

ORDINANCE 2021-06-1

Date: December 1, 2021

Subject: Sanitary restrictions and measures in place when traveling to Nunavik - **Update**

WHEREAS Ordinance 2021-16-1 of November 14, 2021, which restricts travel between the communities of Nunavik;

WHEREAS Ordinance 2021-20-1 of November 29, 2021 on the vaccination passport for travel to Nunavik;

WHEREAS the circulation of SARS-CoV-2 continues throughout the province of Quebec and elsewhere in the world;

WHEREAS a new variant of concern of COVID-19, the Omicron variant, has been detected initially in South Africa and now in several countries, including Canada;

WHEREAS preliminary data indicate that the Omicron variant could be easily transmissible;

WHEREAS the importance of putting in place measures to protect the population;

WHEREAS scientific literature shows that two doses of COVID-19 vaccine reduce the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection and that adequately immunized people are less contagious;

The Regional Director of Public Health, as per section 106 of the Public Health Act, maintains restrictions applicable to travel to Nunavik.

People who have been, within the previous 14 days, in the countries of the South Africa region subject to enhanced border measures by the Government of Canada cannot travel to Nunavik for their quarantine, even if they are adequately protected (see the list of countries at <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid>).

All **other** individuals are authorized to travel to Nunavik if they obtain an authorization to access the territory of Nunavik (NTAA) and comply with the measures **put in place by ordinances 2021-16-1 and 2021-20-1** and with public health directives. Thus:

- a questionnaire requesting the authorization to enter the territory must be completed at least 72 hours before departure;

- before traveling, all individuals except children aged less than one (1) year of age must provide proof that they have tested negative for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to departure. A child for whom the test is too difficult will not be refused boarding, even in the absence of a test result;
- all individuals of 12 years of age and older, unless presenting a medical exemption, must at all time wear a procedure mask while on plane;
- individuals unprotected against COVID-19 must quarantine for ten (10) days, including children less than 12 years old;
- individual who have traveled outside of Canada in the last ten (10) days, with the exception of countries in the South Africa region subject to enhanced border measures by the Government of Canada, may enter the Nunavik territory on the condition of remaining in quarantine within ten (10) days of return to Canada, even if adequately protected. Essential workers deemed critical are allowed to come out of quarantine in the course of their work. Quarantine should be observed outside of work.
- the quarantine is no longer required for protected individuals¹ against COVID-19 who can provide proof of such protection before travelling, with the exception of individuals who have traveled outside of Canada in the last ten (10) days;
- all passengers must be tested for COVID-19 between four (4) and seven (7) days after their arrival to the region.

Marie Rochette, M.D., M.Sc., FRCPC
Director of Public Health

- c.c. Members of the Nunavik Regional Emergency Response Advisory Committee
Mayors of 14 Northern Villages
Mr. Horacio Arruda, National public health director, ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
Mr. Louis Morneau, Associate deputy-minister, ministère de la Sécurité publique

1. An individual is considered adequately protected if he/she meets the criteria defined by the Government of Quebec: <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/progress-of-the-covid-19-vaccination/covid-19-vaccination-passport/covid-19-protection-status>