



## PRESS RELEASE

### Ivakkak 2010 to take place on the Ungava Coast

**January 27, 2010, Montreal Quebec-** This year's Ivakkak dog team race will be departing from Quaqtaq on March 22, making its way down the Ungava Coast to the finish line in Kuujjuaq, a week or so later depending on weather.

After a year off in 2008, the race has once again become an annual event since last year, by popular request.

Preparations are well under way for this 9<sup>th</sup> edition, which promises to celebrate big at the end of the race in Kuujjuaq, as Ivakkak 2010 will be commemorating the event's 10 years of existence.

Nunavik's annual dog team race was first hosted by the Makivik Corporation in 2001 to encourage Nunavimmiut to carry on with the practice of dogsledding, a tradition that was almost wiped out with the methodical slaughter of Inuit husky dogs that took place in Canada's north in the 1950s and 1960s. To this end, only Inuit are eligible to participate in the race, which represents a difficult yet fabulous journey in the footsteps of their ancestors, in harmony with that ancient way of life.

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