

Quartely update



KRG Reopening

After several weeks of lock-down, Nunavik has gradually returned to a certain degree of normalcy as health authorities continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. The Kativik Regional Government learned to adapt by adopting special measures including the mandatory wearing of masks and social distancing at the airports, the closure of Nunavik parks and the cancellation of recreational activities while overseeing the well-being of its elders.



Reception desk at the KRG head office in Kuujuaq

The KRG is working in close collaboration with the municipalities by informing the Mayors through regular teleconference meetings and ensuring the coordination of the Local Emergency Response Teams or LERT's. With the COVID-19 comes the need to prepare for exceptional circumstances. In anticipation of the need to address these concerns the Nunavik Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee or N-REPAC was initiated along with the LERT's in close cooperation with the municipal leaders who were ready to intervene should the virus spread to a community.

The absence of widespread community infection of the virus has allowed for the gradual resumption of everyday life. While tourists are still kept at bay local activities were revived: major offices re-opened under strict guidelines, curfews and alcohol restrictions were also lifted, local transit busses started again, workers at the local mines were eventually allowed to go back to work and Youth Centers and swimming pools were allowed to reopen. Moreover, people could travel again not only within Nunavik but also to and from Montreal.

People still need to wear masks in confined areas, wash their hands often and keep a safe distance apart. However, services are again easily accessible and people are adapting to a new way of life in the hope of one day returning to what it used to be.

Social Economy month in November

The KRG will once again play an active role in promoting in Nunavik the Month of Social Economy in November. The campaign aims at creating awareness for the need for cooperative businesses. The November campaign will highlight the human aspirations of the people who work in the social economy sector.

Cooperative business put people at the heart of their objectives. They are guided by the values of inclusion, participation, respect of individuals and the environment, values that are shared by Inuit. In Nunavik, social economy businesses remain closely tied to their communities and often reinvest in the local economies.



Ivujivik artists discuss future art center

For instance in Ivujivik artists are seeking to create a unique experience for their community by proposing to build a facility where artists can paint, draw, create sculptures or simply express their unique art form. This is what social economy can represent for a community but for it to succeed it will require assistance from all levels of government.

Firearms: safety, license and registration

Promoting firearms safety in Nunavik

The KRPF, in collaboration with the KRG Hunter Support Program, will be launching an awareness campaign related to firearms in the coming months. The KRPF Prevention Team will do a tour of schools to give tips on how to handle and store firearms safely.

Participants who register their firearms and follow the firearms possession and acquisition course will be offered storage cabinets to safely store their firearms and ammunition.



Don't forget to register your firearms!



If you are interested in taking a course and obtaining a firearms possession and acquisition licence, visit your local hunter support program office to register or call the KRG at **1-877-964-2961**.

For more information on the firearms license or firearms safety, consult krpf.ca.

Non-restricted firearms must still be registered online at siaf.gouv.qc.ca. The process is quick, easy and free of charge for everyone.

The Act covers non-restricted firearms, commonly called shoulder arms, such as rifles or shotguns, which are usually used for hunting.

Any questions can be addressed at **1-888-335-9997** or info@siaf.gouv.qc.ca

Firearms safety and storage will be one of the topics of the next school tours. On the photo: auxiliary police member Anissa Saunders doing a presentation in Tarsakallak School of Aupaluk.

ESUMA's Back to School Campaign to Support Nunavik Students

At the end of August 2020, ESUMA launched for the first time an awareness campaign highlighting the Back to School period in order to promote the importance of supporting the students in their academic journey, especially in the context of COVID-19.

ESUMA's mission is to create a Nunavik-wide synergy and enhance actions around education for all learners to persevere towards their success. ESUMA offers educational resources as well as funding for projects that aim to support school perseverance in Nunavik with the assistance of the Sustainable Employment Department of the KRG.

The Back to School Campaign provided the public with simple encouraging actions, such as adding the new campaign frame to one's Facebook profile, or sending a message of support via the ESUMA Facebook page.

The key message of the campaign was Perseverance is everyone's business! ESUMA highlighted the importance of the parents' presence and support to the kid's academic perseverance. Students were encouraged to face new challenges and embrace opportunities to test themselves by doing their very best. ESUMA also underlined the role of teachers and educators on students' motivation and perseverance and thanked them for their commitment.

The Back to School campaign is in addition to a provincial-wide initiative by the Réseau québécois pour la réussite éducative (Quebec Network for Educational Success).





Lodges at the Parc national des Pingualuit

Nunavik Parks reopening

Good News! KRG –Nunavik Parks resumed its activities at the beginning of August exclusively for Nunavimmiut. Residents of Nunavik will now be able to enjoy the Parks while respecting the measures to contain the COVID-19 virus.

From March to July, Nunavik Parks were closed due to the pandemic. The KRG decided to suspend park activities to visitors to avoid the spreading of the virus and to secure the health of Nunavimmiut. In consultation with the N-REPAC and the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and

Social Services, Nunavik Parks implemented approaches to welcome local residents to participate in fishing, camping for youth groups, and community meetings for Nunavik Elders’ group.

This coming winter Tursujuq, Pingualuit, Kuururjuaq, and Ulittaniujalik parks will offer 5-day packages with camping, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, igloo building, sight seeing, and wild life observation. The packages will be made available to Nunavik residents. If travel restrictions are lifted, packages might be opened to visitors coming from outside the region.

Boating Season 2020

Once again, the Civil Security Section of the KRG reminded Nunavimmiut this year of some safety habits that could save them in the event of a boating accident, such as wearing a personal flotation device, bringing the proper equipment (extra rope and fuel and a communications device). Informing someone of where you’re going is also important so that rescue authorities can be notified if you don’t return home when expected.

If you fall into cold water, it is important to remember the **1 10 1** rule:

- 1** For the first minute, one will experience a cold shock response;
- 10** After 10 minutes, one will slowly lose the use of hands and legs;
- 1** It takes about an hour before one falls unconscious because of hypothermia.

With winter quickly approaching be careful not to travel on thin ice in a snowmobile or ATV.



Changes to the Cost-of-Living Reduction Measures Program



On September 1, the price of gasoline set by Nunavik’s fuel distributors has decreased, from \$2.01 per litre to \$1.85 per litre in all Nunavik communities. The contribution of the KRG and the Makivik Corporation, through the Gasoline Subsidy Program, is set this year at 40¢ per litre, reducing the price to \$1.45 per litre for beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA).

New changes also applied on September 1 to the Harvesting Equipment portion of the Household Appliance and Harvesting Equipment measure. The maximum subsidy per item for the Harvesting Equipment increased from \$1,000 to \$1,150. Portable generators of 3,000 watts and less have also been added to the subsidized items.

Violence Down in Nunavik

The crime rate went down considerably in Nunavik during spring due in part to the various restrictions imposed to contain the pandemic. The total number of criminal incidents as of July 2020 was down by more than a 1,000 incidents compared to the same period in 2019.

The value of the alcohol seized from January to July 2020 was \$182,150 compared to \$325,340 for the same period last year. However, the drugs seized during that period was valued at \$756,380 more than double the value compared to the year before.

The statistics were released during the recent KRG Council meeting in September 2020.

Kativik Regional Police Force Chief Jean-Pierre Larose noted that there have been no police-involved shooting deaths in Nunavik since 2018. Furthermore, the KRPF will soon become the first police force in Québec where all police officers will be trained in using a Taser gun. The KRPF is also on track at becoming the first police force in the province where all police officers will use body cams to record police interventions and arrests.

Housing Allocation

During its sitting, the KRG Council also approved an additional allocation of social housing units for 2021. A total of 106 units will be built in 2021 (as shown below).

COMMUNITY	Allocation - September 2019				Allocation - September 2020				TOTAL
	Bedroom per houses				Bedroom per houses				
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
Inukjuak				4	6	6	8		24
Kuujuaq	6	6			2	2	4		20
Kuujuaapik	4	4					2		10
Puvirnituq	8	8							16
Salluit	8	8			4	4	2		26
Umiujaq	2	2	4				2		10
TOTAL	28	28	4	4	12	12	18		106

September 2020 Regional Council Wrap-up

From September 14 to 16 the KRG council once again held its meeting by videoconference. After a difficult spring caused by the pandemic, the KRG Council is determined to move ahead with several projects. As noted during its recent Council meeting in September, preparations are underway for the resumption of what will be a busy 2021 summer construction season. Infrastructure projects and equipment purchases were approved under the Isurruutiit Program. Community infrastructure projects as requested by NV's under the Pivallutiit program were also given the green light to proceed. Job training in the construction sector under the Sanajit program resumed over the summer. The Regional and Local Development Department is seeking to promote greater participation in the region's social economy.



Lydia Watt presented the Sustainable Employment Department activity report during the KRG Regional Council that took place activity report during the KRG Regional Council meeting that took place from September 14 to 16.



Kativik Regional Government
 P.O. Box 9, Kuujuaq (Quebec) J0M 1C0
 819-964-2961
 info@krg.ca | www.krg.ca