



HIGHLIGHTS 2017



Meeting between the Québec Premier and the KRG Chairperson

On February 15, 2017, the Chairperson of the Kativik Regional Government (KRG), Jennifer Munick, met in Quebec City with Québec Premier Philippe Couillard, a first face-to-face meeting since her election as KRG Chairperson in November 2015. The meeting was constructive and was an excellent opportunity to address a number of KRG and regional priority issues. The two leaders also confirmed their commitment to the close working relationship that has developed over the years between the KRG and successive Québec governments. A strong awareness of northern development issues was demonstrated by Premier Couillard, more specifically concerning justice and public security, the Internet, electricity rates, the high cost of living and the Québec government's new action plan for the social and cultural development of First Nations and Inuit.



From left to right: Bobby Snowball, Jennifer Munick, Premier Philippe Couillard, Lucy Kumarluk, Michael Gordon

Canadian Rangers Celebrate Mid-Point Aqikgik

On February 23, the 2nd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (2 CRPG), composed of 659 members in Nunavik, was presented at the Kuujuaq Katittavik Town Hall. KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick and Executive Committee member Tunu Napartuk joined the Canadian Rangers for the mid-point AQIKGIK ceremony. The Rangers also made a presentation to the KRG council on their program and activities in the region.

Saturviit Celebrates Its 10th Anniversary

The KRG was pleased to mark in 2017 an important milestone for women in Nunavik. The Saturviit Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik, situated in Puvirnituq, celebrated 10 years of successful advocacy on the status of women and family issues. Saturviit, which in Inuktitut means those that provide hope, has become a strong voice for Nunavik women. Saturviit currently receives support for its activities through an administrative agreement between the KRG and the Secrétariat à la condition féminine (status of women).

New Initiative from Nunavik Parks

The new Nunavik Parks Beneficiary Access Initiative (NPBAI) was launched in March 2017 to encourage and facilitate access to the national parks in Nunavik by beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA). During the year, many groups of Nunavik beneficiaries visited the Nunavik Parks: four school groups (Quaqtaq, Salluit, Puvirnituq and Kuujjuaraapik), the Nurrat program (Young Karibus), a women group from Umiujaq and two groups of elders and summer camp participants from Kangiqsujuaq.



Open-Houses Activities

In order to showcase and recognize the work of KRG employees while offering youth an opportunity to visit KRG workplaces and learn about the requirements and training needed to join the organization's different departments, the KRG Communications Section has been organizing open-house events for the past three years. The most recent open-house activities were organized in Kuujjuaraapik (March 14–16). In 2018, open-houses activities will take place in Puvirnituq, Akulivik and Ivujivik.



Fire Hall, Salluit

Public Hearings on the Sivumut Project

During the week of April 3, the KRG participated in the public hearings organized by the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission in Salluit and Kangiqsujuaq concerning phases II and III of the Sivumut Project beyond 2020 proposed by Glencore Canada Corporation on its Raglan mine property. The Project mainly aims to develop new underground mines and extend its production of nickel concentrate over a period of 20 years.

Extension of the Agreement on Nunavik Cost-of-Living Measures And Addition to the Household Appliance and Harvesting Equipment Program

The Agreement on the Financing of Measures to Reduce the Cost of Living in Nunavik administered by the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) was extended until March 2018. This one-year extension will allow the KRG, the Makivik Corporation and the Québec government to pursue negotiations to define effective and long-lasting solutions to the high cost of living in Nunavik, based on the conclusions of the two-year research report completed by Université Laval in November 2016.

New Interim Social Rent Scale

After four years of negotiations, the KRG, the Makivik Corporation and the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau had reached an agreement-in-principle with the Government of Québec on an interim social housing rent scale that will provide more equity toward low-income tenants and elders. The current agreement is ending on July 1, 2020, at which date a new permanent rent scale will have to be in force and based in part on more detailed analysis emerging from the Cost of Living in Nunavik Research Report.

Inauguration of Katittavik Multi-Purpose Venue

On August 25, the community of Kuujjuaraapik inaugurated the new state-of-the-art Katittavik Multi-Purpose Venue, completed in June 2017. Coordinated by the KRG's Municipal Public Works Department and the NV, the project of more than \$5 million was funded by the Minister of Culture and Communications, the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs – through the KRG Pivallutiit Program, the Northern village of Kuujjuaraapik, Heritage Canada, and the Makivik Corporation.



Québec launches the first Ministerial Strategy for Labour Market Integration of First Nations and Inuit people

On June 13, Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity, Mr. François Blais, the Minister responsible for Native Affairs, Mr. Geoffrey Kelley, and the KRG Chairperson, Mrs. Jennifer Munick, launched the first Ministerial Strategy for Labour Market Integration of First Nations and Inuit. The Strategy will favour a more effective and concerted intervention with First Nations and Inuit people and an intensification of the actions necessary to meet their needs.

The Québec Government Announces an Action Plan for First Nations and Inuit



Québec Premier Philippe Couillard accompanied by ministers Geoffrey Kelley, Sébastien Proulx and Stéphanie Vallée, MNAs Jean Boucher and Véronique Tremblay, KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Ghislain Picard, and representatives of Québec First Nations. Photo by Patrick Lachance MCE

On June 28, Québec Premier Philippe Couillard released the Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit from 2017 to 2022. With a budget of \$147.3 million, the Action Plan proposes more than 100 measures under four main priorities: enhance services, promote Indigenous cultures and languages, empower individuals and communities, and foster collaboration and research. For the occasion, KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick and Executive Committee member Muncy Novalinga attended the announcement in Quebec City.

More than \$3 Million over Five Years to Support Development in Nunavik

Under the new Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions (support fund for regional vibrancy, FARR), close to \$300,000 is available in 2017-2018 to support development projects in Nunavik. This envelop will gradually grow to close to \$1 million annually by 2021-2022. In total, close to \$3 million over five years will be invested in regional development through the FARR. The FARR promotes the implementation of projects generating spinoffs in multiple northern villages. The projects, submitted by the NV, the KRG or other regional organization and then prioritized by the KRG, will be responsive to the distinct characteristics of Nunavik.

KRG and KRPF Participate to Consultations on the Regulation of Cannabis

On September 29th, in Quebec City, the KRG and the KRPF took part in a specific consultation on the regulation of cannabis for Inuit and First Nations held by the Quebec government. Three main themes were discussed during the session

- Prevention, awareness and health effects;
- Marketing, sales model, and use sites;
- Safety.

On December 6, the KRG made a presentation was made during a Special Parliamentary Commission at the Quebec National Assembly. The main purpose of that intervention was to share Nunavimmiut's concerns on the upcoming regulation of cannabis in the province of Quebec.

Pamela Stevenson graduates from Quebec police academy and joins the KRPF

At the KRG offices in Kuujuaq on October 16, Pamela Stevenson was sworn in as a KRPF constable after succeeding a 15-week training program and obtaining her diploma from the École nationale de police du Québec.

New Nunavik Internship Program : Pijunnaqunga

On August 16, the KRG and PS Jeunesse launched Pijunnaqunga, which means "I can do it", a tailored internship program that aims to empower youth Inuit aged between 18 and 35 and graduated, to develop their skills through hands-on work experience.

The program includes in-depth interviews and an intensive training session, plus two paid internships of 12 weeks each in Nunavik organizations with mentoring support.

Quebec Premier meets with KRG representatives

On October 26, Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard visited Kuujuaq during a tour of Northern Québec. He was accompanied by the Ministers Geoffrey Kelley and Luc Blanchette, and by the MNA for Ungava, Jean Boucher.

At a meeting with the Premier, KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick, Director General Michael Gordon, Executive Committee member Tunu Napartuk and Elders Committee President Bobby Snowball discussed several important files, including justice and public security, the Internet, electricity rates, the high cost of living, and the Québec government's new action plan for the social and cultural development of First Nations and Inuit.

Official inauguration of Parc national Tursujuq

The Parc national Tursujuq was inaugurated during a ceremony at the park visitor pavilion in Umiujaq. Tursujuq is Nunavik's fourth national park and is also Québec's largest. Mrs. Munick accompanied the Quebec delegation for the event.

Social Housing Allocation in 2017

At its September sitting, the KRG Council approved the allocation of 44 more housing units to be constructed in 2018 in addition of the 66 allocated in May for a total of 110.

According to the 2017 Nunavik housing needs survey performed by KMHB, following this new allocation that introduces three-bedroom units, the region still lacks 599 units.

KRG Sustainable Employment Department Celebrated 25th Anniversary with Mapping the Way Symposium

The Sustainable Employment Department of the Kativik Regional Department (KRG) held the Mapping the Way Symposium in Kuujuaq to celebrate its 25th anniversary (November 20 1992). For the occasion, over 100 participants from the KRG, various organizations of the region, as well

as both federal and provincial governments attended the presentations and workshops on topics such as equitability, construction, social economy and human resources.





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