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News Release

For Immediate Release

Confirmed case of COVID-19 in Iqaluit

Iqaluit, Nunavut (September 13, 2021) – Dr. Michael Patterson Nunavut's Chief Public Health Officer, has confirmed a positive case of COVID-19 in Iqaluit.

"The new case was identified on September 12 in Iqaluit," said Dr. Patterson. "The individual travelled to Iqaluit on Friday, September 10 and was tested Sunday after developing symptoms."

In accordance with the rules, the individual has been isolating since returning to Iqaluit. Contact tracing is ongoing and at this time the risk to the community is considered low. As 97 per cent of Iqalummiut over 12 years of age are fully vaccinated, there will be no changes to public health measures at this time. As a reminder, masks in public spaces continue to be strongly recommended.

The Department of Health is also advising of possible exposure to COVID-19 relating to this new positive case on Canadian North flight 5T-101, departing from Ottawa on September 10 at 1 p.m. Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated individuals who were seated in rows 10 to 16 should call the hotline at 1-888-975-8601 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. EDT to arrange for testing. Vaccinated individuals may also call for testing if they choose. Everyone on the flight should monitor for symptoms for 14 days (until September 24) and anyone who develops symptoms must isolate immediately and call the hotline for testing.

Vaccine continues to be available across the territory. Call your health centre to make an appointment or walk into Iqaluit Public Health every weekday for Moderna (ages 18+) and Wednesday for Pfizer (ages 12 to 17). Vaccines are the best way to protect yourself, your family and your community.

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Media Contact:

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

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