



## **Kativik Regional Government meets with Northern Village mayors to review amendments to Kativik Act and identify policing solutions for improved public safety**

**Kuujuuaq, Quebec, August 9, 2024** — The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) met this week with the mayors of Nunavik's 14 Northern Villages to review proposed changes to the Kativik Act that are expected to improve public administration of services, and provide Nunavik municipalities with improved capacity to protect the environment and the wellbeing of residents.

Introduced in 1978, the Kativik Act established the administrative powers of the KRG, and defined municipal authorities for the 14 Northern Villages. It is a companion agreement to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement that provides the Inuit of Northern Québec with the authority to administer lands and services within Nunavik.

Many of the proposed changes to the Kativik Act will modernize governance and policy to reflect 21<sup>st</sup>-century realities. For example, financial thresholds for procuring much-needed goods and services have not changed in 45 years, and new services that Nunavik municipalities have introduced are not adequately recognized in the Act.

Proposed changes to the Kativik Act also will help the KRG and the Northern Villages to implement environmental mandates, new legislative tools including municipal environmental bylaws, and sustainable land use planning.

The KRG and the NV mayors also discussed policing solutions to improve the public safety of Nunavimmiut in Northern Villages. Chief Jean-Pierre Larose of the Nunavik Police Service (NPS) described encouraging trends including a significant decline in violent crimes throughout Nunavik.

Alcohol and drugs remain the biggest triggers of criminal activity in the region. Chief Larose provided details on plans for a joint NPS-Montréal Police (SPVM) operation to better protect Inuit victims of drug crimes. Together with the SPVM, the NPS intends to offer more protection and support for Nunavik Inuit who visit Montréal and others who have made the city their home. Details on measures being organized for the NPS-SPVM operation will be announced later this month.

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Quote:

“The future wellbeing of Nunavimmiut depends on progressive legislation and responsive funding agreements that reflect the realities of life in Nunavik. I want to thank the mayors of our Northern Villages for their vision and commitment to pursuing amendments to the Kativik Act that provide the KRG and Nunavik municipalities with modern governance tools that safeguard the livelihoods and aspirations of our people.”

– Hilda Snowball, Chairperson

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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Contact: Denis Abbott, APR / KRG Communications / Tel: 819-964-2961, ext. 2250 / [media@krg.ca](mailto:media@krg.ca)