



**Public Health Order – TUKTOYAKTUK TEMPORARY COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS  
(EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 9, 2021)**

WHEREAS the Minister, upon the recommendation of the Chief Public Health Officer, has declared a Public Health Emergency in the Northwest Territories effective March 18, 2020;

AND WHEREAS the Public Health Emergency has been subsequently renewed and remains in force;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Public Health Officer may take certain actions including issuing directions or orders for the purpose of protecting the public health under the authority of the *Public Health Act*, S.N.W.T. 2007, c.17 (hereinafter the “*Act*”);

AND WHEREAS cases of COVID-19 have been detected in Tuktoyaktuk which increases the risk to the public health;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Public Health Officer issued Public Health Order – NORTHWEST TERRITORIES COVID-19 GATHERINGS ORDER (effective October 22, 2021), which includes gathering restrictions across the Northwest Territories (hereinafter the “October 22, 2021 Northwest Territories order”);

AND WHEREAS, a Deputy Chief Public Health Officer may exercise the powers and shall perform the duties of the Chief Public Health Officer as directed by the Chief Public Health Officer and may act in the place of the Chief Public Health Officer if he or she is absent;

AND WHEREAS the Acting Deputy Chief Public Health Officer has assessed the risk to the public health as a result of the increased risk of spread of COVID-19 in Tuktoyaktuk and issues this public health order;

The Acting Deputy Chief Public Health Officer, in accordance with sections 5 and 25 of the *Act* hereby orders as follows:

**TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO TUKTOYAKTUK**

1. Pursuant to section 25 of the *Act* and in order to decrease or eliminate the risk to the public health in relation to COVID-19, the following restrictions are in effect within the community boundaries of Tuktoyaktuk until 11:59pm on November 19, 2021
  - a. Persons who test positive for COVID-19 must “isolate” in accordance with the isolation requirements set out at Appendix “A” of this Order until the later of:



- (i) the end of the tenth day, which begins either at the onset of symptoms of COVID-19 or after they receive a positive test result for COVID-19 if they have no symptoms, whichever is earlier; and
  - (ii) the day COVID-19 infection is resolved, as deemed by a healthcare provider;
- b. Persons who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 must contact a health care provider to be reviewed for a COVID-19 test and “isolate” in accordance with the isolation requirements set out at Appendix “A” of this Order until they receive a negative test result or are cleared by a health care provider. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, generally feeling unwell, chills, muscle aches, fatigue or weakness, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, headache, diarrhoea, nausea or vomiting, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, loss of sense of taste, loss of sense of smell, skin changes or rashes;
- c. Persons who are identified as a contact of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 and persons who share accommodations with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 must “self-isolate” in accordance with the self-isolation requirements set out at Appendix “B” of this Order until the end of the tenth day which begins at the date of their last contact with the person who has tested positive for COVID-19. For persons who continue to share accommodations with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, this means that ten-day period commences on the day the person who tested positive is no longer required to isolate;
- d. Persons are prohibited from gathering with persons who do not reside with them inside their dwelling place, with the exception of:
  - (i) caregivers providing care to an individual;
  - (ii) childcare arrangements. For clarity, reasonable efforts are to be made to minimize the number of childcare providers that are utilized in order to minimize COVID-19 exposure risks;
  - (iii) persons responding to emergencies, including but not limited to medical emergencies, police emergencies and urgent home repairs;
  - (iv) persons engaged in the provision of health and social services; and
  - (v) persons who live alone in a dwelling place, who are permitted to enter into a gathering bubble with another person, or persons who live together in one dwelling place, in order to gather at either of their dwelling places. For clarity, a bubble can only be exclusively between one person who lives alone, and another person or persons who live



in one separate dwelling place together. Multiple bubbles are not permitted.

For the avoidance of doubt, persons approved to enter the Northwest Territories pursuant to an exemption for family reunification under the Public Health Order – COVID-19 TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND SELF-ISOLATION PROTOCOL – AS AMENDED DECEMBER 1, 2020, are considered a resident of the dwelling place where they have indicated they will reside in their self-isolation plan.

- e. Persons are prohibited from gathering outdoors with persons who do not reside with them;
- f. Essential businesses and facilities may remain open to the public with no more than ten (10) persons permitted in an indoor location at any one time. Physical distancing of at least 2 metres shall be maintained amongst persons from different households and any specific requirements of the Chief Public Health Officer or of the Acting Deputy Chief Public Health Officer communicated to the business or facility are to be followed. For the purposes of this Order, essential businesses and facilities are:
  - (i) grocery stores (curbside pick-up is encouraged);
  - (ii) food establishments (takeout only);
  - (iii) gas stations and convenience stores;
  - (iv) facilities offering health services, social support services, and childcare services (including dayhomes). Daycares may remain open for the children of essential workers only;
  - (v) post offices;
  - (vi) workplaces where persons are engaged in the provision of essential services including but not limited to, peace officers and others employed for the preservation and maintenance of the public peace, employees of and persons engaged by the Department of National Defense, emergency responders, and community government essential service workers; and
  - (vii) workplaces where persons are engaged in the construction of public and Indigenous infrastructure projects.
- g. Non-essential businesses and facilities must close to the public, including but not limited to community and youth centres;
- h. Schools shall be closed to in-person learning;



- i. Offices may operate provided that they limit in-person staff to the minimum number of staff required to carry out operations, to a maximum of ten (10) persons per floor or office location, and provided physical distancing of at least 2 metres can be maintained; and
- j. All persons shall wear masks in any public indoor spaces in accordance with the Public Health Order – COVID-19 MANDATORY FACE MASK REQUIREMENTS – August 26, 2021;
- k. Pursuant to section 42(e) of the Act, the October 22, 2021 Northwest Territories order is suspended in Tuktoyaktuk while this order remains in force.

## EXEMPTIONS

- 2. Notwithstanding anything in this Order, the Chief Public Health Officer or the Acting Deputy Chief Public Health Officer may exempt a person or class of persons from the application of this Order.

Any person who is subject to this Order may appeal the Order to the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories pursuant to section 47 of the *Public Health Act* within 30 days after the day on which the Order is served on the person in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Health Act*.

It is an offence pursuant to section 49 of the *Public Health Act* for a person to fail to comply with the *Public Health Act*, its regulations or an order made under it.

Any person who has any questions or inquiries about this Order, or who wishes to apply for an approval or exemption related to this Order, can contact Protect NWT [protectnwt@gov.nt.ca](mailto:protectnwt@gov.nt.ca) or 1-833-378-8297 and can obtain a copy of this Order from Protect NWT or from <https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19>.

This Order is effective from November 9, 2021 at 12:00pm and remains in effect until 11:59pm on November 19, 2021 unless otherwise rescinded.

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Dr. James Talbot  
Acting Deputy Chief Public Health Officer



## **Appendix A: Isolation Requirements**

Requirements for persons subject to isolation:

- Stay in the indoor portion of your isolation location for 10 days unless you are advised otherwise by a Public Health Official or your healthcare provider.
- Do not leave the indoor portion of your isolation location unless you need to seek medical attention. If you need medical attention, contact your health care provider and follow their instructions.
- Do not have any visitors at your isolation location.
- If you are at risk of more severe diseases or outcomes, monitor yourself for worsening or severe symptoms
- Call 9-1-1 if you develop severe symptoms and let them know if you have tested positive for COVID-19 or that you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

Additional guidance on how to safely isolate can be found here:

<https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/en/services/vaccination-testing/types-isolation>



## **Appendix B: Self-Isolation Requirements**

Requirements for persons subject to self-isolation:

- Stay at your self-isolation location for 10 days unless you are advised otherwise by a Public Health Official.
- You can go outdoors for fresh air. Do not go to outdoor spaces where persons congregate. Keep a 2 metre distance from other persons and wear a face mask while outside of your self-isolation location. You do not need to wear a mask if there are no other persons present.
- Do not use public transportation or share a car, taxi or other motor vehicle with any other persons.
- Do not have any visitors at your self-isolation location.
- You are permitted to pass through common areas of a self-isolation location, such as a shared corridor or lobby, to access the outdoors, but only if a face mask is worn.
- Do not go to work, school, or enter any other indoor spaces for 10 days or while you are required to self-isolate.
- If you have a medical appointment or need medical care, contact your health care provider and follow their instructions.

Additional guidance on how to safely self-isolate can be found here:

<https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/en/services/vaccination-testing/types-isolation>