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Nunavut

Public Health Advisory

Precautionary measures against COVID-19 cases in Gjoa Haven

January 3, 2026
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut

The Department of Health advises Gjoa Haven residents that the continuing care centre (CCC) is closed to visitors as a precautionary measure against recent confirmed COVID-19 cases.

While this advisory may cause concern, we want to assure the community that immediate and decisive action has been taken to manage the situation and protect our most vulnerable residents, especially our Elders.

Key Actions and Information

1. Temporary visitor restriction at the CCC

Effective immediately, the Gjoa Haven continuing care centre is closed to all public visitors until further notice. This necessary measure is in place to limit the potential spread of the virus within the facility and protect our patients and staff, particularly the Elders in our care.

Essential support persons: exceptions for end-of-life care or other critical needs will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by staff. Please call ahead.

2. Essential health services are still available at the Gjoa Haven community health centre (CHC). Do NOT hesitate to seek medical care if you need it.

- For emergencies, call 867-360-7441.
- For appointments/general medical concerns, please call the CHC first before arriving. Staff will provide instructions on how to proceed safely.

3. Protecting Our Elders

Our Elders are highly susceptible to severe illness from COVID-19. We are taking every precaution to ensure their safety, including enhanced cleaning protocols, isolation measures, and close monitoring by medical staff. The temporary visitor closure is primarily to safeguard them.

What the Community Can Do

We urge all residents to continue following standard public health measures to minimize community transmission:

- Wear a mask: use a high-quality, well-fitting mask when in indoor public settings or when unable to maintain physical distance from others especially when sick.
- Practice good hand hygiene: wash hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Stay home when sick: if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms (even mild ones), stay home and isolate immediately. Call the health centre for testing advice.
- Get vaccinated and boosted: ensure you and your family are up-to-date with your COVID-19 vaccinations and booster shots. They provide the best protection against severe illness.

Community Support

We ask for the community's cooperation and patience as we navigate this challenging time. By working together, we can protect our Elders and ensure the health and safety of Gjoa Haven.

Updates will be provided regularly through community channels, including the local radio and social media pages.

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