



Department of Justice COVID 19 Facility Precautions URGENT CHANGES FOR ALL NUNAVUT FACILITIES

October 22nd, 2021

Effective immediately, as per the Acting Director of Corrections, the following changes have been implemented for all Nunavut facilities.

- **Screening for all personnel entering all Nunavut facilities including staff and visitors remain.**
 - ✓ All staff, personnel, visitors, and contractors are required to complete the 4-step screening prior to entry. All entry and screening should be recorded in an electronic logbook. Screening paperwork should be laminated for use. Facilities without a barrier for the screeners are to ensure the screener maintains a mask, eye protection and social distancing throughout the process apart from the infrared temperature step. During the temperature screening, gloves are to be worn. After this step gloves are to be removed and hand hygiene performed by the screener. **There will be no exceptions to this screening. No one can access any of the facilities without this process being completed.**
- In person visitation for all **Iqaluit, Rankin and Kugluktuk** facilities can resume pending a physical barrier is present and screening is maintained.
- Masks for staff remain mandatory throughout their shift. Iqaluit and Rankin facilities who have the presence of clients under a mandatory isolation must have staff wear surgical masks only and no cloth masks are permitted.
- **Mandatory masking for clients in ALL Nunavut facilities remains in effect in house when out of their assigned cell. The mask can be removed when eating/drinking or when in their assigned cells only. This is to be strictly enforced.**
- Outside activity for clients in all facilities can resume pending public health measures are followed and clients are fully vaccinated.
- When escorting clients for medical appointments caution must be taken. Masks are mandatory throughout this process for clients and staff. Good hand hygiene and social distancing must be maintained.
- All cleaning regimes for facilities, corrections vehicles and COVID 19 precautions for each facility should remain and strictly followed and documented.
- All clients arriving at ACHF and RIHF will be received with caution.
 - ✓ **ACHF** require full PPE attire is required for A&D, assisting staff and the Nurse. Clients will require isolation and a negative swab prior to being released into an assigned unit. Clients arriving from communities identified with a positive case or from outside of Nunavut will require a full 14-day isolation and 2 negative swabs prior to placement; Coral Harbour is the only current community with active cases at the time of this memo.
 - ✓ **RIHF** will continue to COVID screen all new intakes arriving to the facility. PPE requirement for staff is masks and gloves. Isolation will be required for clients received

from outside of Nunavut or from communities identified with a positive case. Full PPE attire will be required for the A&D process for these clients. If evidence of transmission within Iqaluit or other Nunavut communities is identified, changes to this process will be made.

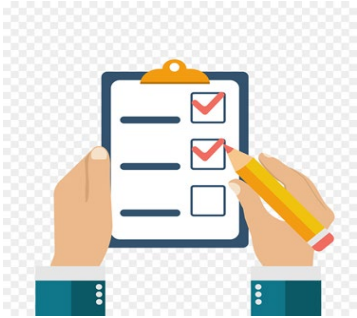
- Court movements locally and in the community are continuing. Sheriffs are to be screened on arrival. Corrections clients will be placed in cells at the Court House and in RCMP cells in the community away from other clients within the Public. Clients are to wear a mask during this process. On arrival back to the facility from the Iqaluit Court House, clients are to perform hand hygiene prior to placement back in their assigned unit. If the client was placed in a cell with a member of the public, they are to shower and be provided new facility clothing on arrival prior to be placed back into their assigned units. Clients arriving back from community court are to shower on arrival and be provided new facility clothing prior to returning to their assigned unit.
- Community Corrections Officers will continue to provide in person services in communities with no active cases. In communities with identified active cases, services should be provided via phone.
- Outside employment can continue outside of Corrections or at multiple facilities, other than health-related positions where direct contact with possible COVID cases can occur such as paramedics or hospital staff. An exception to this can be made by the Director of Corrections to fill staff shortages. **Employees wishing to resume their employment outside of Corrections must provide proof of full vaccination status to the Corrections COVID Lead Nurse.**
- **Any staff who have any symptoms consistent with COVID 19 such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, headache, nasal congestion or any GI symptoms should not report to work. They are to contact the COVID 19 Hotline at 867 975 8601, then contact the Corrections COVID Lead Nurse for further direction.**
- Medical Care Services in house at all Iqaluit facilities will remain at status. This is related to a continued process of isolating clients arriving outside of the territory as well as the Nursing shortage within Nunavut. **Unnecessary face to face interactions with other health care staff should be avoided unless required for emergencies or necessary consultations.** For any client assessments from the general population masking is required for clients and Nurse. Assessment of clients on isolation will require full PPE attire.
- Physician visits can continue when facilities are not under lock down. **Community call forms and on call physician services should be utilized as per procedure and only clients requiring a non urgent physical assessment should be added to the physician list, otherwise Community call forms should be used.**
- Mental Health Services can resume if spacing allows for a **minimum of 6 feet distancing. Masks are mandatory for both Mental Health Clinicians and clients during same. Small office spaces that do not allow for adequate spacing should not be used.** Clients on isolation will continue to receive mental health services by phone.
- Carving sales and money drop-off at ACHF will remain by appointment only.
 - Carving sales – call Aniquiliqtuq caseworker at (867) 979-8136
 - Inmate money drop-off – call Jackie Erkidjuk at (867) 979-8105
- Training can continue. The number of people will depend on the ability to social distance throughout activities. Physical contact training can resume if masks are worn, and staff are screened prior to start of the day. Strict protocol is in place and to be followed by staff.

- All new clients will be offered an opportunity to receive the Moderna vaccine.
- Correctional staff and clients are encouraged to receive the Moderna vaccine. The vaccine is extremely effective in preventing severe disease. We do not know yet how much impact it has on transmission, we know it has some, but this has not been quantified.
- Corrections employees are expected to follow all CPHO guidelines while in the community. We are working with a vulnerable population and staff are expected to strictly follow all CPHO guidelines to minimize risk of exposure to our facilities.
- ***Strict adherence to the protocols outlines in this memo must be followed. Failure to comply with COVID 19 protocols is grounds for progressive discipline.***

The Department of Justice is working closely with the office of the Chief Public Health Officer. It is imperative at this point that we continue to implement our COVID 19 precautions and not become complacent. Continue to practice social distancing and good hand hygiene.

COVID 19 SCREENING STEPS FOR ENTRY TO FACILITIES

1. COVID 19 screening questionnaire



2. Observe hand hygiene for a minimum of 20 seconds



3. Ensure mask is applied properly if required for entering the facility

THE RIGHT WAY TO WEAR



4. Infrared temperature check

