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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Norway House Cree Nation – Manitoba Hydro 2 Year Agreement – 2-Mile/8-Mile Channel**

**Treaty Five Territory, Norway House Cree Nation, MB** – *Norway House Cree Nation has come to a new two-year agreement with Manitoba Hydro for the remediation work underway at the 2-Mile and 8-Mile channels.*

**Norway House Cree Nation, Manitoba** - *After 8 months of negotiations, Norway House Cree Nation has come to a new two-year agreement with Manitoba Hydro for the remediation work underway at the 2-Mile and 8-Mile channels. Beginning in the 1970's, Manitoba Hydro began a 2 Mile channel construction to connect Lake Winnipeg with Playgreen Lake. Construction of an 8 Mile channel began in the same time frame to also connect Playgreen lake to the southernmost end of Kiskittogisu Lake. The channels were constructed to manipulate water flow into the Hydro processing systems. It is now evident that the construction of these channels, and the associated camps, were undertaken with very little consideration for the environment or the traditional lands of Norway House Cree Nation.*

*Remediation of these lands have been underway for several years and it will take several more to complete. Remedial work will continue to be led by JNR Construction while Chief, Council, Staff, and Associates investigate the extent of impacts and create a long-term protection strategy. These tasks are all funded by Manitoba Hydro through the recently signed Process Agreement; this agreement has a budget that is 24% larger than the previous year. Chief Larson Anderson successfully negotiated several new roles to be funded through this processing budget, including:*

- **Additional Environmental Officer** – *A NHCN band member to work on site and oversee the remediation work. Job Posting to come shortly.*
- **Communications Coordinator** - *A NHCN band member responsible for developing and maintaining a public website for information sharing, developing a virtual library of historical documents, orchestrating public meetings and other announcements. Job posting to come shortly.*
- **Technical Advisor** – *A role that has been awarded to Shared Value Solutions (SVS). SVS specializes in Environmental Analysis, Project Management and Advocacy work for Indigenous groups.*

*Chief Anderson stated, "We fought really hard to ensure the full impact of the Hydro damages be remediated and a long-term Environmental Protection Strategy is put in place. It is the responsibility of our Leadership to ensure we protect our lands and water for our future generations."*

*"I thank my Council for their support and will continue to consult with our membership."*

**For more information:**

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