

Quartely update



Happy New Year!

Despite a challenging year in 2020 Nunavimmiut are moving forward into the New Year with hope and optimism. As we look ahead to 2021 and beyond, the KRG is confident in the region's ability to recover and move forward. Throughout the pandemic, the KRG continued to deliver services and develop new projects for the region.

In 2021, the KRG has even more ambitious projects and remains committed to improving services for all of Nunavik. The KRG will inform Nunavimmiut of new developments as they unfold.

Please stay safe and have a Happy New Year 2021!

Sustainable Employment: Targets for the Next Decade

In November, the Sustainable Employment Department unveiled a 10-year plan regarding employment services and the development of a Nunavik labor force.

Decentralizing the Services

The Sustainable Employment Department has been restructured and will now offer services through four sections.

- ▶ **Employment Services:** this section implements new employment services and improves how the others services are delivered, supports academic success and fosters partnerships to develop leadership. It now includes programs like Pijunnaqunja, Youth Employment Services (YES), ESUMA, Ivirtivik, Kautaapikkut and Sanajiit Project.
- ▶ **Programs:** the Programs section's role is to provide funding to assist in training initiatives and job creation in the region.
- ▶ **Service Nunavik:** the mandates of this section is to connect clients to employment and training services, refer clients for job-related information and serve as community liaisons for all job-related activities.
- ▶ **Childcare:** the section will continue to deliver childcare services in Nunavik and to support the childcare centers located in the 14 communities.

The Sanajiit Project offered the Carpentry Skills Level 2 training in Inukjuak in December 2020. ▶

Before the Department's restructuring, it was divided into three sections: Employment and Income Support, Childcare and finally Workforce and Youth Programs.

Creating a Labor Force in Nunavik

The main objective of the Sustainable Employment Department in the next ten years will be to continue working to create a labor force in the region and promote education.

One of the ways envisaged to create employment opportunities throughout the region is the implementation of the Strategic Human Resources Development Plan for various economic sectors in Nunavik. Under this plan, ten economic sectors are targeted: childcare, community services, construction, culture, education, health and social services, mining, social economy, agriculture and tourism. This plan will help to finance training and education needs to access job positions in these economic sectors and will necessitate funding in the order of \$567-million for the next 10 years.

The Department will also aid partners such as Kativik Iisarniliriniq in the creation of an additional vocational training center in Ungava as well as multi-services training centres for the communities.



Social Economy Month

In November, Nunavimmiut were made aware of social economy collective enterprises in Nunavik, through Social Economy Month. The Artists association in Ivujivik, the Qaqqalik Landholding Corporation in Salluit, the Sirivik Soup kitchen in Inukjuak and the Coop store in Puvirnituk were among the enterprises visited by the KRG's Local and Regional Development Department, which continues to be a driving force in the development of collective enterprises in Nunavik.

A profile of their mission and involvement in the community is available through short videos posted on the KRG Facebook page. (<https://www.facebook.com/kativikregionalgovernment>)

The Nunavik Social Economy Roundtable also hosted an Acknowledgement Award that recognizes the efforts invested in their work by an employee on a daily basis. Next year's Social Economy campaign intends on being even more promising.



Members of the Artists Association in Ivujivik discuss the need for a new arts centre to serve artists throughout Nunavik.

Cirqiniq Is Alive and Well in Nunavik

Once again, the KRG Recreation Department coordinated this year its circus workshops Cirqiniq in Nunavik. Around 150 young participants took advantage of the Cirqiniq workshops in Kuujjuaq, Puvirnituk, and Ivujivik from October to December.

This year Cirqiniq workshops had a distinctive feature: an all Inuit team of instructors. Workshops were hosted by instructor, Albillie Idiout and his assistant Stephanie Saunders in Kuujjuaq; by instructors Suasie Irqumia and Sarah Ittukallak Grey in Puvirnituk and by instructors Charlie Mark, Betsy Qavavuk and Juanasi Okituk in Ivujivik.

During the workshops, participants learned various forms of performances such as juggling, aerial arts, stilt walking, acrobatics, dance, music, clowning and behind the scene production skills.

Cirqiniq aims at giving youth a chance to express themselves, exercise their creativity, explore their boundaries and develop their self-esteem. Participants were able to reach these goals by strictly following the protection measures.



◀ *Cirqiniq workshop in Kuujjuaq, October 2020.*



Elder's Study

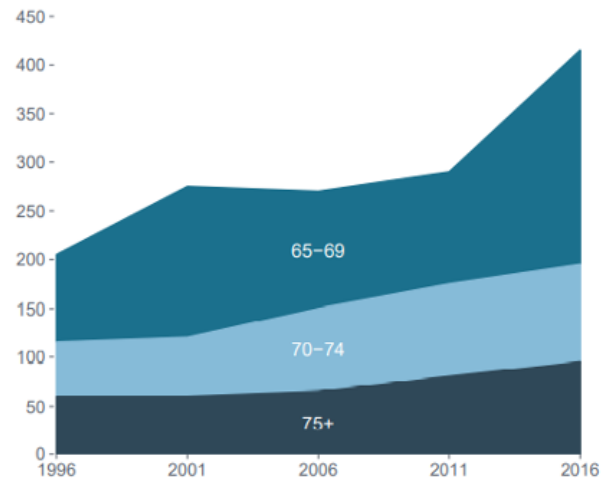
The number of elders in Nunavik is steadily increasing and so are the pressing for better services. One of the KRG's objectives for the coming year is to continue to be an advocate for more adequate housing for elders in Nunavik. According to a recent study, Inuit elders faced unsuitable housing and inadequate income, making them more vulnerable than those in the rest of Quebec and Canada. packages could eventually be opened to visitors from outside the region.

The study conducted by Nunivaat, the statistics program for Nunavik under the responsibility of Université Laval through funding from the KRG, showed that the elders' population in Nunavik had more than doubled over a 20-year period from 1996 to 2016. Most of the elders needed to work to provide for their basic needs. "In fact, between the ages of 65 and 69, employment income continues to represent half of the total income of elders in Nunavik and a quarter of the income of those aged 70 to 74," the Nunivaat study concluded.

While employment income for Nunavik elders is higher than elsewhere so is the need to provide for their children. At least 12 % of the elders in Nunavik receive benefits for dependent children compared to 0.1 % of elders in Quebec. Moreover, they face a much higher cost of living.

The steady increase in the number of elders will have a significant impact on the demand for public services, especially housing. The KRG is closely monitoring the situation and will develop an action plan in response to the challenges that lie ahead.

Persons aged 65 and over in the Aboriginal population of Nunavik, 1996-2016



The new statistics on elders were presented during the last KRG Council in November.

Fire Safety Campaign Act Now Win Big Contest Wrap-Up

Aupaluk is the first community to win the "Act now Win Big" campaign for fire safety. This contest was organised by KMHB Pivallianiq Program in partnership with the KRG. Community members won the unique opportunity to create a mural located in the gymnasium of the local school. The mural was designed by the secondary level students of the Tarsakallak School with the help of a professional muralist. Workshops on fire prevention were also hosted by Daniel Lambert, the KRG Public Safety and Fire Prevention Technician.

A second place prize was awarded to the Northern Village of Quaqtuaq. Residents will be able to enjoy a music show in 2021-2022 once the pandemic has been resolved.



Charlie Arngak to Receive Order of Military Merit

KRG Executive Committee member Charlie Arngak from Kangirsujuaq will be awarded this year the Order of Military Merit for his close to 50 years of active service in the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves.

The announcement was made during the KRG November council meeting. Arngak, 67, is also the regional councillor of Kangirsujuaq. Lieutenant-Colonel Benoît Mainville presented the announcement and underlined the veteran's leadership and dedication to the Canadian Rangers.

Mr. Arngak's experience over the years has been in the self-sufficient mobile forces working in some of the most isolated and remote terrain in the country, which has made him a mentor and a highly respected member of his unit.

He will receive the prestigious award at the hands of the Governor-General of Canada during a special ceremony in Ottawa.



Charlie Arngak at the KRG building in Kuujuaq.

2021 KRG budget approved

During a special virtual KRG council meeting in December, the councillors approved the 2021 annual budget, which was set at just over \$384-millions. The next regular council meeting will be held from February 22 to 25, 2021.



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