



## Press release

For immediate release

# Cirqiniq announces summer circus camp for Nunavimmiut youth on the Hudson Bay coast

Kuujuaq (Quebec), June 19, 2024—The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) is proud to announce the 10<sup>th</sup> Cirqiniq summer camp for Nunavimmiut youth aged 13 to 17, to be held in Puvirnituaq from June 22 to 29.

Organized by the KRG Recreation Department, in collaboration with Nunavut’s ARTCIRQ, Cirque Hors-Piste, and Cirkaskina, and with financial support from ESUMA, the summer camp will welcome close to 60 young people, mainly from the communities of Salluit, Ivujivik, Akulivik, Inukjuak, Puvirnituaq, Umiujaq, and Kuujuaaraapik. Young participants are accompanied by a multidisciplinary team of artists dedicated to the circus arts, as well as psychosocial workers who will be on hand to speak about addiction prevention, among other things. As part of the program, young people will put together a circus show to be presented to the public on June 28 at 7 p.m. at the Puvirnituaq community centre. They will also enjoy a host of outdoor cultural activities and musical workshops.

Cirqiniq is a regional social circus program aimed at providing inclusive and accessible opportunities to Inuit youth in Nunavik. Cirqiniq creates the space for youth to develop healthy self-esteem, a sense of belonging, creative expression, perseverance, and holistic health care by promoting the integration of Inuit culture.

In addition, the program’s mission is to provide potential Inuit instructor apprentices, juniors and seniors aged 15 to 30, with intensive training as social circus instructors through creative sessions that integrate Inuit culture, as well as ongoing opportunities to mentor and apply their artistic creation skills.

Quote:

“Young Nunavimmiut are strong, agile, and resilient. The circus arts enable these young people to develop other values that are equally important in Inuit culture, such as creative expression, self-esteem, a sense of belonging, and perseverance.”

—Hilda Snowball, Chairperson, KRG

The Kativik Regional Government provides comprehensive public services to Nunavimmiut under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (1978). The KRG is governed by a Council made up of 17 elected municipal members from 14 northern Nunavik communities, an elected Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, and the Chief of the Naskapi First Nation of Kawawachikamach.

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