the Waskaganish territory.

**NOTE** - Only Category 1A lands fall under federal jurisdiction.

## LOCATION

The Waskaganish territory is located on the shore of Rupert's Bay, south of James Bay.

## LAND TITLE HISTORY

### December 31, 1941

Québec proclaims the *Lands and Forests Act*, which provides for the reservation of lands not exceeding 133 550 hectares (330 000 acres) for the benefit of the Indians by the transfer of usufruct. The Indians of Fort Rupert are to receive some of these lands. This legislation has been amended a number of times since. See sections 51 and 52 of the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State*, R.S.Q., chapter T-8.1.

### November 11, 1975

Signing of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement - Crees-Inuit-Naskapis* by the Governments of Québec and Canada.

### October 31, 1977

- The government of Québec implements the *Act approving the Agreement concerning James Bay and Northern Québec*.
- The Government of Canada implements the *James Bay and Northern Québec Native Claims Settlement Act*.

## June 1, 1979

The Government of Québec proclaims the *Act Respecting the Land Regime in the James Bay & New Québec Territory*.

## June 27, 1979 - REGISTRATION NUMBER 65618

Provincial Order 1851-79 - The Government of Québec transfers, as a provisional measure pending final transfer, the administration, management, and control of 3 299 square kilometres of category 1A lands (Cree), and of 41.93 square kilometres of category 1A-N lands (Naskapi), for the exclusive benefit of local governments, i.e. of the Cree bands or the Naskapi band, as applicable. Québec retains bare ownership of these lands. The order became effective on June 1, 1979. Pursuant to that order, the lands set aside for the Fort Rupert Indians under the terms of the *Lands and Forests Acts* no longer constituted reserves as defined in the *Indian Act*.

## August 16, 1979 - REGISTRATION NUMBER 65619

Government of Canada Order in Council 1979-2178 accepts the transfer of category 1A lands according to the preliminary territorial descriptions, as stated in Québec Order in Council 1851-79 of June 27, 1979.

## June 23, 1981

Government of Québec Order 1759-81 transfers by provisional deed to the Fort Rupert Landholding Corporation lots 1 and 4 of the Rupert river basin (category 1B lands). Overall area: 294.96 square kilometres.

## June 14, 1984

The House of Commons of Canada proclaims the *Cree-Naskapi (of Québec) Act* relating principally to Cree and Naskapi local government and to the land regime governing category IA and category IA-N lands.

## February 1, 1995

Government of Québec Order 150-95 - Authorization for the final transfer of category 1B lands to the *Fort Rupert Landholding Corporation*.

## **June 1, 1995**

Government of Québec Letters Patent 39 390 to the *Fort Rupert Landholding Corporation* - Final transfer of category 1B lands. The Crees may dispose of these lands only in favour of Québec. Area indicated: 295.5 square kilometres.

## **October 22, 1997**

Government of Québec Order in Council 1391-97 transfers by final deed to the Government of Canada the administration, management and control of the category 1A lands of Waskaganish. This order was an amendment of Order in Council 150-95 dated February 1, 1995.

## **May 5, 1999** - REGISTRATION NUMBER 273763

The Government of Canada accepts the final transfer of the administration, management and control of the category 1A lands of Waskaganish.

## **CHRONOLOGY OF BOUNDARY SURVEYS**

**1977:** survey of category 1 lands by Neil O'Gallagher (completed by Énergie et Ressources Québec).