



NORTHERN  
LAND COUNCIL

## MEDIA RELEASE

*Our Land, Our Sea, Our Life*

### **Northern Land Council supports NTG call for COVID vigilance – but don't forget the flu!**

**Thursday 7 July 2022**

The Northern Land Council supports NT Chief Minister Natasha Fyles' call for increased vigilance in response to the steady rise in reported COVID-19 cases and the emergence of the BA4 and BA5 Omicron variants in the NT.

But the recent rise in COVID cases is not the only cause for serious concern. The arrival of a dangerous new influenza variant means that all Territorians are at risk of increased infection, particularly those high-risk members of our community, including our young ones and elders out bush.

The NLC understands that there have been nearly 300 flu cases in the last week, with more than 4,600 reported so far in 2022.

NLC Chairman Samuel Bush-Blanasi said: "The NLC has very strict rules in place for our meetings. Our standards are higher than those set by the NT Chief Health Officer. We want to protect our old people and everyone who attends our meetings, including our members, our staff and all our mob we meet with.

"We've just completed a round of NLC Regional Council meetings across the NLC's seven regions and our members are really worried about the steady rise in COVID and influenza infections in their communities and homelands," said Mr Bush-Blanasi.

"There are some simple ways for our mob to stay safe: Wear a mask when social distancing isn't possible; stay away from big mobs of people; stay at home if you are crook; get a RAT test regularly and contact your clinic if you feel unwell or get a positive RAT test. And make sure that you and your family get their COVID and influenza jabs up to date."

**"STAY SAFE, STAY ON COUNTRY, CARE FOR FAMILY!"**