

## Statement

## Influenza cases confirmed in Nunavut

January 15, 2014 Iqaluit, NU

Honourable Monica Ell, Minister of Health, released the following statement:

"The first cases of Influenza have been confirmed for Nunavut. The Department of Health has issued recent Public Service Announcements encouraging Nunavummiut to get their flu shot.

Our government officials have advised Nunavummiut of the importance for everyone, young and old, to get immunized. You not only protect yourself but you are also protecting others. It is important to get your flu shot now as it takes two weeks for our bodies to develop the proper defence.

I urge everyone who has yet to be vaccinated to go to their community health centre. The flu shot is safe and is the best way to prevent against influenza. Our Chief Medical Officer of Health is announcing a broader eligibility for Nunavummiut to receive the FluMist vaccine until January 20, 2014.

FluMist vaccine is sprayed in the nose.

Together, we keep Nunavut communities healthy."

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Media Contact: Ron Wassink Communications Specialist Department of Health 867-975-5710 rwassink@gov.nu.ca

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