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PUTTAUTIIT CONFERENCE 2018 GENERATIONS STANDING TOGETHER

Kuujuaq, October 23, 2018 – The Northern Village of Kangiqsujuaq is pleased to welcome the 4th edition of Puttautiit, Nunavik’s suicide prevention, healing and grieving conference. The opening ceremony took place on the evening of October 21st. A moment of silence and the lighting of a qullik was followed by a musical performance from Twin Flames and intergenerational speeches. With ninety delegates registered from across Nunavik, Puttautiit is growing each year as people join the regional effort to prevent suicide and help those affected by it.

Puttautiit’s theme this year is “Generations Standing Together”. The week will allow participants the opportunity to grieve for various traumatic events that may take place throughout life, in a safe, organized and insightful environment. The gathering will also offer the possibility to begin one’s journey to healing and teach skills to cope with devastation and the often, hidden effects of trauma. Participants will have the opportunity to empower themselves and in turn increase their potential to help others. Many activities will be offered in the evenings to both participants and the community.

The creation of this conference, inspired by the Dialogue for Life Conference in Montreal, was recommended through the Ilusiliriniqmi Pigutjjutini Qimirruiq (IPQ) process to raise awareness about suicide and provide opportunities to gather, share and receive support and training. The Puttautiit Conference is an annual event in Nunavik, held in a different community each year, mobilizing communities to address the complex issue of suicide and places Inuit expertise at the center of the planning process and facilitation.

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.

Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

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