



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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PRHA launches 'seasonal flu shot' campaign

Dauphin- The Parkland Regional Health Authority (PRHA) has revised its seasonal flu shot campaign. Specific dates, times and locations for seasonal flu shot clinics have now been finalized. Smaller clinics will be held in various Parkland communities and five large, all-day flu shot clinics will once again be held in each of the Region's four districts (*East, West, North, Central*).

Dr. Anna Johnston, Medical Officer of Health for Parkland Region, says it's important to note that this immunization campaign is for people who meet current provincial eligibility criteria in terms of receiving the seasonal flu vaccine now.

"The Province has modified its eligibility requirements for whom the seasonal influenza vaccine is now recommended. The recommendations support the need to immunize those most at risk for complications from seasonal influenza as soon as possible-before we shift our prime attention to the pandemic H1N1 vaccine program," Johnston stated.

People for whom the seasonal flu vaccine is recommended now include:

- Individuals 65 years of age and over;
- Individuals who live in personal care homes and other long term care facilities;
- Others at greatest risk from seasonal flu and would be expected to benefit most:
 - Children 6 months to 23 months of age;
 - Pregnant women;
 - Individuals from 24 months to 65 years of age with risk conditions for complications from seasonal influenza.

If you miss your chance to get the seasonal flu shot at one of the clinics, you are advised to check with your local media listings, the PRHA website (at www.prha.mb.ca), or physician office/local medical clinic to find out about how best to receive your seasonal flu shot.

The PRHA continues to work with Manitoba Health and Healthy Living to prepare vaccination plans for the H1N1 Flu strain. Public notification will occur once the H1N1 vaccination framework is finalized at the national and provincial levels.

(Click on link below for flu shot clinic listings)

<http://www.prha.mb.ca/Media%20Releases/Dauphin%20Herald%20Revised%20Ad%20-%20Oct.%208%202009.pdf>

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