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 from MONTREAL CP CBC# 2860 Feb19-98 1005

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^Quebec and Newfoundland reach Churchill Falls agreement: report@

MONTREAL (CP) Quebec and Newfoundland have reached an agreement on a massive hydroelectric development on the Churchill River worth \$12 billion. Quebec Le Soleil reported today.

The deal would mean the construction of two dams, an underwater cable between Labrador and Newfoundland, and the construction of a 12th power line linking northern and southern Quebec, the newspaper said.

"The announcement of the agreement is a question of strategy," Le Soleil said, quoting unidentified sources.

"It's a matter of weeks. It's politically delicate for the two premiers."

Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin denied the report today, saying no deal had been struck with Quebec.

He said negotiations have only been preliminary and that he might be in a position within a few weeks to announce whether formal talks will be held.

Officials representing both governments have been meeting for more than a year to determine whether there are grounds for more formal negotiations.

Under the terms of the existing contract with Quebec for the Upper Churchill Falls, the Newfoundland company running the project expects to lose \$300 million over the next 45 years while Quebec posts a profit.

Le Soleil said the two dams on the Churchill River will have a capacity of 3,100 megawatts. About 1,000 will be used by Newfoundland and Labrador, while Quebec will export more than 2,000 to northeastern U.S. states.

The underwater transmission line between Newfoundland and Labrador will carry 800 megawatts of power, the newspaper said. It added the federal government will guarantee the \$2 billion and that the news might be part of Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget on Tuesday.

CP 1002ES 19-02-98

March 9, 1998
 Jim Proctor
 1002ES

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05/03/1999 17:30

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STORY> slug canada-electricity dept FI priority U checked N
 source REUT SY N
 from ***** REUT CBC# 3061 Mar05-99 1205

^BC-CANADA-ELECTRICITY (CORRECTED)@

^Canada natives angry over Labrador hydro projects@

In March 2 Quebec City story headlined ``Canada natives angry over Labrador hydro projects'' please read in seventh paragraph ''Innu people are native Indians comprising four groups - the Montagnais, Naskapi and Atikamekw of northeastern Quebec and a group in Labrador that calls itself Innu.'' (Corrects to show Innu not Inuit or Eskimos.)

A corrected repetition follows.

By Patrick White

QUEBEC CITY, March 2 (Reuters) - Natives in Quebec and Labrador are vowing to launch an international lobbying campaign to stop two huge hydro-electric projects from going ahead without their approval.

``There will be no power without our consent,'' Innu spokesman Guy Bellefleur told reporters late on Monday.

Representatives of the aboriginal group also denounced secret negotiations between Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin and Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard.

In March 1998, Quebec and Newfoundland said they had reached agreement in principle on hydro-electric expansion projects in Labrador. Labrador is adjacent to Quebec but part of the province of Newfoundland.

The agreement called for two separate projects costing a total of C\$9.7 billion, but negotiations on details have been stalled since last year because of demands by native groups to be involved.

``We are really, really frustrated and tired of hearing about these negotiations between the two provinces,'' said Daniel Ashini, chief negotiator for the Innu people of Labrador.

The group prefers to be called Innu rather than Eskimos, which derives from a native Indian word.

``We believe that we should be consulted and the Supreme Court recognized we have that right. We are not opposed to economic development'', he told a news conference in Quebec City.

The Innu leaders said they could launch an international lobbying campaign or turn to the courts to block the Churchill Falls project if they did not obtain guarantees covering their quality of life.

This kind of action harks back to Quebec cree natives who successfully campaigned against the Great Whale hydro project in James Bay and forced Quebec in 1995 to cancel the plan.

The first part of the expansion at Churchill Falls, which was built 25 years ago, would partly divert two rivers to a reservoir to allow add new turbines to be added.

9 April →
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The second part would involve construction of a new dam, 200 kilometers (125 miles) downstream. Almost 45,000 jobs would be created by the two projects.

Project officials say more than two-thirds of the estimated 3,200 megawatts generated could be sold in the northeastern U.S. power market by Hydro-Quebec, the province's publicly owned utility.

The rest, some 1,000 megawatts, would be sold in Newfoundland and Labrador, possibly in part to power a proposed smelter for Inco Ltd's (N.TO) nickel project at Voisey's Bay in Labrador.

Water behind the proposed dam at Gull Island east of Churchill Falls would be contained by the steep walls of the river. But diverting extra water to Churchill Falls would flood 700 square kilometers (270 square miles) of land.

That has enraged the Innu, who say they were never compensated for the flooding of their ancestral lands caused by the original project in the early 1970s.

The projects are seen as key to resolving a long, bitter dispute between Quebec and Newfoundland over the existing Churchill Falls power station. Newfoundland has long accused Quebec of making a deal to buy the power cheaply and selling it at a significant profit, much of it in the United States.

(\$1-\$1.52 Canadian)

^REUTERS@

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MESSAGE> subject WKND: INNU/CHURCHILL COPY
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from SNF.RAN X CBC# 6 Dec11-99 0524
11/12/99 innu/churchill copy

The Innu of Labrador and Quebec will be fully involved in the shaping of any deal to develop Churchill Falls.

For the first time ever, Innu leaders from both provinces met with the premiers of Newfoundland and Quebec yesterday in St. John's

The native leaders were recognized as full partners in any development plans.

Innu leaders have said all along that their people would have to be satisfied before any development would go ahead at Churchill Falls.

The Innu of Labrador claim much of the land in the area. So do Innu in Quebec.

On Friday, Innu leaders such as Armand McKenzie of Quebec won a seat at the bargaining table as full partners with the provinces.

Most of the 10-billion dollar development will happen in Labrador. ←

Innu Nation president Peter Penashue says what happened yesterday is a positive sign.

All parties plan to meet again soon, and hope to have the framework for a deal by February.

SUBJECT> quebec; innu; innu nation; churchill falls

PERSON> mckenzie, armand
Capacity:quebec innu leader
Spare:

Aboriginal?	Canadian?	Disabled?	Female?	Visible Minority?
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PERSON> penashue, peter
Capacity:president, innu nation
Spare:

Aboriginal?	Canadian?	Disabled?	Female?	Visible Minority?
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*Dec 10/99
Innu had photo
- CBC
JP*

The GRAND RIVER is the longest river in Labrador (530 miles - 853 km), with the largest watershed, draining an area of 36,068 sq. miles (93,415 km²).

This magnificent waterway is the most historic and ecologically diverse region of Labrador. It is located within the Laurentian Plateau (part of the Canadian Shield) that is largely composed of metamorphic rocks formed in the Pre-Cambrian era billions of years ago.

The lower reaches of the river flows through a deep valley along a structural fault extending into Lake Melville that long pre-dates Quaternary (2 million years ago) glaciation. The western boundary of

the Grand River watershed forms part of the border between Labrador and Québec as it follows the Height of Land Plateau. Here sub-arctic conditions prevail.

From its headwaters at Ashuanipi Lake, through the Smallwood Reservoir (third largest man-made lake in the world), to brackish Lake Melville at sea level, the Grand River drops 1735 feet (529m).

This is a RIVER OF RIVERS. Many large tributaries flow into the Grand River such as the Cache, Wilson, Pena's, Metchin, Mininipi, Elizabeth, Fig, Tomahaws, Travespine, Valley, Unknown, and Atikonak as well as hundreds of smaller brooks and streams.

A 4,000 to 5,000-year old Maritime Archaic site has been found near Mud Lake documenting the earliest known human occupation of the river valley.

The river was a highway for the Innu who traversed the land for eons of time.

The earliest permanent Euro-Canadian settlement in the Grand River watershed came in 1743, with the establishment of a series of trading posts around Lake Melville and the rivers that flow into it.

In the nineteenth century, the Hudson's Bay Company established a post at Northwest River and several along the route of the Grand River.

By the late 1800s, Metis and settler trappers had established along the basin of the Grand River and its tributaries, up to the Height of Land.

This river was the economic artery for the whole region, holding great cultural significance for all.



By virtue of this fact, it was used to buttress the Newfoundland case in the Labrador/Québec boundary dispute.

THE GRAND RIVER was called the MISHTA SHIPU (Big River) by the Innu and it is still known by those names locally. Without the knowledge or support of Labradorians it was renamed the Hamilton River, circa 1821, and the Churchill River in 1965.

The Grand River watershed spans portions of four ecoregions and provides habitat for rich communities of boreal flora and fauna.

Cliffs as high as 800 ft. (235m), tower above the deep lower valley creating microclimates that are often 10 degrees warmer than the upland plateau. This results in ecosystems that are very rich and diverse.

The main portion of the lower valley lies within the High Boreal Forest-Lake Melville Ecoregion hosting the most productive forests in Labrador.

Disjunct populations of plants characteristic of more southerly latitudes have been found along the main river such as the common wood sorel and mountain maple.

This boreal river valley is an important breeding, foraging and

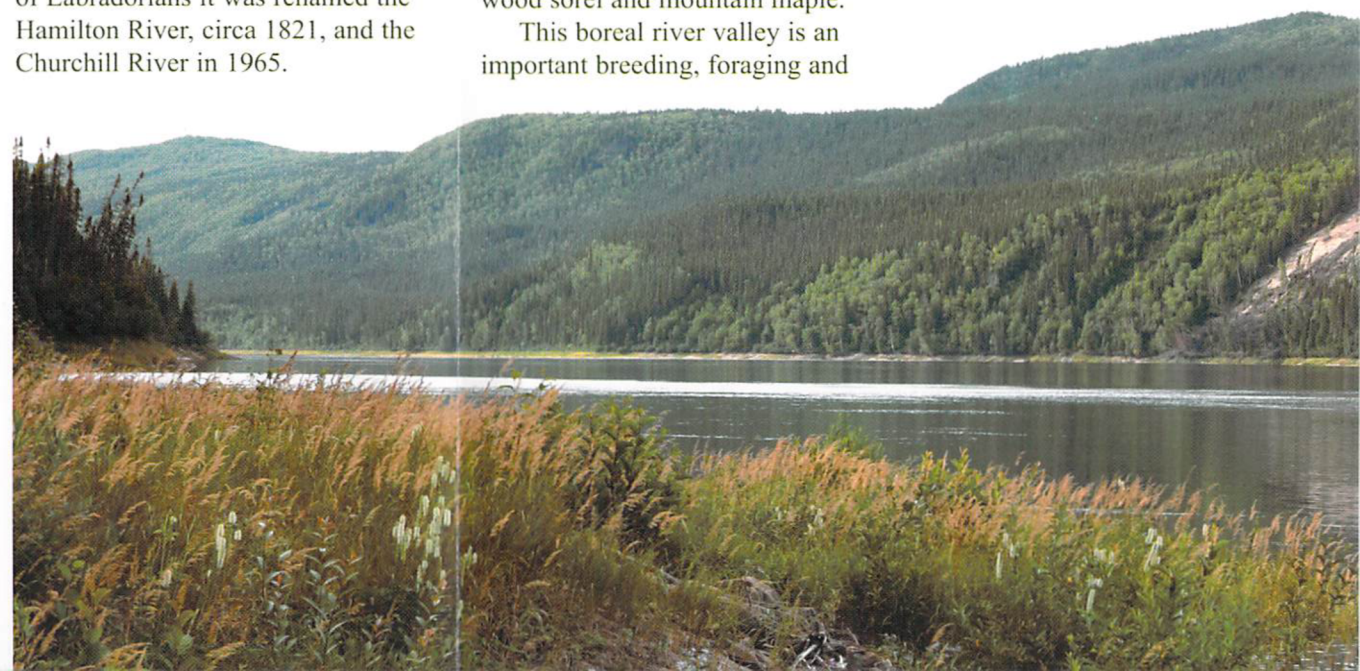
wintering habitat for moose and ptarmigan. Many fur-bearing animals live here.

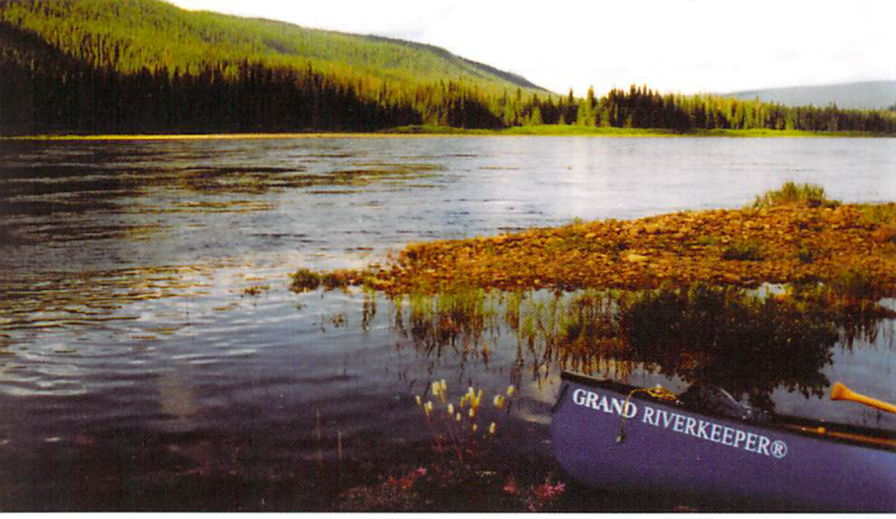
The endangered eastern population of the Harlequin Duck and the Peregrine Falcon nests in the river valley. It is also among the most northerly nesting sites in eastern Canada of the threatened Bald Eagle.

Canada Geese, many species of ducks, and other subsistence birds summer here.

The valley is considered an oasis for migratory songbirds.

The river provides a corridor for fish migrating to tributaries for spawning. A total of 16 species of fish have been identified, including Atlantic salmon.





GRAND RIVER

Labrador's Treasure,
Newfoundland's secret

ABOUT GRAND RIVERKEEPER, LABRADOR INC.®

Friends of Grand River/Mishta Shipu, Labrador was a local concerned citizens group that came together in 1998 when a proposal for two dams, on the lower part of Grand River, was announced.

Bearing in mind the environmental legacy of the Churchill Falls Hydroelectric Project and recognizing that they have little influence in the corridors of power they decided to seek affiliation with an international like-minded group. In 2005 they became affiliated with Waterkeeper Alliance (www.waterkeeper.org), changed their name to Grand Riverkeeper and are now joined with 153 programs of Waterkeeper Alliance worldwide.

Waterkeeper Alliance connects and supports local Waterkeeper programs to provide a voice for waterways and their communities. Their network is invaluable and it was a direct result of this that they were put in touch with the film crew that produced this educational documentary.

The purpose of Grand Riverkeeper is to preserve and protect the water quality and the ecological integrity of the Grand River watershed and its estuary, through actions of public awareness, monitoring, intervention and habitat restoration. They actively promote economically and environmentally sustainable ecosystem management approaches that will maintain the heritage and intrinsic value of this river and its valleys for present and future generations.

