



Press Release

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Three Northwest Arctic Borough (NWAB) Residents Test Positive for COVID-19

September 2, 2020, 5:15pm – Two residents of Kotzebue tested positive for COVID-19. One individual arrived in Kotzebue on August 27th and tested positive at the airport. They are asymptomatic and currently quarantining in Kotzebue. Another individual was tested in Kotzebue on August 29th and received positive results on September 2nd. They are not a close contact of a previous case. The positive individual was last actively out in a Maniilaq service area community on September 1st. The individual is symptomatic and currently quarantining in Anchorage.

A Selawik resident tested positive for COVID-19 in Anchorage on August 31st. The individual has not been in the Maniilaq service area since late July. The positive individual is a close contact of a previous COVID-19 case and has not been in the Maniilaq service area while infectious. They are asymptomatic and currently quarantining in Anchorage. While the individual is currently not present in the region, they will be reported as a NWAB case due to the individuals' permanent residence per State reporting protocols.

Maniilaq Public Health Nursing is working with the State to conduct contact tracing and reaching out to anyone who may have come into significant contact with these cases. Maniilaq encourages residents to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, avoid large gatherings, clean frequently touched surfaces daily, and wear masks in public spaces. It is recommended that residents avoid non-essential travel, including inter-village travel.

If residents believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as a dry cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice or call Maniilaq's COVID-19 Hotline at 833-442-7015. The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

For the latest COVID-19 information visit our website at www.maniilaq.org/covid-19

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Kotzebue Qikiqtagruk, Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivaliniq, Kobuk Laugviik, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Point Hope Tikigaq, Selawik Akuligaq, Shungnak Isinnaq