



December 27, 2021
For Immediate Release

Positive presumptive COVID-19 case identified; lack of supplies delaying testing in some communities

A presumptive positive case of COVID-19 has been identified within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area. The individual is currently isolating and is awaiting confirmatory testing.

Individuals who travelled on Air Borealis flights #PB961 and #PB962 to all Labrador Inuit communities on December 20-21 have been advised to self-isolate, away from other family members, until instructed otherwise. Household members have also been advised to self-isolate until individual contacts receive two negative tests. Contact tracing is continuing in all communities. The Nunatsiavut Government is advising that some communities currently lack adequate amounts of tests for all passengers who travelled on the Air Borealis flights on December 20-21. Testing in some communities has been delayed because of poor weather, as more supplies are unable to be flown in from Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

Health officials from the Nunatsiavut Government and Labrador-Grenfell Regional Health Authority, as well as the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, are continuing to monitor the situation closely.

All regions of the province are currently at COVID-19 Alert Level 3 [Alert Level 3 - COVID-19 \(gov.nl.ca\)](https://gov.nl.ca/alert-level-3-covid-19). The Nunatsiavut Government is urging all residents in all Labrador Inuit communities to continue following all public health directives to help prevent exposure and spread of COVID-19, and to isolate immediately and arrange testing by calling 811, or completing an online assessment at <https://covidassessment.nlchi.nl.ca/> if they develop any symptoms, which include:

- Fever, including chills or sweats;
- A new or worsening cough;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Runny, stuffy or congested nose;
- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing;
- Headache;
- Loss of sense of smell or taste;
- Unusual fatigue or lack of energy;
- New onset of muscle aches;
- Loss of appetite;
- Vomiting or diarrhea for more than 24 hours; and
- Small red or purple spots on hands and/or feet.

Residents are urged to stay within family bubbles, avoid any gatherings (including New Year's Eve parties, etc.), and to only leave home for essential purposes.

Non-essential travel to, from and between Labrador Inuit communities is also being discouraged.

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