



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STATE OF THE SITUATION REGARDING THE TUBERCULOSIS OUTBREAK IN
KANGIQSUALUJJUAQ**

Kuujuuaq, August 23, 2012 – The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) would like to provide an update on the situation regarding the cases of tuberculosis in Nunavik.

Since November 2011, 89 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (TB), of which 44 are confirmed cases, have been disclosed to the *Direction de la santé publique* from Kangiqsualujjuaq. The outbreak's peak was observed in the month of May during which approximately 20 cases were reported. Over the course of the last month, one (1) active case of tuberculosis was confirmed in this community.

A clinical and radiological screening of the entire population ages 15 years and up not having received this type of evaluation in the last six months was performed over the course of the past three weeks and is practically completed. Consequently, the NRBHSS considers that the tuberculosis outbreak in Kangiqsualujjuaq is currently in the process of being resolved.

A high level of vigilance is being maintained with respect to this disease by the clinicians of the Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre (UTHC). Close monitoring of the cases and infected contacts is in progress and will be maintained according to the control protocols that are recognised as being effective.

The NRBHSS would like to emphasize the high level of collaboration on behalf of the residents of Kangiqsualujjuaq regarding the proposed screening and monitoring measures and would also like to acknowledge the efforts that were made by the teams of Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre and McGill Health Centre in terms of dealing with this outbreak.

*The NRBHSS is a public agency created in 1978 under the **James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement**. It is responsible for nearly the entire Quebec territory located north of the 55th parallel in terms of the provision of health and social services for the inhabitants of the 14 communities.*

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Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

Information: Eric Duchesneau
Communications Officer, NRBHSS
(819) 964-2222, ext. 275

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