



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOLLOW-UP REPORT OF THE *COMMISSION DES DROITS DE LA PERSONNE ET DES DROITS DE LA JEUNESSE (CDPDJ)* IN NUNAVIK

Kuujuaq, September 20, 2010 – The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) optimistically received the follow-up report of the *CDPDJ* (Human and youth rights commission), presented today in Kuujuaq. We are satisfied with the work of the network’s professionals since the start of the inquiry in 2007 and we appreciate that their efforts to improve the situation are being recognized, especially the 21 recommendations contained in the report.

After the conclusions of the inquiry, we recognize that work remains to be done to resolve social problems in Nunavik. The NRBHSS and its health institutions are continuing their efforts at consolidating and developing services for youths and their families to ensure the well-being of all *Nunavimmiut*.

To mention but a few factors, the housing shortage, food insecurity and precarious employment situation all contribute to social problems. We are aware that the situation of Nunavik children remains and will remain fragile as long as such social and economic factors are not resolved.

“To ensure success in the efforts of the health and social services network, the future, health and safety of Nunavik children must be the object of community mobilization,” emphasized Alasie Arngak, Chairperson of the NRBHSS board of directors.

Since June 2010, the end of the period covered by the report in question, the region has benefited from placement resources in Montréal for youths in difficulty. We expect these resources to be transferred to Nunavik in 2011, as the construction of two group homes for youths aged 6 to 12 years is under way. The construction of another group home is planned for the summer 2011 for youths aged 12 to 17 years. “The development of resources for social rehabilitation represents only a small part of the services we would like to set up under our strategic planning for the next seven years,” announced Jeannie May, Executive Director of the NRBHSS. These measures result from a draft agreement with the *ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux* announced on July 5, 2010, by the Premier of Québec.

- 30 -

Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

Information: Eric Duchesneau
Communication Officer
819-964-2222, extension 275

This press release is also posted on our Web site at: www.rrsss17.gouv.qc.ca.