



CIVIL SECURITY Department

ACTIVITY REPORT JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2024

The Civil Security Department raises awareness of emergency preparedness and support-related activities. In particular, the department works closely with the 14 Northern Villages to strengthen planning, and human and physical resources for fire departments and for search and rescue operations.

Revised - Nunavik Fire Safety Cover Plan (R-NFSCP):

Infrastructure Work

Progress on the delivery of seven new fire trucks is well under way. The most recent update we received advises us that the chassis will be delivered to the plant in Quebec by October-November. The delivery date is still on time for mid-2025.

Puvirnituq, Inukjuak and Aupaluk firehalls were completed and handed over to their respective municipalities earlier this year. Contracts for Tasiujaq, Kangirsuk, Quaqtac and Akulivik firehalls were awarded with completion scheduled this fall. Contracts have been awarded for Salluit, minor renovations were started in the summer, and completion and handover expected in spring 2025.

Firefighter Training

Continuation of Nunavik Fire Fighter training will begin again this fall. Civil Security staff along with regional accredited instructors will be leading the training.

SOPFEU was in Kuujuaq the week of June 17 to provide wildland fire training. Three instructors taught two courses, each lasting two days. They consisted of a day of theory, as well as a practical day of using and setting up the equipment. Kuujuaq, Inukjuak, Puvirnituq, Kangirsuk, Tasiujaq, Kangirsuk have received wildland fire equipment, and Quaqtac's will be sent within the next couple of weeks. Kuujuaq also participated in this training, though its fire department already has the equipment. This course was well received and attracted local media attention. Over 30 firefighters participated in this training.

ENPQ Chief Instructor Jonathan Martel traveled to Kangirsuk in late August for a six-day Auto Extrication course in which 14 firefighters participated. This is a specialized course on the use of jaws-of-life. Kangirsuk and Kuujuaq are the only communities that have this equipment.

Other Activities

Nunavik Fire Safety Cover Plan (NFSCP) Regional and Municipal Annual Reports: Municipal and Regional Annual Reports were signed off by all Northern Villages and delivered to the MSP.

SAR Research: Two teams of researchers were deployed in communities to gather information on Search & Rescue past events, response issues and challenges, and areas for improvement, both for marine and ground events. The researchers were accompanied by Civil Security staff and included Dr Peter Kikkert and Dr Ian Belton as well graduate students. They held discussions with fire departments, SAR teams, Hunter Support, as well as NV council members and Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary. A full report of their findings will eventually be submitted.

Sanikiluaq event: Sanikiluaq hosted the Arctic Summer Games in July, at which Nunavik athletes from four communities participated. During activities an incident at the fuel reservoir occurred with local authorities requesting everyone, including our Nunavik athletes, to evacuate the community. Several hours of confusing communication and preparations ensued with an eventual reversal of the evacuation order after authorities assessed the situation. The lessons learned from this event reinforce the need to communicate clearly with strategic partners and regional authorities.

SAR event in Ungava Bay: Civil Security was advised and thanked for a successful marine SAR event in July involving four persons travelling from Kangirsuk to Kuujuaq. Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) Trenton was advised and assumed coordination of the search which had rescue boats from three communities searching in strategic locations. A Hercules aircraft was dispatched to assist along with two ice breakers, as well as a Nunavik Rotors helicopter. With the acceptance of the local knowledge of our municipal coordinators, the event was resolved.

The relationships we are developing with the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the JRCC are helping to improve local capabilities, communications and knowledge sharing on marine SAR events.

Sarah Desgagnes vessel event: Civil Security liaised with regional resources and flying-2 Nunavik divers to assess damages on the vessel sustained after striking ice enroute to Nunavik. This event was potentially an environmental catastrophe; yet, the diligent work of many professionals alleviated concerns. The time required to mitigate this event did cause delays in sealift refueling and was impactful to Kuujuaq specifically.

Evacuation Plan: The department is currently working on an evacuation plan, should wildland fires force communities to evacuate. We have reached out to strategic partners to evaluate the possibilities of assistance should such an event happen and threaten people's lives. Climate change is now having an effect in the north, with a significant rise in temperatures, increasing the vulnerabilities associated with this hazard.

Resilience Plan: The MSP approached the department with funding of \$700,000 to create a position for the implementation of a disaster risk regional management approach, and the establishment of Nunavik public safety education and awareness strategy and plan. This project would start in 2025 for a duration of 3 years.

We are pleased to welcome Dustin Reid to Civil Security as a mechanic specializing in marine maintenance and fabrication. Dustin already has made an impact in several communities by installing the AIS in Kuujuaq, Salluit, Ivujivik with plans to install in Inukjuak and Umiujaq and Kuujuaaraapik before this rotation is complete.

Four Yamaha 300-hp outboard motors were shipped in August with two going to Puvirnituk and two going to Ivujivik.

William McCrae joined the department as a Fire Prevention and Public Safety Technician. He already has visited Salluit, Quaqtaq, Kuujjuaraapik, Ivujivik, Kangirsujuaq, Akulivik, Inukjuak, Umiujaq and Kuujjuaraapik.

The goal is to have Fire Prevention Techs visit all communities by the end of the year. The Fire Prevention Tech's role is to support the community by identifying areas to improve fire safety, help develop public safety programs and help fire departments where needed. Several inspections were completed during community visits and reports will be issued to building owners.

Civil Security has hired a second Fire Prevention and Public Safety Technician. Mr. Roy Nolan joins our team in mid-September. He brings over 30 years of experience with the New Brunswick Fire Marshall's Office.

See next page for list of department employees

Appendix A - Staff

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