

News Release

For Immediate Release

Six new cases of COVID-19 in Arviat

Iqaluit, Nunavut (February 18, 2021) – Today, Nunavut has six new cases of COVID-19. There are 27 active cases in the territory, all in Arviat.

“I understand how hard the last few months have been for Arviarmiut and I know the rise in cases recently has been disheartening,” said Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer. “I also know that if we continue to work hard, pay strict attention to the public health measures and stay home, we can stop the spread of COVID-19. Nunavummiut, if you have the opportunity to be vaccinated and have not yet, please make an appointment at your local health centre. This is our best defense right now.”

All individuals are doing well, are isolating at home and contact tracing is ongoing. As of February 18, Arviat testing has yielded 2124 negative tests. Nunavut's Rapid Response Team continues to support the community health team. Travel in and out of Arviat remains restricted, unless for emergency or essential purposes.

Arviammiut who want to receive the COVID-19 vaccine can call their health centre for an appointment. To date, 6850 Nunavummiut have received at least one dose of the Moderna vaccine. Vaccine clinics in the territory are ongoing.

Additionally, Nunavut's Minister of Health Lorne Kusugak has extended the territory's public health emergency until March 4, 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: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>.

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

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

###

Media Contact:

Cate Macleod
Press Secretary to Premier Savikataaq
867-975-5059
cmacleod@gov.nu.ca

Danarae Sommerville
Communications Specialist
Department of Health
867-975-5712
dsommerville1@gov.nu.ca

News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on www.gov.nu.ca.
Tuhagtaghat ittut Inuktitut, Qablunaatitut, Inuinnaqtun Uiviitillu 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.