

Press release

For immediate release

THE SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE LA BAIE-JAMES INVESTS IN NORTHERN AGRICULTURE

Chibougamau, April 8, 2014 – The Société de Développement de la Baie-James (SDBJ) is pleased to announce the completion of financing of \$125,000 to support the cultivation of high-quality seed potatoes in Chapais, in the Nord-du-Québec region. The overall \$272,500 project, to which the SADC Chibougamau-Chapais (Chibougamau-Chapais Community Futures Development Corporation) also contributed in the amount of \$125,000, will enable Produits maraîchers 2009 inc. to acquire production equipment and increase its storage capacity.

Raymond Thibault, President and CEO of the SDBJ, said that, in the North, it was long thought that agriculture was impossible. Produits maraîchers 2009 has successfully shown the opposite by transforming apparent constraints into opportunities. We are very pleased to be part of this growth.

The more time passes, the more I am fascinated by northern agriculture. I am pleased that the SDBJ is recognizing our efforts to develop this specific niche. With this investment, we can plant more land and in a few years, harvest 250 hectares, said Normand Boucher, President of Produits maraîchers 2009 inc.

Mr. Boucher and his team have been hard at work for 4 years, developing northern agriculture and building business partnerships. Now, it is time for the large-scale growth of this business, and our economic development team is ready to support Mr. Boucher and his partners in their expansion plan, said Alain Coulombe, Deputy General Manager for Economic Development of the SDBJ.

About the SDBJ

The SDBJ was created in 1971 by the *James Bay Region Development Act* to promote the Baie-James territory's economic development and the development and use of its natural resources, other than hydroelectric resources, which are Hydro-Québec's responsibility, from a sustainable development perspective. It can also generate, support and participate in projects for these purposes.

<http://www.sdbj.gouv.qc.ca>

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Source:

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