

Threat of coronavirus: the Quebec Government closes childcare centres

Kuujjuaq, March 13, 2020 – The Quebec Government has ordered the closure of all childcare centers in Nunavik for two weeks as a preventive measure to contain the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). In Nunavik the risk remains low but the KRG has followed the directive adopted by the Quebec government to close all schools and daycare centers. That is because the coming weeks are critical and the KRG is taking all the necessary measures to contain the virus avoid having it spread throughout the region.

Other measures include barring all meetings in the coming weeks and cancel planned group visits to Nunavik Parks. The Transportation Department has also been active in informing travelers to take the necessary precautions. Posters will be put up at the major airports and eventually in all the Nunavik airports. Hand sanitizing dispenses will also be made available at the airports. Public service announcements will aired on all radio stations telling people how help contain the spread of the virus.

Remember to follow these simple steps:

- Wash your hands often
- Use alcohol-based hand rub
- Cover your mouth and nose with your arm when coughing or sneezing
- If you are sick, avoid contact with elders or young children and see a doctor.

Every individual has their part to play to reduce the risk of spreading viruses.

Watch for the symptoms: Fever. Cough. Difficulty breathing.

The KRG is closely monitoring the situation and is working closely with the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services to keep the population informed regarding COVID-19.

Please go to the following websites for more information:

- <u>https://nrbhss.ca/en/coronavirus</u>
- <u>https://msss.gouv.qc.ca/professionnels/maladies-infectieuses/coronavirus-</u> 2019-ncov/#situation-au-quebec

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The Kativik Regional Government is a non-ethnic public organization created in 1978, under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. The organization has jurisdiction over nearly the entire territory of Québec north of the 55th parallel in areas such as municipal matters, transportation, the environment, policing, employment, labour training, income security, childcare services, renewable resources, land-use planning, civil security and economic development.