

News Release

For Immediate Release

COVID-19 positive wastewater in Rankin Inlet

Rankin Inlet, Nunavut (August 27, 2021) – Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Office is reporting the first positive COVID-19 wastewater signals in Rankin Inlet.

“Currently, there are no confirmed cases of active COVID-19 in Rankin Inlet,” said Dr. Rosann Seviour, Nunavut’s Acting Chief Public Health Officer. “The unexpected signals could mean people with COVID-19 are in the community or recently travelled through Rankin Inlet and are unaware of the infection.”

The signals were identified in samples collected on August 17, 18 and 19. Wastewater samples are sent to the National Microbiology Lab in Winnipeg for testing and results can take up to 10 days to be reported. The Department of Health is monitoring the situation and has increased testing frequency in response.

To help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the community, the Department of Health asks that all Rankin Inlet residents:

- if sick, stay home and call the COVID-19 hotline at 1-888-975-8601 to schedule testing;
- wear a mask in all indoor public places;
- strictly follow current public health measures for in-home gatherings, limiting visitors to the household plus 15 people.

All Nunavummiut are reminded that if you have symptoms, get tested and follow public health advice – wear a mask, practise physical distancing and wash your hands.

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself, your family and your community. The vaccine is safe and effective and available to all Nunavummiut aged 12 and older. Call your health centre to book an appointment.

###

Media Contact:

Chris Puglia
Acting Manager of Communications
Department of Health
867-975-5949
cpuglia@gov.nu.ca

ᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇᓐᓇ ᐅᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇᓐᓇ ᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇᓐᓇ ᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇᓐᓇ, ᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇᓐᓇ, ᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇᓐᓇ ᐅᐱᓐᓇᓐᓇ ᐅᐱᓐᓇ, www.gov.nu.ca.
News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on www.gov.nu.ca.
Tuhagtaghat ittut Inuktitut, Qablunaatitut, Inuinnaqtun Uiviititullu talvani www.gov.nu.ca.
Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français au www.gov.nu.ca.