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(February 16, 2021)

News Release

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Iqaluit, Nunavut (February 16, 2021) – Today, Nunavut has five new cases of COVID-19. There are 23 active cases in the territory, all in Arviat.

“Arviammiut, it’s time to support fellow Nunavummiut and ensure we stop the spread of COVID in the community,” said Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer. “Once again, I’m urging everyone to do their part and stay home as much as possible. The only way to stop case numbers from rising is to limit contacts and stop transmission. Please stay focused on the end goal, so this outbreak ends as quickly as possible.”

All individuals are doing well, are isolating at home and contact tracing is ongoing. As of February 16, Arviat testing has yielded 2063 negative tests.

Nunavut's Rapid Response Team continues to support the community health team. Anyone who has travelled to and from Arviat since January 12 are asked to limit their contacts and self-monitor for symptoms. They are also asked to contact their local health centre or Iqaluit public health, if in the city, to help with contact tracing and monitoring. Travel in and out of Arviat remains restricted, unless for emergency or essential purposes.

Arviammiut who want to receive the COVID-19 vaccine can call their health centre for an appointment. To date, 6645 Nunavummiut have received at least one dose of the Moderna vaccine. Vaccine clinics in the territory are ongoing.

Anyone who has reason to believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 is advised to call the COVID-hotline at 1-888-975-8601 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. EST, or notify their community health centre right away, and immediately isolate at home for 14 days. Please do not go to the health centre in person.

For all the latest information, including the numbers of recovered and active cases per community, go to: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>.

For the latest information on current public health restrictions, go to: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/nunavuts-path>.

