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(January 23, 2021)

News Release

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Iqaluit, Nunavut (January 23, 2021) –Today, Nunavut is announcing a second active case of COVID-19 in Arviat. The individual is asymptomatic, doing well and is isolating. Contact tracing is underway.

“The Department of Health is actively monitoring the situation in Arviat,” said Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer. “There is still no evidence of community transmission and the risk of the virus spreading is lower than it was in November. Ongoing surveillance and the current public health measures in place in the community serve to further reduce these risks.”

As part of the ongoing monitoring in Arviat, an additional 30 tests were performed in the past couple of days with no other positive results. Further testing will be completed over the next 24 hours.

Arviammiut are reminded to continue following current restrictions. Wear a mask when in public, continue practising physical distancing, limit the size of gatherings to 10 plus the household indoors and 50 outdoors, wash your hands frequently and stay at home if you are feeling unwell.

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.

Today's total case count will also reflect a reduction of one case. A routine review of cases discovered a previous positive case was inadvertently counted twice. The total number of COVID-19 cases in Nunavut stands at 267 instead of 268.

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

For the latest information on Nunavut's COVID-19 vaccination campaign, go to www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-vaccination

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