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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

COVID-19 GN Update

April 7, 2022

Minister of Health update:

Good morning,

Ending the Public Health Emergency on Covid-19 is an important milestone. I know that many Nunavummiut have looked forward to a time when it would be safe to discontinue the public health restrictions.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 is still present across Nunavut. Thanks to vaccines, we have better protection than ever, but there are still significant health risks from Covid-19 infection. So as restrictions come to an end, it will still be important to remain careful and cautious in the months ahead.

Looking at the past two plus years of the Covid pandemic, we've learned a lot about the virus. We now know how it spreads, how it affects people's health, and how to keep each other safe. We need to remember these lessons so that we continue to protect each other from Covid-19.

We know that masks work. ventilation (fresh air) also helps prevent spread. Vaccines protect against severe effects, but age, smoking, and other health conditions still increase the harms. Please get fully vaccinated and get boosted if you haven't already. Finally – on keeping each other safe – Isolation works. Please remember to self-monitor for Covid symptoms and stay home if you're sick.

Isolation supports will continue to be available. Rapid tests will be too. Health's Covid hotline will also continue to offer advice and support.

There are risks on our path ahead. But if we keep our lessons in mind, I'm confident that Nunavummiut will continue to stay safe and stay strong against Covid 19.

Finally, Matna/Qujannamiik/Koana to our Nunavut health staff, contractors and supporting staff from other GN Departments, Municipalities and Inuit Organizations - who have together been incredible in their collective effort to deliver essential services for Covid19 response and risk prevention. Matna, Thanks.

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:
https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus; https://www.gov.nu.ca

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Minister of Human Resources update:

With COVID-19 public health measures scheduled to end Monday, April 11, the Department of Human Resources is updating its workplace health guidelines for Government of Nunavut (GN) workplaces.

While the public will no longer be required to take the same precautions against COVID as of April 11, the GN has a responsibility as an employer to protect the health and safety of its employees.

Given this, our workplaces and employees will continue to take certain precautions against transmission of the virus while removing other requirements. The guidelines recently provided by Human Resources will be updated where required and provided to all departments.

As of April 11, GN workplaces will continue the following exposure control practices:

- Workplaces will complete site-specific risk assessments to ensure that appropriate controls are in place.
- Employees will complete a personal risk assessment to verify that COVID-related risks specific to their jobs have been addressed.
- Employees will wear masks in common indoor areas. Masks will continue to be provided.

As of April 11, the following practices will be discontinued:

- Employees will no longer be required to complete a daily symptom self-assessment.
- Sign-in/sign-out protocols that were implemented to facilitate contact tracing will no longer be required.

I encourage all employees to follow the established guidelines to keep our workplaces safe. As the largest employer in Nunavut, taking these precautions will help keep our communities healthy as we transition out of the public health emergency.

Chief Public Health Officer Update:

Good morning,

As the Minister announced, the Public Health Emergency will be lifted on April 11. This means that public health measures will also be suspended in all communities. Starting April 11, masks are no longer mandatory in public spaces, there are no public health limits on gatherings or capacity for indoor spaces. To ensure the protection of our health system, masks will continue to be mandatory by order of my office for all health facilities in Nunavut. This includes outpatient and mental health clinics.

As we move into responding to COVD as we would any other communicable disease, we will also no longer be reporting COVID-19 case and vaccine data on a regular basis. However, we will continue to report this information to the federal government and when the Public Health Act requires.

With that said, COVID-19 is not gone and is likely here to stay. While there are no restrictions in place, I encourage Nunavummiut to manage the risk of COVID-19 responsibly. If you are sick, stay home and do not go to public places or gatherings. If you must have contact with others, please wear a mask.

Please, get vaccinated. Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19 and will continue to be available in all communities. The Department of Health will also continue to keep the public updated on changes to vaccine requirements, such as the recommendations for boosters, just as we do for influenza.

Although the public health orders will no longer be in place, businesses and organizations have the right to continue to require masks in their establishments and may limit their own capacity if they wish.

We will continue to monitor the situation across Nunavut and if we find that COVID-19 in some communities is overwhelming the capacity of our health system, there may be times we must declare local States of Emergency to help contain outbreaks.

I know some might be worried about these changes, but I am confident that we are finally in a place where we can start living normally again. I want to thank all Nunavummiut for all their patience of the past two years. Your sacrifices were an important part our response to COVID-19.

Thank you.

As part of the Government of Nunavut's (GN) effort to protect Nunavummiut against the risk of COVID-19, GN Departments are implementing the following:

Department of Health Services

For all the latest information and resources about COVID-19 in Nunavut, 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

COVID-19 case status: April 5, 2022

Total tests	Total confirmed cases	Total active cases	Total recovered cases	Deaths	Total persons vaccinated with at least one dose in Nunavut	Total persons vaccinated with two doses in Nunavut	Total persons vaccinated with three doses in Nunavut
38,861	3531	90	3435	7	33,543	29,021	14,519

COVID-19 community case statistics: April 5, 2022

Community	COVID-19 Status	Time period	Public case count last update (TOTAL)	Public case count today (TOTAL)	Change from last update (cases)	Cumulative Recovered	Change from last update (recoveries)	Total Active cases
Grise Fiord	Ongoing	March 30,2022	0	1	1	0	0	0
Clyde River	Ongoing	February 18, 2022	15	15	0	15	0	0
Arctic Bay	Ongoing	February 12, 2022	15	20	5	14	4	6
Resolute Bay	Ongoing	February 8, 2022	16	16	0	16	0	0
Kugluktuk	Ongoing	January 23, 2022	96	99	3	93	5	6
Kimmirut	Ongoing	January 22, 2022	3	3	0	3	0	0
Naujaat	Ongoing	January 15, 2022	93	93	0	93	0	0
Kugaaruk	Ongoing	January 14, 2022	124	137	13	123	6	14
Gjoa Haven	Ongoing	January 14, 2022	90	99	9	78	0	21

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages: https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus; https://www.gov.nu.ca

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Taloyoak	Ongoing	January 11, 2022	108	114	6	106	0	8
Coral Harbour	Ongoing	January 9, 2022	77	77	0	77	0	0
Whale Cove	Over	January 7, 2022	20	20	0	19	0	0
Sanikiluaq	Ongoing	January 4, 2022	59	59	0	59	0	0
Kinngait	Ongoing	January 2, 2022	108	113	5	107	2	6
Pond Inlet	Ongoing	January 1, 2022	95	95	0	95	1	0
Chesterfield Inlet	Ongoing	January 1, 2022	15	17	2	14	0	3
Cambridge Bay	Ongoing	December 30, 2021	151	154	3	151	0	3
Igloolik	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	229	230	1	227	0	3
Baker Lake	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	163	163	0	160	1	3
Arviat	Over	December 29, 2021	136	136	0	136	0	0
Sanirajak	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	79	79	0	78	0	1
Qikiqtarjuaq	Ongoing	December 28, 2021	43	46	3	44	4	2
Rankin Inlet	Ongoing	December 23, 2021	283	284	1	282	0	2
Pangnirtung	Ongoing	December 23, 2021	87	87	0	86	1	1
Iqaluit	Ongoing	November 4, 2021	694	700	7	690	22	10
Total			**2799**	**2857**	**58**	**2766**	**46**	**89**

*Please note: These numbers change frequently. Every effort is made to keep this information up-to-date and complete, but it may not reflect all persons followed or tested.

** Starting 17 Jan 2022, confirmed cases include those meeting the revised Nunavut case definitions. This includes COVID-19 cases detected either by a confirmatory (PCR) or a presumptive (rapid) test.

***There may be a delay reporting attribution and statistics from cases acquired in Southern Canada. 12 cases that were detected out of territory have been attributed to Nunavut. This includes 3 deaths. Not all NU residents with COVID-19 detected out of territory will be attributed to Nunavut.

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:
https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus; https://www.gov.nu.ca

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COVID-19 vaccination status: April 5, 2022

Vaccine uptake Meditech numbers as of April 5, 2022

	Vaccines administered - 5 to 11 (inclusive)				Vaccines administered - 12 to 17 (inclusive)				Vaccines administered - 18 and over				Total vaccines administered 5+					
	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Booster 12+	%
Nunavut	**4,189**	**70%**	**2,542**	**43%**	**3,998**	**93%**	**3,535**	**82%**	**25,353**	**102%**	**22,941**	**92%**	**33,540**	**95%**	**29,020**	**83%**	**14,516**	**50%**
Qikiqtaaluk Region	**2,170**	**70%**	**1,291**	**41%**	**1,946**	**90%**	**1,719**	**80%**	**13,484**	**101%**	**12,089**	**90%**	**17,600**	**94%**	**15,101**	**81%**	**7,790**	**50%**
Arctic Bay	150	87%	105	61%	113	105%	100	93%	517	98%	465	88%	780	96%	670	83%	369	58%
Clyde River	161	78%	130	63%	132	84%	112	71%	606	88%	573	83%	899	86%	815	78%	479	57%
Grise Fiord	9	75%	4	33%	11	46%	7	29%	95	99%	94	98%	115	87%	105	80%	78	65%
Igloolik	220	59%	75	20%	217	83%	166	64%	956	87%	822	75%	1,393	80%	1,063	61%	388	29%
Iqaluit	675	74%	515	57%	637	97%	582	89%	6,972	115%	6,302	104%	8,284	109%	7,399	97%	4,105	61%
Kimmirut	57	79%	47	65%	63	129%	60	122%	268	101%	253	95%	388	101%	360	93%	223	71%
Kinngait	124	49%	48	19%	138	78%	124	70%	724	78%	631	68%	986	73%	803	59%	320	29%
Pangnirtung	198	69%	52	18%	177	107%	147	89%	854	85%	743	74%	1,229	84%	944	65%	545	46%
Pond Inlet	235	66%	165	47%	208	100%	197	95%	887	86%	788	76%	1,330	83%	1,150	72%	484	39%
Qikiqtarjuaq	56	65%	35	41%	42	61%	35	51%	342	81%	303	72%	440	76%	373	65%	179	37%
Resolute Bay	24	89%	19	70%	15	52%	15	52%	226	166%	167	123%	265	138%	201	105%	98	59%
Sanikiluaq	120	64%	8	4%	96	73%	85	65%	506	88%	468	82%	722	81%	561	63%	264	38%
Sanirajak	141	83%	88	52%	97	80%	89	74%	531	97%	480	88%	769	92%	657	79%	258	39%
Kivalliq Region	**1,305**	**73%**	**860**	**48%**	**1,241**	**94%**	**1,103**	**83%**	**6,647**	**95%**	**6,131**	**87%**	**9,193**	**91%**	**8,094**	**80%**	**3,709**	**45%**
Arviat	375	76%	222	45%	357	95%	321	85%	1,645	97%	1,524	90%	2,375	93%	2,067	81%	857	41%
Baker Lake	258	80%	213	66%	214	90%	190	79%	1,302	89%	1,190	81%	1,774	87%	1,593	78%	714	42%
Chesterfield Inlet	64	102%	47	75%	35	65%	32	59%	257	90%	243	85%	356	88%	322	80%	199	58%
Coral Harbour	62	36%	31	18%	94	80%	83	70%	502	91%	444	80%	658	78%	558	66%	225	33%
Naujaat	153	56%	86	32%	177	102%	156	90%	644	99%	593	92%	974	89%	835	76%	325	40%
Rankin Inlet	332	86%	206	54%	308	106%	267	92%	2,037	98%	1,902	91%	2,677	97%	2,375	86%	1,233	52%
Whale Cove	61	67%	55	60%	56	80%	54	77%	260	98%	235	88%	377	88%	344	81%	156	46%
Kitikmeot Region	**695**	**66%**	**372**	**35%**	**713**	**86%**	**615**	**74%**	**4,188**	**93%**	**3,687**	**82%**	**5,596**	**87%**	**4,674**	**73%**	**2,235**	**42%**
Cambridge Bay	135	61%	77	35%	168	88%	151	79%	1,347	100%	1,216	90%	1,650	93%	1,444	82%	815	53%
Gjoa Haven	142	66%	53	25%	137	80%	115	67%	805	96%	672	80%	1,084	89%	840	69%	306	30%
Kugaaruk	105	51%	57	28%	105	63%	88	53%	556	86%	470	72%	766	75%	615	60%	225	28%
Kugluktuk	169	78%	108	50%	163	99%	144	88%	899	90%	817	82%	1,231	89%	1,069	77%	539	46%
Taloyoak	144	72%	77	39%	140	104%	117	87%	581	87%	512	76%	865	86%	706	70%	350	43%
Multiple Communities*	19		19		98		98		1034		1034		1,151		1,151		782	

**Multiple communities represent individuals who received doses in two separate communities, or in communities that are not their place of residence.*

Details/Limitations:

This information shows the number of doses given in a community as of April 5, 2022. The percentage of vaccine administered is vaccine administered divided by the Nunavut population estimate for 18 and older.

Territorial totals for doses are an accurate summary. The community level data is under review to ensure appropriate attribution. Community totals will be adjusted as needed. This may lead to minor fluctuations in the percentages by community.

Doses are typically attributed to the community in which they are administered.

Total doses given will include residents and non-residents, including rotational workers.

Multiple communities represent individuals who received doses in two separate communities, or in communities that are not their place of residence.

An individual may have received dose 1 and/or dose 2 outside of their community of residence.

This does not account for people who may have been vaccinated partially or fully out of territory.

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:
https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus; https://www.gov.nu.ca

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A high percentage in one community does not equal herd immunity. There is no established or defined percentage of what herd immunity is for COVID-19. Whatever herd immunity may be it cannot achieved with current vaccine approvals (e.g. no vaccine available for children under twelve).

Source:

Statistics Canada, Demography Division, Special tabulations. Prepared by: Nunavut Bureau of Statistics, January 27, 2021.

Dose numbers are from the Department of Health's Meditech system.

Eligible adults in community are defined as the number of individuals 18 and older as per the 2020 population estimates.

The community population estimates are "non-official" since they are not based on components of population growth (births, deaths and migration). They should be used with caution.

Isolation population:

Too few to report.

Traveller repatriation summary:

Too few to report.

Department of Education

Ongoing services:

K-12 Schools

After April 11, 2022, masks will continue to be required in Nunavut schools and on school busses. Masks will continue to be provided to schools for student and staff use. The Department of Education will re-evaluate this requirement, as needed, with input from the CPHO.

The Department of Education will continue to follow the direction of the CPHO on the safe opening of schools. Based on the advice of the CPHO, all schools are now open at 100% capacity. Any changes in a school's status will be communicated to parents as soon as possible.

Schools, students, and families can find information on school health and safety and well-being at https://gov.nu.ca/education/information/2021-22-opening-plan-nunavut-schools.

Department of Human Resources

Ongoing services:

As of April 11, GN workplaces will **continue** the following exposure control practices:

- Workplaces will complete site-specific risk assessments to ensure that appropriate controls are in place.
- Employees will complete a personal risk assessment to verify that COVID-19 related risks specific to their jobs have been addressed.
- Employees will wear masks in common indoor areas. Masks will continue to be provided.

While mask wearing has been a requirement in public spaces for some time as per orders under the public health emergency, the requirement for the GN to take precautions against COVID transmission in the workplace comes from its obligations under the Nunavut Safety Act. While public health orders will end on April 11, the GN's obligations under the safety act do not change.

Adjusted services:

As of April 11, the following practices will be **discontinued**:

- Employees will no longer be required to complete a daily symptom self-assessment.
- Sign-in/sign-out protocols that were implemented to facilitate contact tracing will no longer be required.

As the largest employer in Nunavut, taking these precautions will help keep our communities healthy as we transition out of the public health emergency.

Nunavummiut's health is our shared responsibility! Remember: wash your hands, get vaccinated, listen to the advice of health officials, and stay home if you're sick.