

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS MARCH 11, 2020 | SALLUIT

In the youth sector, graduation ceremonies will take place in the fall, as per a decision made by the school board in November 2019. This will allow time for the Quebec Ministry of Education Schools to validate the student's grades and issue their Secondary School Diploma.

Commissioners, Education Committee Presidents and school administrators were informed about this decision in a letter from the Director General, dated November 27, 2019. The school board would like to avoid cases where the graduation of a student celebrated locally is not confirmed by the Ministry of Education. Such cases have occurred in the past.

For students aiming to complete their SSD, the school board is also currently looking at options that would allow them to access summer courses and take the ministerial exams in the region between June and August, as well as during the school year (December and January).

Graduation ceremonies held in the fall would have the added benefit to include students that have completed all SSD requirements over the summer.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved school calendars for the 2020-2021 school year. The school year will start on August 10, 2020 and end on May 28, 2021.

The school calendars feature a total of 180 days of school. Condensed days allow for a shorter school year in comparison to the rest of the province.

Members of the Executive Committee who participated in the Ilagiigatsianiq 2020 Summit from February 25 to 28 in Salluit expressed their disappointment with the lack of participation of Education Committee representatives from many communities. They stressed the importance of such gatherings, which are used by Kativik Ilisarniliriniq as a consultation forum to guide policy development.

The Ilagiigatsianiq 2020 Summit was organized on the occasion of the Education Committees biennial meeting.

The meeting provided participants to hear about how the Nunavik education system was developed over the last 40 years, since the creation of the school board. Participants heard post-secondary graduates and current share their thoughts about education and the importance of getting the right type of support along the way.

Education Services presented the wellness curriculum currently under development, and the Post-Secondary Student Services department spoke about the wellness support services offered to students studying outside Nunavik. The Adult Education department provide dan overview of programs currently offered in Nunavik, leading to various types of certifications including at the college level.

Education committees' members participated in the Blanket Exercise, a participatory history lesson developed in collaboration with Indigenous elders, that fosters truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-indigenous

peoples. This was followed by a sharing circle in the afternoon. This one-day workshop was facilitated by Olivia Ikey.

The Commissioners were briefed by the Director General on the Nunavik Suicide prevention strategy, developed by the Regional Suicide Prevention Committee. This strategy will serve as a basis for suicide prevention approaches and tools that will be put in place in Nunavik schools, in close collaboration with the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services.

Kativik Ilisarniliriniq was represented on the Regional Suicide Prevention Committee by the Adult Education and Vocational Training department and Compassionate and Complementary Services department.

In the context of event cancellation announcements due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council of Commissioners asked that the school board issue a statement indicating that Kativik Ilisarniliriniq remained attentive to new developments and would follow guidelines to be received by the Quebec Ministry of Education.

On Friday March 13, the Quebec government announce the closure of schools across the province, in efforts to stop COVID-19 from spreading.

The Kativik Ilisarniliriniq Director General announced the closure of all Nunavik schools and adult education centres on March 13, 2020.