



TO: Travel Agencies in Peterborough County and City

RE: Influenza and Travel to Mexico

DATE: April 28, 2009

Human cases of swine influenza have been identified in Mexico and other parts of the world. Some countries are reporting cases under investigation. To date, there are no confirmed cases in Ontario. The World Health Organization has identified swine influenza as a public health emergency of international concern.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) recommends postponing elective or non-essential travel to Mexico until further notice. Please advise those who feel it is necessary to travel to Mexico to check the PHAC website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/index-eng.php>. The influenza vaccine can be obtained through family physicians or by calling the Health Unit Immunization Clinic at (705)743-1000 ext. 301. Please advise clients not to travel if they are ill.

Clients who are returning from Mexico and who are ill within seven days are asked to call their family physician or Telehealth (866)797-0000 and to advise of respiratory symptoms and recent travel. They are to remain home and off work or school while ill and to practice increased hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette (cover mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing).

#### Phone Numbers for more information

Public Health Agency of Canada: (800)454-8302

Peterborough County-City Health Unit: (705)743-1000

#### Important Websites and Documents

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for the Important Health Notice: go to: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/emu/ihn.html>

Public Health Agency of Canada: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/index-eng.php>

Centre for Disease Control:

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/content/SwineFluTravel.aspx>

World Health Organization:

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

Peterborough County-City Health Unit: [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca).