Travelling to or from Iqaluit? New restrictions may affect your travel

If you are travelling to Iqaluit or travelling from Iqaluit to a destination within Nunavut, you will now be required to present either: a letter from Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer, proof of residency at your destination, or a medical travel reservation.

In an order issued on April 16, 2021, the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) outlined new regional hub travel restrictions specific to Iqaluit.

As outlined by the Government of Nunavut, intra-territorial travel out of Iqaluit, as well as all travel into Iqaluit, is currently restricted to Nunavummiut returning to their home communities, medical travellers, and those bearing an authorization letter from the Chief Public Health Officer of Nunavut.

At check-in, travellers must provide proof that they fall under one of the exemption categories outlined above, in addition to the regular identification necessary for travel (i.e. passport, etc).

- Critical / exempted workers: letter from the CPHO.
- Travellers on compassionate exemption: letter from the CPHO.
- Nunavummiut returning to their home community must have proof of residency. Proof includes a driver’s licence or a general identification card.
- Medical travellers are verified through the medical travel system.

Travellers who cannot prove they are travelling to their community of residence, critical worker status or compassionate exemption approval, will not be allowed to board the aircraft. A passport alone will not be enough to prove residency.

Travellers who overnight prior to their final destination must:

- go directly to where you’re staying
- stay there overnight; don’t go around the community; don’t visit anyone you know. You can only go to the hotel and then back to the airport when it’s time the next day.
- wear a mask while not inside the place you are staying.

Any violation of this travel restriction could result in fines under the Public Health Act and may result a $575 fine for individuals; and a $2875 fine for corporations.

Violation of the mandatory self-isolation order may result in charges under the Public Health Act and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding $50,000 or six-months’ imprisonment.

If you are a critical worker or you need to travel on compassionate grounds, please email CPHOtravelrequests@gov.nu.ca.

Important Links: Government of Nunavut | Transport Canada | Public Health Agency of Canada

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