

NEWS RELEASE

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THE REGIONAL BOARD CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST SUICIDE

Kuujjuaq, October 30, 2018 – The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) highlights the importance of the problem of suicide in Nunavik and reiterates its commitment to pursuing efforts with its partners in order to improve the situation. For that purpose, it recognizes the value of cooperation and coordination and is thus mobilizing its resources to participate actively in the discussions to be held at the meeting organized by Kativik Ilisarniliriniq.

Consequently, it has tasked the members of the regional suicide-prevention committee (RSPC) to present the initiatives, activities and resources established to date, notably the Puttautiit annual conference, the training provided for more than 300 participants in suicide-intervention techniques (ASIST training) and the creation of positions for suicide-prevention liaison workers (SPLWs) for the region. The training on best practices in suicide prevention has also been provided for more than 100 interveners.

"What we are going through in Nunavik is not necessarily individual based. It's a collective societal problem that needs to be addressed collectively," pointed out Minnie Grey, Executive Director of the NRBHSS. Jointly with the RSPC, the regional board will present the objectives of the new 2019-2024 Nunavik suicide-prevention strategy. The mission of that strategy, which is currently under development, is to incite the commitment and cooperation of all regional organizations in the struggle against suicide.

Thus, the regional board once again wishes to highlight the importance of the participation and commitment of all partners of the RSPC. This meeting represents an occasion for all to reaffirm their commitment to the work undertaken by the committee and to provide their contribution.

The NRBHSS wishes to recall that psychosocial-support resources remain available in the three languages in use in Nunavik, i.e., Inuktitut, English and French.

Kamatsiaqtut Help Line: 1-800-265-3333 (Inuktitut, English)

Residential Schools Crisis Line: 1-866-925-4419 (Inuktitut, English, French) Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or by text at 686868 (English, French) First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line: 1-855-242-3310

Department of Inuit Values and Practices: 1-877-686-2845

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.

Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

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