The Office of the Chief Public Health Officer will consider compassionate, family reunification, and other exceptional circumstance exemptions from the travel restrictions on a case-by-case basis.

What is considered a Compassionate, Family Reunification or an Exceptional Circumstance Exemption?

**Compassionate Exemption**
- Death or illness in the family
- Childcare needs
- Fleeing domestic violence

**Family Reunification**
- Reunite with an NWT resident(s) that fall into at least one of the following groups: immediate family members, close relation

**Exceptional**
- Retrieval or drop off of family member or property
- Pre-relocation house hunting trip

If you do not fit one of these categories and are seeking exemption, contact Protect NWT by emailing protectnwt@gov.nt.ca or calling 8-1-1 or 1-833-378-8297 (outside NWT) for guidance or to submit a request.

How to apply

To seek a compassionate, family reunification or other exceptional circumstance exemption:

1. Contact Protect NWT at 8-1-1 or 1-833-378-8297 (outside NWT) or email protectnwt@gov.nt.ca
2. Explain your situation
   - You must be able to produce documentation to support your request
3. Submit a self-isolation plan
4. The Office of the Chief Public Health Officer will evaluate your request and review documentation required, taking into consideration a public health risk assessment of the circumstance.
5. A decision will be made, and an exceptional circumstance exemption approval will be issued, or not.
   - Due to a high volume of requests, please allow for as much time as possible. Response times are currently between 5-7 business days for non-urgent requests. Submit self-isolation plans at least 2-4 weeks in advance of travel date, if possible.
6. Before travelling into the NWT, you must have your self-isolation plan approved and receive your CPHO exceptional circumstance exemption approved.

For those in unsafe situations

We do not want you to be in an unsafe situation because of our orders. If you are in a dangerous or unsafe situation, please get yourself to safety whether that is at a shelter or in the home of a trusted friend or family member. There is no need to call 8-1-1 for permission. Your safety is most important. We all have a role to play in helping friends and family members stay safe and healthy.

Territorial Family Violence Shelters are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- NWT Family Violence Shelters (Shelter Network)

Frequently Asked Questions

- Declaring a public health emergency
- NWT travel restrictions

Related Information

- Thresholds and Criteria For Self-Isolation Exemptions to Isolate in a Non-hub Community For Compassionate Or Exceptional Reasons