



Press Release

CIRQINIQ SUMMER CAMP: Circus Fun and Life Lessons for Nunavik Youth

Kuujuaq, Québec, June 27, 2011 – From June 28 – July 8, social circus will be coming to Kuujuaq. CIRQINIQ, a regional recreation program coordinated by the KRG Recreation Department, is hosting a summer camp for over 50 youth aged 13 - 17 from 13 Nunavik communities. The youth will have the opportunity to learn circus techniques from junior instructors from Nunavik in collaboration with senior instructors from Cirque du Soleil.

The CIRQINIQ summer camp is in two parts: from June 28 – July 1, 10 junior instructors from 8 communities will receive training in CPR and First Aid as well as advanced circus techniques and workshop leadership. From July 2 – July 7, over 40 youth will participate in a variety of circus workshops taught by senior instructors to learn juggling, tight rope walking and aerial arts such as trapeze and silks. Moreover, there will be workshops provided by guest instructors: painting and set design with Sammy Kudluk, sewing and costume design with Joan Desrosiers, throat singing with Sylvia Cloutier and daily yoga sessions with Grace Jull.

On July 7, the youth will give a parade and a performance to share what they have learned with their family and their community. The parade will start at Jaanimmarik School at 7pm. The youth will walk to the Katittavik Theatre where their performance will begin at 8pm. Everyone is welcome (and encouraged) to attend and admission is free.

For this year's event, CIRQINIQ is proud to announce its new partnership with the Ungava Tulattavik Health Center, who is graciously providing the support of 4 CLSC social workers throughout the camp. CIRQINIQ is also grateful to several organizations for their assistance with this event, among them Tamaani Internet Service, the Northern village of Kuujuaq, and Jaanimmarik School.

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. Since 2009, CIRQINIQ has been coordinated by the KRG Recreation Department and Cirque du Soleil. One of the program's main goals is to create a sustainable social circus run by regional youth. Over the past two years, teams of dedicated Cirque du Soleil senior instructors have visited every

community at least twice, working one-on-one with junior instructors, building their skills and teaching them how to run circus workshops.

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