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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

Public Health Advisory

Second fox tests positive for rabies in Iqaluit

December 2, 2021
Iqaluit, Nunavut

The Department of Health would like to notify residents of Iqaluit that a second fox has tested positive for rabies. This fox had been in contact with at least two sled dogs in the community. The dogs were immediately isolated and are being monitored for rabies**.**

The significant number of fox sightings in the city has greatly increased the risk of exposure to rabies. Due to the danger of rabies, we advise all residents to be on the lookout for foxes and to always keep their distance from unfamiliar dogs.

If you have been bitten or scratched by a fox or a dog, go to the hospital and report the incident **immediately**. Treatment must be started quickly after exposure, as rabies infections is almost always fatal.

Domestic animals that spend the majority of time tied up outdoors should be monitored for a change in behaviour and signs of rabies.

Signs of rabies include behaving strangely, staggering, frothing at the mouth, choking or making strange noises. Animals exhibiting these signs should be avoided and reported to the Regional Environmental Health Office or Conservations Officer.

If you see a fox or wolf wandering around the community, or if your dog had contact with a fox or wolf, **call the Regional Environmental Health Officer** at 867-975-1163 or **Conservation Officer** at 867-975-7780.

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