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# Statement

## Chief Public Health Officer speaks to COVID-19

**March 11, 2020**
**Iqaluit, NU**

Chief Public Health Officer Dr. Mike Patterson today released the following statement:

"I want to take the time to assure Nunavummiut that the Government of Nunavut (GN) takes the global novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation very seriously.

While there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Nunavut, the territory and Canada remain on high alert. The GN has extensive plans in place – should there be any cases in our communities – to protect the health and safety of Nunavummiut, to contain any spread, and to ensure the continuity of our services and programs.

Prevention and awareness are important – wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds, cough or sneeze into your sleeves, avoid touching your face, and stay home if you are feeling sick. Please monitor for symptoms like fever, an uncontrollable cough, or difficulty breathing, and contact your health centre if you experience them.

The GN is working closely with Health Canada and partners and is ready and prepared, should the situation change."

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