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## QANUILIRPITAA? 2017 HEALTH SURVEY – RESULTS OF LABORATORY AND CLINICAL TESTS COMMUNICATED TO PARTICIPANTS

**Kuujjuaq, August 14, 2018** – Nunavimmiut who participated in the Qanuilirpitaa? 2017 Health Survey received by mail in the last days their personal results from laboratory and clinical tests carried out. This represents a first step in the process to communicate results of the health survey.

Laboratory and clinical tests were conducted on the more than 1,300 Nunavimmiut aged 16 years and older who voluntarily participated in the health survey between August 19 and October 5, 2017, in the 14 communities of Nunavik.

It was determined at the outset that all participants who consented would receive a copy of their personal results and would also have the information sent to their local health clinic for medical follow-up, if necessary. Where the results show abnormalities, participants are advised to discuss them with a health care professional during their next visit to their CLSC. These results provide an opportunity for participants of the health survey to learn more about steps that can be taken to improve their health.

The Department of Public Health would like to reassure participants that follow-up has already been conducted for all results requiring immediate attention, such as sexually transmitted infections, blood in the stools and severe anemia.

In the case of contaminants such as mercury, lead and cadmium, the Department of Public Health is working closely with the health centres to ensure appropriate follow-up on these results where they are above recommended limits.

For a better understanding of the Qanuilirpitaa? 2017 Health Survey, <u>visit the website of the Nunavik</u> Regional Board of Health and Social Services or follow us on the Qanuilirpitaa? Facebook page.

More information on the results of the Qanuilirpitaa? 2017 Health Survey will be released in the coming months. The data will be an important tool for improving health services and programs in Nunavik and propel Nunavimmiut on a new path of better understanding and awareness on what needs to be done to enhance the health and well-being of their communities.

The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services is a public agency created in 1978 under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. It is responsible for nearly the entire Québec 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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