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ILLEGAL ALCOHOL SALES IN NUNAVIK: TOGETHER WE CAN FIND VIABLE OPTIONS FOR RECOVERY

Kuujuuaq, February 7, 2020 – Illegal alcohol sales are a known problem for which the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) is deploying efforts and resources in order to come up with lasting solutions adapted to reality.

The NRBHSS is contributing to the launch of prevention, promotion and information programs on responsible consumption, particularly among youths, pregnant women and persons at risk. The organization is also aiming at harm reduction, support and recovery via its Saqijuuq program. Concurrently, community services offered to the population by the health centres will be improved over the coming year, making available a larger number of resources dedicated to persons struggling with addiction problems and to their loved ones.

Again from a perspective of support for the community and lasting solutions, the NRBHSS will continue to contribute to improving services at the Isuarsivik Regional Treatment Centre, which, starting in the spring 2020, will offer a community program based on a cultural and family approach: “This issue entails shared responsibilities, and each of us must assume a role. As an organization, we wish to work with our regional partners in order to respond to the problem and offer viable options for recovery,” stated Minnie Grey, Executive Director of the NRBHSS.

Since 2016, our organization’s efforts have resulted in annual, recurrent investments of \$3.5 M for service improvement, but those amounts remain insufficient given the scope of the problem.

Help is available:

- Isuarsivik Regional Recovery Center 1-819-964-2592 and www.isuarsivik.ca
- Nunavut Kamatsiaqtut Help Line: 1-800-265-3333 (Inuktitut / English)
- First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line: 1-855-242-3310 (English / French)

The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services 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

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