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RÉGIE RÉGIONALE DE LA SANTÉ ET DES SERVICES SOCIAUX DU NUNAVIK
NUNAVIK REGIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

NEWS RELEASE

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NUNAVIK CANCER PROJECT: TOGETHER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Kuujjuaq, June 27, 2019 – Through collaboration and financial support from the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) is pleased to present the Nunavik Cancer Project.

The project aims to ensure that care and services are based on the patient and population needs. Plans to adopt a "patient-partner approach", recognize how adept the patients, families and caregivers' are in their situations and aim to involve them actively in decision-making. This priority also pertains to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) Call to Action #22, and is especially crucial in the context of Nunavik patients, as they face distinctive challenges related to culture and isolation (e.g. requirements to travel for cancer services).

Concerted efforts will be applied in the promotion, prevention and early detection of cancer, by ensuring involvement of all stakeholders in implementing the 2015-2020 Nunavik Cancer Strategy, along with the development of upcoming initiatives. Focus will be on the prevention, screening and early detection of cervical, breast, colorectal and lung cancers.

An integral part of the project is to ensure a collaborative and coordinated approach to improve Nunavik cancer patients' experiences and outcomes. It is crucial to consolidate the Nunavik cancer network by ensuring the participation and input of the various stakeholders/partners.

The first step is to conduct a consultation of the population in the 14 communities of Nunavik. The Nunavik Cancer Project team will visit all communities to gather perspectives of patients, family members, caregivers, community liaison workers, interpreters and community members about their needs and expectations towards cancer care/ end-of-life care.

The consultation and its organization will be directed by a steering committee composed of community members. The consultation tour is expected to start in October 2019. Exact dates and complementary information will be communicated as the project unfolds.

Nunavimmiut are invited to reach out to the team any time for questions, comments, testimonies, pictures or suggestions at nunavikcancerproject@ssss.gouv.qc.ca.

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.*

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Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

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