



RECREATION Department

ACTIVITY REPORT NOVEMBER 2025 TO FEBRUARY 2026

The Recreation Department is responsible for delivering recreational programs within the region, with a special focus on the youth of Nunavik.

Local Recreation Training

We were invited to Calgary to participate in the Sport for Life Summit from January 22–24. Invitations were sent to all Local Recreation Coordinators (LRC); however, only two participants from Puvirnituk were able to attend. The sessions covered the following topics:

- PLAY-shop Literacy Leader Training: Participants learned how to design a literacy-based sport program for children aged 3–5. Since Puvirnituk was represented, we will follow up in the coming month to begin planning how such a program can be implemented for younger children. This topic was previously raised during a Regional Council meeting, and it will now be included in our future planning.
- Networking Opportunities: Participants from around the world shared ideas, experiences, and collaborative approaches.
- Authenticity Over Authority: Exploring pathways toward transformative leadership
- Building Safer Sport and Stronger Communities
- Sport Inclusion
- Exploring opportunities within the Canada Games and apprentice coaching programs
- Using a social-emotional learning approach to help “street safe” kids in sport

We also discussed the idea of creating a Nunavik Recreation Summit. This initiative is still in its early planning stages and will require significant preparation, but attending this summit helped us move closer to that long-term goal.

Local Recreation Coordinator Hiring

We would like to address the hiring and onboarding process for LRC. We understand the recruitment challenges municipalities face; however, once an LRC is hired, we expect municipalities to provide the initial training. At times, newly hired LRC are sent to us immediately with the expectation that we will train them on behalf of the NVs.

Each municipality has its own structure, culture, and ways of working. For this reason, we strongly encourage NVs to develop a clear training plan that includes:

- How the NV system operates
- NV recreation budget
- NV expectations for the LRC

We cannot take on full responsibility for training new hires without the NV's involvement. Regular communication and scheduled check-ins with your LRC are essential.

After-School Programs

We have funding available this year to support after-school programs in your communities. If you know someone interested in offering at least three hours of programming per week, we are ready to support this initiative as part of our broader recreation restructuring efforts.

Cirqiniq

Planning is underway for the upcoming winter tour. As mentioned previously, the program is shifting toward a stronger arts and culture focus. Once contract details are finalized, invitations will be sent out in the coming months.

Arts and Culture

Coordinator Elia Lauzon has been organizing a cultural event scheduled for April. We have been reaching out to artists and inviting them to participate. Planned activities include:

- A welcoming space centered on Inuit art and cultural knowledge-sharing
- A marking (tattooing) session between interested Inuit community members and artists, offered in exchange for a gift
- Sewing materials and supplies available for practice with local seamstresses
- A community-based craft sale
- A panel discussion with Inuit tattooists, including a Q&A session
- Wellness stations offering self-care gifts (hair and massage services to be confirmed)

Community Visits

In December, Emile Maheu visited Salluit and Ivujivik for community sessions with the LRC. We will resume community visits once the Arctic Winter Games have concluded.

We also previously shared that we will be visiting each community to support recreation structure planning. The next session will take place in Puvirnituk at the end of February, with additional visits continuing after the Games.

Collaboration

We have begun reaching out to organizations to explore collaboration and partnership opportunities. This process is ongoing, and we will continue contacting additional organizations. If your organization is interested in partnering with the Recreation Department, we welcome the opportunity to work together.

If your municipality would like to expand local opportunities, we encourage you to share feedback on the types of training or workshops that would benefit your NVs. With summer approaching quickly, we want to ensure we are prepared for upcoming programs.

Team Nunavik Québec – Arctic Winter Games

The next Arctic Winter Games (AWG) will take place in Whitehorse, Yukon, from March 8 to 15, 2026.

Team Roster Announcement

The official Team Nunavik Québec (TNQ) roster was announced on December 22. Most athletes confirmed across all sports were presented through TNQ's social media platforms. This announcement marked an important milestone, allowing athletes, families, and communities to celebrate the selected participants.

Cultural Group

Cultural training is a key component of TNQ's preparation.

The first training session took place in Puvirnituq from January 22-26, bringing together six cultural artists, two managers, and one mission staff member.

The second and third sessions will be held in Kuujjuaq from February 12–16 and March 2–6.

These sessions will focus on refining performances and completing final preparations before the Games.

Team Clothing

TNQ clothing and accessories are now finalized. Deliveries will arrive in Kuujjuaq throughout February, with some items shipped directly to Whitehorse. The selected clothing prioritizes comfort, functionality, and performance for all athletes.

Badminton

A badminton training camp was held in Kuujjuaq from January 30 to February 1, bringing together both coaches, mission staff, and seven of the eight selected athletes. The camp focused on technical development, team cohesion, and competition readiness.

Training Preparation and Future Arctic Winter Games Cycles

Due to time and staffing limitations, it was not possible to offer a pre-AWG training camp for all sports. A review of the current training and selection structure is planned, with the goal of improving human-resource support, including community coaching development.

These improvements will be applied in preparation for the next two AWG, which will follow the three-year cycle (2029 and 2032) outlined by the Arctic Winter Games International Committee.

Pre-Departure

All TNQ members will arrive in Kuujjuaq on March 4. From March 4-6, the team will participate in workshops, training sessions, team-building activities, clothing distribution, and final preparations.

A TNQ pep rally takes place on the afternoon of March 6, beginning with a parade from the Forum to the theatre. All residents of Kuujjuaq are warmly invited to join and celebrate the team.

The delegation will depart Kuujuaq on March 7, stopping in Yellowknife for refuelling before arriving in Whitehorse that evening.

The AWG will run from March 8 to 15, with events available via livestream at AWG2026.org.

The return charter flight will depart Whitehorse on March 14, stop in Yellowknife, and arrive in Kuujuaq early on March 15.

Sponsorship

We are proud to announce that TNQ has secured generous sponsorships for the upcoming Games. We extend our deepest gratitude to the following organizations for their remarkable support:

- Hydro-Quebec, \$50,000
- Mine Raglan, \$45,000
- Nunalituqait Ikajuqatigiittut Inuit Association, for their two-part contribution of \$25,000, and for covering 13 hotel rooms in Whitehorse to support parents wishing to attend the games and encourage their child(ren) – a gesture that means even more during a time when we are now a permanent member of the games.

To our sponsors, your support strengthens our team, our youth, and our community. We are truly grateful for your commitment to Team Nunavik and to the spirit of participation, pride, and perseverance that guides us. Nakurmiik – thank you for believing in our athletes.

Ongoing and Upcoming Coaching Training

Coaching Training: A second coaching development session – the Aboriginal Coaching Modules – was held in Inukjuak. Six participants successfully completed the training and received Coach Canada credits.

Building on this momentum, TNQ is exploring the offering of three coaching training sessions per year starting in 2027, combining general and sport-specific development opportunities.

For more information, please contact coordinator Philippe Chiasson at pchiasson@krg.ca or krgrecreation@krg.ca.

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