

Quartely update



Nunavik's Clean-up Projects Are on Track

In February, the Renewable Resources, Environment, Lands & Parks Department of the KRG informed the Executive Committee about its 2021 environmental remediation projects. These undertakings will continue to focus on abandoned mineral exploration sites, permanent outfitting camps, mobile outfitting camps, and residual hazardous material sites.

The project to clean-up abandoned mineral exploration sites began in 2007 thanks to the funding agreement between the KRG, Makivik Corporation, the Ministère de l'énergie et des ressources naturelles du Québec and the Fond Restauration du Nunavik. Since 2007, over 100 abandoned mineral exploration sites were completely decontaminated. In the year 2020-21, the KRG worked on 4 sites, completing 2 in the Kangiqsualujuaq area.

About 25 sites need to be cleaned in the years ahead in the Kangiqsualujuaq, Tasiujaq and Kangirsuk areas.

As for permanent outfitting camps, waste will be removed, buildings dismantled and vegetation will be restored on sites in the Caniapiscu area.

The KRG will also address the needs of Inukjuak, Akulivik, Salluit, Quaqtaq, Kangirsuk and Kangiqsualujuaq by cleaning up hazardous waste in their municipal storage sites. These hazardous materials will be shipped to facilities out of the region authorized for recycling and disposal as done in other communities in the past.

In Kuujuaq, these projects created 4 jobs for 2 weeks during the summer of 2020. As for Kangiqsualujuaq, these same initiatives produced 5 jobs for a week over the summer of 2020, and 10 jobs for a week over the winter of 2020.



An abandoned mining exploration site north of Kangiqsualujuaq near the Ablovik Fjord.

Cost of Living Measures Limitations



In 2021, an important Cost of Living measure will be changed. It involves the Household Appliances and Harvesting measure. There will be new restrictions on the reimbursements provided by this measure. There is a limit on the total amount that will be reimbursed. Once the total amount of \$1.7-million per year has been reached, no more refunds will be allowed. Funds will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. The new measure takes effect on April 1st, and in the name of fairness, the period to apply for a reimbursement is extended from 90 days to 120 days after the date of purchase.

Why the new restriction? Because its success over the last couple years, the Cost of Living Program has accumulated a \$4-million deficit that has to be eliminated by March 2025. All other measures will remain intact including those involving Foods and Essential Products, Airfare reductions, Gasoline prices, Country Food subsidies and Elders assistance.

Nunavik Police Service: A New Name, a New Vision

The KRG Council approved the new name of the Kativik Regional Police Force during the February setting, the Nunavik Police Service (NPS). The name reflects the new policing vision and increased desire for greater community collaboration with the 14 villages in Nunavik.

The new name also sets the stage for a series of events marking the 25th anniversary of the creation of the police service in 1996.

For the Chief of Police Jean-Pierre Larose, the NPS is entering a new era: «The name of our police department did not reflect the modern vision I believe this department must embrace for the future,» Chief Larose told councillors during the KRG Council meeting.

He said that the police service must embrace the identity of the territory it covers. This explains the decision to replace «Kativik» by the name «Nunavik». Excluding the word «Force» from the name is an attempt to eliminate any reference to aggressive or repressive actions sometimes associated with police interventions. The new name also underscores the commitment to Nunavimmiut to serve and protect the residents by offering an unparalleled community policing service.

The new name will be introduced gradually on the uniforms, police cruisers, office stationery, etc. Over time, a new logo will also replace the current one but will be done in such a way as to limit costs and confusion for the population.

Isurruutiit Program Extended One More Year for \$20 Million

Funding for municipal infrastructure projects and new rolling stock (service vehicles and heavy equipment) across Nunavik for the 14 Northern villages has been extended a year in the midst of talks between the KRG and the Quebec Government over a new agreement with an additional envelop of \$20 million.

The current five-year \$100-million Isurruutiit program initiated in 2016 ended on March 31 2021 before a new agreement could be reached.

The program, which began in 1999, has been renewed a few times ever since. There is every indication a new agreement will be reached soon after negotiations begin this summer.

One of the main projects under the extended funding agreement involves the construction of a new arena in Kangirsuk after the old one was destroyed by fire in April 2019.

Happy 15th Anniversary



The KRG would like to congratulate Saturviit, the Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik, for its 15th anniversary. We support and appreciate your dedication to share and empower Inuit women in their efforts to counter violence and improve their well-being.

Congratulations
- from all Kativik's team



Inspiring women



Melinda Hickey



Winifred Nungak



Andrea Brazeau



Hannah Tooktoo Koneak



Alicia Aragutak



Anna Ohaituk

Happy 15th
Anniversary



2022 Arctic Winter Games Rescheduled

The 2022 Arctic Winter Games to be held in Wood Buffalo Alberta, which were postponed in early March, have been rescheduled for January 29 to February 4, 2023.

As part of its ongoing commitment to the safety of participants, the Arctic Winter Games International Committee has also confirmed that it will increase the maximum number of coaching positions for the rescheduled Games.

The KRG is encouraged that all the hard work from the coaches, athletes and organizers in the communities across Nunavik in preparation of the 2020 Whitehorse Yukon Games that were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic will now serve as a springboard to help prepare Nunavik youth for the newly rescheduled Wood Buffalo Games.

Organizers of Team Nunavik are relieved that its young athletes will proudly take part in what is the premier circumpolar sport and cultural event for youth hosting up to 2,000 athletes and an equal number of volunteers.

The rescheduled Wood Buffalo Games do not affect the current dates for the Matanuska Susitna Borough, Alaska 2024 Arctic Winter Games.

KRG Nunavik Parks Holds Employee Workshops

From February 15 to 19, KRG Nunavik Parks held a series of meetings, presentations, workshops and trainings with Parks Directors, Operations Coordinators, Visitor Experience Officers and all parks employees based in Kuujuaq. In order to assure everyone's participation Nunavik Parks will set up later in 2021 a second round of meetings intended for Parks' Administrative Technicians and Wardens

Management met it employees in user-friendly environments at the Kattitavik Town Hall and KRG Head Office. During this event, the management and employees discussed important matters were discussed relating to 2021 objectives, conservation, work organization, safety and security in parks, asset management, budget controlling and human resources. Other talks focused on the on-going improvement of visitors' experience and customer service.

The event sought to promote a new vision of the organization which is to consolidate Nunavik Parks into one large network. Nunavik Parks wants to focus on encouraging its personnel to share their ideas as well as their best practices and projects. Our vision is to work as a team and in building ties with other KRG departments.



Nunavik Parks had postponed implementing its new 3-year strategic plan until 2022. However, Nunavik Parks will continue, as much as possible, to operate this year by offering activities in parks for local communities by fully respecting the public health guidelines.



The Interpretation Center of the Tursujuq National Park. Guests can now visit the interpretations centers by contacting Nunavik Parks.

Saqjuq: Mobile Intervention Teams Expand Across Nunavik

After Puvirnituq and Kangirsuk, Akulivik will become this year the third community to take advantage of the Saqjuq program and of the mobile intervention teams.

The Mobile Intervention Team (MIT) was first launched in Puvirnituq in May 2019. A police officer from the Nunavik Police Service is joined by a social worker to respond to calls that would normally only be answered by a police officer. In 2020, the MIT intervened in 550 incidents. Less than 1% of the interventions ended in the detention of the individual.

"The MIT is this efficient because the police officer benefits a lot from the knowledge and expertise of the social worker", explained KRPF

Deputy Chief of Operations Jean-François Morin. "The interveners are in that respect truly complementary. The MIT has been here [in Puvirnituq] for about a year now, but it's already made a huge impact in the community."

The MIT is part of the Saqjuq program, launched in Puvirnituq in 2014, an initiative of the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services. The program is intended for people at risk, youth and offenders with drug and alcohol addictions. It aims at developing a healthy lifestyle by showing them how to fish, hunt, and practice other cultural activities.

The second MIT team is planned to be launched in Kangirsuk within the next two months, and the third one in Akulivik before the end of the year.



NPS prevention officer Jeff Heron (left) and social workers Chloé Trahan (center) and Alexis Laliberté-Seyer (right) are members of the Mobile Intervention Team of Puvirnituq.



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