

News Release

For Immediate Release

Public Health Restrictions eased across Nunavut

Iqaluit, Nunavut (March 25, 2022) – Dr. Andre Corriveau, Nunavut's Acting Chief Public Health Officer, is announcing the easing of public health restrictions across Nunavut, effective Monday, March 28, 2022.

"As we continue our path toward ending the Public Health Emergency, public health measures will once again be eased across the territory starting March 28," said Dr. Corriveau. "In this stage of our plan, we will also start to refocus resources to manage COVID-19 as we would any other communicable disease and address other public health issues of concern to Nunavummiut. This means we will no longer be contact tracing, high-risk contacts will no longer be mandated to isolate, and we will no longer be announcing new introductions of COVID-19 in communities. Anyone with confirmed COVID-19 will still be required to isolate. If you have COVID-19 symptoms, please isolate immediately and call the COVID-19 hotline to seek further guidance."

Masks remain mandatory in all communities. All schools are open to 100 per cent capacity.

As of Monday, March 28, public health measures across Nunavut will be as follows:

- No restrictions on outdoor gatherings.
- Indoor gatherings increase to 15 people plus household members.
- Restaurants and licensed facilities may open to 75 per cent capacity. Singing and dancing is permitted.
- The Iqaluit theatre may open to 100 people or 75 per cent capacity, whichever is less, per screening room with no moving between rooms.
- Public indoor gatherings increase to 100 people or 75 per cent capacity, whichever is less.
- Group counselling sessions may have up to 20 people.
- Gym capacity is 25 people or 50 per cent capacity, whichever is less. Group sessions may be up to 25 people.
- Swimming pools may open at full capacity. Group sessions limited to 25 people.

- Libraries, museums, and galleries capacity is 25 people or 50 per cent capacity, whichever is less. Group tours may have up to 25 people.
- Arena capacity is 50 people or 50 per cent capacity, whichever is less, as well as a maximum of 50 spectators.
- Places of worship increase to 100 people or 75 per cent capacity, whichever is less. Singing is permitted.
- Long-term care facilities may allow two visitors per resident from their immediate family.
- All parks and park buildings may open.

Anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms – runny nose, cough, sore throat, fever or difficulty breathing – should call the COVID hotline at 1-888-975-8601 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. EDT. Please do not call or go to the health centre unless it is an emergency.

Vaccines for Nunavummiut aged five to 11 are available in all communities. Please call your local health centre or public health unit to make an appointment.

For all the latest information and guidelines on COVID-19 in Nunavut, go to: <u>https://www.gov.nu.ca.</u>

###

Media Contact:

Chris Puglia Manager of Communications Department of Health 867-975-5949 cpuglia@gov.nu.ca