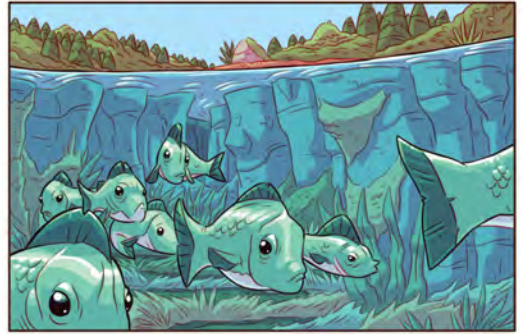
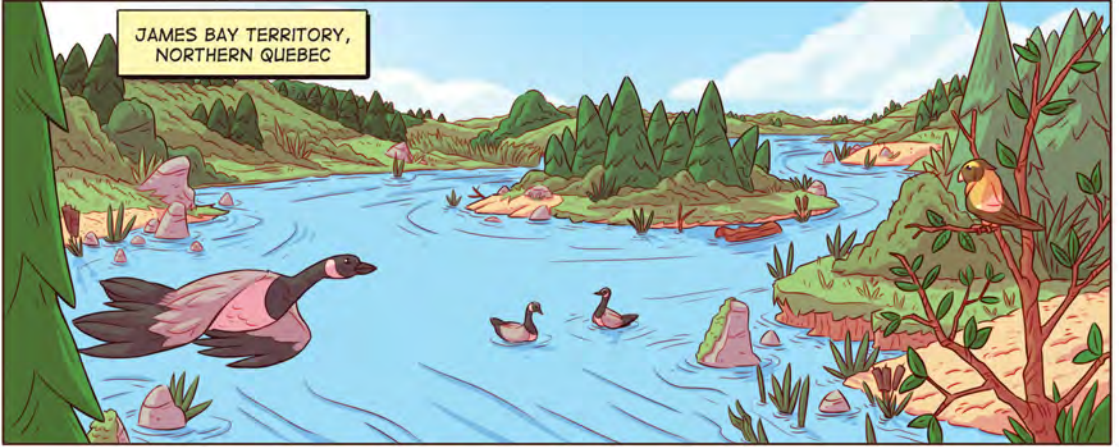


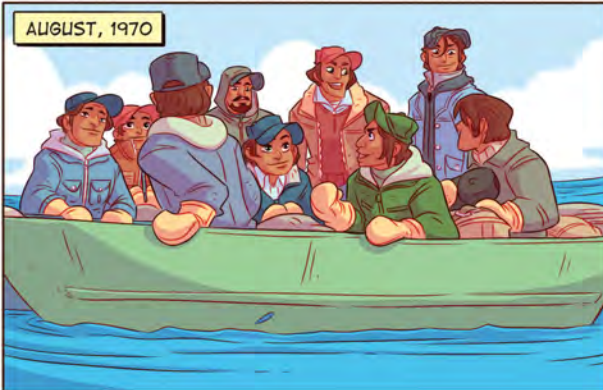
POWER OF THE PEOPLE

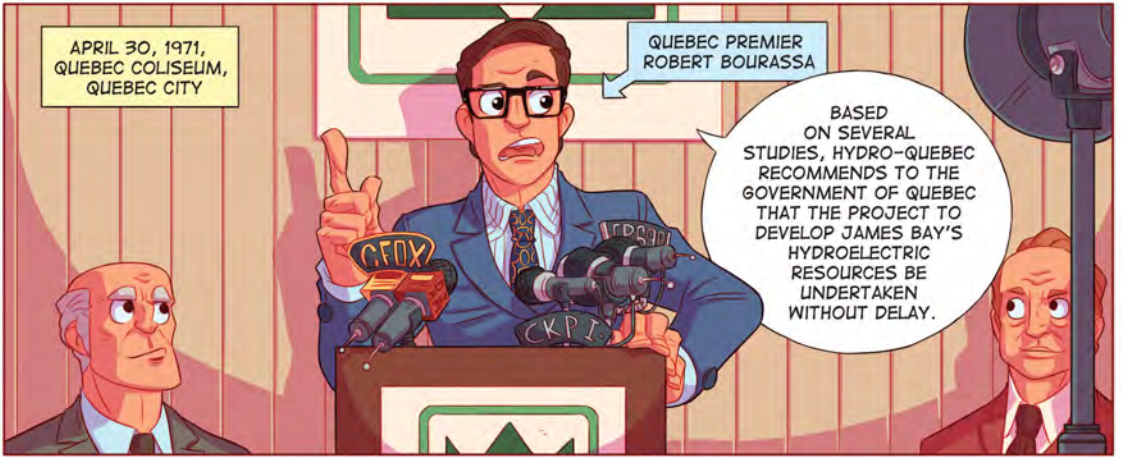
ALEX DIOCHON

JAMES BAY TERRITORY,
NORTHERN QUEBEC



AUGUST, 1970





APRIL 30, 1971,
QUEBEC COLISEUM,
QUEBEC CITY

QUEBEC PREMIER
ROBERT BOURASSA

BASED
ON SEVERAL
STUDIES, HYDRO-QUEBEC
RECOMMENDS TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC
THAT THE PROJECT TO
DEVELOP JAMES BAY'S
HYDROELECTRIC
RESOURCES BE
UNDERTAKEN
WITHOUT DELAY.



THE DEVELOPMENT OF JAMES
BAY IS THE KEY TO QUEBEC'S
ECONOMIC PROGRESS. IT'S
ALSO THE KEY TO SOCIAL
PROGRESS AND POLITICAL
STABILITY.



IN A WORD, IT'S
THE KEY TO THE
FUTURE OF QUEBEC.

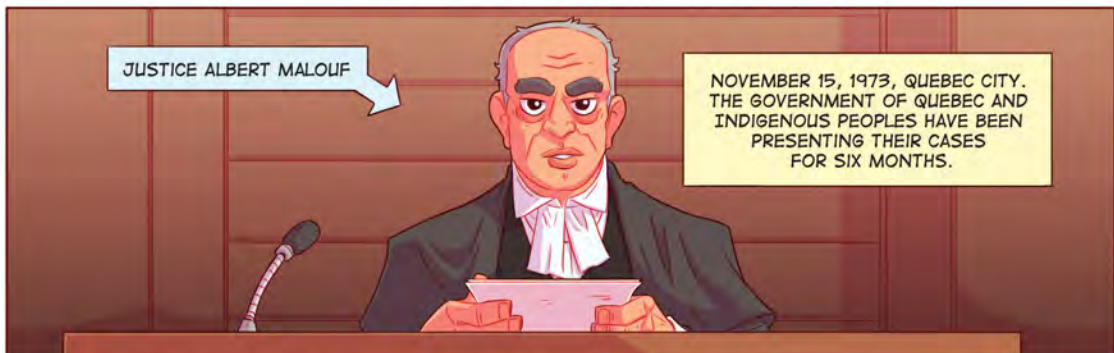
CHIEF BILLY
DIAMOND





JUSTICE ALBERT MALOUF

NOVEMBER 15, 1973, QUEBEC CITY. THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE BEEN PRESENTING THEIR CASES FOR SIX MONTHS.



EVEN THOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAS ARGUED THAT THE CREE AND INUIT OF THE REGION DO NOT HAVE RIGHTS OVER THIS LAND, IT IS CLEAR THEY DEPEND PARTLY OR COMPLETELY ON HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING IN THIS AREA. THEIR RIGHT TO PURSUE THEIR WAY OF LIFE FAR OUTWEIGHS ANY CONCERN ABOUT MONETARY LOSS FOR HYDRO-QUEBEC. THEREFORE, THE PROJECT MUST BE STOPPED FOR NOW.



JUSTICE MALOUF'S DECISION WAS REVERSED A WEEK LATER BY ANOTHER COURT. BUT IT WAS NOW CLEAR THAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HAD THE RIGHT TO HAVE A SAY IN WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LAND EAST OF JAMES BAY.

THE JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUEBEC AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 11, 1975. THE CREE AND INUIT AGREED TO SHARE SOME OF THEIR LAND AND RESOURCES. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WOULD WORK WITH THE NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS TO LOOK AFTER THE REGION'S WILDLIFE.



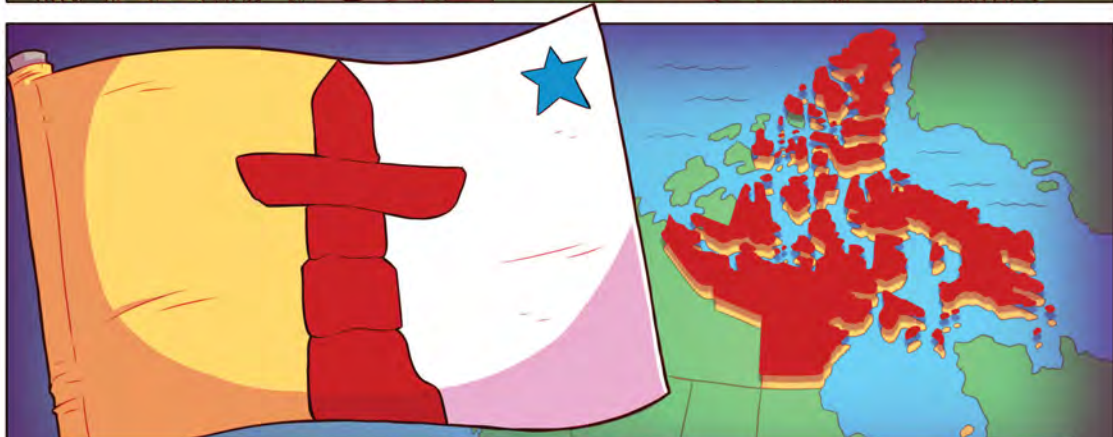
IT WAS THE FIRST SUCH AGREEMENT SINCE THE LAST OF THE NUMBERED TREATIES IN 1921, AND THE FIRST MODERN TREATY IN CANADA.



THERE HAVE BEEN MORE IDEAS FOR HYDRO MEGA-PROJECTS AND MORE COURT BATTLES.



BUT THE JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUEBEC AGREEMENT WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN RECOGNIZING THAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HAVE RIGHTS OVER THEIR LAND.



THE TREATY PROCESS CONTINUES ALL OVER CANADA. SOME AGREEMENTS BUILD ON OLD TREATIES. SOME INVOLVE NEW LAND CLAIMS. THE BIGGEST LAND CLAIM SETTLEMENT IN CANADIAN HISTORY CREATED THE TERRITORY OF NUNAVUT IN 1993.