Tasiurtigiit Newsletter

Fall 2026

ACTIVITIES ON THE HUDSON COAST

Summer Camps: A Look Back

The summer camps took place in the villages of Salluit, Puvirnituq, Inukjuak, Umiujaq and Kuujjuaraapik, **between June 29 and August 7**! The camps were intended for children aged 4 to 5 who will soon be starting kindergarten.

Participating children had the opportunity to take part in a variety of **activities that support their overall development, including on-the-land scavenger hunts, traditional feasts, music activities and learning opportunities through stories shared by Elders.**

The camps received positive feedback from both children and their parents. Parents particularly noted that their children came home very excited to share what they had experienced during the day.

The camps ended with a ceremony during which the children received a certificate of participation, leftover food to share with their families and many wonderful memories.

Congratulations to the entire **Early Childhood team,** who worked very hard to make these camps a great success! We would also like to thank our funder, **ESUMA**, which made it possible to hold summer camps in five villages this year!



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ACTIVITIES ON THE HUDSON COAST

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Prevention Day

International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Prevention Day took place on **Tuesday, September 9**. For the first time this year, the Early Childhood team at the Inuulitsivik Health Centre organized a **community gathering in all seven villages along the Hudson Coast!**

These gatherings aimed to **raise awareness and encourage reflection** on the risks associated with alcohol consumption during pregnancy, as well as our collective role in supporting safe and healthy pregnancies. Thanks to everyone's incredible mobilization, the event was a great success across all our communities, despite the bad weather!



Toolkits were developed in collaboration with the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services. They include promotional materials, a sample schedule for the day, a sample radio message and several ready-to-use tools to facilitate the organization of community gatherings.

This initiative is the result of strong solidarity and interorganizational collaboration. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our valued partners: **Nunalituqait Ikajuqatigiittit Inuit Association (NI), Nunavimmi Ilagiit Papatauvinga, the various teams of the Direction of Community services, the NRBHSS Addiction Services, Ullivik and the Centre of Excellence for Women.**

ACTIVITIES ON THE UNGAVA COAST

Ready for School Activities





This summer, the Tasiurtigiit team held its **Ready for School** activities in four communities along the Ungava Coast: **Kuujjuaq, Kangirsuk, Kangiqsujuaq and Kangiqsualujjuaq.**

These groups aim to **support children who will soon be starting kindergarten** by providing opportunities to develop and practise various skills that will be useful in their new school environment.

A strong emphasis is placed on **fine motor development and preschool skills.** Through play and various creative activities, children practise handling small objects, cutting, gluing, drawing, using pencils and taking part in activities that develop hand and finger coordination.

The activities also help children become familiar with aspects of kindergarten, such as participating in group activities, following routines and instructions, waiting their turn, communicating their needs and developing their independence.

The Ready for School groups are based first and foremost on **teamwork**. Professionals, specialized educators and Turaartaviit work together to offer activities adapted to children's needs and to the realities of each community. The collaboration of local partners is also essential to the success of these activities. We would therefore like to warmly thank the various collaborators in the four communities who contributed, directly or indirectly, to their organization and implementation.



TOWARDS A NUNAVIMMIUT VERSION OF THE AGES AND STAGES QUESTIONNAIRE

A major step in the cultural adaptation of the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-4) project will take place this fall. **Between late October and early November**, **working groups** made up primarily of Turaartaviit from Tasiurtigiit teams, as well as Elders, early childhood workers and other community members, **will be held in Kuujjuaq, Kangiqsualujjuaq, Kuujjuaraapik and Puvirnituq.**

Each group will include approximately ten participants. They will **review the ASQ-4 questions to** determine whether they **adequately reflect the realities,** experiences and developmental expectations **of Nunavimmiut children**. An interpreter will be present to facilitate discussions in Inuktitut throughout the process. The final version of the tool will be available in English and Inuktitut.

ASQ

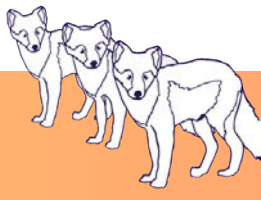
AGES AND STAGES QUESTIONNAIRE



Led in partnership by **UQTR, the NRBHSS, the UTHC and the IHC,** with support from the MSSS, this project is the result of several years of reflection aimed at developing a culturally safe approach that responds to the needs identified by Tasiurtigiit teams.

Because the **ASQ is a tool used to support the observation of young children's development**, adapting it to the Nunavik context represents an important step toward greater equity.

Culturally relevant questions will allow for more accurate observations of children's development, better identification of their needs and, ultimately, services that are better adapted to children and their families.



ACS– FALL 2026 TOUR UNDERWAY

Attestation of College Studies (ACS) in Specialized Education for Turaartaviit: Fall 2026 Tour Underway

The qualifying training leading to an **Attestation of College Studies (AEC) in Specialized Education** continues to roll out among **Turaartaviit** in the Tasiurtigiit program. Offered in partnership with Cégep de Saint-Félicien and adapted to the realities of Nunavik, this training aims to support the development of skills among workers who support children aged 0 to 12 with special needs, as well as their families.

The fall 2026 tour will take place in four communities: **Umiujaq, Kuujjuarapik, Inukjuak and Kuujjuaq.** A total of seven participants will continue their studies through the regular program, while four others will take part in a **Recognition of Acquired Competencies (RAC) process.**

This training remains an important way to strengthen local expertise and support access to quality services for Nunavimmiut children experiencing developmental challenges.

By **promoting learning directly in workplaces and communities**, it contributes to developing lasting skills rooted in the realities of Nunavik.



A particularly anticipated milestone this year: we are looking forward to the **graduation** of three, and possibly even four, Turaartaviit.

We wish them every success as they complete this final stage of their journey!

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WHAT IS TASIURTIGIIT ?

Tasiurtigiit is an adaptation of the Agir tôt program for Nunavik. The program promotes access to a continuum of services adapted to the needs of children from birth to age 6. It also aims to identify signs of challenges in children's development as early as possible to direct them and their families to the right services as soon as possible

INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH CHILDREN?

Some Turaartaviit positions are currently available, and more will be opening soon.

For more information, contact:

- **Hudson**: recrutement.csi@ssss.gouv.qc.ca or
- (819) 988-2130
- **Ungava:** agirtot.cstu@ssss.gouv.qc.ca or (819) 964-2905 #445 / #228



HOW TO REFER A CHILD TO THE PROGRAM

NOTE: The consent of a child's parent/guardian is required.

On the Hudson Coast

- Referrals are made by sending a completed Agir tôt form to agirtot.csi@ssss.gouv.qc.ca. This form is available on the Inuulitsivik Health Centre's intranet (Direction des services professionnels / Agir Tôt tab) and can be obtained through a CLSC/Nursing Station or the local Early Childhood Home (Ilagiilluta).

On the Ungava Coast

- Partner referrals are made by sending a completed CLSC/ Nursing Station referral form to clsc.intake@ssss.gouv.qc.ca. This form can be obtained through CLSC/Nursing Stations. Families are encouraged to contact us by email with their questions (agirtot.cstu@ssss.gouv.qc.ca).

