

APPLICATION PACKAGE – DEADLINE IS MARCH 10, 2021 3rd MISS EEYOU/EENOU ISKWAAU (MEEI) pageant contest Waswanipi, QC – Saturday, April 17, 2021

The Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau (MEEI) pageant aims to empower our Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau by taking pride in their culture and give one of them the opportunity of a lifetime to either take part in the *Miss Indian World* (MIW) pageant or to attend various National/International conferences.

The grand prize of the MEEI contest will be, at the winner's option, either an entry in the MIW pageant (which will take place during the Gathering of Nations PowWow in Albaquerque, New Mexico in April 2022) or the opportunity to attend various National/International conferences from April 2021 through April 2023. To claim the grand prize, the winning candidate has to meet the either the MIW eligibility criteria of Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau criteria, depending on the choice of the grand prize. In the case our Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau is crowned at MIW the 1st runner up will than become Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau .

While the MIW rules and criteria exclude certain women from participation, it is not CWEIA's intent to undervalue the mothers and wives of this Nation. In our traditional views, women are the backbone of our families and Nation. It is, however, our understanding that a candidate who wins the MIW title will be required to travel and speak at various events, which can be difficult for those who are dedicated to their responsibilities as mothers and wives.

It is Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee's (CWEIA) mission to value and empower women of all backgrounds as a way to strengthen our communities and our Nation. One of our main goals at CWEIA is to create a variety of spaces that embrace what we collectively uphold and value as Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaauch. In this case, the MEEI pageant is specifically aimed at the young women in our membership who are seeking experiences that will shape them into stronger, and more outspoken leaders.

In this document you will find

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An	 Application form Regional Pageant Schedule CWEIA's membership form Miss Indian World Agreement. Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Agreement

1. MISS EEYOU/EENOU ISKWAAU ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You must be a beneficiary member of any of the communities within Eeyou Istchee, as well as a resident within Eeyou Istchee or a Post-Secondary Student residing outside Eeyou Istchee.

You must be a member of Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association.

You must be at least Sixteen (16) years of age and no older than thirty-five (35) years of age by April 17, 2021.

You have NOT been convicted of any criminal offense. There are no criminal charges presently pending against you.

You cannot abuse alcohol or drugs, must maintain and display a sober lifestyle.

You are in good health and can, to the best of your knowledge, participate fully and without limitation in any program activities. Any current medical condition or disability will not prevent you from performing your role and responsibilities during your reign.

You must be knowledgeable about, or in the process of acquiring knowledge of, your culture, history, values, traditions and issues of your First Nation and current issues of your community and all of Eeyou Istchee.

You have obtained a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED), or currently attending high school, GED classes, iiyiyiutuuwin knowledge, college or technical school or plan to continue your education in the near future.

You must not have previously held the title of Miss Eeyou/Eenou Nation.

You must be willing and able to communicate with the public and make yourself available to

attend some of CWEIA's events upon request.

You must make yourself available to participate in all program pageant activities.

You may be required to be a part of the CWEIA Board of Directors.

You must comply with all program requirements and the MEEI agreement. If you choose participation in the MIW pageant as the grand prize option for the MEEI pageant, you must also comply with the MIW criteria and agreement. See agreements in Annex.

Participation is limited to one (1) representative per community. They can be acclaimed during a local pageant or, if there is no local pageant, nominated by a community member. If there is more than one (1) representative nominated per community, the local Youth Council and/or the Local Women's Association's will select the participant they wish to send to the pageant.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT & DUTIES FOR PAGEANT WINNER, 1ST AND 2ND RUNNER-UP

Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau and all contestants represent themselves, their families, and all Eeyou/Eenou people in Eeyou Istchee and are expected to uphold their titles with respect, honor and dignity. Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau will always be a positive role model and is expected to conduct herself at all times in a manner that portrays self-respect

Participants must read the following carefully to understand that MEEI winner will need to adhere to the following regulations:

OPTION 1: MISS EEYOU/EENOU ISKWAAU - Code of Conduct:

- 1. Maintain a positive & healthy lifestyle by not abusing alcohol or drugs.
- Incarceration or conviction of a crime shall be immediate cause for relinquishment of the MEEI title. In the event of relinquishment all benefits, royalties, gifts, and honors derived from the program and reign shall be returned to the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association and offered to the 1st or 2nd runner-up.
- 3. Preferably, must maintain Eeyou Istchee residency throughout the years of service, (if not attending post secondary studies or for work).
- Traditional dress must reflect the customs of Eeyou/Eenou that they represent. As MEEI winner, you will be required to travel and attend public events. You may be required to travel with a chaperone at times. CWEIA will inform you of travel or events to attend.
- 5. Conduct fundraising activities to attend conferences and events.

Duties:

- 1. Shall serve for a period of two (2) years.
- 2. Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau will appear on time at all scheduled events. Should an emergency arise which prevents an appearance, immediate notification will be made to the Program Coordinator of Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association (CWEIA).
- **3.** Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau is responsible for the care and safe-keeping of the crown and sash during her reign and is financially responsible in the event of loss or damage to the crown. The crown and the sash are perpetual, which will be handed down to the next MEEI and remains the property of CWEIA.
- **4.** Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau is considered a team member of the MEEI Planning Committee under CWEIA and will present written reports upon request to CWEIA during regular scheduled meetings.
- **5.** Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau will take an active role in identifying and encouraging future participants in the MEEI Regional Pageant.
- **6.** Attend the next MEEI event by mentoring the participants and share about her experience and envolvment during her reign.

OPTION 2: MISS INDIAN WORLD - Code of Conduct:

Code of Conduct:

- **1.** Preferably, must maintain Eeyou Istchee residency throughout the years of service.
- 2. Traditional dress must reflect the customs of Eeyou/Eenou that they represent.
- **3.** As MEEN winner, you will be required to travel and attend public events. You may be required to travel with a chaperone at times. CWEIA will inform you of travel or events to attend.
- **4.** Must not marry or cohabitate during the year of their reign.
- 5. Must not become pregnant during the year of their reign.
- **6.** Must not be seen in bars, frequent liquor establishments, use alcohol or illegal drugs, including tobacco products or use profanity at any time during their reign.
- 7. Pregnancy, incarceration or conviction of a crime shall be immediate cause for relinquishment of Miss Eeyou/Eenou Nation title. In the event of relinquishment all benefits, royalties, gifts, and honors derived from the program and reign shall be returned to the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Nation Committee and offer to the 1st or 2nd runner-up

Duties:

- 1. Sell 500 raffle tickets for the Miss Indian World Entry.
- 2. Shall serve for a period of two (2) years.
- 3. Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau will appear on time at all scheduled events. Should an emergency arise which prevents an appearance, immediate notification will be made to the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Committee under Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee.
- Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau is responsible for the care and safe-keeping of the crown and 3rd Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Pageant
 4

sash during her reign and is financially responsible in the event of loss or damage to the crown. The crown and the shash are a perpetual crown, which will be handed down to the next Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau and remains the property of the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Planning Committee.

- 5. Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau is considered a team member of the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Planning Committee under CWEIA and will present a written quarterly report to the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Planning Committee during regular scheduled meetings.
- 6. Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau will take an active role in identifying and encouraging future participants in the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Regional Pageant.
- 7. Attend the next MEEI event by mentoring the participants and share about her experience and envolvment during her

3. JUDGING CATEGORIES FOR MEEI PAGEANT

Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Pageant participants must be **on time** for all scheduled events (i.e., workshops, activities, rehearsals, etc.) unless advance permission is granted for an absence by CWEIA.

SOCIAL ETIQUETTE AND APPEARANCE (Every Session)

Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau must show the judges that she can interact and converse with the crowd. If crowned MEEI, she will be required to attend public events and she must interact with the people.

1. PERSONAL INTERVIEW (Session 1) March 17, 2021

The participant will have an interview with the judges, they will be judged on how they present themselves and how they react and respond to questions.

2. TRADITIONAL DRESS (Session 1)

You must provide a description of your traditional dress. This description is used to write the script for the traditional dress portion of the evening program. Include any information you feel is relevant, such as the methods used to make the clothing, the meaning of certain articles, or celebrations that the dress is worn for.

3. WRITTEN ESSAY (Session 1)

You must submit an essay topic choice based on one (1) of the following general topics with an an Executive Summary of not more than 150 words:

- 1. Two-Spirited (LGBTQ2) Community
- 2. Preservation of Cree Culture and Language
- 3. Mental Health or Well-Being of Indigenous People

4. Physical Structure or Social Determinants of the Eeyou Istchee

4. TALENT PRESENTATION (Session 2) March 24, 2021

A three to five-minute talent presentation is required. The talent presentation may be either traditional or contemporary in nature (i.e., singing, dancing, explanation of a tradition of your nation, etc). You must provide a mp4 format video of your talent.

No other individual will be allowed on stage/video during the talent presentation. Any accompaniment must be off stage. Presentations, which are over five minutes, will be penalized 10 points.

The use of stage props will be limited to those that will be physically utilized by the participant. No inappropriate visual content or props.

The video is to be a pre-recorded presentation and sent to <u>program@cweia.ca</u> by March 23 at 11:59pm.

5. PANEL AND PUBLIC SPEAKING (Session 3) March 31,2021

A three to five-minute oral presentation based on the Essay topic chosen. Oral presentations are **spoken** words. Oral presentations **shall not** include the following: singing, sign language, dancing or audience involvement. Oral presentations which are over five minutes will be penalized 10 points.

Participants will also be asked one or two random questions which will be drawn from a hat. They will be judged on how well they respond to the questions.

For your Essay:

- Format essay: Typed with a minimum of 200 words and not more than 500 words. Emailed in PDF format to program@cweia.ca
- The content of the essay should also include recommendations.
- The cover page should contain: Title of the essay, participants name and community.
- Essay must be clear, organized and effective.
- Essay must reflect the use of good grammar and punctuation.
- Essay must flow smoothly and logically
- Essay conclusion must be logical.
- Submission of the essay is to be submitted with the application (March 29, 2021 at
- 11:59pm) by email to program@cweia.ca

4. TRAVELING TO MEEI LIVE PAGEANT – APRIL 17, 2021

Travel

CWEIA will offer \$0.30/km.

Meals

Each participant and coach will have their meal reimbursed.

Lodging

You will be placed in a hotel if available, otherwise you will be offered \$40 per night for private lodging. If private lodging is used, Local Women's Association or CWEIA will make sure you are placed in a comfortable home.

5. PAGEANT CHECK LIST APPLICATION

Final date for submission of applications is March 10, 2021

PLEASE sent to program@cweia.ca

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY:

- Filled out MEEI application and CWEIA Membership form MARCH 10, 2021 AT 11:59 PM
- Proof of Beneficiary Member and a Community Member, MARCH 10, 2021 AT 11:59
- Head shot picture in digital format (at least 800x600, JPG, PNG) Description of talent, MARCH 22, 2021 at 11:59 PM
- The written essay based on your view related to the topic of your choice (one of the 4 topics) must be handed in by March 29, 2021 at 11:59 pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION YOU MAY CONTACT

Josephine Sheshamush, Program Coordinator - 819-775-2491, or at program@cweia.ca

PAGE 1 OF APPLICATION FORM TO 3rd MEEI PAGEANT (2021)

PERSONAL INFORMATION - PIE	ase <mark>type</mark> or wr	ite clearly in the fields list	ed below.
Legal Last Name:	Legal F	irst Name:	Middle Initial:
Name of the Community You Represent:		Beneficiary Numbe	r:
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):		Place of Birth:	
P.O. Box/Street Address: (Mailing address)		Apt. /Unit #:
City:		Province: Quebec	Zip Code:
Home Number:	Cell Number:		Work Number:
()	()		()
Email Address IS REQUIRED:			
FAMILY INFORMATION			
Mother's First Name:		Last name	
Father's Name:		Last name	
Dependents Y/N:			
EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND			
Status			
High school / Adult Education stude	nt	University stu	dent
College student		Not currently	in school
High School Name/Adult Education:		Graduation Date (mm/dd	/үүүү):
College Name:		Field of studies:	Diploma YesNo
University name:			
Type of program: Certificate Program	Bachelo	r's Degree Master's	Degree
Field of Studies:			
Other training completed or in progress:			
EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION			
Current Employer:		Current Position:	
Contacted Local Women's Association Y/	N	LWA Community affliation	:

PAGE 2 OF APPLICATION FORM TO ^{3rd} REGIONAL PAGEANT (2021)

GOALS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What are your educational goals?

What are your personal goals?

What awards or special recognition have you received in or outside of school?

What are your interests and hobbies?

What platform do you plan to promote if selected as Miss Eeyou/Eenou Nation?

CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION AND REQUIRED SIGNATURES

,, have read and understand all rules and regulations of the Miss
Eeyou/Eenou Nation and certify that the information I have provided for consideration is complete and
accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false, erroneous or incomplete information may
result in my disqualification. I also understand that I am responsible for my personal belongings at all times
hroughout my representation and its related events. The Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Committee is not liable for
any damage, loss or theft of belongings or bodily injury sustained during said events.
understand that all Committees' decisions are final and binding.
Finally, by signing;
1) I affirm that I have read the Miss Indian World Agreement & Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Agreement
2) I am aware that my presence will be required on the following dates for the Virtual sessions; Wednesday,
March 17, 24 & 31, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Date:



^{3rd}Miss EEYOU/EENOU ISKWAAU PAGEANT

Time:2:00 pm Location: Waswanip, QC

MEEI PAGEANT SCHEDULE – Judging

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - 1st VIRTUAL SESSION

Personal scheduled Interviews with Judges :

Each participant will answer a series of questions related to her personal views on various topics.

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 - 2nd VIRTUAL SESSION

Traditional Talent presentation:

Each participant will have three to five (3-5) minutes to present and talk about her talent in relation to her culture and tradition. It can be singing, dancing, storytelling, explanation of art and craft work process and or display and etc...

Wednesday, March 31, 2021 - 3rd VIRTUAL SESSION

Panel & Public speaking:

Present their Essay to the Judges 3-5 minutes

Each participants will be asked to briefly present their essay and answer a random question.

MISS EEYOU/EENOU ISKWAAU – CROWNING EVENT

DATE: April 17, 2021 - 4TH VIRTUAL SESSION OR LIVE (IN-PERSON) SESSION

9 am - 12 pm	COACHING & MENTORING SESSION WITH ANDREA & KAYLEIGH/WABBY (BRUNCH)
1:00 pm	Lunch – caterering
2:00 pm	OPENING PRAYER BY COMMUNITY ELDER Welcoming words by host community – LWA Waswanipi CWEIA President – purpose of CWEIA pageant
2:30 pm	Introduction of the Community Representatives –Contestants Each contestant will introduce themselves & briefly describe themselves, their community & why they entered the contest. Describe their traditional attire.
3:00 pm	Traditional Talent presentation - Pre-recorded video to show on screen
3:30 pm	Public speaking portion Winner, 1 st & 2 nd runner up
4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Crowning of Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Community Parade
6:00 pm	Feast & Celebration

*** VIDEOS OF ALL CONTESTANTS - to be shown during the event***

Event sponsored by:



Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee Association Association des Femmes Cries de Eeyou Istchee

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Valid from one AGA to the next!

Name:	Date:
I am a New Member	I am renewing my membership
Address:	Community Postal code:
Tel:	Email:
Age Category (check): 13 – 17 1	8-35 36-54 55+
Do you want to be added on our electronic d	istribution list? Yes No
Do you accept to also become a member at C	Quebec Native Women (QNW) ? Yes No
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:	
	n/Entity, Association or Company (at the discretion of the Board now if you are part of First Nation: Yes No
Corporate Member Any Organizatio For Friend and Corporate Member, please let us kn	now if you are part of First Nation: Yes No
Corporate Member Any Organizatio For Friend and Corporate Member, please let us kn	now if you are part of First Nation: Yes No
Corporate Member Any Organizatio For Friend and Corporate Member, please let us ki What is your daily occupation?	now if you are part of First Nation: Yes No
Corporate Member Any Organizatio For Friend and Corporate Member, please let us ki What is your daily occupation?	verify ou are part of First Nation: Yes No
Corporate Member Any Organizatio For Friend and Corporate Member, please let us ki Vhat is your daily occupation? Help CWEIA advocate by sharing what are you Please share what are your expectations of CW	No
Corporate Member Any Organizatio For Friend and Corporate Member, please let us ki Vhat is your daily occupation? Help CWEIA advocate by sharing what are you Please share what are your expectations of CW	No

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Miss Indian World Contestant Agreement



As a Contestant for Miss Indian World, I AGREE to the following terms:

- I am representing my family, my Tribe(s) and myself. It is very important for me as a Miss Indian World (MIW) contestant and an individual; to maintain certain moral standards for myself now and in the future.
- I will conduct myself in a professional manner that is above and beyond reproach during my time as a MIW Contestant. Behavior unbecoming and noted, will result in disqualification as a Miss Indian World Contestant.
- I affirm that I have no dependents (children, adopted, foster or by guardianship) and have never given birth to or conceived a child.
- I affirm that I have never been married (legally or through Native Marriage).
- I should have a positive attitude about myself before, during, and after the Miss Indian World Pageant. I will be required to respect, cooperate, and participate with fellow contestants, the Miss Indian World Committee, Judges, Gathering of Nations Pow Wow staff and the Public Relations firm that works with GON/MIW and anyone else I may come in contact during my time as a MIW Contestant.
- I am required to be in Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A. for the Pageant Orientation on **EVENING**, **APRIL 2022**. I must be accompanied by a parent or chaperone who is 25 years or older at the Orientation. Itinerary & Schedule of Activities will be sent to you.
- I must sell a minimum of 500 Raffle Tickets to be considered a Miss Indian World Contestant. This is in lieu of a Pageant Entrance Fee.
 - a. I must turn in any unsold tickets including the money you raised from my sales during Registration. Failure to do so will result in immediate disqualification.
 - b. I am solely responsible for the Raffle Tickets assigned to me.
- I am responsible for my personal belongings at all times. The Miss Indian World Committee and the Gathering of Nations are NOT responsible for Contestant's belongings, loss, theft and/or injury.
- I understand that should I become Miss Indian World, I must keep my personal relationships private and understand that at no time can my significant other be considered a chaperone or travel with me on official Miss Indian World Trips and/or appearances.

I hereby agree and promise to abide by the above Code of Conduct & General Guidelines as a Contestant in the Miss Indian World Pageant. I understand that I may be disqualified as a Contestant in of the Miss Indian World Pageant if I violate the conditions and guidelines outlined above.

Signature of Contestant: _____ Date: _____

Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Contestant Agreement

As a Contestant for Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau, I AGREE to the following terms:

- I am representing my family, my Nation and myself. It is very important for me as a Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau contestant and an individual; to maintain certain moral standards for myself now and in the future.
- I will conduct myself in a professional manner that is above and beyond reproach during my time as a MEEI Contestant. Behavior unbecoming and noted, may result in disqualification as a Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Contestant.
- I should have a positive attitude about myself before, during, and after the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Pageant. I will be required to respect, cooperate, and participate with fellow contestants, the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Planning Committee, Judges, CWEIA staff and the Public Relations organizations and anyone else I may come in contact during my time as a MEEI Contestant.
- I am required to attend all 4 sessions for the Pageant as scheduled by the MEEI Planning Committee. I may be accompanied by a parent or chaperone who is 25 years or older at the sessions, if I am minor. Itinerary & Schedule of Activities will be sent to you.
- I am aware that Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee (CWEIA) is not responsible for my dependent's travel expenses or childcare fees at any time as contestant or during my reign as MEEI.
- I am responsible for my personal belongings at all times. The MEEI Planning Committee and Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee (CWEIA) are NOT responsible for Contestant's belongings, loss, theft and/or injury.

I hereby agree to abide by the above Code of Conduct & General Guidelines as a Contestant in the Miss Eeyou/Eenou Iskwaau Pageant. I understand that I may be disqualified as a Contestant of the said pageant if I violate the conditions and guidelines outlined above.

Signature of Contestant: Date:
