

Public Health Advisory

Iqaluit dump fire air quality testing update

Start Date: July 4, 2014

End Date: July 10, 2014

Iqaluit, NU

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Since June 14, 2014, Iqaluit's air quality has been monitored to evaluate the effects of the dump fire throughout the city.

The air quality data that has been analyzed is from air monitoring stations located at the four corners intersection and the FOL (army base). To date, 24-hour average air pollution concentrations have been low, and are below established health standards.

There are occasional spikes in pollutant levels that are relatively short. These could have an impact on vulnerable people, such as those with heart or lung disease. These people, along with the elderly, young children and pregnant women, should stay indoors when smoke is blowing in their direction. People should seek medical attention if they have symptoms such as trouble breathing or tightness in the chest.

More data is being collected. Results from monitoring sites in Apex, Tundra Valley, the four corners, the Nunavut Research Institute and the FOL are expected soon. Further updates will be provided as new information comes in. Testing will continue until the dump fire is extinguished.

The Government of Nunavut is working closely with the City of Iqaluit, Environment Canada and Health Canada to monitor the dump fire, air quality and assist the City to develop a course of action.

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