



REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

ACTIVITY REPORT MAY-SEPTEMBER 2023

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.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A ELDERS

The Department coordinated a joint meeting of the Nunavik Elders' Committee and NVs Local Elders' Coordinators in Kuujjuaq. Based on accommodation and travel reservations requirements, confirmation of meeting attendees had to be ensured many weeks prior to the August 22 and 23 meeting. As of July 26, some 14 attendees were scheduled to be at the meeting. The Department decided to hold a second meeting in the fall for those that were on holiday or absent for medical reasons.

The meeting agenda items were:

1. KRG position of Elders' Councillor
2. Nunavik Elders' Committee- update and additions
3. Service Nunavik
4. Major renovations project: Makivvik Corporation and KMHB, KRG-RLDD
5. Connecting with NV's local elders' coordinators:
 - a. Ungava
 - b. Hudson bay
6. NV's local elders' coordinators' activity reports:
 - a. Verbal updates to the KRG
 - b. Written reports
7. Nunavik Self-Determination
8. Quebec consultation on language
9. Nunavik Elders' Directory 2023
10. 2023 Action plan follow-up

The Department distributed Quebec Government guide for Programs and Services for Seniors- 2023 edition to all attendees www.Québec.ca/aînés (<https://www.quebec.ca/en>)



-NV's Local Coordinators' "Advisors"

-training: the training on job tasks continued one-on-one at a distance, when the coordinators were available.

With KRG Sustainable Employment creating a new position, that of Services Nunavik, the tasks to connect Elders to government of Quebec programs and services are referred to as complementary tasks, that of connecting the Elders with Services Nunavik directly.

Therefore, a large part of the Coordinator's job is: to organize Elders' activities- in connection with the culture committee and that of raising funds to pay for the activities.

B. Nunavik Food Sector Development

2023 projects

Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services Food Security Manager, Prevention & Promotion, listed current projects dealing directly with food insecurity. The NRBHSS developed a working document that highlights ongoing community food projects to address food security, build capacity and transform local food systems.

Some of these files are:

- CLSC youth cooking workshops
- community "collective" kitchens
- local youth fusion food programs

Youth Fusion hosts a collection of food-related programming throughout the school year which aims to include;

- weekly cooking workshops after school with students
- semi-annual youth & elders dinners
- special events including community meals, and themed activities

- Sungirtuivik Family House Food Programs - Inukjuak

The Sungirtuivik Family House offers an array of programming to the community. Food-specific food programs include regular brunch gatherings for men and country food gatherings for elders. The team also hosts occasional cooking activities and prepares home-cooked meals for grieving families.

- Umiujaq Elder Collective Kitchen Program

The community kitchen program in Umiujaq is operated collaboratively by employees of the Innulitsivik Health Centre. Once a week on Wednesday afternoon at the Social Services office a collective kitchen activity is held. The program is open to everyone however emphasis is put on the inclusion of elders in their activity. All leftovers are distributed to individuals in need in the community.

These projects will be presented to the MAPAQ/KRG/NRBHSS/MAMH technical and administrative committee that oversees projects prior to making funding requests to the KRG Executive Committee. Other NRBHSS projects that are under social services will not be recommended, as they are funded through the NRBHSS regular programs.

-The bio-economy sector: Bioproducts Processing and Valorization Research Consortium

Background

A main objective of regional and local development set by the KRG-RLDD for a number of years is the development of the food sector in Nunavik in all its varied aspects as this sector is an important economic sector and generator of jobs.

Definitions

Bioproducts or bio-based products are materials, chemicals, and energy derived from renewable biological material.

Bioproducts have many benefits, such as:

- They do not contain preservatives, chemical additives, and toxins;*
- They taste better and have better nutritional value than processed food;*
- They reduce the reliance on fossil fuels and the environmental damage they cause;*
- They improve the health and well-being of people and animals;*
- They lower the costs and risks of bioenergy production.*

The Department will support a funding application made by the Consortium de recherche en transformation et valorisation de bioproduits, a non-profit organization located on the campus of the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi to the Northern Initiatives Fund of the Société du Plan Nord to undertake studies and evaluation of development opportunities

C. Tourism sector development

2022-2025 Regional Tourism Partnership and Digital Transformation

The Executive Committee \$100,000 investment in Tourism Quebec 2022-2025 Regional Tourism Partnership and Digital Transformation. The region will leverage through Nunavik Tourism Association to assist several types of development projects in Nunavik:

- Development of the regional tourism offering
- Attractions, activities, and equipment
- Festivals and events
- Accommodations
- Digital business development

Each of these categories responds to the specific needs of operators and project promoters (businesses, municipalities, and non-profits) to improve the tourism sector in each of Quebec's regions.

The process:

- NTA makes a call for projects
- NTA receives applications
- Projects submissions analyzed (analysis may have to be contracted out)
- NTA and Tourism Quebec make the decision concerning funding (no loans)
- Agreement is signed and funds disbursed
- NTA reports to KRG annually.

D. Regional Development Priorities

In May, Quebec Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAMH) asked the Department for a virtual meeting to discuss Nunavik regional development priorities with MAMH head office representative during a visit to the Nord-du-Quebec region (at MAMH Chibougamau office). The Department participated and emphasized that it only speaks to issues under its municipal affairs mandate (Sivunirmut Agreement):

- Nunavik seniors' apartments and houses major renovations and improvements;
- expiry of funding agreement on improvement living conditions with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MSSS) on March 31st, 2023;
- development of the food sector in Nunavik 14 Northern Villages.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

- Kuujjuaraapik FM station renovation or new construction
- Ivujivik non-profit start-up
- Umiujaq Men Association establishment – initial contact July 2023

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Business start-up and expansion

The following is a list of business development projects and business advisory services that the Department office in Kuujjuaq 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.

Sector/Business Activity

1. Diana Lake Camp – refurbishing	Kuujjuaq	Completed
2. Nialitalik Leasing and Rental Inc.- establishment	Puvirnituk	Completed
3. Runway Taxi – start-up	Kuujjuaraapik	Completed
4. Multi-media services	Kuujjuaq	In progress
5. Coffee shop/variety	Aupaluk	In progress

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Kuujjuaq Economic Profile – 2022

A first draft of Kuujjuaq's local economic profile was produced by economist Marie-Josée Loiselle and is awaiting discussions with the Northern Village. The document includes:

1. Introduction
2. Geography & Location

3. Socio-Demographics
 - 3.1 Highlights
 - 3.2 Socio-Demographics & Socio-Economic Summary Tables
 4. Social Economy and the Public Sector
 5. Kuujjuaq at a Glance
- Appendices A and B

-3rd article on the local economy

The Department finalized and sent to the publisher of the in-flight magazine, INUIT, the third article on the local economy in Nunavik's communities. The article focuses on how to keep the discussions pertinent and participate in the local economy:

- participate in municipal councils' and other public meetings;
- engage discussions about your purchases and spending and the inflation;
- be curious, and listen to news about financial matters and learn about financial aspects. Become a discerning consumer.

-Nunavik entrepreneurship

The Department with the collaboration of KRG IT and Communication sections produced 100 USB memory keys containing clips on "how to" and self-evaluation questions. These steps are important prior to a business promoter advancing a business idea and its financing. The KRG website and Facebook page will contain this information.

Background: Since fall of 2018, Kativik Ilisarniliriniq, École des entrepreneurs du Québec and the KRG-Regional and Local Development Department collaborated on producing a tool to help new entrepreneurs gain insight to starting a business.

The information is saved on a USB for users to take home and learn as time permits.

A total of 31 lessons/topics that a new business promoter can go through at her/his own pace at the time of their choice at home (must have a computer and a PowerPoint application). Each seminar includes self-evaluation questions.

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