



Tuesday, November 17, 2009

For Immediate Release

## York Region begins offering H1N1 flu vaccine to all residents

*Beginning Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, The Regional Municipality of York will begin immunizing all residents over the age of six months who want and need protection*

**NEWMARKET** –The Regional Municipality of York has expanded the eligibility for the H1N1 flu vaccine. Effective Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, the H1N1 flu vaccine will be available to all York Region residents (over the age of six months) who need and want protection from the H1N1 flu virus.

“In response to the needs of our community, starting tomorrow, we will begin immunizing anyone who wants and needs an H1N1 flu vaccination,” said Dr. Karim Kurji, York Region’s Medical Officer of Health. “We have started to receive a steady supply of vaccine from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and I am confident we will be able to meet the public demand for immunization against the H1N1 flu virus.”

Influenza-like illnesses, like seasonal flu viruses and the H1N1 flu virus, are caused by viruses that are easy to catch and easy to spread. Symptoms include a headache, muscle aches, cough, sore throat, fever, fatigue and weakness.

York Region community H1N1 immunization clinics are also offering unadjuvanted vaccine to pregnant women only. Both adjuvanted and unadjuvanted H1N1 flu vaccines may also be available from participating family doctors. Communication will be forwarded to participating physicians regarding the expanded eligibility, providing residents another opportunity to receive their vaccination.

Most York Region community H1N1 flu shot clinics operate seven days a week and are scheduled to run until Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Municipality	Location and Address	Dates and Times
Town of Markham	8100 Warden Avenue (former Markham Hydro building)	<b>Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.</b>
City of Vaughan	Vellore Village Community Centre 1 Villa Royale Avenue	<b>Monday to Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.</b>
Town of Richmond Hill	Rouge Woods Community Centre 110 Shirley Drive	<b>Monday to Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.</b>
Town of Newmarket	Ray Twinney Recreation Complex 100 Eagle Street	<b>Monday to Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.</b>
Town of Georgina	Kin Community Hall 3 Fairpark Lane, Sutton	<b><i>Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays only</i> 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.</b>

For updated information on this year’s flu season, please visit [www.york.ca/H1N1](http://www.york.ca/H1N1) or contact **York Region Health Connection** at 1-800-361-5653.

The H1N1 flu virus vaccine is being provided to York Region residents at no cost. For electronic tracking purposes only, residents attending the H1N1 flu virus clinics are encouraged to bring their health card and/or driver's license. Vaccine will be offered to residents who attend a clinic without their health card.

**Clinic dates and locations may be subject to change. Before going to a clinic, residents are encouraged to confirm clinic locations, dates and times on the website [www.york.ca/H1N1](http://www.york.ca/H1N1) or by calling York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653.**

[Map locations and driving directions for each of the five immunization clinics are available by clicking here.](#)

- 30 -

**Media Contacts:** Jennifer Mitchell-Emmerson, Community and Health Services, York Region  
Phone: 905 830-4444, ext. 4016 or After-hours Cell: 905 716-9753  
Email: [jennifer.mitchellemmerson@york.ca](mailto:jennifer.mitchellemmerson@york.ca)

Patrick Casey, Director, Corporate Communications, York Region  
Phone: 905 830-4444, ext. 1235 or Cell: 905 715-8211  
Email: [patrick.casey@york.ca](mailto:patrick.casey@york.ca)