



#### Media Relations Contact

867.678.5016  
mdia@inuvialuit.com

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **IRC ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY SUPPORTS: NEW HEALTH CLINIC COMING TO INUVIK** Inuvialuit Regional Corporation to launch one-stop health facility with dental and physician services

May 20, 2026

Inuvik, NT—Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) is pleased to announce a significant expansion of its community supports, with the introduction of health services under the Inuvialuit Health banner. In 2027, IRC will open a new medical clinic in Inuvik, designed to provide both dental and physician services in one convenient residential location.

This initiative is made possible through generous funding from the Government of Canada, including support from Indigenous Services Canada and Health Canada. The Government of Northwest Territories also played a role in bringing the partners to the table.

“IRC has a history of stepping up to fill urgent gaps for our people and community, and today’s lack of reliable dental and primary care is nothing short of a crisis,” says IRC chair, Erwin Elias. “By standing up this new clinic, we’re taking decisive action to bring care closer to home and make sure our people receive the quality health care they deserve, right here at home, when they need it most.”

The facility will provide comprehensive care with a team of rotating dentists, physicians, hygienists and dental therapists. The service model is still under development.

“This investment through Health Canada’s Oral Health Access Fund reflects our commitment to improving access to essential oral health services across the country,” says the Honourable Marjorie Michel, Minister of Health. “By supporting the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation’s new clinic in Inuvik, we are bringing dental care closer to home, where and when people need it most.”

“This project is a powerful example of how Indigenous Services Canada is supporting Inuit-led solutions that improve quality of life across the region,” said the Honourable Mandy Gull Masty, Minister of Indigenous Services. “Reliable access to dental and primary health care closer to home means people and families can get the care they need, when they need it.”

Opening dates for the clinic will be determined based on factors such as the readiness of the clinic and recruitment of health professionals. IRC remains committed to providing high-quality, accessible health care to the community and looks forward to sharing further updates as the project progresses.

#### **About Us**

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation represents the collective interests of Inuvialuit, advancing their rights, culture, and long-term prosperity. Through strong partnerships and community-driven programs, the organization supports economic growth, cultural preservation and opportunities for current and future generations.