



## **REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT Department**

### **ACTIVITY REPORT MAY-SEPTEMBER**

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#### **DEPARTMENT MANDATES**

The Regional and Local Development Department provides an essential link between the economic development strategies of the provincial and federal governments and the region's businesses and social economy enterprises. It is also closely involved in community socio-economic planning and project implementation. The Department delivers programs serving three main sectors:

- Regional Development
- Local Development
- Business Development

Public consultation and advice on regional development

- Until 2003: the role of the Kativik Regional Development Council (KRDC) (JBNQA)
- 2004 Sivunirmut Agreement: KRG assumes greater autonomy in the establishment of its priorities, its mandates and the allocation of its funds
- Spring of 2015: Bill 28, recognizes the KRG as the primary interlocutor of the Government for the territory or community it represents as regards regional development

#### **A. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

##### **NUNAVIK ELDERS**

###### -Caregivers - Elders

The Medical Affairs and Physical Health Planning and Programming Officer of the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services invited the KRG Elders' Councillor and RLDD Director to attend an information session concerning caregiving for elders in Nunavik.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, NRBHSS Director Yoan Girard, Programming Coordinator Marie-Claude Renée, Audrey Hachey Program officer held an information session with the KRG for the purpose of setting up steps of cooperation to gather information about the current situation of caregivers for seniors in Nunavik that will permit to gauge a suitable action plan to include in the province's

new policy on caregivers in Quebec. The discussion on a new caregiver policy and action plan included the following:

1. Initial step: natural caregiver needs assessment

- Arsaniit Sivulirtiit: a participative survey conducted across Nunavik in 2019-2020 to discuss and gather the needs and expectations of Inuit patients, caregivers and loved ones who are directly and indirectly impacted by cancer, chronic illness, palliative care and end-of-life care in the region;
- Consultations: with health and social services staff, natural caregivers, wellness committee elder coordinators, elder Committee

2. Elders' coordinators and Nunavik Elders' Committee participation in the process

3. Related points identified with KRG Senior Policy and Action plan

4. Communication plan

This internet link provides information on related subjects:

<https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/document-003191/>

-NV's Local Coordinators "Advisors"

The Executive Committee adopted a resolution requesting funding for the period: 2022-2025 and the Department filed the application to MAMH noting that this request replaces the one-year funding request filed in March.

The Department informed the Secretary Treasurers Association of the file status and mentioned that the NVs might want to choose one of two options with regard to the Coordinators' positions: temporary lay-off till funding is confirmed or continue to pay the salaries.

In a follow-up with MAMH at the end of June, MAMH informed the KRG that ministerial requests for an opinion are still on. Further, if a positive go-ahead decision is given, the funding would be available starting the date that KRG requested the funds (May 19, 2022).

Programs' guide simplified

KRG-Sustainable Development and Regional and Local Development departments are working on production of an up-to-date service directory for Elders in Nunavik. This work is parallel and inspired by Service Quebec present information documents.

## Innaviutik: Elders interview project

The project joined the management committee and met in Kuujjuaq on August 10 to discuss progress and any issues or suggestions including a request made at the Council meeting in Salluit to see if portions of the recordings could be published before the project 2023 end date. Avataq officials: Rhoda Snowball, Nancy Palliser, and Elise Legault. KRG and Elders' Committee: Benjamin Arreak and Bobby Snowball.

### **-THE LOCAL ECONOMY**

The subject of the economy occupies all media sources, analysts and the news since February 2022 and the end of pandemic situation analysis and reports. Nunavik communities are the interest of KRG-Regional and Local Development since the 2018 Kuujjuaq workshop: Growing Nunavik 14 local economies!. The 2020-2021 covid pandemic interruption halted many activities and above all, traveling.

As travel within Nunavik opened up, the KRG-RLDD proposed to Air Inuit to publish short articles on the local economy. These articles would be a collaboration of the University of Quebec in Montreal (the UQAM) and the Department.

Further, the Department with the collaboration of Air Inuit Inflight magazine: INUIT, produced a quick directory to KRG-RLDD economic development programs: technical and financial. These include:

- New Tool for Current and Future Entrepreneurs in Nunavik (how to prepare) : A self-taught at-home learning tool by KRG, KI, and EEQ;
- Start a business: Makigiarutiit Fund would help;
- Come up with a new food product: Nunavik Choice© Trade Mark can help sell your product;
- Start a collective (social) group' businesses: Makigiarutiit Fund would help  
Youth or Women groups' competition to write a collective business plan and each participant wins \$1,000
- Fund start-up of a community service organization: Makigiarutiit Fund would help

### **Innovative territories in the social and solidarity economy (TIESS)**

*Excerpt from TIESS administrative files*

"Thematic

TIESS works daily on a large number of projects. They emerge from different horizons, but converge on certain themes. If this convergence is sometimes unplanned, it is no less real.

#### New avenues for financing the social economy

TIESS has been interested in new avenues of financing the social and solidarity economy since its inception. TIESS identifies promising experiences at the Quebec, Canadian and international levels that can be transferred and supports the development of adapted formulas for financing the social and solidarity economy that promote the development of territories.

The role of TIESS, however, is not to develop new financial products. The work is oriented according to the needs and issues identified and aims to facilitate the understanding and use of these funding avenues, in particular through the production of guides and other transfer tools and activities.”

Nunavik’s large part of its local economies are collective (social) in nature. The cooperative movement is known in many South American countries as a model. While, the landholding successful subsidiaries are taking their prominent place in their communities. Nunavik Daycare Centres are the envy of other regions. Each of these sectors participate to their local economies successfully since 50 years for the coops and 35 years for the LHCs and Daycare services.

It is the Department’s belief, that TIESS can provide innovative ideas to expand present projects and create new ones. The Department Director participated in TIESS Board of Directors meeting during June.

## **B. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

### Business start-up and expansion

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

<u>Sector/Business Activity</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>File Status</u>
-Crenuk Photography Studio	Kuujjuaraapik	Completed
-Ungava Polar Eco-Tours Inc.	Kuujjuaq-Tasiujaq	Completed
-Equipment Rentals	Kuujjuaq	Completed

## **OTHER FILES**

### Ad Hoc Poverty Reduction Working Group

On June 10, Department Director participated with the KRG’s Cost of Living Officer in the pan Nunangat committee with two consulting firms to continue discussions of Phase II of this research project that aims at providing the regions with collective elements to advise ITK of principals for a new policy that addresses the poverty issue in Canada’s Inuit regions. Topics discussed during the virtual meeting were:

- a review of the 2022 Summit and Strategy/Implementation planning;
- Presentation of the Market Basket Measure (MBM) - National Household ...

*Based on concepts developed by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), the Market Basket Measure (MBM) is a measure of low income based on the cost of a specified basket of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living*

- Summary of family income data;
- Year 2 of the Cost of Living Project (COL)
  - Overview of initial information collected on the value of major support/subsidies programs on the cost of living and income sides.

### Jet Fuel Price Increase Concern

The Department coordinated discussions among the KRG, Makivik Corporation, Air Inuit, and Canadian North on the subject of jet fuel price increases.

### Strengthening Food Autonomy Throughout Quebec

The Department participated in regional consultations on an important topic, food autonomy in Quebec. This process is unique: for the first time, all Quebec regions will provide a portrait of their food sector and in November 2022, a conference will discuss the information gathered.

#### *Excerpt from Forumsat website: Home - Forum SAT*

##### A Territorial Food System (Forum SAT):

The Forum SAT's approach aims to build a vision of territorial food systems that will be shared by actors and networks in favor of their deployment throughout Quebec. It is difficult to propose a single definition of territorial food systems, but some elements are essential to build a sustainable, inclusive and resilient food system:

##### -A territorial approach

Food systems are anchored in their territory, which can be local (their community, their neighborhood), supra-local (several municipalities, the MRC [Regional county municipality], several MRCs) or regional. Exchanges and connections are created between the different territorial scales. Actors from different agri-food sectors interact and break down sectoral silos. The territorial approach adopts a global perspective necessary for structural changes;

##### -A systems approach

Food systems are complex; they involve a multitude of actors in the food chain: production, processing, distribution, consumption, waste management and transport. These actors need to be considered in their specific roles, but also through their connections with each other. In turn, these actors are embedded in a web of external actors that also have a structuring role in territorial food systems, such as municipalities, the food industry and public authorities. It is therefore necessary to combine the knowledge of the different actors and to establish good communication between them in order to create a network of collaboration at the territorial level.

*See the definition of a food system proposed by REPSAQ from the Encyclopedia of Food and Health.*

-An approach based  
on the social-ecological transition

In the face of the rapidity of climate change and the limits of the dominant agro-industrial system, the implementation of territorial food systems that combine societal responsibilities and sustainable development becomes essential to ensure greater local and regional food autonomy. Developed under different models depending on the region, territorial food systems share a common objective, that of contributing to increasing food autonomy and security for all in a perspective of social-ecological transition.

## **DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES**

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