

# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

# Government of Nunavut declares State of Emergency - Iqaluit

**Iqaluit, Nunavut (October 14, 2021)** – Government of Nunavut’s (GN) Minister of Community and Government Services (CGS) the Honourable Jeannie Ehloak, today declared a State of Emergency under Nunavut’s Emergency Management Act effective immediately in Iqaluit.

“I want to assure the people of Nunavut, especially those in Iqaluit that we are taking this water issue very seriously”, said Minister Ehloak. We have been in constant communications with the City of Iqaluit, the Department of Health and the federal government and we are working together to ensure Iqalungmiut have ongoing access to safe drinking water.”

This decision does not indicate a significant change in circumstances or an increased risk to the people of Iqaluit. The need to declare a state of emergency at this time is to expedite the processes required to deploy necessary resources to support ongoing efforts for the protection of public health and infrastructure in the City of Iqaluit.

This step will enable the GN to ensure the necessary supports are available to the City of Iqaluit and its residents. This will also give the GN additional authority to control and assign assets of GN departments and public agencies under the *Emergency Management Act*.

At this time, all residents of Iqaluit are urged to follow these orders and all other public health direction and advice from the Chief Public Health Officer.

The state of emergency will be in effect for 14 days, from October 14- 27, 2021. This order does not affect the ongoing Public Health Emergency declared to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

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