mwâkwa wêhc'-îšinâkwaniliki osita

- êko mâka, ôma mîna ê-'t'-âtalôhkawâkaniwit mwâkwa wêhc'-îšinâkwanilik omisita ...¹ osita.
- pêyakwâ wêskac, 'wêyâšîšak nêsta pilêsiwak, kî-mâwacihitowak ê-wî-makošêcik. êko mâka, sâkahikanihk ant' ê-'htâcik, mêkwâc ê-makošêcik, kî-mâci-nôcihêw kotak..., kotakîya pilêsiwa, awa mwâkwa. êko mâka kotakîyak aniki pilêsiwak môla nahêl'tamwak anima ê-wî-maskahtwêt šinkipiš wîwa, awa mwâkwa.
- êko mâka kâ-..., ê-kisiwâsit aw šinkipiš, kî-pimicišahwêw ô' mwâkwa.²
 êko mâk' ê-'ti-kihcipahtâl'ci nâ'c êliko' kî-nôsô-tahkiškâtêw. miconi mâk' antê
 o..., otânâhk k'-îši-wêpiškam osita ê-kî-mâskiskawât mâka. iskonâk mâka,
 ê'kwâni mâka wêhci-anim'-êtakotêliki osita, cîkic anta onahkitîhk awa
 mwâkwa.

Excerpt from "âtalôhkâna nêsta tipâcimôwina / Cree Legends and Narratives from the West Coast of James Bay" (1995)

Text Forty-Seven

Why the loon's feet are near the tail

Now then, this again is the beginning of the legend about the loon, why this one's feet ... his feet look the way they do.

Once upon a time long ago, the beasts and the birds got together because they wanted to have a feast. And so, as they were there on the lake, in the course of the feasting, this loon began flirt around with oth..., other birds. So then the rest of those birds weren't pleased with the fact that this loon wanted to take away Shingibish's wife.

And so when ..., being angry, Shingibish chased after this loon. And then, as the latter ran away, he kicked him very hard as he ran off. And he utterly knocked his ..., his feet back there having crippled him. And ever since, that's why the loon's feet hang that way, right near his tail-end.