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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

Public Service Announcement

Indigenous AIDS Awareness Week

Start Date: December 5, 2025
End Date: December 7, 2025
Nunavut-wide **60 sec**

Indigenous AIDS Awareness Week takes place from December 1 to 7, 2025. This week is an opportunity to raise awareness about the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), a sexually transmitted and blood-borne infection (STBBI) that can weaken the immune system. With early detection and treatment, HIV can be managed, helping prevent the progression to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and supporting overall well-being.

HIV and AIDS rates in Nunavut are low but sexually transmitted and blood borne infections like chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis are common and can cause serious health problems. If untreated, some STBBIs can lead to infertility, brain damage, heart issues or even death.

If you are sexually active, it is important to get tested for STBBIs, including syphilis:

- If you notice symptoms like sores or unusual discharge.
- Before having sex with a new partner.
- Every three to six months if you have unprotected sex, have more than one sexual partner, or if your partner might have other sexual partners.

The Department of Health has resources to help Nunavummiut talk with their partners, health care providers and children about sexuality, safe sex, sexual consent and STBBI prevention and testing.

Free male and female condoms, as well as lubricants, are available at health centres and other community locations. For more resources or to learn more about STBBIs, visit the I Respect Myself website or contact your local health centre.

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