

APRIL 2018

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Keeping Nunavimmiut up to date on the work of the Kativik Regional Government



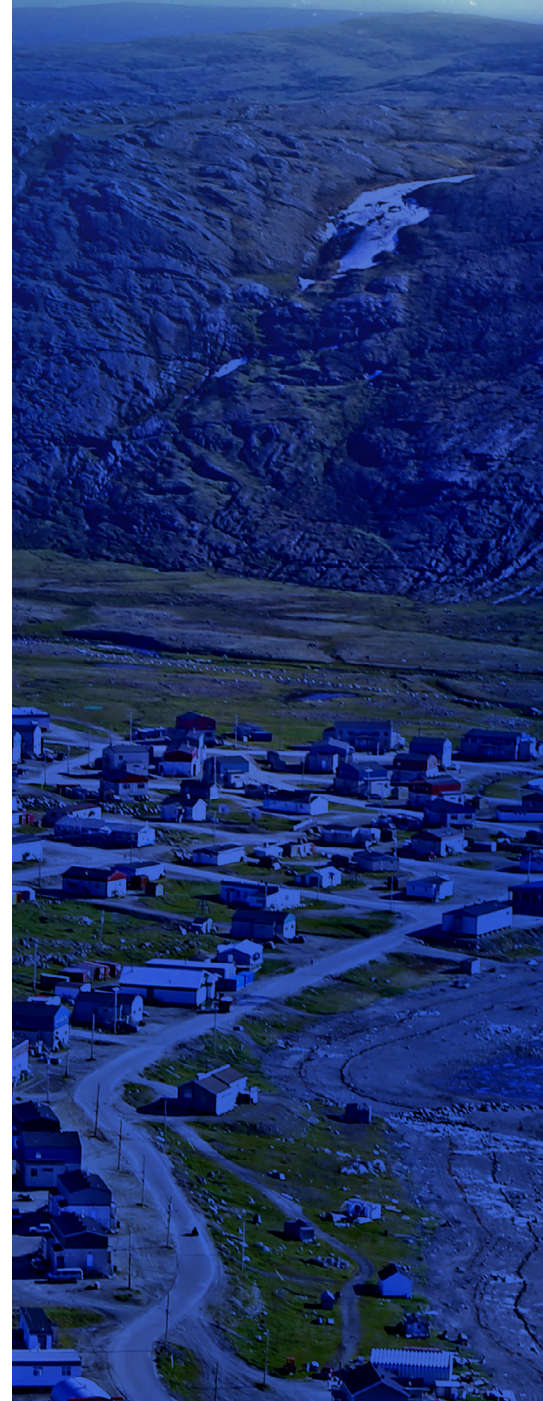
Priority Regional Training Projects for 2018-2019

At their last regular sitting, the KRG Council reviewed the priority employment and training projects to be funded across the region over the next year by the KRG Sustainable Employment Department. The projects will target workers in many sectors, including arctic tourism guides, cafeteria and catering cooks, heavy-equipment operators, childcare educators, construction workers and various municipal employees. The available \$7.5 million resource envelope will be allocated to a total of 116 projects.

Annual training priorities are recommended for Nunavut every January by the Kativik Regional Employment and Training Committee (KRETC). The projects are sponsored and implemented by local and regional employers, such as northern villages, the Qarjuut Youth Council and the Kativik Ilisarniliriniq. The KRETC comprises more than a dozen regional organizations and is led by the KRG Sustainable Employment Department.



This construction trades training organized jointly by the KRG and the Kativik Ilisarniliriniq in 2017 introduced participants to a variety of activities, including welding.



Revised Analysis of the Cost of Living in Nunavik

Université Laval researchers recently presented to the KRG Council additional analysis on the data generated under the cost-of-living survey conducted in six communities in 2015 and 2016. The new analysis provides a more precise measurement of the cost of living in Nunavik as well as of the expenditure structures of households.

Under the new analysis, eight price indices were re-examined, specifically food, shelter, transportation, alcohol and tobacco, household operations and furnishings, clothing and footwear, health and personal care, as well as recreation, education and reading. Average spending levels under six of these eight indices were revised upwards. As well, the overall comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik increased to 28.7%.

Spending structures for high-, medium- and low-income households were also further refined. For example, the new analysis reveals that low-income households in Nunavik spend 45.1% of revenue on food, versus 41.6% for medium-income households, and 38.2% for high-income households. Elsewhere in Québec, food expenses can represent as low as 15.3% of household budgets. Full details on these findings and others are available in the revised and expanded version of the cost of living in Nunavik research report at www.nunivaat.org under the menu heading Publications.

Based on this revised analysis, the KRG and the Québec government plan to undertake negotiations (with the Makivik Corporation acting as an intervener) in order to renew long-term funding to help alleviate Nunavik's high cost of living. While these negotiations take place, funding for current regional cost-of-living reduction measures will be extended. A total of \$13 million will be paid by the Québec government from April 1, 2018, to March 31, 2019. At their last sitting, the KRG Council approved the continuation of all six Nunavik cost-of-living reduction measures for the coming year. These measures are intended to promote healthy lifestyles and take into account Inuit traditions and culture.



The Country Food Community Support Program is one of six regional cost-of-living reduction measures. It aims to increase the quantity of country food available in each community by reducing related purchase and transportation costs.



The Food and Other Essentials Program provides discounts on over 1500 food, personal care, household, clothing and footwear products, as well as some camping supplies purchased in Nunavik stores.

Preparing for the Legalization of Cannabis

The KRG and the Kativik Regional Police Force (KRPF) are taking a proactive approach to prepare for the legalization of cannabis sales and use in Canada. At its recent sitting, the KRG Council received a presentation by a psychiatrist and preventive medicine expert from McGill University on related health issues, such as effects on brain development among youth, addiction, prenatal exposure and links with psychotic disorders. Cannabis use is incompatible with studying and working, and can increase the risk of accidents in sports and when operating motor vehicles. Youth aged 15 to 24 have been identified as the most at risk to negative effects.

KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick encouraged communities to hold local meetings to allow residents to express their concerns. The Québec government introduced a bill in the National Assembly in November 2017 to regulate the sale of cannabis. For their part, the KRG and the KRPF are set to plan appropriate public education tools addressing health risks and legal responsibilities.

TNQ Does Very Well at the Arctic Winter Games



Qiallak Nappaaluk accompanied Nunavik youth to the Northwest Territories as the region's elder representative. Nappaaluk was selected for this role because of the depth of her traditional knowledge, her experience with Inuit games and her work with youth.

Team Nunavik–Québec (TNQ) brought home two world records and 21 Ulus (eight gold, eight silver and five bronze) from the Arctic Winter Games held in Hay River and Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, from March 18 to 24. The KRG Recreation Department played a lead role in preparing and coordinating the participation of Nunavik's athletes and cultural performers at the Games.

The Nunavik delegation was composed of 52 athletes, three cultural performers and 19 support staff. Athletes competed in five disciplines: Arctic Sports, Badminton, Dene Games, Snowshoeing and Table Tennis. Evaluation criteria for the selection of TNQ participants has always included performance, time devoted to training, as well as overall behaviour and attitude.

Most Nunavik medals were won in Arctic Sports and Dene Games, while a pair was picked up in Snowshoeing and another pair in Table Tennis. TNQ was also awarded eight Fair Play Pins, demonstrating that

participants fully embraced the Games' spirit of fair play. Finally, the region's world records were set by two Salluit athletes: Larry Thomassiah in Open Male Airplane and Nathan Saviadjuk in Junior Male Kneel Jump.

The KRG would like to acknowledge the important support and contributions of the Raglan Mine (Glencore), Hydro-Québec, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton, the Makivik Corporation, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (education and higher education, MEES), as well as the northern villages.



Support for the Isuarsivik Regional Recovery Centre

The KRG Council adopted a resolution at its last regular sitting to contribute \$1 million over three years to the new Isuarsivik Regional Recovery Centre. This contribution is significant and demonstrates the KRG's full support for this project. The KRG is among Isuarsivik's major partners, along with the federal and provincial governments and other regional organizations. Improved services will include:



KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick (far right) and KRG Executive Committee member Tunu Napartuk (far left) announcing the KRG contribution for the Isuarsivik Regional Recovery Centre to Isuarsivik chairperson and vice-chairperson, Dave Forrest and Mary Aitchison.

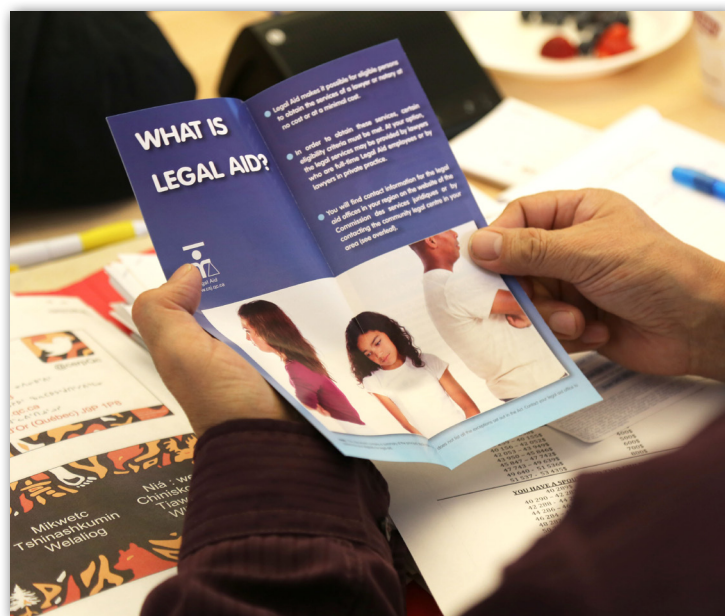
- Access to culturally appropriate in-patient rehabilitation services for all Nunavimmiut with an annual capacity of up to 175 clients.
- Emergency admission and support for pregnant women and their families to prevent fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.
- Deployment of certified Inuit addictions counsellors to provide assessment, specialized counselling and aftercare in each community.
- Regional training for addictions workers.

It is hoped the new facility will be fully operational by 2020, creating local jobs in the sectors of health care, construction, support services and administration.

Legal Aid Explained

Legal aid is a government service for Québec residents with low incomes. It ensures everyone in the province has access to justice and legal services at an affordable cost. Legal aid lawyers are government employees, while private lawyers may also take on cases for clients who are eligible for legal aid. During her presentation to the KRG Council on February 27, lawyer Cassandra Neptune also explained that the legal aid services cover legal representation in court as well as legal advice on matters such as social assistance, occupational safety, customer protection, divorce, child custody and youth protection.

The presentation to the KRG Council reiterated that legal aid recipients can only be asked by their lawyers to pay for the services they receive according to the eligibility rate scale set by government regulation which takes into account income and family status. Free legal consultations are planned in Puvirnituk from May 1 to 2, in Salluit from May 15 to 17, and in Inukjuak from July 31 to August 2.



For more information on legal aid and the eligibility rate scale, visit the website of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue Legal Community Centre at: <http://www.ccjat.qc.ca/en/>.

Housing Issues Discussed with Québec Minister for Housing

A meeting was organized in Kuujuaq at the end of January with the Minister responsible for Consumer Protection and for Housing, Lise Thériault, the Minister responsible for Native Affairs, Geoffrey Kelley, and the MNA for Ungava, Jean Boucher. The KRG representatives present were Chairperson Jennifer Munick and Executive Committee member Tunu Napartuk. The Québec representatives were reminded that reactivation of the Home Ownership and Renovation Program was a condition of regional approval of the interim rent scale that took effect in July 2017. Action is needed on the part of the government to make available adequate funding in the short term and, in the medium term, to push ahead with important improvements to the Program to make homeownership more accessible to Nunavimmiut who can afford and are looking for alternatives to social housing.



Ministerial visit.

Public Inquiry on Relations with Indigenous Peoples in Québec

Representatives of the Public Inquiry Commission on Relations between Indigenous Peoples and Certain Public Services in Québec gave a presentation to the KRG Council on February 27. The Commission is investigating alleged inappropriate behaviours in the delivery of police, correctional, justice, health, social and youth protection services.

The public inquiry is not a trial. It can neither rule on civil, penal or criminal liability nor lay blame on people or organizations. Rather, the Commission will submit its findings to the government, including recommendations on remedial measures to prevent all forms of violence, discriminatory practices and differential treatment towards Indigenous people receiving public services. The Commission's report is due before November 30, 2018.

Indigenous citizens are being invited to testify personally at the hearings, submit written statements, or participate in sharing circles. For more information, Nunavimmiut can call toll free at 1-844-580-0113 or visit the Commission's website at: www.cerp.gouv.qc.ca.



(From left to right) Lucy Grey, a regional support resource, Me Marie-Josée Barry-Gosselin, Deputy Chief Counsel, and Sharon Hunter, Assistant Coordinator - Aboriginal Relations, describe the upcoming work of the Public Inquiry Commission on Relations between Indigenous Peoples and Certain Public Services in Québec.

Funding Announced for the Pijunnaqunga Program

In February, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Yvonne Jones, travelled to Kuujuaq to officially announce funding for the Pijunnaqunga internship program. The \$2.1-million contribution has been made through the federal-government's Skills Link Program. Pijunnaqunga, which was created in August 2017 by the KRG Sustainable Employment Department, aims to empower young Nunavimmiut to develop their skills through hands-on work experience. Up to 100 youth will benefit under the program through internships with solid mentoring support delivered in regional organizations. Pijunnaqunga is encouraging the development of the next generation of competent and capable Nunavimmiut institutional leaders.



Inuit Women's Business Workshop

The KRG Regional and Local Development Department and Pauktutit-Inuit Women of Canada jointly organized a workshop on business development for Inuit women in February in Inukjuak. The workshop introduced participants to the Inuit Women in Business Network along with other support tools for career and business development. It also allowed discussion on specific challenges and opportunities, and mentorship programs.



Women's business network, Inukjuak.

Childcare Management Training Program

The KRG Childcare Section has launched training for childcare management employees. The course was developed by the Cégep de Saint-Félicien and will lead to a college-degree diploma. The first session of the program was organized from February 12 to 16 in Kuujuaq for 22 childcare centre directors from every community.

The program is scheduled to take a little less than two years to complete with one week of training delivered every six weeks. Each one-week session will be organized in a different community. Participants will learn more about communication, leadership, their role as managers, and how to better express Inuit culture in a childcare centre setting.



Julie-Ann Berthe, assistant director for the KRG Childcare Section, taking a selfie in Kuujuaq on the first day of the new childcare management training program. The program, which is sponsored by the KRG Childcare Section, began on February 12.

KRG Representatives Sit Down with Newly Elected Makivik President

On January 25, KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick, Executive Committee member Tunu Napartuk and Director General Michael Gordon held an introductory meeting with Charlie Watt, the newly elected president of the Makivik Corporation. Important common issues were discussed and the two organizations committed to continued cooperation, each organization according to its respective mandate.



KRG offices, Kuujjuaq

Arctic Inspiration Prize for Inukjuak Group

The KRG would like to congratulate the Unaaq Men's Association for the Arctic Inspiration Prize it received in January. Unaaq works to address a variety of critical social challenges at the community level through sustained, intensive traditional Inuit skills and cultural training. It targets youth participants by pairing them with elders and experienced hunters. Unaaq received \$500,000 to continue its important work in Inukjuak. The KRG was a proud supporter of the nomination.



January 31st, Ottawa

Scheduled Council Sitzings in 2018

In 2018, the KRG Council has three more regular sittings scheduled:

May 28 to 31, Aupaluk | September 10 to 13, Kuujjuaq | November 26 to 29, Kuujjuaq.



KATIVIK REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

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