

Gouvernement du Québec – press release

Fonds québécois d'initiatives sociales

More Than \$1.5 million for the Kativik Regional Government to Fight Poverty

Val-D'Or, Québec, June 21, 2011 /CNW Telbec/ – On behalf of the Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity and the Minister responsible for the Mauricie Region, Julie Boulet, the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs, Geoffrey Kelley, and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Minister responsible for the Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Nord-du-Québec Regions and the MNA for Abitibi-Est, Pierre Corbeil, announced \$1,578,342 to fund from now until 2015 actions to fight poverty in the Northern villages.

“These anti-poverty actions will be carried out under the *Alliance pour la solidarité*, which combines the expertise, experience and drive of local and regional partners. These partners are currently developing an action plan based on their understanding of the needs of the territory and available resources. Through the pooling of these efforts, we aim to push back poverty and promote solidarity and social inclusion,” stated Minister Boulet.

The alliances, signed by the Minister of Employment and Social Solidarity and the regional conferences of elected officers (RCEO) will make it possible to develop consensus with regional organizations, to establish a common vision regarding the efforts to be deployed locally and regionally, and to foster the implementation of projects aimed at actively fighting poverty and social exclusion.

The funding for these alliances is drawn from a general resource envelope of the Fonds québécois d'initiatives sociales (social initiatives fund, FQIS) totalling close to \$100 million for regional anti-poverty projects. It is to be used to fund projects identified in the regional action plans prepared by the RCEOs.

“With this resource envelope, the Kativik Regional Government will be able to put in place additional resources to fight poverty in all the Northern villages. I am convinced that this assistance will contribute to the social development of the 14 Inuit communities,” declared Minister Kelley.

“The work to improve the quality of living of Inuit is important and the FQIS funding that we receive will contribute to the continuation of our efforts. Everyone must play a role. More than ever, we need to mobilize and take action to respond to the needs of Inuit,” emphasized Minister Corbeil.

It should be recalled that the funding announced is part of the measures set out by the Québec government in its *Government Action Plan for Solidarity and Social Inclusion, 2010–2015*. The plan, which provides for investments of \$7 billion, aims to improve the living conditions of low-income individuals, in particular, through prevention as well as regional and local action.

Source:

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