



Alberta Health Services

October 28, 2009

Dear School Principals:

Effective immediately we are deferring school immunization programs for Grade 5 and 9 students. Please notify your staff that **all school immunization rounds scheduled for November & December 2009 are cancelled.** We are sorry for this inconvenience, but please be assured that this is a program delay not a cancellation.

Public Health has redirected all nursing and support staff to the mass pandemic H1N1 / seasonal influenza immunization clinics. The public uptake at the clinics has been high and we need to redeploy all available staff to this work so that the maximum number of people can be immunized in the shortest amount of time.

We will contact you later in the fall to reschedule immunization rounds at your school. We anticipate immunization rounds will commence in early January 2010. We recognize the challenges that accommodating immunization date changes creates for you and we appreciate your support in our joint effort to protect students.

For your convenience, we have attached a "Letter to Parents" which we would request be printed in a school newsletter or copied and sent home to parents of students in Grades 5 and 9. If you have questions or concerns about this information please contact Laura Manz, Program Manager at 780-735-3023.

Sincerely,

Linda Duffley
Regional Manager – Public Health



October 27, 2009

Parents/Guardian of Grade 5 &/or Grade 9 Students:

School immunization programs for Grade 5 and 9 students will be delayed until January 2010. We apologize for this inconvenience.

Public Health – Edmonton Zone has redirected all nursing staff to support the mass H1N1 pandemic and seasonal influenza immunization clinics. All staff are needed to support this work.

We will contact schools to reschedule the Grade 5 and Grade 9 immunization rounds. The immunizations will start in January 2010. Having your child immunized is a parent's choice and will not happen without parental consent.

Thank you for your understanding. If you have questions or concerns about this information, please contact Laura Manz, Program Manager at 780-735-2023.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Duffley".

Linda Duffley
Regional Manager – Public Health