

## **Pandemic Influenza Readiness Planning - Phase 1**

**Executive Sponsor:** Milton Sussman

**Project Sponsor:** Dr. Margaret Fast

**Program/Dept:** Public Health

**Project Manager:** Christa Ferreira

**Start Date:** November 2006

**Finish Date:** November 2007

Under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, the project will develop an action plan to prepare Winnipeg for an influenza pandemic and help to slow and reduce the spread of the pandemic influenza virus. Six project teams have been convened:

- Surveillance and Laboratory
- Vaccine and Antiviral
- Communications
- Health Services
- Public Health Measures
- Emergency services (Disaster Management)

Failure to plan for pandemic influenza will likely result in uncoordinated and ineffectual sub-optimal use of resources, resulting in reduced access to service, threats to patient safety and, almost certainly, an increase of morbidity, mortality and health expenditures.