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The Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan (the Plan) was developed through a collaborative process between Federal, Provincial, Territorial, local and regional governments and non-government stakeholders.

Development of the Plan was coordinated by Health Canada with direction from the Pandemic Influenza Committee, a federal, provincial and territorial advisory committee. The Plan is provided for information purposes only as an outline for the planning, preparedness and response to pandemic influenza by governments within their respective roles and responsibilities.

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**Position of contact:** Director of Immunization and Respiratory Infections Division  
Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control (CIDPC)  
Health Canada

**Address of contact:** Tunney's Pasture, A.L. 0603E1  
K1A 0K9  
Fax: (613) 998-6413

A large, semi-transparent, circular image of a virus particle, likely an influenza virus, is centered in the background. It shows a spherical structure with a textured surface and a darker core.

# **Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan**

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## **Foreword and Acknowledgements**

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*T*he Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan maps out how Canada will prepare for and respond to a pandemic influenza outbreak. It does so by clarifying the roles and responsibilities of those who would be involved in such a public health emergency – governments at all levels, public health officials and front-line health care workers. As a practical working tool, it also provides guidelines and checklists to assist various jurisdictions with their emergency planning.

The ultimate goal of the Plan is to minimize serious illness and death, in the event of an influenza pandemic, and also to ease any social or economic disruption that might be caused by a massive outbreak of the disease. Canada has had a pandemic influenza plan since 1988, and it continues to evolve based on research, evidence and lessons learned.

The **Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan** is the product of extensive dialogue and collaboration within the *Pandemic Influenza Committee (PIC)*. Created in 2001, PIC consists of 17 voting members, including representatives from all provinces and territories. Expertise within PIC includes Chief Medical Officers of Health, epidemiologists, virologists, communicable disease specialists, clinical, public health and laboratory specialists.

Committee members, in turn, have been greatly assisted through a process of consultation with a wider group of stakeholders, including the health non-government organization community, local governments, emergency planners, and bioethicists.

For the past two years, we have had the privilege of serving as co-chairs of the Pandemic Influenza Committee. It has been an immensely enriching experience, to watch the current document take shape and to see the sheer amount of time, dedication and commitment poured into the creation of the current document. We would like to thank all those whose contribution helped bring the Plan off the “drawing board” and into reality.

**Arlene King**  
Director  
Immunization and Respiratory  
Infections Division  
Health Canada

**Yves Robert**  
Ancien médecin conseil en maladies  
infectieuses  
Direction de la protection de la santé publique  
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux  
du Québec

February 2004

# **Pandemic Influenza Committee**

---

## **Federal Co-Chair**

Dr. Arlene King, Director  
Immunization and Respiratory Infections Division  
Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and  
Control  
Health Canada

## **Provincial Co-Chair (Past)**

Dr. Yves Robert  
Ancien médecin conseil en maladies infectieuses  
Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux du  
Québec

## **Alberta**

Dr. Karen Grimsrud  
Deputy Provincial Health Officer  
Alberta Health and Wellness

## **British Columbia**

Dr. Danuta Skowronski  
Physician Epidemiologist  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

## **Manitoba**

Dr. Joel Kettner  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Manitoba Health

### *Alternate*

Dr. Susan Roberecki  
Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Manitoba Health

## **New Brunswick**

Dr. Wayne MacDonald  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
New Brunswick Department of Health

## **Newfoundland/Labrador**

Dr. Faith Stratton  
Director Disease Control and Epidemiology  
Department of Health and Community Services

### *Alternate*

Ms. Cathy O'Keefe  
Disease Control Nursing Specialist  
Department of Health and Community  
Services

## **Nova Scotia**

Dr. Jeff Scott  
Provincial Medical Officer of Health  
Nova Scotia Department of Health

### *Alternate*

Dr. Joanne Langley  
Clinical Trials Research Centre  
Department of Pediatrics  
Dalhousie University

## **Nunavut**

Ms. Carolina Palacios  
Communicable Disease Consultant  
Health Protection Unit, Department of Health and  
Social Services

## **North West Territories**

Ms. Cheryl Case  
Communicable Diseases Consultant  
Department of Health and Social Services

### *Alternate*

Ms. Wanda White  
Population Health  
Health Protection Unit  
Department of Health and Social Services

## **Ontario**

Dr. Karim Kurgi (Acting)  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

### *Alternate*

Dr. Erika Bontovics  
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term  
Care

## **Prince Edward Island**

Dr. Lamont Sweet  
Chief Health Officer  
Department of Health and Social Services

## **Quebec**

Dr. Monique Landry  
Médecin conseil en maladies infectieuses  
Direction générale de la santé publique

### *Alternates*

Dr. Horacio Arruda  
Directeur de la Protection de la santé publique  
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux

Louise Alain, Épidémiologiste  
Bureau de Surveillance et de Vigie sanitaire  
Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux  
du Québec

### **Saskatchewan**

Dr. Eric Young  
Deputy Chief Medical Officer  
Saskatchewan Health

### **Yukon**

Dr. Bryce Larke  
Yukon Medical Health Officer

### **Bioethicist**

Dr. Caroline Alfieri, Virologist/Bioethicist  
Centre de recherche, Hôpital Ste-Justine  
Montreal, Quebec

### **Liaison Members**

Dr. Ezzat Farazad  
Community Medicine Specialist  
First Nation's and Inuit Health Branch  
Health Canada

Dr. Theresa Tam, Medical Specialist  
Immunization and Respiratory Infections Division  
Health Canada

Mr. Frank Welsh, Director  
Office of Emergency Preparedness  
Planning and Training  
Health Canada

### **Past Members**

Quebec Dr. Yves Robert  
(Past Provincial Co-Chair)

Ontario Dr. Colin D'Cunha  
Nunavut Ms. Mehrun Forth

Dr. Victor Marchessault, Past Chair\*  
National Advisory Committee on Immunization  
(NACI)

### **Working Groups**

#### ***Infection Control and Occupational Health Working Group***

Dr. Mary Vearncombe - Chair  
Sunnybrook and Women's College Health  
Sciences Centre

Ms. Merle Agard  
Occupational Health Nurse Association

Ms. Patricia Bleackley  
Yukon Communicable Disease Control

Mr. Blair Cutcliffe  
Funeral Services Association of Canada

Mrs. Rolande D'Amour  
Health Canada

Dr. Patty Daly  
Vancouver Richmond Health Board

Dr. Bonnie Henry  
Toronto Public Health

Ms. Judy Morrison  
Health Canada

Ms. Laurie O'Neil  
Infection Control and Prevention Consultant

Ms. Shirley Paton  
Health Canada

Ms. Joan Rannie  
Canadian Red Cross

Dr. Ross Upshur  
Sunnybrook and Women's College  
Health Sciences Centre

Dr. Thomas Wilson  
Regional Coroner, London, Ontario

Dr. Alice Wong  
Royal University Hospital  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

### ***Health Services Working Group***

Ms. Merle Agard  
Ontario Occupational Health Nurses  
Association

Jeannine Banack  
Mt-Sinai Hospital

Ms. Sandra Callery  
Canadian Hospital Infection Control  
Association (CHICA)

Mrs. Rolande D'Amour  
Health Canada

Dr. Theresa Tam  
Health Canada

Dr. Mike Tarrant\*\*  
University of Calgary, Alberta

Dr. Ross Upshur  
Sunnybrook and Women's College Health  
Sciences Centre

Dr. Robin Williams  
Regional Municipality of Niagara

### *Surveillance Working Group*

Ms. Cathy O'Keefe - Chair  
Department of Health and Community  
Services, Newfoundland and Labrador

Ms. Louise Alain  
Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux  
du Québec

Dr. Nathalie Bastien  
National Microbiology Laboratory

Ms. Carole Beaudoin  
Manitoba Health

Mr. Ken Brandt  
Provincial Laboratory, Saskatchewan

Ms. Ann Coombs  
Nova Scotia Department of Health

Monique Douville-Fradet  
Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux  
du Québec

Dr. Margaret Fearon  
Canadian Public Health Laboratory Network

Ms. Jamie Jensen  
College of Family Physicians of Canada

Dr. Theodore Kuschak  
National Microbiology Laboratory

Mr. Marc LeCouffe  
Department of Health and Wellness  
New Brunswick

Dr. Yan Li  
National Microbiology Laboratory

Shelley Lothian  
College of Family Physicians of Canada

Ms. Jeannette Macey  
Health Canada

Ms. Teresa Mersereau  
Alberta Health and Wellness

Dr. Tracey Parnell  
Provincial coordinator/recruiter for  
British Columbia

Dr. Danuta Skowronski  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

Ms. Susan Squires  
Health Canada

Dr. Lamont Sweet  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Prince Edward Island

Dr. Theresa Tam  
Health Canada

Dr. Mike Tarrant\*\*  
University of Calgary, Alberta

Ms. Wanda White  
Government of Northwest Territories

Dr. Wikke Walop  
Health Canada

Mr. Brian Winchester  
Health Canada

### *Laboratory Working Group*

Dr. Margaret Fearon - Chair  
Canadian Public Health Laboratory Network

Dr. Michel Couillard  
Institut national de santé publique du  
Québec

Dr. Francisco Diaz-Mitoma  
Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario

Dr. Theodore I. Kuschak  
Health Canada

Dr. Spencer Lee  
Nova Scotia Department of Health

Dr. Yan Li  
Health Canada

Dr. Jim Talbot  
Provincial Laboratory of Public Health, Alberta

### *Non-Traditional Sites Working Group*

Ms. Sandra Callery - Chair  
Canadian Hospital Infection Control  
Association (CHICA)

Mr. Bill Alexander  
St John Ambulance

Mr. Mark Allen  
Department of Health and Wellness  
New Brunswick

Ms. Lynn Cochrane  
Department of Health and Wellness  
New Brunswick

Ms. Judy Dougherty  
Health Canada

Mr. Ron Fenwick  
Family Services and Housing, Manitoba

Ms. Mehrun Forth  
Health and Social Services, Nunavit

M. Patrice Guyard  
Ministère de la Santé et des Services  
sociaux, Québec

Mr. Kelly Hart  
Health Canada

Mr. Garnet Matchett  
Saskatchewan Health  
Mr. Don Shropshire  
Canadian Red Cross Society

***Clinical Care Working Group***

Dr. Jim Kellner - Co-Chair  
Alberta Children's Hospital  
Dr. Jo-Anne Langley - Co-Chair  
Clinical Trials Research Centre  
Dalhousie University  
Ms. Joanne Brubacher  
Nurse Practitioner  
Ms. Judy Dougherty  
Health Canada  
Dr. Charles Frenette  
Hôpital Charles Lemoyne  
Mr. Brad Gregor  
Hay River Community Health Board  
Dr. Thomas J. Marrie  
University of Alberta  
Dr. Allison McGeer  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
Dr. Lindsay Nicolle  
University of Manitoba  
Dr. Rose Marie Ramsingh  
Health Canada  
Dr. Martha Ruben-Campione  
Biomedical writer  
Dr. Mike Tarrant\*\*  
University of Calgary, Alberta  
Dr. Robin Williams  
Regional Niagara Public Health Department

***Public Health Measures***

Dr. Karen Grimsrud - Chair  
Alberta Health and Wellness  
Dr. Maureen Baikie  
Government of Nova Scotia  
Ms. Margaret Bodie-Collins  
Health Canada  
Ms. Lynn Cochrane  
Department of Health and Wellness  
New Brunswick  
Dr. Brent Friesen  
Calgary Health Region  
Dr. Ian Gemmill  
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and  
Addington Health Unit, Ontario

Dr. Digby Horne  
Manitoba Health  
Dr. Marcia M. Johnson  
Capital Health Authority, Alberta  
Ms. Kay MacIsaac  
Department of Health, Nova Scotia  
Ms. Kathy Mestery  
Manitoba Health  
Ms. Peggy Richardson  
Health Canada  
Dr. Susan Roberecki  
Manitoba Health  
Ms. Jill Sciberras  
Health Canada  
Dr. Theresa Tam  
Health Canada  
Dr. Susan Tamblyn  
Perth District Health Unit, Ontario  
Dr. Dave Williams  
Health Canada

***Vaccine Working Group***

Dr. Susan Tamblyn - Chair  
Perth District Health Unit, Ontario  
Ms. Janet Cooper  
Canadian Pharmacists Association  
Dr. Karen Grimsrud  
Alberta Health and Wellness  
Dr. Monika Naus  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control  
Ms. Cathy O'Keefe  
Department of Health and Community  
Services, Newfoundland  
Dr. Pamela Orr  
Health Sciences Center, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Dr. Yves Robert  
Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux  
du Québec  
Dr. Ann Roberts  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Nunavit  
Dr. Theresa Tam  
Health Canada

***Antivirals Working Group***

Dr. Susan Tamblyn - Chair  
Perth District Health Unit, Ontario  
Dr. Fred Aoki  
University of Manitoba

Dr. Charles Bayliff  
Canadian Pharmacists Association

Dr. Charles Frenette  
Hôpital Charles-Lemoyne  
Université de Sherbrooke, Québec

Dr. Victor Marchessault, Past Chair  
National Advisory Committee on  
Immunization (NACI)\*

Dr. Monika Naus  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

Jill Scibarras  
Health Canada

Dr. Danuta Skowronski  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

Dr. Theresa Tam  
Health Canada

Dr. Geoffrey Taylor  
Alberta Health and Wellness

### **Additional Health Canada Contributors**

Leonor Alvarado  
Estelle Arsenault  
Lisa Belzak  
Shelley Deeks  
Margie Lauzon  
Jeannette Macey  
Sarah Poirier  
John Rainford  
Jennifer Rendall  
Carole Robinson-Oliver  
Andrew Swift  
John Spika  
Lorretta Scott  
Nicholas Trudel  
Tom Wong

### **With special thanks to the:**

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- Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
- Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs
- Canadian College of Family Physicians

- Canadian Geriatrics Society
- Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee
- Canadian Infectious Disease Society
- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Nurses Association
- Canadian Nursing Coalition for Immunization
- Canadian Occupational Health Nurses Association
- Canadian Public Health Association
- Canadian Public Health Laboratory Forum
- Canadian Paediatric Society
- Canadian Pharmacists Association
- Canadian Police Association
- College of Family Physicians
- Community and Hospital Infection Control Association
- Department of National Defense
- Fédération des médecins omnipraticiens du Québec
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