



NEWS RELEASE

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COVID-19: 11th CONFIRMED CASE IN NUNAVIK

Kuujuuaq, April 13, 2020 - The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) has been informed of a new case of COVID-19 in the community of Puvirnituk. It brings the cumulative total to 11 cases in the region (1 recovered and 10 active). The individual was already in isolation and will be able to continue its isolation at home.

“The situation evolves quickly. Nunavik has now entered a new phase when it comes to confirming the status of individuals suspected of having COVID-19” said Marie Rochette, Director of Public Health at the NRBHSS. As of now, when an individual presents COVID-19 symptoms **AND** has been identified as a very close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19, they will automatically be considered as a confirmed case and will no longer be tested.

“This is what is called a case confirmed by epidemiological link. Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms that ARE NOT a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 will still need to be tested, in order to confirm their diagnosis” added Minnie Grey, Executive director of the NRBHSS.

Close contacts are: household members, intimate partners, individuals who provide personal care to others in a non-medical setting, and individuals who have had direct contact with an infectious person’s bodily fluids (ex. who have had someone cough in their face).

We also confirm that the cases in Puvirnituk are all linked, meaning that they were close contacts to each other.

Everyone should comply with the measures in place:

- Wash your hands frequently, for at least 20 seconds.
- Stay home as much as possible.
- If you must go out, respect a distance of two meters between you and others.
- Avoid visiting friends and family members (home, cabin, etc.).
- Respect the curfew.

Important Reminder: Do not present yourself at your local CLSC (Nursing Station). If you believe you are infected with COVID-19, please contact the Info-Health line at 1-888-662-7482 from Monday to Sunday: 10am to 10pm. Outside of opening hours please contact your local CLSC (Nursing Station).

The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services is a public agency created in 1978 under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. It is responsible for nearly the entire Quebec territory located north of the 55th parallel in terms of the provision of health and social services for the inhabitants of the 14 communities.

Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

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