



## Press Release

### Essential Municipal Service Improvements

**Kangirsuk, Québec, June 2, 2011** – The Kativik Regional Government and Québec recently signed a major agreement concerning investments totalling \$82.3 million for essential municipal services. The goal of the five-year Isurruutiit-3 Program is to continue investments to improve the services delivered by the Northern villages.

“These investments are absolutely necessary for the health of Nunavik communities and the quality of life of Nunavimmiut,” stated KRG Chairperson Maggie Emudluk. “They will allow the Northern villages and the KRG together to maintain and improve essential basic services.”

To be eligible under the Isurruutiit-3 Program, projects must involve the supply and distribution of drinking water, the collection and treatment of wastewater, the collection and disposal of solid waste, the construction, improvement and maintenance of roadways, or the purchase, repair and storage of rolling stock. To this end, the Northern villages and the KRG, through its Municipal Public Works Department, work closely to identify essential service needs, develop eligible projects and then carry out the necessary work.

According to the complexity of the projects, the Northern villages take responsibility for performing all or part of the work for each project, or they may delegate this responsibility to the KRG. This approach generates economic spin-offs for the communities, as well as creating local jobs.

A number of projects have already been proposed by the Northern villages for the Isurruutiit-3 Program. The attached list identifies projects approved by the KRG Council for implementation beginning as early as the summer of 2011.

Québec has been providing municipal infrastructure funding to the Northern villages since 1979. Under the three phases of Isurruutiit (since 1999), investments in municipal infrastructure total \$192.3 million managed entirely by the NVs and the KRG.

*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 Municipal Public Works Department is to assist the Northern villages to secure the infrastructure necessary for their development and assist with related maintenance.*

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## **Isurruutiit Program**

### **Project Planning – Summer 2011**

Improvements to drinking water plants in five villages (including major work at Akulivik) to ensure good water quality.

Continuation of the construction of wastewater lagoons in Salluit and Puvirnituaq.

Improvements to solid waste disposal sites in four villages.

Construction of new roadways in five villages for new residential development, as well as bituminous surface treatment of roads in Puvirnituaq.

Coordination of the construction of municipal offices in Tasiujaq, Aupaluk and Puvirnituaq.

Expansion of the municipal garage in Quaqaq and coordination of municipal-garage expansion projects in Puvirnituaq and Kangiqsujaq.

Purchase of heavy equipment as well as drinking water deliver and wastewater collection vehicles in various villages.