

Attachment 1

Pandemic Influenza Planning Status Update (January 9, 2007)

1. Toronto Public Health (TPH) Planning and Preparedness

	Activity	Progress since last report	Next steps	Issues pending Federal or Provincial direction
Disease Surveillance and Reporting	Weekly Summaries	Summaries of global events of interest to pandemic surveillance are being produced, circulated and posted on the Toronto Public Health website on a weekly basis.	This activity will be maintained on an ongoing basis.	
Operational Preparedness	TPH Health Guard exercise	A simulation exercise was held Oct. 12, 2006 to test the emergency management structure TPH will use to respond to pandemic influenza. The exercise provided senior managers an opportunity to gain emergency response experience.	The learnings from the exercise will inform future training. Other simulation exercises will be held during 2007.	
	Incident Management System (IMS) assignments and training	The IMS is the organizational structure which will be used to manage the response to pandemic influenza. In late 2006, senior TPH managers received preliminary assignments for the roles they will play.	Roles will be clarified and confirmed in early 2007 and role-specific training of managers will begin.	
Mass Vaccination Clinics	Memoranda of Understanding with School Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Schools have been identified as sites for mass vaccination clinics.▪ The Toronto District School Board has agreed in principle on a Memorandum of Understanding.	Wording of the Memorandum of Understanding will be finalized early in 2007 .	

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	Planning	The size of required staff complement has been identified and training modules have been completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential staff for clinics. Develop data management system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on the availability of vaccine, additional staff may be required to operationalize the clinics Scope of practice and liability issues regarding vaccinators.
Assessment and Care Centres	Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Province has identified TPH as the planning lead. A work group of the Toronto Pandemic Influenza Advisory Group has drafted a framework for assessment centres to be reviewed in early January 2007. 	Assess the staffing and resource needs for implementation of centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues related to staffing administration, legal status, equipment, supplies, and budget remain unresolved. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is still determining the mechanism for the distribution of antiviral medication for early treatment. More clarity is needed on the use of antivirals for prophylaxis.
Health Risk Assessment and Communications	Public Education Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "No tissue? Do the Sleeve Sneeze" advertising campaign was launched in November 2006 using posters in 57 transit shelters and 80 subway platforms as well as 20 ads in 13 publications. As part of an infection control promotion, 20,000 pocket tissue packets were distributed at TPH flu clinics. Three new infection control posters – Hand Washing, Hand Sanitizing, Cover Your Cough – as well as support documents were distributed to long-term care homes, hospitals and child care centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translate materials Complete outreach/distribution plan for translated material. Determine timing, budget, message, strategy for 2007. 	
Case Management and Contact Follow-up	Data Entry Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TPH is developing the capacity to enter febrile respiratory illnesses (FRIs) on iPHIS data base. Survey of other local health units on procedures for tracking of FRIs. 	Implement entry of FRIs into iPHIS by Spring 2007.	

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	Update Policies and Procedures to Conform with CPIP	Comprehensive review of CPIP has been completed.	Update policies and procedures for FRIs to incorporate CPIP recommendations regarding contact tracing and management.	

2. City of Toronto Planning and Preparedness

	Activity	Progress since last report	Next steps	Issues pending Federal or Provincial direction
Continuity of Operations Planning (COOPs)	Review of Priority Activities	Program areas have identified "Tier 1" operations i.e. priority activities that must be carried on in the event of a pandemic outbreak.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating divisions have been encouraged to revise their COOPs based on the learnings from the Health Guard Exercise. A compressed list of Tier 1 activities will be developed. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will host a follow up divisional planning meeting in early 2007. 	
Emergency Training Exercise	"Exercise Health Guard 06"	Divisional management structures and COOPs were tested at the October 2006 corporate simulation exercise which involved members of the Toronto Emergency Management Program Committee (TEMPC). The exercise was successful in highlighting the importance of preparedness and identifying outstanding issues.	TEMPC requested a follow-up exercise in 2007. OEM will plan the exercise with the support of TPH.	
Occupational Health and Safety	Employee Education and Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TPH provided an update on pandemic influenza at the Occupational Health and Safety Coordinating Committee (OHSCC). OHSCC has formed a working group to link with joint health and safety committees and representatives to determine employees' information needs, deal with their concerns and share information. 	TPH will provide information sessions for joint health and safety committees and representatives in late January 2007.	
Human Resources Policy	Policy Development and Consultation	Pandemic Influenza Human Resource policies have been drafted and are now being revised based on the Exercise Health Guard 2006 experience and input from Senior Management teams.	Employee and Labour Relations will be meeting with the unions and COTAPSAI early in 2007 to begin a dialogue regarding the City's Pandemic Influenza response	

2. City of Toronto Planning and Preparedness

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			plan, health and safety issues and the union's participation in the planning process.	
Stockpiling	Stockpile Equipment for pandemic influenza and Tier 1 Operations	TPH has begun to identify human and material resources required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TPH will develop a plan for enhancing stockpile. ▪ provide advice to City divisions on basic infection control resources. 	

3. Linkages with the Health Care System

	Activity	Progress since last report	Next steps	Issues pending Federal or Provincial direction
Physician Communication and Engagement	Outreach/Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physician Communication and Engagement Subcommittee met in November to discuss how best to provide pandemic influenza information to physicians. Non-respondents to March 2006 survey have been surveyed again to obtain emergency contact information. 	Gather data and enter in the Communicable Disease Alert System	Inability to communicate with all physicians in a timely manner.
Long Term Care Homes	Planning Meeting	TPH is planning to host a meeting for all long-term care homes (LTCH) in Toronto to share information on pandemic influenza planning, role of TPH, and issues to consider for LTCHs.	Tentative meeting date: Early 2007	

4. Working with the Community

	Activity	Progress since last report	Next steps	Issues pending Federal or Provincial direction
Homeless and Housing Service Providers	Education and Information Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sectoral planning guide distributed in July 2006. ▪ The Homeless and Housing Service Providers subcommittee met in September 2006. ▪ Presentations have been made to 239 managers of shelters and drop-ins as part of in-service education on infection control. 	A general information session will be held in early 2007 for managers of shelters, drop-ins, boarding homes and rooming houses.	
Sectoral Planning	Planning Guides	<p>Guides for the following sectors have been distributed and posted on the website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City divisions, agencies, boards and commissions; ▪ Business; ▪ Homeless and Housing Service Providers; ▪ Community Health Centres; ▪ Community Agencies. 	<p>Guides for the following sectors have been finalized and will be distributed and posted online in early 2007:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schools; ▪ Day Nurseries; ▪ Colleges and Universities; ▪ Correctional Facilities; ▪ Funeral Homes and Crematoriums. <p>All planning guides will be revised to reflect updates to the OHPIP and CPIP.</p>	