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Public Health Advisory

Fox tests positive for rabies in Kugaaruk

June 10, 2022
Kugaaruk, Nunavut

The Department of Health is advising residents of Kugaaruk that a fox from the community has tested positive for rabies. The fox, which was killed by a dog, was sent for testing after it was observed acting strangely.

Due to the danger of rabies, the Department of Health advises all residents to be on the lookout for foxes in the area.

If you have been bitten or scratched by a fox or a dog, go to the local health centre 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 867-896-7011. If your dog had contact with a fox or wolf, call the Regional Environmental Health Officer at 867-983-2436.

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