

# H1N1 Bulletin

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Issue No. 2

*This bulletin is being produced by the Departments of Health and Health Promotion and Protection to help keep you up-to-date on the status of the pandemic in Nova Scotia and across the country. It will be distributed at the beginning of each week. Please be advised that the bulletin will also be used to alert you of any urgent information.*

## Nova Scotia Update

As of July 20, Nova Scotia has 408 laboratory-confirmed cases of H1N1, with 10 hospitalizations. There have been no deaths and the majority of these cases are being reported from the Capital Health district, although all District Health Authorities have now reported cases. We are seeing severe cases of H1N1 across the province and continue to anticipate more cases throughout the summer months and into the fall.

As of July 17 the World Health Organization has decided to change the way that they will be reporting cases. Nova Scotia is looking at their recommendations and will decide what is best for Nova Scotia.

With the summer now upon us and children heading off to camps across the province, a toolkit for summer camp administrators has been developed and distributed across the province. This toolkit can be found on our website.

For tips on how to stay well and what to do if you have flu-like symptoms please visit the department of Health Promotion and Protection website.

## Summary of FluWatch Findings

**Week ending July 8, 2009** (Source: FluWatch, Public Health Agency of Canada)

The overall influenza activity level remains high for this time of the year, but has been decreasing in week 26, for the third consecutive week.

As of 8 July, 2009, all provinces and territories reported a total of 9,414 laboratory-confirmed cases of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009, including 878 hospitalizations and 37 deaths to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). While transmission continues to increase, the majority of illness has been mild thus far.

There was almost a 25% increase in the reported number of hospitalized Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 cases this

week. Since July 3, 2009, eight deaths, one in Alberta, one in Saskatchewan, one in Manitoba, three in Ontario and two in Quebec were reported.

On July 5, 2009, a new re-assortant influenza virus has been identified in two seasonal hog farm workers from Saskatchewan. The re-assortant influenza virus is comprised of genes derived from the North American triple re-assortant swine influenza A virus, first identified in Canada in 2005 and the current seasonal human H1N1 virus. This re-assortment has never been identified before.

## Resources:

For ongoing information and updates please visit [www.gov.ns.ca/hpp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp) or [www.phac-aspc.gc.ca](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca).

For the latest version of Respiratory Watch, HPP's detailed surveillance report, please visit <http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/cdpc/h1n1-influenza-groups.asp>.

For the latest update on the national situation, please visit <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch>.

For international information please visit [www.who.int](http://www.who.int).

