

Public Health Advisory

Public Health Notice / Influenza Vaccine Delays

YELLOWKNIFE (**September 28, 2006**) – Dr. André Corriveau, the Chief Medical Health Officer, has issued a notice regarding an expected delay in the start-up of the influenza vaccine program in the Northwest Territories.

Due to production problems experienced by the manufacturers, distribution of the vaccine to the provinces and territories in Canada will occur nearly one month late. Due to this expected delay, the start-up of the annual flu immunization programs by public health nurses will occur later than usual.

The flu season in the NWT traditionally does not begin until late December and therefore, there should be sufficient time to complete our immunization program despite this expected delay. Public Health nurses and community health nurses will be ready to vaccinate as soon as supplies become available. Information regarding immunization dates and times will be provided at the community level.

Residents at greatest risk of the flu will be immunized first once the campaign begins in November. As usual, elders, children under 24 months, and those with chronic diseases will be given priority.

For More Information:

Damien Healy Manager, Communications Department of Health Tel: (867) 920-8927