



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NUNAVIK HEALTH PROFILE: DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

LAUNCH OF THE FIRST MODULE

Kuujuuaq, December 12, 2012 – The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) is pleased to announce the publication of the first module of the *2012 Nunavik Health Profile*, which deals with demographic and socioeconomic conditions. This report was produced jointly with the *Études et analyses de l'état de santé de la population (ÉAÉSP)* [Public-health studies unit] of the *Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ)* [Québec public-health institute].

The objective of the Nunavik health profile is to inform local decision-makers, workers of the health and social services network and the general public about the population's health and to support decision making in view of improving the state of health and the well-being of *Nunavimmiut*.

“This module, which covers demographic and socioeconomic conditions, presents several factors whose decisional levers lie outside the field of health but which have considerable effects on the state of health of *Nunavimmiut*,” explained Dr. Serge Déry, Nunavik Director of Public Health.

It deals with the region's demographic conditions, such as population and fecundity, and socioeconomic conditions: family, education, employment, income and food security. The module highlights the differences between the Nunavik region and the province of Québec. It also compares the Nunavik population to those of the other regions of Inuit Nunangat.

The study of the population's characteristics enabled us to identify certain challenges we need to overcome to ensure better response to the health and well-being needs of *Nunavimmiut*. The Nunavik population has seen strong demographic growth over the past few years, and that growth is being sustained. Thus, the current supply of housing in the region does not suffice, given the population growth and the needs of new families. Nunavik needs to obtain the necessary support from provincial and federal authorities in order to be able to offer adequate housing in sufficient quantities.

Further, education and employment are now major issues in regional development. In effect, youths aged 15 to 24 years are presently seeking employment, and their numbers will only rise, which will place even greater pressure on the job market. It is important to offer stimulating training that will lead to interesting jobs in the region. The efforts deployed these past few years to stimulate employment and provide training in various trades must continue.

To learn more about Nunavik's health profile, consult this first module on the NRBHSS Web site by clicking [here](#) and on the *INSPQ* Web site at www.inspq.qc.ca.

*The NRBHSS 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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This communiqué is also posted on our Web site at www.rrsss17.gouv.qc.ca.