

Update on Community Pandemic Operations Moose Factory

Issued By: Moose Factory Public Health Centre
Date: Friday, November 20, 2009
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Update: # 18

Pandemic Severity Level: **Category 1 - 'Mild to Moderate'**

Due to the required 4 week Pandemic waiting period, we need to remain at the Category 1 Level. At this time the 4 week period will be over on December 12/09. Depending on the flu situation in our community, it is our hope that we will be able to downgrade our severity level to normal status. However, should our surveillance information indicate an increase in Influenza-like Illnesses again, we may need to upgrade our severity level to the appropriate category.

Surveillance

During this past week (Nov 16 -23) the number of students absent from the schools with flu symptoms and patients treated at the WGH are in within a range that reflects normal operations. We will continue to monitor the flu activity within the schools and hospital. We take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to the school staff that continue to provide us with daily absenteeism reports.

Community Flu Survey

The following is a brief summary of the Community Flu Survey that was conducted on Wed Nov 18:

- 688 community members were included in the survey;
- 18 (3%) of the community members surveyed had ILI on Nov 17/18;
- 254 (37%) of the community members surveyed had ILI but have recovered;
- 416 (61%) of the community members surveyed had no ILI at all.

The survey numbers are consistent with the predictions made by the health experts. They predicted that 50% of the young population would be the ones most affected by the H1N1 influenza. As well, a majority of our community appears to be healthy, in terms of being flu free. A more detailed report can be found on Moose Cree First Nation's website (www.moosecree.com) which includes stats of 688 community members. We take this opportunity to say "*Thank You Very Much*" to the staff of the following local organizations that participated in this important community survey: WGH, MCFN, Ministik School and Northern Stores.

Vaccination Clinics

- H1N1 Vaccination: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursdays at the Health Centre. Please call the Health Centre at 658 4220 to make an appointment.
- Seasonal Flu is also available daily at the Health Centre. A mass clinic will be held in December.

Community Gatherings & Events

In Category 1; Community events and gatherings are permitted under certain precautionary measures and interventions. The interventions include; screening (sign in procedure) monitoring and sending participants that have ILI home.

If you have any of the flu symptoms, stay home from any community or family events.

The improved community flu statistics are a direct result of your safe health prevention habits....keep up the excellent work.

We encourage all the children to participate and enjoy the Halloween events on Saturday.

We thank you all for your prayers and for taking care of each other.

We CANNOT AND WILL NOT let our guards down yet.