



Quartely update

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, KRG implemented a special food program for elders and the less advantaged

In the context of the COVID-19, the KRG implemented on April 7 a two-pronged food program intended for the elders and the less advantaged.

With the elders food provisions, elders over 60 received \$200 worth of groceries every month for three months. All products are eligible except for alcohol, gas, tobacco and lottery tickets. The goal was to give temporary assistance to ease elders' access to store-bought food. This measure will be in effect until the end of June but might be renewed.

The second part of the KRG food program aims at assisting people facing temporary financial difficulties. Eligible applicants receive food coupons vouchers every two weeks and the measure is retroactive to March 13, 2020. The measure is intended for those who are no longer employed due to COVID-19 and are receiving no salary or just part of their salary or no income support benefits. Those facing financial difficulties because they are taking care of elders or family members are also eligible.

This measure ends June 30, 2020.

The KRPF Tests Body-Worn Cameras

The Kativik Regional Police Force started to test body cameras during police officer shifts as part of a pilot project that began in January 2020



The project aims to test the deployment and implementation of six cameras for a year.

The officer wearing a camera must record interventions related to conjugal violence, impaired driving and other extraordinary circumstances. When possible, the officer informs the persons involved that they are recorded and the officer stops the recording when there are privacy concerns.

The use of cameras can increase police accountability, public trust and transparency and provide additional evidence, for example.

Should the pilot project prove to be a success, the KRPF will be looking at initiating a full deployment of body cameras in all 14 communities.

The KRG Provides Funding for Artist Program under Avataq

On February 25, the KRG approved a contribution of \$82,000 for Nunavik artists. The Avataq Cultural Institute will manage this grant program now funded 100-per cent by the KRG.

The program will replace the previous artist's support program co-sponsored by the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec (CALQ). With this decision, Avataq and the KRG decided to join their efforts and maintain full autonomy



with a program managed by and for Nunavik Inuit, ensuring that Inuit artists can continue to evolve.

► For more details on the program or to apply for a grant, call **1-800-361-5029** or send an email to olivialyat@avataq.qc.ca.

2020 Arctic Winter Games Cancelled



On March 8, 2020 the 50th-anniversary edition of the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) was cancelled due to of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was a major disappointment for all countries that were to participate as well as for Team Nunavik.

However, everyone understood there was no other choice.

It was a major setback for the Team Nunavik athletes and coaches. They will now try to use this experience to build an even stronger team for the next Winter Games. The KRG Recreation Department remained determined to help Nunavik youth pursue their quest in becoming the best in the practice of traditional sports.

The next AWG will take place in Wood Buffalo, Alberta, in 2022.

The KRG Shares Knowledge during the Northern Lights Tradeshaw

Once again this year the KRG participated to the biennial Northern Lights Tradeshaw from February 5 to 8, 2020, in Ottawa. The event was an opportunity for organizations from Canada's North to build partnerships and exchange information and ideas.

The KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick and KRG Director General Michael Gordon were present at the event, along with employees from various departments. During three days, the KRG held an exhibit to explain the role of the KRG and its responsibilities. It was an occasion for the KRG to network and promote Nunavik and the organization.



In the photo: Jacques R. Fournier, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Quebec and Johanne Fortin, Director of the KRG Legal, Socio-Judicial, and Municipal Management Department.

Justice Pro Bono Receives \$222 000 to Hold Legal Clinics in Nunavik

On February 19, in Montreal, Justice Pro Bono raised money during a gala to organize free legal clinics in Nunavik. The KRG decided to add \$10,000 to the \$220,000 raised by the organisation.

Created in 2008 by the Quebec Bar Association Justice Pro Bono helps the needy and non-profit organisations gain access to the justice system.

Decrease in the Crime Rate in Nunavik

The number of criminal files opened by the KRPF and the number of detainees have dropped by 41% in April compared to the month of March.

The number of detainees in the more populated Northern villages also followed a similar trend. In Puvirnituq, there have only about 20 detainees in April 2020, compared to 212 in the previous month, a decrease of 90%. In Salluit, the situation was similar with only 7 detainees in April, compared to 43 in March.

This significant decrease in the crime rate might not only result from the restrictions on alcohol and the lockdown: the KRPF seizures since the beginning of the year might also be an important factor. Indeed, from January 1st to April 30th, the KRPF has seized \$639,000 in drugs and bootlegged alcohol.

N-REPAC: Nunavik's Crisis Management Team

The COVID-19 pandemic triggered an emergency response in Nunavik unlike anything experienced before.

The Kativik Regional Government immediately activated the Nunavik Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee, better known as the N-REPAC: Nunavik's crisis management team.

Here are some of the more notable actions undertaken by the N-REPAC:

MARCH 12, 2020:

- ▶ The Québec government declares a province-wide public health emergency. Public health authorities recommend the cancelling or postponement of all gatherings in Nunavik.

MARCH 17, 2020:

- ▶ The N-REPAC holds its first formal meeting with the NRBHSS.

MARCH 19, 2020:

- ▶ Travel ban on all non-essential trips from the south to Nunavik.

MARCH 20, 2020:

- ▶ Coordination with mayors around the region and production of daily updates.

MARCH 22, 2020:

- ▶ Travel of employees to the Raglan and Canadian Royalties mines is stopped.

MARCH 23, 2020:

- ▶ A ban on all non-essential travel to Nunavik and within the region is announced.

MARCH 24, 2020:

- ▶ Schools officially closed for the remainder of the school year.
- ▶ Restrictions regarding the sale of alcohol imposed on stores and suppliers.

MARCH 28, 2020:

- ▶ First confirmed case of COVID-19 in Salluit.
- ▶ Implementation of a measure requiring anyone arriving from the south to self-isolate for 14 days.

MARCH 29, 2020:

- ▶ Curfew imposed in all 14 communities in Nunavik.
- ▶ Travel from community to community by snowmobile prohibited.

APRIL 2, 2020:

- ▶ The N-REPAC orders a lockdown in all 14 communities.

APRIL 3, 2020:

- ▶ Canadian Rangers in the 14 communities are deployed to contain the spread of COVID-19.

APRIL 7, 2020

- ▶ A food coupon program is created for the needy in Nunavik.

APRIL 15, 2020:

- ▶ New curfew hours are adopted shortening the curfew by one hour with the curfew stating at 10PM rather than 9PM because of longer daylight hours.
- ▶ Food program initiated for the elders offering \$200 a month for three months.

APRIL 20, 2020:

- ▶ Masks will be provided to airline passengers to comply with the mandatory wearing of masks on all Canadian flights.

APRIL 27 2020:

- ▶ KRPF reveals important statistics showing a sharp decline in criminality and in the number of people in custody from March 2020 to April 2020.

MAY 6 2020:

- ▶ No more positive cases of COVID-19 in Nunavik anymore.
- ▶ A meeting with regional organizations is held to discuss the progressive lifting of restrictive measures.

MAY 22 2020:

- ▶ The planning for the gradual re-opening of Nunavik undertaken during the past week paves the way for less restrictive measures for the weeks to come.
- ▶ Several committees examine the lifting of measures and ensure the protection of youth and elders, oversee gradual reopening of transportation, workplaces and other sectors of the economy and ensure the containment of the coronavirus disease in Nunavik

The Canadian Rangers Joining the Fight against COVID-19

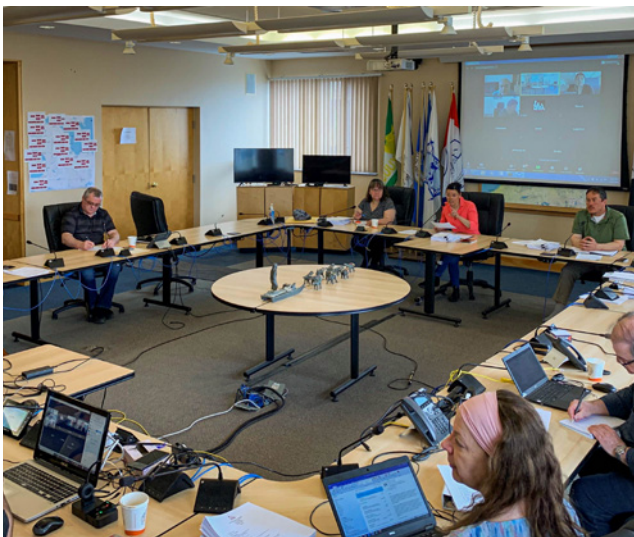
The N-REPAC requested that the Nunavik's Canadian Rangers be deployed in the region's 14 communities to help local authorities prepare for the fallout of the pandemic. The Rangers assisted the Local Emergency Response Teams in the fight against the outbreak. To this end, the Canadian Rangers launched Operation Laser, which involved all 14 Rangers patrols in each northern village. Specifically, forty active Ranger are on continuous standby and another forty are ready to be deployed. They will do whatever is needed to help their communities stay safe such as distribute food and set-up tents and medical equipment. The Rangers have made it a priority to be there whenever they are needed.



Council Sitting

The KRG Council met by videoconference on May 25 and 26. The regular sitting should have been held in Tasiujaq but plans were changed due to the extraordinary circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for September 14 to 17. A decision will be taken prior to the meeting to determine whether to hold it by videoconference or in a regular face to face sitting.



LEO'S Play Key Role during KRG Office Closure

Local employment officers (LEO) worked on the front line during the COVID-19 pandemic. They provided services to Nunavimmiut from home, and when absolutely necessary gave punctual appointments following the social distancing and hygiene measures.

LEO's implemented a special phone line and email address allowing them to receive questions and requests from clients in all the 14 communities.

LEO's resolved dozens of interventions since the beginning of the crisis. They helped the population with employment insurance, the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) applications, student allowances, social assistance applications, food coupons and the cost of living.

LEO's can still be reached through the phone **1-877-964-2961**, by email **leoservices@krg.ca** and the Employment Services KRG Facebook page **[@employmentservicesKRG](https://www.facebook.com/employmentservicesKRG)**.



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