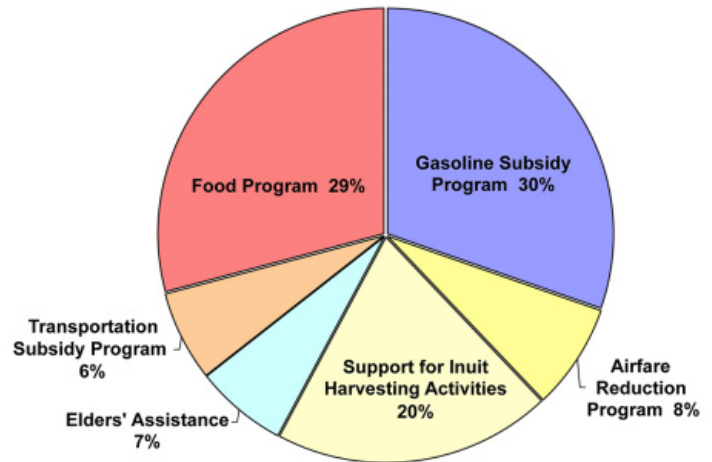


Two-year Review of Nunavik Cost-of-Living Measures

At its first sitting since the recent municipal elections, the KRG Council reviewed the implementation of regional cost-of-living reduction measures. Efforts to help alleviate the high transportation costs paid by Nunavimmiut began in earnest at the Katimajiit Conference held in August 2007. The measures are implemented by the KRG with Québec government funding, and in cooperation with the Makivik Corporation.

The two-year review highlighted the positive impacts of the measures. It was noted that:

- Under the Food Program, households save about \$72 every month, with milk, bread and diapers being the program's most popular items. The Food Program provides a 20% discount in local stores on commonly purchased items.
- The Gasoline Subsidy Program currently reduces the price of gasoline by 21¢/L in every community.
- For the third consecutive year, \$500 assistance cheques are being paid to over 590 elders who were aged 60 or older on or before December 1, 2009.
- The two most popular cost-of-living reduction measures are the Food Program and the Gasoline Subsidy Program.



Distribution of funding under Nunavik's six cost-of-living measures.

- The third most popular measure is Support for Inuit Harvesting Activities, which helps to reduce the costs of purchasing and transporting traditional food, and harvesting equipment and materials.

For many more details on the six regional cost-of-living measures, the two-year review may be downloaded from www.krg.ca.



Local hunter support programs implement the cost-of-living measure known as Support Measures for Inuit Harvesting Activities. Eligible items are parka fabric, sheepskin, leather and duffle, sleeping bags, snowmobile and ATV parts, firearms and ammunition, among many more items.

Measures Renewed

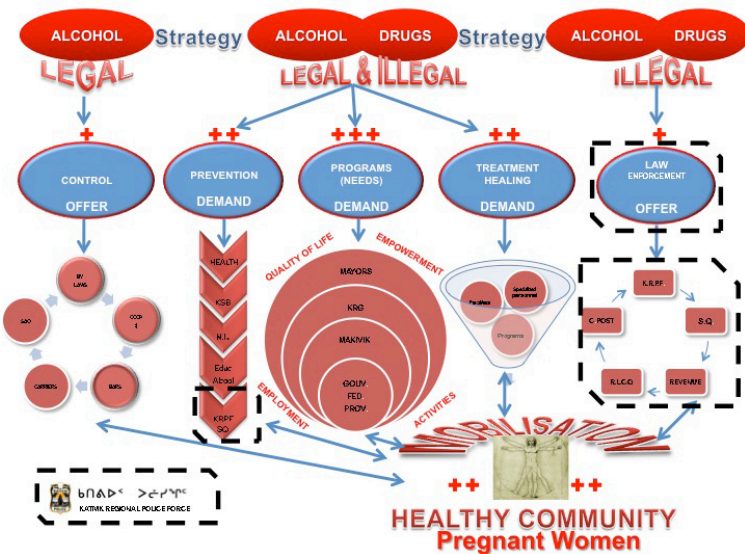
KRG councillors approved a resolution to renew regional cost-of-living reduction measures until March 31, 2011. This approval is dependent however on a Québec-government decision to renew the funding for the measures for an additional year. Negotiations in this respect are continuing between the KRG, Makivik and Québec.

As the manager of the cost-of-living measures, it will be a challenge for the KRG in the coming year to make sure that the costs of the measures do not exceed the available funding.

Anti-Drug and -Alcohol Strategy for Nunavik

The Kativik Regional Police Force (KRPF) is continuing its efforts to implement a concrete response to the concerns raised by the mayors of the Northern villages in the spring of 2009. Their concerns were about drug and alcohol abuse in the region and the adverse affects on their communities.

At the November sitting of the KRG Council, the KRPF presented a comprehensive strategy to fight drug and



The KRPF's anti-drug and -alcohol abuse strategy stresses enforcement, control and prevention actions.

alcohol abuse. The strategy is the first of its kind. The KRPF presentation made it clear that the success of the strategy depends on both enforcement and prevention.

Regarding prevention, it will be important for regional organizations to coordinate their related initiatives. Concerned organizations include the KRPF and the KRG, as well as the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, the Kativik School Board, Nunalituqait Ikajuqatiigiitut, the Isuarsivik Treatment Centre, other specialized resources, and the Makivik Corporation.

Regarding enforcement, the KRPF is continuing to crack down on drug trafficking and bootlegging. Numerous seizures of drugs and alcohol between August and November were reported to the KRG Council. However, while seizures disrupt the flow of drugs and alcohol, enforcement can not alone be expected to eliminate dependency on these substances. Effective and coordinated prevention and treatment activities are therefore a vital underpinning of the KRPF strategy.

The KRPF's anti-drug and -alcohol strategy was presented earlier in November at a meeting attended by Northern village mayors and landholding presidents, as well at a second meeting attended by Makivik executives.

Fire Safety Cover Plan

At their November sitting, KRG councillors again expressed their dissatisfaction with delays regarding the implementation of the Nunavik Fire Safety Cover Plan (NFSCP). For five years, the KRG has been wrangling with the *ministère de la Sécurité publique* (public security, MSP) over fire prevention and enhanced equipment needs and funding issues. An agreement-in-principle reached with the MSP in July 2009 was supposed to have ironed out most of the problems but no progress in the file has been made since.

KRG councillors want to remind the MSP that the NFSCP needs to be approved quickly to ensure the best possible protection for residents and the communities.



The Nunavik Fire Safety Cover Plan has the backing of all the Northern villages, but Québec-government approval has been repeatedly delayed.

Defining the Northern Plan: Québec Government

Over the past year, there has been much talk about the Québec-government's Northern Plan. No one however has been able to define what the Plan might mean for Québécois or Nunavimmiut.

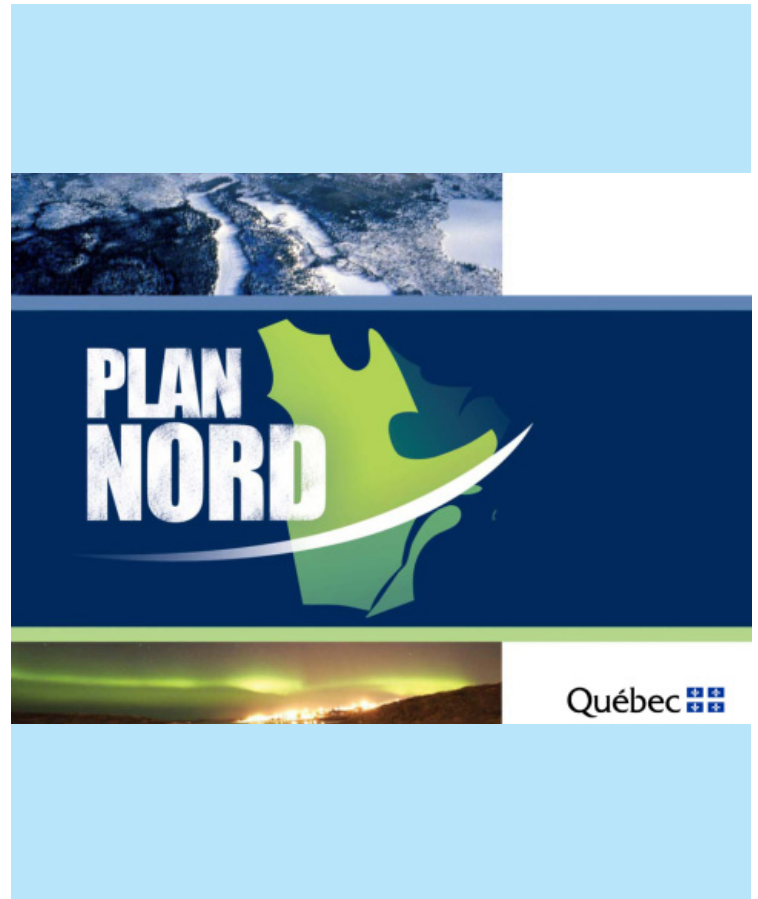
At a recently convened meeting of Aboriginal and municipal leaders from the North Shore, Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean and Northern Québec, Québec-government ministers Nathalie Normandeau and Pierre Corbeil outlined the upcoming process to prepare the Northern Plan.

The government is now describing the Plan as a “new economic space”. It will cover the territory of Québec between the 49th parallel and Hudson Strait, directly affecting three regions and approximately 121,000 residents. While Nunavimmiut make up only 10% of this population, Nunavik represents a very large part of the territory. This means that, through the Makivik Corporation and the KRG, Nunavimmiut will need to be closely involved in the Plan's creation and eventual implementation.

The Northern Plan will lay the groundwork for future development in the North by focusing on sustainable development, environmental protection, local labour development, transportation, communications, and quality housing for Inuit communities. The Québec government has furthermore stated that the creation of the Northern Plan will be a partnership of Aboriginal and municipal groups, plus concerned economic sectors such as hydroelectricity, mining and mineral exploration, as well as forestry. Every effort will be taken to show respect for local communities and cultures.

Proposed Electoral District

The Québec government recently introduced a bill to reform the Election Act. Among other details, the bill proposes the creation of a riding for Nunavik, covering the 14 Northern villages. Currently, Nunavimmiut are part of a riding with the Cree and other residents of the James Bay region. Regional leaders have long called for the creation of a separate Nunavik electoral district.



Further information on the Northern Plan can be found on the Québec-government website: www.plannord.gouv.qc.ca.

A Partners' Table was also announced to coordinate the preparation of the Northern Plan. It will comprise two Québec-government ministers, the presidents of five regional conferences of elected officers, the leaders of the four Aboriginal groups representing Cree, Innu, Naskapi and Inuit, as well as representatives of a number of different sectors. Specifically, the KRG Chairperson (since the KRG acts as the Regional Conference of Elected Officers for the Kativik Region) and the Makivik President will sit at the Table on behalf of Nunavimmiut.

If this Québec-government process proceeds as planned, the KRG Council and Nunavimmiut will be faced with important questions about the future of the region in the coming year.

New Council and Executive Committee

Between November 22 and 26, the members of the new KRG Council sat down together for the first time. Each KRG councillor is appointed by his or her municipal council to represent local concerns and contribute to region-wide solutions.

As well, KRG councillors appoint from their ranks a five-member Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is responsible for the management of the affairs of the KRG and ensures that the decisions of the KRG Council are carried out.

The 2009–2012 KRG Council is composed of the following individuals:

Executive Committee

Maggie Emudluk	<i>Chairperson</i>
Joseph Annahatak	<i>Vice-Chairperson</i>
Eli Aullaluk	<i>Akulivik</i>
Muncy Novalinga	<i>Puvirnitug</i>
Jean Dupuis	<i>Kuujjuaq</i>

Other KRG Councillors

Kitty Annanack	<i>Kangihsualujjuaq</i>
Peter Angnatuk	<i>Tasiujaq</i>
Johnny Akpahatak	<i>Aupaluk</i>
Tommy Nassak	<i>Kangirsuk</i>
Bobby Putulik	<i>Quaqtaq</i>
Mary A. Pilurttuut	<i>Kangihsujuaq</i>
Michael Cameron	<i>Salluit</i>
Charlie Paningajak	<i>Ivujivik</i>
Andy Moorhouse	<i>Inukjuak</i>
Jack Niviaxie	<i>Umiujaq</i>
Allan Brown	<i>Kuujjuarapik</i>
Louis Einish	<i>Kawawachikamach</i>

Shown below are eight of the newly appointed KRG councillors:



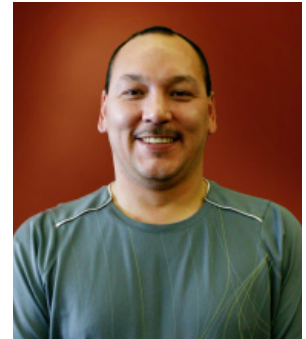
*Johnny Akpahatak,
Aupaluk*



*Kitty Annanack,
Kangihsualujjuaq*



*Allan Brown,
Kuujjuarapik*



*Michael Cameron,
Salluit*



*Jack Niviaxie,
Umiujaq*



*Muncy Novalinga,
Puvirnitug*



*Charlie Paningajak,
Ivujivik*



*Bobby Putulik,
Quaqtaq*