

News Release

For Immediate Release

Two new cases of COVID-19 in Arviat

Iqaluit, Nunavut (February 4, 2021) – Today, Nunavut has two new cases of COVID-19. There are now 14 active cases in the territory, all in Arviat.

"While we are on a good path to contain and manage these cases, it is critical that Arviammiut remain committed to the public health measures and stay home as much as possible," said Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut's Chief Public Health Officer. "I am thankful to everyone in the community who continues to work tirelessly to do their part."

All individuals are doing well and are isolating. Contact tracing is ongoing, and work is underway to determine how the cases are linked.

Nunavut's Rapid Response Team continues to support the community health team. Anyone who has travelled to and from Arviat since January 12 are asked to limit their contacts and self-monitor for symptoms. They are also asked to contact their local health centre or Iqaluit public health, if in the city, to help with contact tracing and monitoring. Travel in and out of Arviat remains restricted, unless for emergency or essential purposes.

Vaccine clinics for the second dose will take place in Arviat February 10-13. Arviammiut who missed the first clinic and want to receive the vaccine can call the local health centre for an appointment. Priority will be given to second dose appointments.

Additionally, Nunavut's Minister of Health Lorne Kusugak has extended the territory's public health emergency until February 18, 2021.

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.

For all the latest information, including the numbers of recovered and active cases per community, go to: <u>https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus</u>.

For the latest information on current public health restrictions, go to: <u>https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/nunavuts-path</u>.

For the latest information on Nunavut's COVID-19 vaccination plans, go to: <u>https://gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-vaccination</u>.

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