



Press Release

Nunavik Kite-Ski Championship

Kangiqsujuaq, Québec, April 15, 2013 – Between April 11 and 15, the Northern Village of Kangiqsujuaq and the Recreation Department of the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) hosted the second annual Nunavik Kite-Ski Championship. Ten participants aged 13 and older from Kangiqsujuaq, Ivujivik, Quaqtac, Kangirsuk, Kuujuaq and Kangiqsualujuaq came together to compete in different styles of racing, to attend workshops on kite-ski safety and riding techniques, club operations, leadership and equipment maintenance, as well as to participate in a downhill ski clinic.

“This year’s competition was another success,” stated Mary A. Pilurtoot, KRG Vice-Chairperson. “It’s very exciting to see our region’s youth involved in this sport which requires strength, agility and a great deal of determination.”

Sunny skies and favourable winds graced most of the five-day event with over 25 spectators in attendance daily. The Kangiqsujuaq Cooperative Store, Nunaturlik Landholding Corporation and Paraski Flex should also be recognized for their support for the closing ceremonies of the Nunavik Kite-Ski Championship. Overall rankings for all the competitions combined were:

- 1st place, Tommy Tuniq of Kangiqsujuaq;
- 2nd place, Sandy Haukai of Kangirsuk;
- 3rd place, Michael Petagumskum of Kuujuaq.

Introduced in November 2011 by the KRG as a pilot project, kite-skiing is one of the fastest growing sports in the region. In this individual sport, the wind is harnessed with large, colourful kites to propel riders across snow and ice. The sport is well suited to the north. Over the last few months, the Nunavik Kite-Ski Program has been delivered in Kuujuaq, Puvirnituq, Kangirsuk, Quaqtac, Kangiqsujuaq, and most recently Ivujivik and Kangiqsualujuaq. The KRG Recreation Department intends to continue expanding the Program to other interested communities next winter.

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. The KRG Recreation Department is dedicated to the delivery of recreational activities for all Nunavimmiut, promoting healthy and active living, as well as encouraging participation in many different sports and recreation opportunities.

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