



**REGIONAL and LOCAL  
DEVELOPMENT department**

**ACTIVITY REPORT  
DECEMBER 2020 TO FEBRUARY 2021**

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**A. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Nunavik Elders**

-NVs Elders' Coordinators

Benjamin Arreak, Counselor for elders kept contacts with the NVs Elders' coordinators and conducted one-on-one calls for the coordinators to be familiarized with their job tasks: Noah Ningiuruvik of Kangirsuk, Louisa Surusilak of Puvirnituk and Villisi Nalukturuk of Inukjuak. The coordinators were informed on how to start working with elders in their community, how to communicate with other coordinators and with the KRG.

The following teleconference workshops will include animators like Lizzie Putulik, KRG SE employee in Kangirsuk, and Elena Berthe Local Elders' Coordinator in Tasiujaq, who have a good knowledge of working with Government and elders' files and how to plan and prepare projects' funding requests. It is to underline that most requests involve outings, which require authorization from the health authority, in order for the "restricted gatherings" to respect Covid-19 protection guidelines.

-Conference of Quebec's Regional Seniors Consultation Tables

Nunavik Elders' Committee president Bobby Snowball and Benjamin Arreak, KRG Counselor for elders were invited to virtually meet with coordinators of the 18 Quebec regions.

-Special consultation meetings Quebec Seniors' Regional Consultation Tables

The Conference of Quebec's Regional Seniors Consultation tabled a report to Minister Blais, responsible for seniors. The report includes each region's seniors' concerns.

*Abbreviated Excerpt:*

Region 18 is an administrative region of Quebec where we meet two of the 54 communities of Quebec's aboriginal peoples. They are the Cree and the Inuit. Health and social services are included in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Convention of 1975, It's why we have called on a representative of these communities directly to raise the issues of their region. However, each of the Regional Consultation Tables Quebec elders have been made aware of the concern about issues affecting Aboriginal elders in their territory.

You will find in appendix the document (KRG) "Senior's policy and its action plan" where different concerns are identified for their communities: communications and information, infrastructure development and mobility, leisure, culture, security, food security, community support and social participation as well as housing

...we note that the housing issue is a concern in 9 of the 15 regions. There are several elements to consider in this issue.

Accessibility to housing (or even transport), accessibility to suitable housing, costs for housing, knowledge of the housing stock and proximity to services. Home support, is also implied in the reflection on housing and more than a third of the regions have identified this issue as important. The issue of home care or maintenance was already a concern before health crisis (covid-19). Recent exchanges with Table Representatives with regional authorities suggest that home support could be at the top of the list of issues retained; the pandemic has further highlighted this need.

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#### -Housing

New housing units

Minister Marguerite Blais, responsible for seniors, called for a virtual meeting with the 18 presidents of Quebec Seniors' Regional Consultation Tables. Because of the confinement and difficulty of interpretation, Bobby Snowball could not participate.

The Minister confirmed what the NRBHSS had informed us about, the construction of two long-term care units one in Kuujuaq and the other in Puvirnituk (in 2021).

In a follow up call to the Minister's cabinet, we inquired about the 2 social housing units that were recommended last July to the Minister responsible of SHQ. We are awaiting a response.

#### -Communications with Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux

The Department participated in communications between Bobby Snowball and the Director of Active Aging Directorate; Seniors' Secretariat and Caregivers Branch of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux. The secretariat required active participation of the Elders' Committee according to the funding agreement with the KRG. The Department proposed a semi annual meeting of the Elders' Committee to review progress made in KRG's seniors' policy.

## **ARTS**

### Aumaaggiivik – Nunavik Arts Secretariat

The KRG approved an amount of \$125,000 funding for the 2020-2021 operational funding of Aumaaggiivik. In its 2019-2020 activity report, Aumaaggiivik highlights the following main activities: support research and creation, promotion and management of the new TakumInartuliurnimut grant program, direct financial contributions from Avataq's artists' assistance program (AAA); participation in events: KWE! Meet with the Indigenous people in Quebec city and Northern Lights 2020 Conference and Trade Show in Ottawa and the Montreal Papier fair Katajjaniq gathering, during which it was agreed to participate in the youth magazine: Grilled Cheese.

### Ivujivik print shop

The architectural evaluation of the designated building for establishment of a print shop was delayed a few times because of Covid-19 travel restrictions. It is hoped that the project would proceed in 2021. Should the evaluation be confirmed positive, a full business plan will be undertaken.

## **SOCIAL ECONOMY**

### Business plan, writing competition

The Department designed a Nunavik Social Economy Enterprise Competition for women and youth 18 to 35. The purpose of this competition is to encourage Nunavik women and youth groups to create social economy enterprises, also called collective enterprises, by developing proposals that will provide an innovative product or service to their community or to Nunavik.

Winner groups would individually receive cash prizes and would work with the Department on completing their plans and present them for funding and financing.

### Quebec Government Action Plan on the Social Economy (PAGES): 2020-2025

The ministry of Economy and Innovation (MEI) had been working in the last two years on updating PAGES, and during November 2020 announced that the action plan is ready to present to the Treasury Board (CT) for a total of \$127 million, generating investments of \$520 million for 3, 500 projects .

However, with most of the attention on sanitary and economic recovery measures across the province, the process is delayed. On January 27, MEI informed all regions of the following, pending CT's approvals:

- signing a 4-year funding agreement 2021-2025, to support each region to promote and consolidate the social economy (\$110,000 per year);
- Multiple direct funding, financing and technical support to collective enterprises, some of which are:
  - Recovery of collective enterprises' program – Investment Quebec;
  - New measures to support economic sectors;
  - Training of personnel for home services through collective enterprises;
  - Support to environmental projects.

## Agro-Food Development

### Projects under Specific Agreement concerning Agro-Food Development

Project	Community	Status
-Community Freezers-2020 infrastructure Funding completion	NVs of Kuujjuaq, Inukjuak and Kangiqsujuaq	Completed
-Community Greenhouse	Salluit	In Progress
-Pirursaivik Greenhouse	Inukjuak	In progress

Overall project implementation, estimated costs \$3,8 M:

#### Potential funding partners

- Société du Plan Nord
- Community Greenhouse Program and Fond d'Initiative Nordique
- Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions
- Quebec Economic Development Program
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Local Food Infrastructure Fund
- Kativik Regional Government – MAMH - MAPAQ
- Caisse Desjardins
- Good Spark Fund
- Northern Affairs
- Climate Change Preparedness in the North Program

The request, December 2020 – Phase I

Funding of “Design Management Services” feasibility study: facilities’ design, in order to arrive at fixed costs validation and operational expenses’ estimation.

Cost: \$ 338,370.25 (taxes included)

-One Drop confirmed \$100 000 contribution

-Funds still to be raised \$ 238,370.25

-KRG approval: \$50,000 to phase I

## B. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

### Business start-up and expansion

The following are lists of business development projects and business advisory services that the department offices in Kuujjuaq, Salluit and Inukjuak worked on for the period. Some files which were previously reported carry over in this report since they are awaiting promoters’ input or other research to be completed.

Sector/Business Activity	Community	Status
1. Steam Cleaning	Salluit	In Progress
2. Corner Store	Ivujivik	In Progress

## C. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Project	Sector	NV	Status
Egimak Mens' Association	Social	Puvirnitug	Opened
Puvirnitug Anglican Church		Puvirnitug	Opened
Mens' Association Kuujjuarapik	Social	Kuujjuarapik	Opened
Mens' Association Umiujaq	Social	Umiujaq	Opened

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