

News Release

For Immediate Release

COVID-19 confirmed case in Iqaluit

Iqaluit, Nunavut (April 14, 2021) – Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer, has confirmed a positive case of COVID-19 in Iqaluit.

“The individual is currently isolating and is doing well. We have initiated immediate contact tracing within the community and are working to identify all potential high-risk contacts quickly,” said Dr. Patterson. “We ask residents of Iqaluit to stay home as much as possible and limit contact with other community members, including family members living in different households”.

Effective 7 a.m. Thursday April 15, in Iqaluit, all non-essential businesses and government offices must close. Indoor gatherings are restricted to a household plus five for emergencies only, and outdoor gatherings are limited to five people. All indoor public gatherings are prohibited. All schools in Iqaluit will be closed for the remainder of this week. Masks are mandatory in Iqaluit.

Travelers who have departed Iqaluit on or after April 13 must immediately isolate in their home community upon arrival for 14 days. Non-essential travel is highly discouraged.

In all other Baffin communities and Rankin Inlet, businesses may remain open but must implement strict social distancing. In those communities, indoor gatherings are restricted to a household plus 15 people, and outdoor gatherings are restricted to 100 people. Indoor public gatherings are restricted to 50 people or 50 per cent capacity, whichever is less. All schools will move to Stage 2.

“I ask all Iqalummiut to remain calm and maintain strict adherence to the public health measures in place,” said Premier Joe Savikataaq. “I am thankful that Nunavut’s vaccine rollout is well underway. More than 3400 Iqalummiut have had their first Moderna vaccine and over 2000 have received both doses. Now is the time to stay home as much as possible and do our part to slow any potential spread. Stay safe.”

Anyone who has reason to believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 is advised to call the COVID-hotline at 1-888-975-8601 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. EST, or notify

their community health centre right away, and immediately isolate at home for 14 days.
Please do not go to the health centre in person.

An update will be provided at a press conference at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

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