



Press Release

Fire Safety Cover Plan for Nunavik

Kuujuuaq, Québec, February 28, 2011 – The Council of the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) approved this morning the *Fire Safety Cover Plan for Nunavik* (FSCP). The upcoming implementation of the FSCP will represent an important step in the process to upgrade the region's fire safety human and physical resources.

“Concretely speaking, the implementation of the fire safety cover plan will make it possible for all the Northern villages to improve services for their residents, to optimize their resources and to expand coverage in their communities,” stated KRG Chairperson Maggie Emudluk.

Pursuant to section 8 of the *Fire Safety Act*, regional authorities throughout Québec are required, in conjunction with the local municipalities that are part thereof and in compliance with the policies determined by the Minister of Public Security, to establish a fire safety cover plan determining fire protection objectives for their entire territory and the actions required to achieve those objectives.

The Minister of Public Security, Robert Dutil, issued a certificate of compliance for the FSCP on February 3. Consultations regarding the FSCP were carried out in all the region's communities between September and November 2010. Steady cooperation between the KRG, the 14 Northern villages and the *ministère de la Sécurité publique* (public security), as well as considerable efforts on the part of all, will now make it possible to develop fire protection services that meet Nunavik's needs. The FSCP will come into force on March 11, 2011.

The geography, climate and remoteness of each of the communities represent significant obstacles for the implementation of the FSCP. To help the Northern villages to meet the objectives of the FSCP, the KRG intends to foster in the coming years the creation of standardized prevention and response practices.

The KRG 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. The role of the Civil Security Section is to increase awareness of the importance of emergency preparedness in the communities and support related activities.

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