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News Release

25 new cases of COVID-19, two cases recovered

Iqaluit, Nunavut (November 21, 2020) – Today, Nunavut has 107 active cases of COVID-19. The two positive cases in Sanikiluaq have recovered. 22 new cases have been identified in Arviat, bringing the community’s number of positive cases to 80. Three new cases have been confirmed in Whale Cove for a total of 14 positive cases. There are no changes to the number of cases in Rankin Inlet.

“While the two cases in Sanikiluaq are now recovered, the current restrictions in the community still apply and I urge residents of Sanikiluaq to continue to follow the public health measures in place,” said Dr. Patterson, Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer. “I also want to remind all Nunavummiut that until health teams have completed contact tracing and the virus spread is contained, the number of active cases will continue to fluctuate.”

There remains no evidence of community transmission in Rankin Inlet or Whale Cove. All 107 individuals with active COVID-19 are in isolation and they are well, with mild to moderate symptoms. Contact tracing in all impacted communities is ongoing and public health staff are monitoring everyone in isolation.

As of November 20, 110 tests have been done in Rankin Inlet with negative results. Arviat testing has yielded 210 negative tests. Testing in Whale Cove yielded 26 negative tests. Monitoring in Sanikiluaq continues.

“I know the daily numbers of COVID-19 cases in Nunavut seem scary, but it is not a reason to panic. We will continue to see dips and rises in our case numbers for some time,” said Premier Joe Savikataaq. “I am very proud of Nunavummiut for their efforts to slow the spread of the virus and am incredibly grateful to every member of Nunavut’s public health team for their amazing dedication and work in our communities. Let’s all stay vigilant and compassionate as we fight COVID-19 in Nunavut.”

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.

