



Kativik Regional Government expresses support for Inukjuak, and calls for regional response to deal with violence

Kuujuuaq, Quebec, December 23, 2025 — The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) is extending support to Inukjuak, as the community copes with a second major incident this year involving a confrontation with police.

In the early morning of Saturday, December 20, Nunavik Police Service (NPS) officers responded to a call from an Inukjuak resident who said that she and her family were in danger from the actions of an intoxicated man.

On arriving at the home, the NPS officers were confronted by the individual armed with a long rifle. An exchange of gunfire ensued, injuring the gunman and a child, who was in the home. The individual and the child were treated at the scene for their injuries, and have been transported to hospital in Montréal, where they are in critical yet stable condition.

The Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes (BEI) sent investigators to Inukjuak to begin an independent investigation of the police response. As well, the Sûreté du Québec is investigating the motives and actions of the gunman. The KRG has civilian oversight authority for the NPS, and is working to ensure full cooperation and the sharing of all available information with both investigations.

Since the incident, NPS Interim Chief Jean-Francois Bernier flew to the community to meet with community leaders, and KRG Chairperson Maggie Emudluk has spoken with Mayor Bobby Epoo. The KRG stands by the local leadership and will provide whatever resources are requested.

Quotes:

“As Nunavimmiut, we need to start talking about our social fabric. We need to find ways to stop these near-tragedies. It’s on all of us to come together to reduce violence in our communities. The shooting in Inukjuak reminds us of the fragility of life in our communities, and that the increased rate of violence is something that must be addressed immediately. People need to feel safe at home. The KRG today is renewing its commitment to work with Makivvik through the Nunavik Public Security Committee and with other regional leaders to find pathways to mitigate community violence.”

– Maggie Emudluk, KRG Chairperson

“On behalf of the Council, I extend my heartfelt support to the family. We are working to arrange help and comfort to anyone in the community who needs assistance. I would like to extend the gratitude of the Council and the community for the personal support that Interim NPS Chief Bernier has provided.”

– Bobby Epoo, Mayor of Inukjuak

The Kativik Regional Government delivers comprehensive public services to Nunavimmiut under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (1975). KRG is governed by a 17-member Council of elected municipal representatives from 14 northern communities in Nunavik, an elected Chair and Vice-Chair, and the chief of the Naskapi First Nation of Kawawachikamach.

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