Public Health Advisory

Iqaluit fox and domestic dog test positive for rabies

February 23, 2022
Iqaluit, Nunavut

The Department of Health would like to remind residents of Iqaluit of the risk of rabies due to increased fox activity after a fox and domestic dog tested positive for rabies. The Department of Health is following the situation and any dogs that have had exposure to the fox will be assessed and quarantined as required.

Due to the danger of rabies, we advise all residents to be on the lookout for foxes and to always keep their distance from unfamiliar dogs.

If you have been bitten or scratched by a fox or a dog, go to the hospital and report the incident **immediately**. Treatment must be started quickly after exposure, as rabies infections are almost always fatal.

Domestic animals that spend time tied up outdoors should be monitored for a change in behaviour and signs of rabies. Signs of rabies include behaving strangely, staggering, frothing at the mouth, choking or making strange noises. Animals exhibiting these signs should be avoided and reported to the Regional Environmental Health Office or Conservations Officer.

If you see a fox or wolf wandering around the community, contact the **Conservation Officer** at 867-975-7780. If your dog had contact with a fox or wolf, call **the Regional Environmental Health Officer** at 867-975-1163.

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