



## **TRANSPORTATION Department**

### **ACTIVITY REPORT SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2023**

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The Transportation department is responsible for the safe and secure management of 14 certified airports, 14 Marine Ports, the Usijit para-transport and public transit services, and the Off Highway Vehicle awareness program in Nunavik.

#### **Human Resources**

##### **Hiring:**

Transportation Department hired the following individuals:

- Shayne Masty, Maintainer Kuujjuarapik.

##### **Operations:**

There have been some changes in the Vacant OC positions:

We have two (2) vacant Rotational OC positions, out of a total of five (5).

We have two (2) CARS stations (Umiujaq and Akulivik) that currently rely on rotational observer-communicators; both local positions remain vacant at each site.

Three (3) CARS (Ivujivik, Kangirsuk and Kangiqsualujjuaq) currently rely on rotational observer-communicators for one of the two (2) OC positions (in Kangiqsualujjuaq, one OC is currently on long-term sick leave, the two (2) other positions are vacant).

Due to the vacant Observer/Communicator (OC) positions, stations are closed periodically. All closures are immediately reported to the MTQ and other users through email and NOTAMS, as per the Sivunirmut Agreement. Efforts will continue to recruit candidates and successfully have them trained to fill open positions.

In regard to the vacant Maintainer positions, one of the two (2) in Kuujjuaraapik is filled and the second is in the process of being filled. Two (2) positions remain vacant in Puvirnituk and one (1) in Inukjuak.

Runways have been prepared for winter freeze-up by local maintainers and with the help of KI trainers.

## **Wildlife Management**

- NOTAMs were issued for the presence of migrating geese for every airport. Bigger flocks (more than 50) were observed on the Hudson coast, particularly at Akulivik, Puvirnituk and Inukjuak. Maintainers performed runway inspections more frequently and used pyrotechnics to keep runways safe.
- Fox observations are increasing at most sites:
  - At Kuujjuaq airport, they ate runway light cables. Maintainers trapped two and continue trapping. The fence is also currently being repaired, which will hopefully lower the presence of foxes and other mammals at the airport.
  - At Kangiqsujuaq airport, a fox crossed the runway while an aircraft was taking off. Pilot safely interrupted the take-off and advised KRG staff. The fox was scared off with bangers and was not seen after that event.
- A consultant is currently working on site-specific wildlife management plans for Kuujjuarapik, Inukjuak, Puvirnituk, Salluit, and Quaqtac airports. Site visits are planned in November and December, 2023.
- Wildlife management plans for other sites are still being revised and updated by the environmental and wildlife coordinator.
- Wildlife management training is planned December 13 and 14 at Kuujjuarapik airport. This training will be available for maintainers and observer-communicators of the Hudson airports.

## **Environmental Management**

- An environmental inspection was conducted by Transport Canada at Kuujjuaq airport in October. Before and during that inspection, every airport user was informed, and many actions were taken to improve the environmental safety at the airport. Drums that were staged outside were removed and stored inside, contaminated soils resulting of accidental spills were excavated and shipped down South for proper disposal, better procedures of residual waste management were implemented, particularly with Air Inuit for residual waste coming from camps, cages were purchased for propane cylinders storage, and procedures were implemented to ensure a better monitoring of heating oil tanks present onsite.
- Environmental teams of the KRG and Transport Canada worked together on an action plan regarding the exceedance of glycol concentrations found in drainage streams around the airport last spring. On the short term, some changes will be done in snow removal activities and snow dump sites locations to protect the airport drainage system from high concentrations of glycol at springtime. On the mid-term, a consultant will be hired to conduct a study specific on Kuujjuaq airport situation, and to suggest different scenario for the glycol management at Kuujjuaq airport in a context of climate change.
- The environmental coordinator has started to work closely with the MTQ to ensure the safe storage and handling of dust suppressant products at MTQ's 13 airports.

- The environmental coordinator met many times with airport users (Air Inuit, mining companies, and different ministries), regarding the KRG Drum Storage Policy, to find ways to ensure their needs were met in an environmentally safe way at every airport.

### **Infrastructure and Projects**

- Akulivik runway resurfacing: postponement until next year.
- Aupaluk Runway Threshold Indication Light (RTIL) replacement project: working on deficiencies.
- Ivujivik Runway Threshold Indication Light (RTIL) replacement project: working on deficiencies.
- Kuujjuaq visual aids project: Expected project completion by November 5<sup>th</sup>
- Kuujjuaq fence replacement: Expected project completion by November 25<sup>th</sup>
- Phone patch systems for all 14 airports: Contract awarded but implementation is delayed. The implementation is expected to start in November this year for some airports. The entire implementation work is expected to be completed next year.

### **Marine Port Management**

As you may recall the Quebec Government provided a total of \$700,000 to use for Marina maintenance. From this, each community will have received \$50,000 for repairs to their Marinas. I will contact NV Managers and Treasurers to discuss the process. It is understood this is a small amount and that any repairs will be minimal and not long lasting. Some examples would be to add more gravel to the boat launch or even place metal plates on then ramp, if plates are preferred we could look at bulk buying. The Transportation department continues to advocate for more funding.

A letter has been sent to the Quebec Minister of Transport from the Chairperson, requesting funding to perform a feasibility study on our Marinas. If and when approved, this study will identify each marina's condition and optimum usefulness, and recommend suggestions on how to improve and optimize marina operations.

We are expecting very soon to have approval from the Federal Government's, Ocean Protection Program for two projects:

- Spill kits for each Marina. They will be housed in containers purchased for that purpose.
- Emergency Pole Lighting for each Marina. They will be house in a container purchased for that purpose.

### **Safety & Regulatory Compliance**

**Safety Management Plan:** The safety management plan is under review. It is expected to be completed by the end of November, 2023.

**Emergency exercises:** The following Emergency Exercises were completed:

- Kuujjuarapik completed a full-scale exercise on October 24, 2023.
- Umiujaq completed a full-scale exercise on October 10, 2023.
- Kangirsuk completed a tabletop exercise on October 14, 2023.

The remaining Emergency Exercises in Quaqaq and Tasiujaq are tabletop exercises, and will be completed on November 8, 2023 and on December 6, 2023 respectively.

We are on track to complete all fourteen (14) emergency exercises in 2023 in compliance with the Canadian Aviation Regulations.

### **Construction Monitoring procedure**

A new construction monitoring procedure will be implemented in the new safety management software (SMS), Akila, to improve the tracking and monitoring of safety aspects of project, facilitate the communication and dissemination of information between the Transport department and construction crews on the airside.

### **AVOP (Airside Vehicle Operating Permit) security screening in Kuujjuaq**

On October 2, we conducted a random screening to ensure that vehicles operating airside had a valid AVOP permit, and were following procedures and regulations. We found few discrepancies and briefed the AVOP holders who were in infraction of the proper procedures as well as reminding them to comply and to be vigilant.

## **Bus Statistics**

- Daily bus statistics are required in order to continue receiving the operational funds from the MTQ

### **2023 bus statistics**

	# of Usijiit Riders	# of Public Transit Riders	# of Year-to-Date Days with Statistics	Last Date of Bus Statistics Submitted
Kangiqualujuaq	53	59	103	Jan 26, 2023
Kuujuaq	-	-	-	-
Tasiujaq	-	-	-	-
Aupaluk	-	-	-	-
Kangirsuk	980	715	57	June 23, 2023
Quaqtaq	-	-	-	-
Kangijsujuaq	1844	2621	22	July 29, 2023
Salluit	371	786	37	July 11, 2023
Ivujivik	864	1323	17	July 30, 2023
Akulivik	-	-	-	-
Puvirnituq	-	-	-	-
Inukjuak	215	949	38	July 12, 2023
Umiujaq	-	-	-	-
Kuujjuaraapik	2782	3604	18	April 21, 2023

## **Transportation**

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Sylvain Giguere	sgiguere@krg.ca	Lead hand Electrician
Kitty Angnatuk		Janitor
Vacant		Janitor

**Kangiqsualujuaq Airport - 819 337 1530**

Roddy Stewart	rstewart@krg.ca	Coordinator, Airport Operations and Maintenance (OPS 1)
Jimmy Angnatuk	jangnatuk@krg.ca	Observer/Communicator
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**Tasiujaq Airport - 819 633 1530**

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**Aupaluk Airport - 819 491 1530**

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**Kangirsuk Airport - 819 935 1530**

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**Quaqtaq Airport - 819 492 1530**

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**Kangiqsujuaq Airport - 819 338 1530**

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**Salluit Airport - 819 255 1530**

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**Ivujivik Airport - 819 922 1530**

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**Akulivik - 819 496 1530**

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**Puvirnituk Airport - 819 988 1530**

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Vacant		Maintainer
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**Inukjuak Airport - 819 254 1530**

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**Umiujaq Airport - 819 331 1530**

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Vacant		Observer/Communicator
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