



## Chief Public Health Officer update

Good morning. These past two months have not been easy, and all Nunavummiut have had to make sacrifices.

However, thanks to our combined efforts, we are protecting our families, our communities, and our territory from this pandemic, and I hope that all Nunavummiut can feel a sense of pride knowing that their actions are making a deep and measurable impact on keeping Nunavut healthy and safe.

It is time for us to move forward. This does not mean that this pandemic is over. This does not mean that the threat has passed. This means that we can cautiously begin our return to the activities we enjoy, knowing that at any time we may need to change our behaviour to protect ourselves from emerging threats.

In the coming weeks, we will work with our stakeholders to re-introduce our businesses, our activities, and our programs in a way that is safe, sustainable, and poses the least risk to the health and safety of Nunavummiut. Know that as we begin to loosen restrictions internally, it is imperative that our strict border measures remain to minimize the risk of introducing COVID-19 into the territory.

With that being said, I'm pleased to announce that as of June 1:

- Daycares will be permitted to open up for regular business.
- The size limit for outdoor gatherings will increase to 25 people.
- Territorial parks will be allowed to reopen for outdoor activities only, if local circumstances permit. All park buildings will remain closed.
- Municipal playgrounds will be allowed to re-open, again, if local circumstances permit.

These particular conditions have been selected because they are deemed low risk. Moving forward, our plan is to re-assess our condition every two weeks. If the state of COVID in Nunavut is favorable, we will continue to lift public health measures, beginning with lower risk activities and programs. If our condition is stable, we may remain at the status quo until we are confident that lifting additional restrictions would not pose an undue risk to Nunavummiut. Finally, if the threat of COVID-19 increases, or eased public health measures are posing a potential public health threat to the territory, we may need to introduce or re-introduce certain conditions.

I share in everyone's desire to return to normal. We all want to know when we can confidently and safely travel within our own territory, or to our neighbouring jurisdictions.

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:

<https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>; <https://www.gov.nu.ca>



[INUK](#) | [ENG](#) | [IKW](#) | [FRE](#)



[INUK](#) | [ENG](#) | [IKW](#) | [FRE](#)

However, trying to forecast specific dates and timelines for when we can lift all of our public health measures would be inaccurate, and frankly, it would be insincere.

The COVID-19 pandemic is evolving rapidly, and every single week yields new information that shapes our strategy and our public health measures. Predictions and decisions made on the basis of today's understanding of the virus may be obsolete in a short time. For this reason, we have opted for an approach that is flexible, cautious, and adaptive to the evolving situation around us.

Again, I want to thank all Nunavummiut for their continued patience and understanding. No one is left unaffected by this pandemic, but our collective accountability has kept Nunavut safe so far. This accountability and responsibility needs to continue, and, as we loosen restrictions, we must continue to practice social distancing, stay away from others when we are sick and wash our hands often.

Thank you.

As part of the Government of Nunavut's (GN) effort to protect Nunavummiut against the risk of COVID-19, GN Departments are implementing the following:

### **Department of Health Services**

---

#### **COVID Hotline and Self-Assessment Tool**

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., or notify their community health centre right away, and immediately isolate at home for 14 days.

Anyone with access to internet can also take the online self-assessment tool [nu.thrive.health](https://nu.thrive.health)

#### **Volumes**

Total (All Isolation Locations)	
<b>Traveler Type</b>	<b>Guests in Isolation as of May 24</b>
Medical Travel	141
Public	89
Students	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:

<https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>; <https://www.gov.nu.ca>



[INUK](#) | [ENG](#) | [IKW](#) | [FRE](#)



[INUK](#) | [ENG](#) | [IKW](#) | [FRE](#)

### Traveller repatriation summary:

Departure Date	# of Travellers from Isolation Sites
May 23	14
May 24	6
May 25	31
May 26	19
May 27	15

### Critical Worker Requests

As of May 24, there are 1131 requests, 878 of which are critical worker requests.

Request Status	#	%
Approved (includes critical and non-critical)	963	84.6%
Denied	127	11.2%
Pending	41	4.3%
Total	1131	100%

### Department of Education Services

---

The Department of Education has developed guidelines for child-care facility reopening, including information on enhanced cleaning and hygiene, and physical distancing during drop-off and pick-up.

The Department of Education will be connecting with all licensed child-care facilities in the coming days.

Nunavummiut's health is our shared responsibility! Remember: wash your hands and surfaces, practice social distancing, listen to the advice of health officials, and stay home if you're sick.

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:

<https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>; <https://www.gov.nu.ca>



[INUK](#) | [ENG](#) | [IKW](#) | [FRE](#)



[INUK](#) | [ENG](#) | [IKW](#) | [FRE](#)