

BEAUFORT DELTA DIVISIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Aklavik, Ft. McPherson, Inuvik, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Tsiigehtchic, Tuktoyaktuk, Ulukhaktok



Re: COVID 19 Inuvik

January 7th 2022

East Three Elementary & Secondary School Parents/Guardians:

The Beaufort Delta Divisional Education Council with support of the Inuvik District Education Authority have decided to extend the closure of East Three Secondary School and East Three Elementary School through January 10th – January 14th 2022.

While COVID-19 case numbers are rapidly growing throughout the NWT, the Beaufort Delta Divisional Education Council and Inuvik DEA have made the decision to delay opening East Three Schools tentatively until **Monday, January 17th, 2022** as a precautionary response to the Omicron COVID-19 variant.

I want to emphasize that every school in the NWT has safety guidelines in place that were approved by the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer (OCPHO) and that these measures are in place to limit the introduction and transmission of COVID 19. I would like to acknowledge the efforts that our students, families and staff have made to keep schools safe thus far. Recognizing, however, that the COVID 19 situation has potential to grow we have decided to temporarily shift to remote learning in Inuvik. This will allow us to monitor the situation in Inuvik and it's surrounding communities.

Panbio testing kits for COVID 19 screening are available in Inuvik via school admin teams and Superintendent Devin Roberts at droberts@bdec.nt.ca or 867-678-5304. Screening kits should be used prior to students returning to school within 24 hours. The Beaufort Delta Divisional Education Council is in regular contact with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment to ensure that all necessary steps are followed to keep our students and staff safe and provide additional resources, such as technology, to support learning.

Remote learning packages and/or online remote learning resources will be made available January 10th 2022. We recognize that this shift has an impact on everyone and thank you for your continued commitment as we navigate the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and families. We will continue to keep you informed as the situation evolves. Mindful that changes to daily routines and changes to the supports provided through schools can be difficult for some students, below is a list of mental health supports students may wish to explore:

- **BreathingRoom** is a newly launched e-mental health program for youth aged 13-24. It supports youth and young adults in learning new ways to manage stress, depression and anxiety, as well as strengthening their existing coping skills. NWT youth can access this program at <https://app.breathingroom.me/register?code=XXQTGPUE>
- NWT Help Line – available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is 100% free, confidential and anonymous. Call **1-800-661-0844**.
- The [NWT Community Counselling Program](#) – is available free-of-charge to every NWT resident, in every region of the NWT. It helps people deal with a variety of issues including family violence, mental health issues and addictions. Call **(867) 678-8001 ext. 4**

Please continue to practice social distancing, and wear masks. Be safe everyone.

Mahsi Quyanainni Quana



Devin Roberts
Superintendent of Education
Beaufort Delta Divisional Education Council
Cell: 867 678 5304
Email: droboterts@bdec.nt.ca