Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble
Nunavut

News Release

For Immediate Release

New food safety regulations in effect in Nunavut

Iqaluit, Nunavut (May 31, 2024) – The Government of Nunavut today announced that new food safety regulations are in effect as of May 1, 2024, under the updated *Public Health Act*. These regulations were developed to ensure the safety of food manufacturing, handling, preparation, distribution, and storage is done in a way that keeps Nunavummiut healthy and safe.

Under the new regulations, a wide range of food-related establishments, including restaurants, grocery stores, childcare centers, and kitchens in health care facilities and schools will now require a permit to operate. These establishments will continue to be inspected by Environmental Health Officers.

“These new regulations recognize the cultural importance of country food and the rights of Inuit under the *Nunavut Agreement*,” said Minister of Health John Main. “Traditional food sharing practices are respected in the new regulations while still meeting public health standards, such as testing for *trichinella*.”

These regulations may also affect individuals who want to sell homemade food at community markets, bake sales, or directly to a customer. The level to which homemade food sales are affected will be determined by the risk level of the food. Food that is identified as low risk does not require a food premises permit to produce and sell, however medium- and high-risk foods can only be prepared in a facility that has a permit to operate.

The Department of Health recognizes that there is an adjustment period in bringing these new laws into force and is committed to assisting businesses and individuals in navigating the new regulations. Supportive measures include resources to ensure compliance with laws without creating an undue burden.

Environmental Health Officers have already provided information on the new regulations to existing food premises in their regions.

To learn more about the new Food Safety Regulations, please visit the Environmental Health webpage or contact your regional Environmental Health Officer.

###

Media Contact:

Pam Coulter
A/Manager of Communications
Department of Health
867-975-5949
pcoulter@gov.nu.ca

ᐱᕙᓪᓕᐊᔪᑦ ᓴᖅᑭᖅᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᐊᑐᐃᓐᓇᐃᑦ ᐃᓄᒃᑎᑐᑦ, ᖃᓪᓗᓈᑎᑐᑦ ᐃᓄᐃᓐᓇᖅᑐᓐ ᐅᐃᕖᑎᑐᓪᓗ ᐅᕙᓂ *www.gov.nu.ca.*
News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on *www.gov.nu.ca*.
Tuhaqtitaujukhat hailihimajun Inuktitut, Qablunaatun, Inuinnaqtun Uiuitullu uvani *www.gov.nu.ca.*
Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français au *www.gov.nu.ca.*