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## Tragedy 1999

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### Nine killed in Kangiqsualujjuaq avalanche

A deadly avalanche swept through the village in the early morning hours of Friday and it has left at least nine people dead.

About 500 hundred people were packed into the town's gymnasium celebrating New Year's Eve, when the avalanche hit. The avalanche smashed down one of the walls, leaving one to three metres of snow in the gymnasium. Most people were able to get out by themselves. But still the avalanche caused too many deaths and injuries. About 25 people were injured, fifteen of them will be transported to hospitals in Montreal and Quebec City for treatment. Some of the injured are reported to be in serious condition. The village has two nurses and one doctor. Some of the residents have medical training, but more qualified personnel are needed..

A small plane with supplies and medical personnel landed late Friday and two other aircraft carrying rescuers and search dogs are on their way, but a blizzard has made getting other aid into the community difficult.

Kangiksualujjuaq is an Inuit village of about 700 inhabitants. roughly 1,500 kilometres north of Montreal. The town was once called George River.

To learn more about Kangiksualujjuaq, please visite this site:  
<http://www3.sympatico.ca/satuumavik>

If you wish to send a message to the people of Kangiqsualujjuaq, please [click here](#)

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