



## **Kativik Regional Government and regional organizations meet with mayors to find ways to improve social wellbeing of the people in Nunavik**

**Kuujuuaq, Quebec, November 29, 2023** — The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) and the Makivvik Corporation met with all 14 Nunavik mayors this week to discuss ways to improve the current mental health situation in the region.

The mayors discussed current health and social conditions throughout Nunavik. The Nunavik Regional Board of Health, Nunavik Police Service, Ungava Tulattavik and Inuulitsivik Health Centre were also present at the meeting.

Nunavik is unique, in the western hemisphere, as an isolated, remote, fly-in fly-out region, with one of Canada's youngest demographics. Over the last few decades, the region has had to balance multiple, competing needs and priorities of residents, industry, and governments on a daily basis. The rapid pace of modernization has created wide displacement of natural resources (hydroelectric projects and abandoned mining sites) as well as noticeable changes in climate adaptation, wildlife migration, and community social fabric.

The psychological safety and economic wellbeing of Nunavimmiut is a top priority for Makivvik and the KRG. Mental health challenges threaten the progress the region has made. If growing social and health problems go unaddressed, the impact on Nunavimmiut will last for generations.

The KRG continues to work with regional organizations, local mayors and members of the broader community, including the Government of Quebec, to address one of the most important, urgent, and pressing issues – the mental health and economic prosperity of the people of Nunavik.

Quote:

“The emergence of durable progress and security for all Nunavimmiut depends on the ability of the Kativik Regional Government and our funding partners to meet the needs of our most vulnerable. We call on the Government of Quebec to work with us to develop and to resource solutions that move Nunavimmiut closer to the standards of health and well-being cherished by the people of Quebec.”

– Hilda Snowball, Chairperson

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The Kativik Regional Government delivers comprehensive public services to Nunavimmiut under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (1978). 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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