



Communications/Information Bulletin
H1N1 Flu Virus Pandemic

Date: December 18, 2009

Key Messages:

- Influenza-like-illness activity continues to decline locally, provincially and nationally.
- Similar to the Public Health Agency of Canada and Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Region of Waterloo Public Health is curtailing its H1N1 response efforts. Surveillance activities, however, will remain operational.
- Public Health immunization clinics for the H1N1 and seasonal vaccine are finished for 2009. There will be four additional (small scale) clinics in January 2010:
 - January 4 – Region of Waterloo Public Health Office – 150 Main St., Cambridge
 - January 7 – Region of Waterloo Public Health Office – 99 Regina St. S., Waterloo
 - January 12 – Region of Waterloo Public Health Office– 150 Main St., Cambridge
 - January 18 – Region of Waterloo Public Health Office – 99 Regina St. S., WaterlooBoth clinics will offer the H1N1 and seasonal vaccines. Please note that other providers are still offering vaccination in addition to Public Health.
- The H1N1 general information (telephone) line is now closed. Individuals who have questions about the H1N1 vaccine can contact Public Health at 519-883-2006 ext. 5273.
- Communications/Information bulletins will no longer be circulated on a weekly basis. A bulletin will only be distributed if new developments emerge or if urgent H1N1-related information needs to be communicated.
- The end of the second wave of H1N1 provides Region of Waterloo Public Health with an opportunity to gather key lessons about Waterloo Region's response effort. As such, an evaluation will be conducted in the first quarter of 2010. The evaluation will include gathering input from key stakeholders on what worked well, what could have been improved upon and what recommendations community partners have for future response activities to human health emergencies. More details will follow in the new year.
- Finally, a huge thank you on behalf of Region of Waterloo Public Health to all of our community partners for their incredible dedication, hard work and support throughout the H1N1 response effort. Your ongoing assistance was a pivotal as we collectively worked to protect the health of the citizens of Waterloo Region. Best wishes for a happy and relaxing holiday season to all of you, your staff teams and clients.