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Public Health Advisory

Fox tests positive for rabies in Iqaluit

January 6, 2023
Iqaluit, Nunavut

The Department of Health is advising residents of Iqaluit that the fox that attacked the domestic dog in the community on January 2, 2023, **has tested positive for rabies**. The dog is currently under quarantine.

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 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 Officer or Conservation 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 your local Regional Environmental Health Officer at 867-975-1163.

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