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News Release

“PNHR Adds More H1N1 Immunization Clinics”

Prairie North Health Region has added a number of clinic dates and locations through to the end of January to accommodate second dose H1N1 vaccination for children and to enable individuals who have not yet received their H1N1 or seasonal influenza immunization to get their shots.

“We always planned to hold additional clinics so that parents could bring their children who require it for the second dose H1N1 immunization,” said Diane Piper, PNHR Manager of Public Health Services.

Children age 6 months to under 3 years of age, who have already received the first dose H1N1 vaccine, require the second dose. Children age 3 years to 9 years who have chronic medical conditions also require the second dose H1N1 vaccine. These chronic conditions include heart or lung disorders such as asthma, cystic fibrosis, or bronchopulmonary dysplasia; diabetes, kidney disease or blood disorders; cancer, immunodeficiency, or immunosuppression; and children and adolescents with conditions treated for a long time with aspirin.

“A minimum 21 days is recommended between the first dose your child received, and the second dose your child requires,” explained Piper.

Healthy children between 3 years and 9 years of age do not require a second dose of H1N1 vaccine.

The additional clinics are scheduled in Cut Knife, Glaslyn, Goodsoil, Lashburn, Lloydminster, Loon Lake, Maidstone, Meadow Lake, Neilburg, Paradise Hill, Pierceland, St. Walburg, The Battlefords, and Turtleford. “Please check the Prairie North Health Region website at www.pnrha.ca, call our toll free H1N1 Immunization Information Line at 1-877-833-4161, or look in your local newspaper for dates and times of the clinic nearest you,” urged Piper.

“For anyone who has not yet received the H1N1 influenza vaccine or the seasonal flu shot, it’s not too late to be immunized,” said Piper. “We encourage everyone to get vaccinated against H1N1 and seasonal influenza. Immunization is without a doubt your best defence against the flu.”

Piper reminded the public that the flu season continues in Saskatchewan throughout the winter months. Prairie North Health Region will continue to have H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccine available to the end of February at Community/Public Health Offices throughout PNHR. Pneumococcal vaccine is also available for those at risk.

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MEDIA:

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