



NEWS RELEASE

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NEW REGIONAL RESOURCE FOR PEOPLE WITH SLIGHT LOSS OF AUTONOMY

Kuujjuaq, June 23rd, **2022** – Thanks to the collaboration between the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) and Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre (UTHC), a new regional living environment is in place to welcome Inuit users with a slight loss of autonomy.

This new resource located in Kuujjuaq, offers a structured living environment to Inuit users, while respecting their degree of autonomy. Four regular users will be assisted in their daily and domestic activities. Two other users will join them on an ad hoc basis, providing respite to caregivers that usually care for them. The first user was welcomed on June 7th. Two other people from the Ungava coast and another from the Hudson coast will move in shortly.

"Facilitating the needs of those who require such service, is an important part of who we are as a community and reflects positively in the way we address issues associated with quality care and attentiveness. Isurrivik is a much-needed facility that has been in the works for quite some time and everyone involved should be proud for the work they've accomplished", stated Shirley White-Dupuis, Chairperson of the NRBHSS.

"With the involvement of UTHC, this innovative initiative is set up to ensure quality of life for people with loss of autonomy. The well-being and development of the residents is of utmost importance to the Center and we are pleased to offer this new service to Inuit, right here in Kuujjuaq", expressed Larry Watt, Executive Director of the UTHC.

"The Isurrivik house is a living home that most closely resembles a natural environment. With its familial atmosphere, it combines consideration and safety. This new resource places Inuit culture and language at the heart of exchanges between residents, staff, families and friends. Beneficiaries will be able to be more active and more connected to the community while remaining in Nunavik", declared Gilles Cloutier, Director of Community Services of UTHC.

The grand opening of this living environment for Inuit users took place on June 16th, 2022 in the company of Minnie Grey, Executive Director of NRBHSS, and Jeannie May, Head of Programs, Tusaajiapik Elders' Home & Day Centre at UTHC.

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.

The Ungava Tulattavik Health Center (UTHC) provides safe, accessible, and quality health and social services to the seven Inuit communities of the Ungava Bay Coast, and rehabilitation services to the fourteen Inuit communities of Nunavik.

The health and social services programs are adapted to the population's needs and to the region's realities, in accordance with the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) and the Act respecting health services and social services.

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Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services and Ungava

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