



Effective as of 2020-08-20

## **NUNAVIK REGIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

### **Mineral Exploration and field studies in Nunavik**

The following guidelines are applicable to mineral exploration and field studies in Nunavik that meet the following criteria:

- Mineral exploration must be done on active pre-existing sites and/or be maintenance activities
- Environmental research/ field studies must be currently beneficial to region and receive official support from a Nunavik organization

#### **Guidelines**

- All personnel must be tested for COVID-19 less than 96 hours prior departure and have received negative results prior to entering into Nunavik;
- Transportation of personnel must be done through air charter(s);
- The local NV must be informed, should there be a need to stop at the local airport;
- Use of KRG operated terminals must be outside of any scheduled flights and coordination done to ensure public space of the terminal is empty (i.e., no Nunavik residents present).
- Mineral exploration workers/field workers and airport workers must wear medical masks and keep the 2 meters physical distancing on airport property at all times (on the apron, inside the terminal);
- All personnel are not to enter any populated areas nor come into contact with any Nunavik residents out on the land.
- Nearby communities (NV/LHC) should be informed of their presence on the land (in case of any medical emergency and/or to reduce risks of contact with Nunavimmiut on the land).

It should also be emphasized that all current public health guidelines must be respected and followed regardless if the mineral exploration activity/field work may only involve southern personnel without any Nunavik residents. This includes wearing eye protection and medical masks (face shield does not replace this) during the first 14 days in Nunavik as essential workers as per NRBHSS guidelines - during flight; in all indoor public spaces; when 2 meters physical distancing is not possible; and strictly residing at the camp after work hours (i.e., no grocery store visits).

Until the 14-day isolation period is completed for the entire group of workers living at the same camp, there shall be no mix between those who have completed their 14-day isolation (including Nunavik residents working for the camp coming from COVID-free communities) and those who have not. This means that every time a new worker added to a camp, the 14-day isolation will have to restart for everyone. The exception to restarting the isolation process is if both work duties and living facilities are kept separated with no contact between those who have completed their 14-day isolation and those



who have not. Therefore, Nunavik residents can directly join the group who has completed their isolation period.

### **Existing guidelines and operating procedures**

- NRBHSS: [COVID-19: Directive on Isolation Measures for Essential Workers Travelling to and within Nunavik](#)
- NRBHSS: medical questionnaire prior to boarding
- Quebec Government: Mandatory masks in indoor public spaces
- Transport Canada: [COVID-19: Guidance Material for Air Operators Managing Travelers during the Check-In Procedure for Flights Departing from an Aerodrome in Canada](#)
  - medical questionnaire prior to boarding
  - non-medical face coverings for air travelers
- Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec: [Interim Recommendations on Preventative Measures for the Mining Industry](#)
- Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec: [“Fly in Fly Out” Work](#)
- Cree Mineral Exploration Board: [Recommendations Concerning the Access to Eeyou Istchee Territory in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- Orford Mine: [Prevention Plan](#)

Where there is conflicting guidelines set out by the various organizations, the more stringent guideline should be followed to provide the greatest protection.

### **Process Checklist** (updated 2020-09-10)

- In case of a field research study, make sure your project has at least one regional organization's endorsement and/ or affiliation to it
- In case of a mineral exploration activity request, it must be an active pre-existing site and/or is for maintenance on an existing exploration site
- Make sure you have NV acknowledgement for your project (see appendix for template) and/or a KRG conformity letter ([landuse@krg.ca](mailto:landuse@krg.ca))
- Make sure you have the Transportation sub-committee acknowledgement providing the following: -NV acknowledgement(s), -Confirmation of a regional organization's endorsement/affiliation, -Work plan and mitigation measures ([transportation@krg.ca](mailto:transportation@krg.ca))
- Make sure you follow all Public health directives in this form
- Make sure you ask for travel authorization to enter Nunavik (contact [surveillance.vigie.nrbhss@sss.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:surveillance.vigie.nrbhss@sss.gouv.qc.ca) for detailed Public Health procedure)
- Make sure you have a flight authorization for charter flights (NOTAM)

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## Appendix



**NV Acknowledgement Template**

**DATE**

**Company Contact (person)**

**Company Name**

**Address**

**City**

**Province Postal Code**

**Subject:** Acknowledgement of Mineral exploration of field studies project information  
Project(s): **Project's Name**

Dear Sir or Madame:

We have received your request to carry out Mineral exploration or field studies in our community this summer. You were asked to submit the following information:

<b>Information</b>	<b>Received (yes or no)</b>
A brief description of the project	
Brief description of the accommodation for workers	
Schedule of project and histogram describing the number of workers	
COVID-19 prevention program	

you have submitted the required information

please submit missing required information

We thank you for your interest in our community's development.

**Signature**  
Secretary-treasurer