

News Release

For Immediate Release

GN makes changes to out-of-territory isolation requirements

Iqaluit, Nunavut (February 18, 2022) – Government of Nunavut's (GN) Minister of Health, John Main, announced today that as of February 28, 2022, non-vaccinated or partially vaccinated travellers may isolate in their home community.

As of 12 a.m., February 19, 2022, Nunavut's out-of-territory isolation hubs will only receive unvaccinated or partially vaccinated Nunavummiut who test positive for COVID-19, while on medical travel.

“The out-of-territory isolation hubs were implemented as a necessary measure against the high risks of introduction and spread of COVID-19 to our communities, at a time when effective and safe vaccines were not available for the majority of the population,” said Minister Main. “The steady and significant decline in unvaccinated or partially vaccinated Nunavummiut going through GN’s out-of-territory isolation hubs, combined with safe and effective vaccines and in-territory public health measures, allows us to revise our out-of-territory isolation requirements.”

The Department of Health will stop taking hub reservations as of 12 a.m., February 19. Travellers who are currently in the southern isolation hubs or who are already scheduled to enter an out-of-territory isolation hub, will have the opportunity to either continue with their isolation, or cancel their isolation reservation and make alternate plans at their own expense.

As of February 28, 2022, unvaccinated or partially vaccinated Nunavummiut, will be able to travel back to their home community by presenting the airlines with proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours prior to departure. COVID-19 tests are made available free of charge at gateway airports across Canada.

Once in their home community, unvaccinated individuals, or those with fewer than three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, should isolate for 10 days. The isolation starts from the day an unvaccinated person arrives in Nunavut. Household members who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated must also isolate for 10 days.

