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For Immediate Release

December 3, 2020

Summary of KivIA COVID-19 mitigation and response initiatives, past activities and upcoming new initiatives.

The Kivalliq Inuit Association has been working extremely hard to put together initiatives and continue to develop further initiatives that will help Kivallirmiut cope with COVID-19.

Many conference calls with the KivIA COVID-19 planning group were held where they discussed the distribution of funding and the launching of new initiatives which are forthcoming to ensure Kivallirmiut receive the support they need to combat this pandemic. The past initiatives led by the Kivalliq Inuit Association included…

A) In the spring of 2020 the programs included the following…

- **Traditional Activities Support Fund -** A one-time financial contribution to applicants to support traditional activities which include: on the land activities, harvesting activities, and arts & crafts.

- **Inuit Elders Support Fund** – KivIA provided Kivallirmiut aged 60 years and older living in the Kivalliq with financial support of $500 per month between April through June to purchase local groceries and cleaning supplies as their needs determine.

- **Community Essentials Aid Fund** – Each Kivalliq Municipality received financial contribution to support the operations of local radio stations, and providing snow removal on outlying community access roads. Additional funding will support community specific efforts for the purchase and distribution of food and cleaning supplies

- **Community Directors Discretionary Fund –** KivIA provided each Kivalliq community directors in all 7 Kivalliq communities with a discretionary fund of $5,000 each month between April and June.

- **Contingency Fund –** An unallocated fund was set aside to address any unanticipated needs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds were unallocated and were to be used at the discretion of the KivIA Board.

B) In November of 2020, with the unspent balances of the above noted programs, the KivIA worked in conjunction with agencies such as the GN, NTI and AEM to provide the hamlets the funding required to provide food hampers to their respective communities to which the benefits to are being currently experienced by the households in the Kivalliq Region.

C) The KivIA also utilized the Directors Discretionary funds to provide funding to the local HTO's to help with country food programs for all Kivalliq communities. Such funding agreements allowed the HTO's to source country food and have them delivered to the communities.

With additional funding received from the Indigenous Community Support Fund, there are new initiatives that the KivIA Covid-19 planning group have recently been working hard towards and are in the final stages of planning,

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the details of which are about to be presented to the board for final decision and approval. These details of this new initiative are to be released in the coming days.

In addition to the new initiative mentioned above, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, with support from the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, will provide specialized further assistance to the communities in the Kivalliq Region which have been directly hit by Covid-19. This initiative will be used to help with Food Security and on the land/social distancing programs. Additional programs related to food security will also be made available to the rest of the Kivalliq Communities not yet directly hit with Covid-19.

The Kivalliq Inuit Association is a "Designated Inuit Organization" (DIO), which represents the interests of all Inuit living in the Kivalliq Region, acts as a lobbying group, administers and monitors certain provisions of the Nunavut Final Agreement in the Kivalliq Region. The KivIA mission is to represent, in a fair and democratic manner, Inuit of the Kivalliq Region in the development, protection, administration and advancement of their rights and benefits as an aboriginal people; as well as to promote their economic, social, political and cultural well-being through succeeding generations.

More details about these initiatives can be found on our website kivalliqinuit.ca/documents or by emailing us at: info@kivalliqinuit.ca