

## **News Release**

For Immediate Release

## Four new cases of COVID-19 in Arviat

**Iqaluit, Nunavut (March 5, 2021)** – Today, Nunavut has four new cases of COVID-19 and one recovery. There are 17 active cases in the territory, all in Arviat. All individuals are doing well, are isolating at home and contact tracing is ongoing.

"Despite the new cases, I want to assure all Nunavummiut that this outbreak remains contained, and the Moderna vaccine is proving effective," said Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut's Chief Public Health Officer. "As we continue to work to break transmission, I urge everyone who is eligible to be vaccinated, to do so as soon as possible."

"Now is not the time to make assumptions or hurtful comments about COVID-19 in Arviat. More than ever, we need to practise compassion, support and fostering positivity. The work the community has done over the last 112 days has been nothing short of incredible. Keep it up Arviarmiut," said Premier Joe Savikataaq.

As of March 5, Arviat testing has yielded 2444 negative tests. To date, 8767 Nunavummiut have received at least one dose of the Moderna vaccine, and 5144 Nunavummiut have received at least two doses of the Moderna vaccine. Vaccine clinics in the territory are ongoing. Nunavummiut who are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine can call their health centre for an appointment.

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 the latest information on Nunavut's COVID-19 vaccination plans, go to: <u>https://gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-vaccination</u>.

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

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

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