

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Smoke alert in Kangiqsualujuaq

Kuujuuaq, June 10, 2022 – A forest fire covering roughly 113 hectares (1 km²) is burning in Kuururjuaq National Park, approximately 10 km from the Qurlutuarjuq camps and 75 km east of the community of Kangiqsualujuaq. The risk of the fire spreading has been deemed minimal by the SOPFEU, which is monitoring the situation. The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) and the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) are also closely monitoring the situation.

As the winds today are blowing in the direction of the community of Kangiqsualujuaq, the community's residents may detect the odour of smoke. However, at present, there is little risk linked to the presence of the smoke cloud. The quantity of fine particles in the air is not considered hazardous to *Kangiqsualujjuamiut*.

Visiting Kuururjuaq Park, where the fire is burning, is to be avoided.

Some individuals are more vulnerable to the effects of smoke:

- young children;
- pregnant women;
- elderly persons;
- individuals with respiratory diseases such as asthma, emphysema and chronic bronchitis, or heart disease;
- individuals performing intense work or sports activities outdoors.

The possible effects of exposure to smoke are:

- eye irritation and tearing;
- nasal discharge and irritated sinuses;
- sore throat and mild cough;
- headache.

The following symptoms are less common but more serious:

- shortness of breath;
- wheezing (including asthma attacks);
- severe cough;
- dizziness;
- chest pain;
- heart palpitations.

If you or someone you know comes down with one of these more severe symptoms, consult your CLSC.

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 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

For information: Kathleen Poulin
Communication agent, NRBHSS
Media.nrbhss@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

