



**Health and Healthy Living
Deputy Minister**

Room 327, Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0V8

**Education, Citizenship and Youth
Deputy Minister**

Room 156, Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0V8

October 26, 2009

Principals, Funded and Non-Funded Independent Schools:

The H1N1 influenza vaccine is available in Manitoba. Enough H1N1 vaccine has been ordered for all Manitobans who need or want to be vaccinated. We expect that parents and caregivers may have questions, including who should get it and where it will be provided.

Please distribute the enclosed information about the H1N1 flu shot to parents as soon as possible. Many parents are familiar with classroom-by-classroom immunizations for children but, in the current plan, the H1N1 vaccination will be available through large clinics organized by regional health authorities. The H1N1 vaccine will also be available from a doctor's office once Manitobans most at risk for severe H1N1 illness have been vaccinated.

The Public Health Agency of Canada is recommending children from six months to nine years of age should receive the vaccine in two half-doses, given 21 days apart. School age children have not been identified as most at risk for severe illness unless they also have risk conditions.

H1N1 flu clinics are scheduled to begin the week of October 26, 2009. For more information on flu clinics in your area, please contact your local regional health authority.

Thank you for your continued assistance as we provide updated information about H1N1 to your staff, students and parents.

For the latest information on H1N1, please visit: www.manitoba.ca/flu. Information for schools can also be found at: www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/flu/index.html.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Arlene Wilgosh
Deputy Minister
Health and Healthy Living

Original signed by

Gerald Farthing
Deputy Minister
Education, Citizenship and Youth

*Attachment

- c. David Yeo, Director, Education Administration Services
Shelley Hasinoff, Coordinator, Independent Education Unit
Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools
Archdiocese of Winnipeg Catholic Schools
Catholic Schools Commission
The Gray Academy of Jewish Education