

DANGEROUS/INFECTIOUS DISEASES – PANDEMIC

Background

The Division is served by the Athabasca Health Authority and the Keewatin Yatthé, Kelsey Trail and Mamawetan Churchill River Health Regions. As such we are a part of the overall strategy in preventing and responding to a possible pandemic outbreak. Regional health authorities are responsible for local response.

“The purpose of Saskatchewan Health’s Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan is to provide a framework to assist the provincial government, regional health authorities, municipalities, First Nations and other key stakeholders to develop their own plans in preparation for a pandemic.

In the event of a pandemic, the priorities at the provincial and local levels will be to assure the ongoing delivery of essential health care services, both for prevention and treatment, while providing assistance to meet the emergency needs of the affected population.

The pandemic influenza response plan is a living document that is continuously updated and revised as new information becomes available.

This Pandemic Plan provides a mechanism to guide appropriate decision-making and action when it may be needed.”

(Public Pandemic Influenza Plan) March 2006

Procedures

1. Officials within the Division will be in contact with the Medical Health Officer to develop strategies to deal with a pandemic which would include:
 - 1.1 The prevention and education component.
 - 1.2 Preparation for effects on staff, students and families.
 - 1.3 Finding ways to keep our schools operational.

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 108, 109, 141, 175, 178, 190, 231 Education Act
Public Health Act