

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

COVID-19: 14th CONFIRMED CASE IN NUNAVIK

Kuujjuaq, April 19, 2020 - The Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) has been informed of a new case of COVID-19, this time in the community of Inukjuak. This is the first positive case of COVID-19 in this community. It brings the cumulative total to 14 cases in the region (5 recovered and 9 active). The individual was already in isolation and will be able to continue their isolation at home.

"Public Health professionals, in collaboration with the CLSC have begun the investigation and close contacts of the patient are being contacted. Everyone is reminded of the importance to collaborate fully during these investigations; it is the number one tool to ensure protection of the vulnerable that could have been in close contact with the patient" said Marie Rochette, Director of Public Health at the NRBHSS.

"While it can be discouraging to see that the virus has reached another community, it is important to remember that in the past week, four cases have recovered. The vast majority of individuals infected can remain isolated at home with daily monitoring by health professionals while they heal. The main gaol of the NRBHSS is the wellbeing of all Nunavimmiut and we are appreciative of everyone collaborating with Healthcare Workers." added Minnie Grey, Executive Director of the NRBHSS.

The NRBHSS reminds all that everyone needs to be supportive of each other during this pandemic. Stigmatization and bullying are counterproductive and have no place in this fight. 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.

- 30 -

Source: Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services

For information: Josee Levesque

Communication Officer, NRBHSS

Tel.: 819 964-2222