

News Release

For Immediate Release

Two COVID-19 confirmed cases in Kinngait

Iqaluit, Nunavut (April 19, 2021) – Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut's Chief Public Health Officer, has today confirmed two positive cases of COVID-19 in Kinngait. The cases are not linked to the outbreak in Iqaluit. Nunavut now has a total of 30 active cases of COVID-19.

“We have initiated contact tracing in the community and can report that both individuals are isolating at home and doing well,” said Dr. Patterson. “To contain any potential spread within the community, it’s crucial that residents of Kinngait do their part and follow the updated public health measures. Please be vigilant in staying home.”

Effective 12:01 a.m. Tuesday April 20, all travel to and from Kinngait is restricted, except for cargo and emergency travel. This includes all travel by land. Nunavummiut are reminded that all non-essential travel continues to be highly discouraged.

Within Kinngait, all non-essential services and government offices must close. Indoor gatherings are limited to a household plus five, for emergency purposes only, and outdoor gatherings are limited to five people. All indoor public gatherings are prohibited. Schools move to Stage 4, and daycares must close.

In all other Qikiqtaaluk communities, indoor gatherings are restricted to a household plus a maximum of five, from one other household. Indoor gatherings in halls, conference spaces, government offices, Inuit organizations and hamlets are limited to 25 people or 50 per cent of the rated capacity, whichever is less. Outdoor gatherings are limited to 25 people. Schools will move to Stage 3, and daycares may remain open.

Masks are now mandatory in all public places in all Qikiqtaaluk communities and Rankin Inlet. All other public health measures in Rankin Inlet remain the same.

"It is critical that anyone who has travelled from Iqaluit after April 7 isolates immediately. As we continue with contact tracing, we cannot take chances or unnecessary risks," said Premier Joe Savikataaq. "If you are in a public space, you must wear a mask and maintain strong physical distance. Stay home as much as possible and ensure only one

