



Press Release
For immediate release

COVID-19: Curfew imposed throughout Nunavik

Kuujuuaq, March 29, 2020 –A curfew will take effect this evening in all 14 Northern Villages of Nunavik. The curfew imposed by the Chief of the Kativik Regional Police Force and Director of Public Security Jean-Pierre Larose aims at containing the spread of COVID-19 after a first active case was confirmed on Saturday in Salluit.

The curfews are a preventive measure aimed at protecting all Nunavimmiut from the potential spread of the virus. The Nunavik-wide curfew comes on the heels of local curfews imposed in Kuujuaraapik and Salluit.

As of this evening all Nunavimmiut will need to stay at home from 9:00 PM until 6:00 AM. The curfew will remain in effect for an indefinite period of time.

Access to all airports in Nunavik is restricted. Only personnel offering priority services and cargo are authorized to land in the communities. However, in Salluit extreme measures are in effect. All flights in and out of Salluit are cancelled until further notice. The airport is closed to all traffic except for exceptional circumstances.

Furthermore, all intercommunity travel using snowmobiles is strictly prohibited. Contact between residents of different villages is strongly discouraged.

Mr. Larose insisted that people need to stay at home, The fewer the contacts between the residents of the different communities the more chances residents will give themselves to limit the virus from spreading.

The police will enforce the curfew with the support of all the Mayors of Northern Villages. The Mayors and their municipal councils play an important role in making sure their citizens comply with the curfew. They are calling on everyone to vigorously practice social distancing and are asking their citizens to refrain from taking any actions on social media that may threaten the well-being of others.

Any information regarding other measures that may be adopted if needed aimed at containing the spread of COVID-19 in Nunavik will be made available immediately.

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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.