

# Public Health Advisory

## Fox tests positive for rabies in Iqaluit

**January 7, 2022**

**Iqaluit, Nunavut**

The Department of Health would like to notify residents of Iqaluit that a fox trapped and killed outside city limits has tested positive for rabies.

If you have been bitten or scratched by a fox or a dog, we advise you to go to the Qikiqtani General Hospital and report the incident **immediately**. Treatment must be started quickly after exposure, as rabies infection is almost always fatal.

The significant number of fox sightings in Nunavut has greatly increased the risk of exposure to rabies. Due to the danger of rabies, we advise all residents to be on the lookout for foxes in the area.

Domestic animals that spend the majority of time outdoors should be tied up and 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, or if your dog had contact with a fox or wolf, **call the Regional Environmental Health Officer** at 867-645-6660 or **Conservation Officer** at 867-975-7780.

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