



# PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLAN

For the Communities of:  
Canoe Creek  
Soda Creek  
Williams Lake

“The pandemic influenza clock is ticking.  
We just don’t know what time it is.”



Prepared by:  
*THREE CORNERS HEALTH SERVICES SOCIETY*  
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# **Pandemic Overview**

# Pandemic Influenza

**Influenza** is a respiratory illness caused by influenza virus type A, B or C. It is characterized by sudden onset with fever and cough, plus additional symptoms, which may include sore throat, joint pain or muscle pain and extreme exhaustion. Spread occurs either through the air by formation of droplet aerosols, or through direct contact with respiratory secretions. Influenza can spread rapidly through a community or an institution. It can cause severe illness and death, especially among those who are elderly or debilitated. Because the virus continuously evolves in minor ways, epidemics take place every year, and vaccine to protect against illness needs to be reformulated every year as well. In Canada and throughout the rest of the Northern Hemisphere, annual influenza epidemics occur between the months of October to April.

**A pandemic** is an epidemic that occurs worldwide or over a very broad area, crossing international boundaries and usually affecting a large number of people. Only the type A of the virus causes influenza pandemics.

**History of pandemic influenza:** There have been three influenza pandemics within the last 100 years. The Spanish Flu pandemic (A/H1N1) in 1918 is estimated to have infected half the world's population and caused from 20 to 40 million deaths, with attack rates and mortality highest among adults 20 to 50 years of age. Between 30,000 and 50,000 Canadians died. The Asian flu pandemic in 1957 (A/H2N2) caused about 70,000 deaths in the US, with immunity rare in those under 65, but mortality rates highest in the elderly. The Hong Kong Flu pandemic in 1968 (A/H3N2) was the mildest of the three pandemics, affecting all age groups on all continents, causing about 34,000 deaths in the US.

**Avian influenza:** Birds, including domestic poultry and migratory waterfowl, are an important reservoir for influenza viruses. Avian influenza causes a spectrum of illness from mild to severe. Infected birds may have reduced egg production, coughing, sneezing or diarrhea. They shed virus in saliva, nasal secretions and feces, and may spread the virus to other flocks or directly to humans.

**Swine Influenza - Influenza A (H1N1):** Influenza A (H1N1) is a viral infection that can spread easily and quickly among swine/pigs. Although different strains of swine flu virus circulate year-round among pigs, the virus does not usually spread to people. In 2009, a serious outbreak of Influenza A (H1N1) spread throughout a number of countries, including Mexico, USA and Canada eventually leading to a pandemic being declared. Hundreds of thousands of lab confirmed cases occurred world-wide with thousands of deaths resulting. The virus is now capable of spreading, not only from pig to person, but person to person. In August 2010, the World Health Organization declared that the H1N1 pandemic had entered the post-pandemic phase (World Health Organization, 2010).

# Preparing for Pandemic Influenza

## Why Plan for a Pandemic?

Pandemics are unpredictable, but occur on average three or four times a century. Experts agree that another influenza pandemic is inevitable and possibly imminent (World Health Organization, January 15, 2004). Planning ahead for such an event is important in order to minimize serious illness and overall deaths. It is also important in order to minimize the social disruption that would probably result.

## Estimated Impact of Pandemic Influenza

The potential impact of Pandemic Influenza on First Nation People in BC is estimated at:

- More than 2500 will be clinically ill
- More than 500 will require hospital care
- As many as 150 could die

It is estimated that social infrastructure will be greatly impacted, particularly with regard to health workers, emergency services and other community service workers. There will likely be closure of public places and services. Resources will become scarce, necessitating the convergence of limited services.

## British Columbia “Planning Assumptions” (BCPIPP, section 1.1, August 2005)

- Based on the last two pandemics, it is estimated that the next pandemic virus will arrive in Canada within 3 months after it emerges in another part of the world. This time could be much shorter due to increases in the volume and speed of air travel.
- The first peak of illness in Canada will occur within 2 to 4 months after the virus arrives in Canada.
- The first peak of mortality will be one month after the peak in illness.
- If the pandemic virus arrives close to the usual annual flu season, the time interval between emergence, arrival and/or peak illness and mortality will be shortened.
- A pandemic usually has two or more waves, either in the same year or in successive flu seasons.
- A second wave will occur within 3 to 9 months of the initial outbreak wave and may cause more serious illnesses and deaths than the first.
- Each wave of illness will last 6 to 8 weeks.

- Vaccine will be the primary means of prevention of pandemic influenza. The supply will be limited during the early stage of the pandemic; therefore, plans for the first wave should assume lack of influenza vaccine and priorities for vaccination will need to be established.
- A substantial proportion of the workforce will not be able to work for some period of time due to illness in themselves or in their family members.
- Health care workers are likely to be at higher risk of illness due to their exposure.
- Effective preventive and therapeutic resources will be in short supply.
- Essential community services are likely to be disrupted.



## **Goals and Objectives of this Plan**

Specific objectives of influenza pandemic planning for Three Corners Health Services Society:

- To minimize serious illness and overall deaths
- To minimize suffering
- To increase awareness
- To develop a plan that ensures readiness to respond appropriately to an influenza pandemic
- To develop a plan that is consistent with Interior Health, and FNIH Pacific Region
- To develop a plan that is a living document, changing to meet future needs

# Public Health and Prevention

Public health management of ill individuals:

Recommendations include the need for basic hygienic practices such as frequent hand washing, covering the mouth when coughing, and disinfecting of surfaces. Also, they include advising ill individuals when and where to seek medical attention, and how to minimize potential exposure when doing so.

## **Recommendations Regarding Personal Hygiene**

- Use disposable tissue for nose and discard immediately after use into the trash
- Cover nose/mouth with sleeve or tissue when sneezing or coughing, and dispose tissue in the garbage immediately
- Keep hands away from mouth, eyes and nose
- Remain home with influenza-like illness until symptoms resolve
- Individuals who are sick with influenza symptoms should be isolated

## **Community Based Disease Control Strategies**

Traditional public health control measures alone will probably not be effective at controlling spread of pandemic influenza in the community. Control will likely require availability and use of an effective vaccine. The following are recommendations for community-based strategies:

- Self-isolation is strongly recommended
- There may be a need to advise against public gatherings at specific locations
- Hand sanitizer stations may be valuable to consider in certain high-risk gatherings

## **Isolated Communities**

There may be greater potential in isolated communities for delaying introduction of a pandemic influenza strain until vaccines or antivirals become available. In these communities, the use of more restrictive public health measures may be beneficial in the event of a pandemic.

*See Appendix 1: Pandemic Self Care Guide for the Secwepemc Communities*

# Emergency Response

Pre-Pandemic

# Emergency Response - Pre-Pandemic

## Incident Command Structure

**Incident Commander:** Lori Sellars, Health Director  
**Alternate(s):** Stacey Isaac, Nursing Manager  
Pamela Bernier, Community Health Nurse

*Role: The command function is directed by the Incident Commander who is the person in charge at the incident and who must be fully qualified to manage the response. Their duties are to:*

- Establish command
- Ensure responder safety
- Assess incident priorities
- Determine operational objectives
- Develop and implementing the Incident Action Plan
- Develop an appropriate organizational structure
- Maintain a manageable span of control
- Manage incident resources
- Coordinate overall emergency activities
- Coordinate TCHSS activities with the activities of outside agencies
- Authorize the release of information to the media
- Keep track of costs

**Spokesperson:** Stacey Isaac, Nursing Manager  
**Alternate(s):** Lori Sellars, Health Director

*Role: The spokesperson will provide relevant information to the appropriate audience as needed during the emergency.*

**Operations Manager** Stacey Isaac, Nursing Manager  
**Alternate(s):** Pamela Bernier, Community Health Nurse

*Role: The operations person is responsible for carrying out the response activities described in the Incident Action Plan. Their duties are to:*

- Direct and coordinate all tactical operations, ensuring safety of operations personnel
- Set up the organizational structure of the operations
- Determine the resources required for operations
- Assist the Incident Commander in developing objectives and strategies for the incident
- Implement the operational portion of the Incident Action Plan
- Request (or release) resources through the Incident Commander
- Keep the Incident Commander informed of the situation and resource status within operation

**Planning Manager:** Tasha Cunningham, Project Manager  
**Alternate(s):** Wenona Alphonse, Health Clinic Coordinator – Sugar Cane

*Role: In smaller incidents the Incident Commander is responsible for planning; but in larger incidents the Incident Commander establishes a Planning Section whose duties are to:*

- Collect, evaluate and display information about the incident
- Develop incident action plans for each operational period, conduct long range planning, and develop plans for demobilization at the end of each incident
- Maintain resource status information on all equipment and personnel assigned to the incident
- Maintain incident documentation

**Logistics Manager:** Lynn Dunford, Holistic Wellness Manager  
**Alternate(s):** Sheila Mack, HCC-LPN

*Role: This section is responsible for all the services and support needs of an incident, including obtaining and maintaining essential personnel, facilities, equipment, and supplies. It is geared to support incident responders; for example they would provide care for the responders not the victims. Their duties are to:*

- Determine the size of the incident
- Complexity of support required
- Likely duration of the incident

**Financial Manager/Admin:** Cheryl Pope, Financial Manager  
**Alternate(s):** Tasha Cunningham, Project Manager

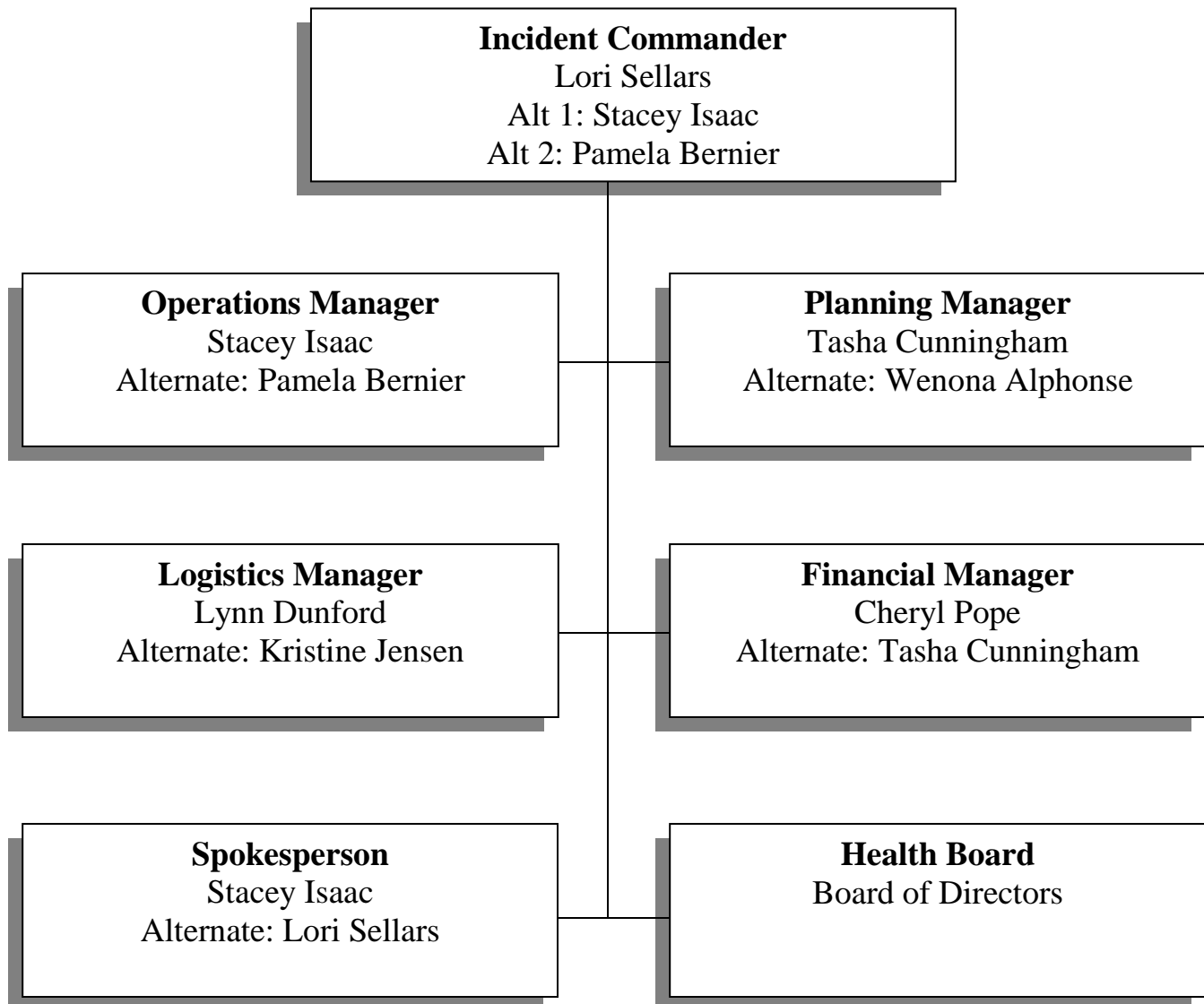
*Role: The Finance/Admin operation is set up for any incident that may require on-site financial management. Larger incidents increasingly require Finance/Admin Sections to monitor costs. The section is especially important when the incident is of a magnitude that may result in a claim for insurance or senior government funds. Their duties are to:*

- Procurement of special equipment
- Contracting with a vendor
- Preparation of cost estimate of alternative strategies

**Health Board:** Board of Directors

*Role: The role of the board will be to provide guidance and support to Three Corners Health Services Society to deal with community operations.*

## Three Corners Health Services Society Incident Command Structure



*Note: Training on the Incident Command System was provided on October 31, 2012*

To best prepare for the possibility of a pandemic outbreak, this plan must be exercised and revised as needed. The plan will be reviewed and revised annually. An exercise of this plan will be completed annually.

**Responsibility**

Three Corners Health Services Society will work in conjunction with community emergency response committees.

**Community Demographics**

Canoe/Dog Creek:

0 – 23 months:	1
2 – 19 years:	56
20 – 64 years:	125
65 years +:	17
<b>Total number of community members:</b>	<b>199</b>

Soda/Deep Creek:

0 – 23 months:	4
2 – 19 years:	45
20 – 64 years:	103
65 years +:	18
<b>Total number of community members:</b>	<b>170</b>

Sugar Cane:

0 – 23 months:	7
2 – 19 years:	86
20 – 65 years:	147
65 years +:	23
<b>Total number of community members:</b>	<b>263</b>

Updated October 29, 2013

## Essential Service Providers

Three Corners Health Services Society will assign administrative, counselling and nursing staff with duties in the event of a pandemic. The duties will be as follows:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Area of Assistance During Pandemic</b>
Health Director	Incident Commander Alternate Spokesperson
Project Manager	Planning Manager Alternate Financial Manager
Medical Transportation Receptionist	Travel Assistance
Receptionist	Travel Assistance
Sugar Cane Health Clinic Coordinator/Receptionist	Alternate Planning Manager Travel Assistance
Financial Manager	Financial Manager
Home Visitor x 2	Counselling
Family Counsellor	Counselling
New Beginnings Program Manager	Counselling
Holistic Wellness Program Manager	Logistics Manager Counselling
Nursing Manager	Operations Manager Spokesperson Alternate Incident Commander
Home Care LPN	Elders Care Immunizations
CHN, Pamela Bernier	Immunizations Alternate Operations Manager Alternate Incident Commander
CHN, Kristine Jensen	Immunizations Alternate Logistics Manager
Home Support Worker x3	Elders Care Alternate Immunization
Community Health Representatives	Misc. Volunteer



### Certified First Aid Attendants-2013

<b>Three Corners Health Services Society</b>		<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Sheila Mack	CPR - C	November 14, 2014	250-398-9814
Caprice Johnson	Level 1	June 5, 2014	250-398-9814
Stacey Isaac	CPR - C	November 14, 2014	250-398-9814
Kristine Jensen	CPR - C		250-398-9814
Pamela Bernier	CPR - C	November 14, 2014	250-398-9814
Mary Harry	Level 1	February 9, 2014	250-398-9814
Winn Anderson	CPR - C	November 14, 2014	250-398-9814
Tasha Cunningham	Level 1	November 14, 2014	250-398-9814
<b>Williams Lake Health Station</b>			<b>Contact Information</b>
Cecilia Setah	CPR - C	November 14, 2014	250-296-3532
Wenona Alphonse	Level 1	February 9, 2014	250-296-3532
Mellissa Grant	CPR - C	November 14, 2012	250-296-3532
<b>Soda Creek Health Station</b>			<b>Contact Information</b>
Edith William	CPR - C		250-989-2355
<b>Canoe Creek Health Station</b>			<b>Contact Information</b>
Martina Camille	CPR - C	March 24, 2013	250-440-5822

## Maintenance Personnel

<b>Williams Lake Band</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Joey Thomas-Maintenance	250-296-0088 (w)
Mellissa Grant – Water Testing	250-296-3532 (w)
<b>Soda Creek Band</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Kelly Quon-Water Maintenance/Maintenance Supervisor	250-989-2311 (w)
Robert Sellars - Maintenance	250-989-2311 (w)
<b>Canoe Creek Band</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Jimmy Rosette – Maintenance/Water Testing	250-440-5645 (w)
Cindy Camille – Water Testing	250-440-5822 (w)

## Essential Service Providers

(computer technicians, gas delivery, telephone service, etc)

<b>Three Corners Health Services Society</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Cariboo Water	250-398-8828
Burgess (plumbing)	250-392-3301
Central Cariboo Disposal	250-392-7608
Horizon Climate Controls (electrical)	250-398-8999
Cleanway Supply (cleaning supplies)	250-392-4191
Kornak and Hamms (pharmacy)	250-398-8177
O-Netrix Solutions Inc. (computers)	250-392-7113
<b>Williams Lake Band</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Burgess (plumbing)	250-392-3301
O-Netrix Solutions Inc	250-392-7113
Cool Clear Water	250-398-2665
KP Construction (Ken Michel)	250-398-5157
<b>Soda Creek Band</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
CP Electronics (Internet)	250-392-5583
O-Netrix Solutions Inc.	250-392-7113
BC Hydro	1-888-769-3766
Burgess (plumbing and electrical repair)	250-392-3301
<b>Canoe Creek Band</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
O-Netrix Solutions Inc	250-392-7113
Superior Propane	1-877-873-7467
Esso – Fuel	1-800-567-3776
Telus	250-310-3100

# Vaccine

Pre-Pandemic

## Vaccine – Pre-Pandemic

Vaccine will be the primary means of prevention of pandemic influenza. However, the vaccine cannot be produced until the pandemic strain of influenza has emerged. This means that there can be no stockpiling of vaccine. Therefore, the supply of vaccine available to each region will probably be limited during the early stages of the pandemic, although eventually there should be enough vaccine for everyone in Canada.

Communities who are within 1 hour of an Interior Health mass immunization clinic will be required to attend that clinic. Community members of the Soda Creek Band and the Williams Lake Band will access mass clinics in the City of Williams Lake. Canoe/Dog Creek members will access mass clinics in Dog Creek. Security of the clinics, crowd control, and the need to give 2 doses of the vaccine will need to be addressed.

### Location of Mass Immunization Clinics

Soda/Deep Creek Community Members	Cariboo Memorial Complex
Williams Lake Community Members	Cariboo Memorial Complex
Canoe/Dog Creek Community Members	Dog Creek Community Gym

# Anti-Viral

## Pre-Pandemic

# Anti-viral - Pre-Pandemic

## Anti-viral

Anti-viral drugs are used to treat influenza illness and to prevent it through prophylaxis. These drugs could be used in conjunction with vaccination for the management of pandemic influenza. Given the delay anticipated between the arrival of a pandemic influenza strain and adequate vaccine supply, antivirals may be the only virus-specific intervention available during the initial pandemic response.

Anti-virals are drugs used for the prevention (prophylaxis) and early treatment of influenza. If taken soon (less than 48 hours) after the onset of illness, they can lessen influenza symptoms, shorten the length of illness, and potentially reduce the serious complications of influenza. Anti-virals work by decreasing the ability of the virus to reproduce. They do not; however provide immunity against the virus.

- Three Corners Health Services Society will keep up to date on the latest information from Interior Health.
- Interior Health will provide guidelines for the use of antivirals particularly if they are in short supply. As it stands now, it is not expected to be a large enough supply to allow widespread use. There will be national guidelines for the ethical, consistent and appropriate use of anti-virals in all jurisdictions. Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure they are up to date with any changes and/or recommendations regarding national guidelines.
- Three Corners Health Services Society supports the use of anti-virals during a pandemic, and will promote its importance in protecting individuals and the community. Refusal to use anti-virals may result in that person being quarantined, as per Interior Health's policy/plan, in order to reduce the possibility of spreading the pandemic influenza virus. The Medical Health Officer will advise Three Corners Health Services Society.

# **Clinical Health Services**

**Pre-Pandemic**

## Clinical Health Services-Pre-Pandemic

- Three Corners Health Services Society will assess capacity to provide clinical support. Three Corners Health Services Society currently has approximately 25 staff members and may need to look at other avenues for clinical care. ie. those who are trained in First Aid, First Responders, Community Health Workers, and Family Members.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will follow infection control measures and respiratory precautions as recommended by Respiratory Outbreak Prevention and Control Guidelines, BC Provincial Infection Control Network.

*See Appendix 2: Respiratory Outbreak Prevention and Control Guidelines*

- The Three Corners Health Services Society will review staffing levels, determine ability to provide clinical support and report this information to First Nation & Inuit Health and Interior Health. Utilizing the list of essential service workers, all persons with first aid qualifications have been identified and may assist in the event more persons are needed to care for the sick. The community has received certain supplies. i.e. gowns, masks, gloves, and thermometers from FNIH. These supplies are safely stored.

*See Appendix 3: Pandemic Supply List and Location*

- As keeping individuals away from others in the event of a pandemic is key to slowing the transmission of the virus, individual community members may contact the Three Corners Health Services Society or appointed designate by telephone advising they are sick. Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure all community members are aware of the location of the closest alternate care site and ensure transportation is available. We will be seeking guidance from Interior Health Authority and First Nations Health Authority (FNHA).
- Three Corners Health Services Society's Logistics Manager will collaborate with Bands to ensure transportation is available for community members.
- The Logistics Manager will prepare a list of all persons in the community who own vans, or other large covered vehicles and will conduct a telephone fan out to owners if and when required. Vans offer protection from the elements, and patients can either sit or lay down. All persons who are requested to use their own vehicle will be reimbursed at mileage rate set by the Society. It will be the responsibility of those persons to record and submit to the Three Corners Health Services Society Finance Manager.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will provide the communities with the most current information regarding dealing with persons who have died as a result of influenza. Respiratory precautions (personal protective equipment) will be sufficient for handling of the deceased. Interior Health and FNHA will monitor this closely. If information changes regarding handling of the deceased during the pandemic, then infection control measures may need to be altered.



- In the case where the number of deaths as a result of the pandemic is so overwhelming that the Hospital, Coroners Office, or Funeral Homes cannot receive a deceased person immediately, they may be required to stay in the community. This period of time may be for hours, days or in extreme cases, the community may be advised to keep the deceased on site and to make direct funeral arrangements.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will collaborate with the Bands to identify a location in communities to store deceased if needed.
- As long as the death was a direct result of influenza, there may not be a need for the Coroners Office or the Family Physician to view the deceased. After speaking to the Physician, they will decide if there is a need to view the deceased. If the deceased is remaining in the community, then the Funeral Home/Membership Clerk needs to complete a *Registration of Death* (form number HLTH 406 REV 92/12) Province of British Columbia – Ministry of Health et al.

*See Appendix 4: Registration of Death*

- For any person(s) who comes into contact with the deceased, there is currently no evidence to support the need for those persons who are sitting with the deceased (no contact) to wear any protective equipment. If information changes Three Corners Health Services Society will notify communities to make applicable changes.
- Under current recommendations: If the deceased remains in the community from death to funeral, mask and gloves may be required for all persons attending the funeral. The community is asked to make every effort to bury the deceased as soon as appropriate and possible. Minimizing crowds is effective in decreasing any possible transmission of illness.

*Note: A Death Certificate must be issued before the deceased can be buried.*

# Surveillance

Pre-Pandemic

## Surveillance - Pre-Pandemic

- It will be a requirement for all community members to report their illness to Three Corners Health Services Society or Interior Health during a pandemic
- Three Corners Health Services Society will establish reporting of absenteeism for the Canoe Creek and Dog Creek schools by documenting names and illness symptoms.

*Note: The Education Liaison (or principal) will be responsible for keeping Three Corners Health Services Society informed of school absenteeism rates, and reporting specifically children who have missed more than one day of school.*

- Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure timely reporting of influenza activity to the Medical Health Officer. The Nursing Manager has been identified to report this information.

# **Communications**

**Pre-Pandemic**

## Communications - Pre-Pandemic

- Three Corners Health Services Society will hold an annual community meeting and discuss information about what a pandemic is, immunization, antiviral information, self-monitoring, personal hygiene, travel restrictions, and infection control measures.
- When available Three Corners Health Services Society will invite Interior Health, FNHA or consultants to attend these meetings to assist with added education.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will have a list of key people i.e. Medical Health Officer, Physicians, etc. and will review annually.

*See Appendix 5: Emergency Contact List*

- The Three Corners Health Services Society Spokesperson will conduct any media interviews, or communications required on behalf of the community. The exception is if he/she is not available, then someone will be delegated on behalf of the community.
- Pandemic kits and self-care guides will be distributed to communities.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will stay informed of all current information provided by Interior Health and FNHA.

# Emergency Response

**Pandemic**

## **Emergency Response - Pandemic**

The Three Corners Health Services Society Incident Command team shall meet at the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) as soon as possible and activate this plan, and any local control measures. The Three Corners Health Services Society main office has been identified as the location of the EOC. Each local control measure will need to be discussed, and decided upon separately, before being implemented.

Three Corners Health Services Society members will need to work with the Interior Health and First Nations Health Authority to co-ordinate Federal, Provincial, Regional, and community emergency response to the pandemic outbreak. The team will have information on local health authority pandemic plans and the Pandemic Influenza Guide for First Nation Communities in BC.

*See Appendix 6: Interior Health Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan*

*See Appendix 7: Pandemic Influenza Guide for First Nation Communities in BC*

# Vaccine

## Pandemic



## Vaccine - Pandemic

Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure all persons who are eligible to attend the mass clinics will be notified of the date, time and location of the clinic. Three Corners Health Services Society will confirm each person's ability to attend the clinic, and arrange for transportation for those who cannot. Three Corners Health Services Society will contact everyone who was scheduled to attend the clinic to ensure they attended.

Because of the number of community members a clinic could be required for 2 days. The health stations in the community will act as the storage site for supplies remaining in the community. Vaccine security will be addressed, with the vaccine locked in a safe location under the direction of the Three Corners Health Services Society. Appropriate refrigeration and good security measures will be provided for vaccine at all times.

Once informed vaccine is available, a meeting with Three Corners Health Services Society members, the Incident Commander, and Logistics Manager shall occur to confirm dates, time, location, and the best way to advise community members. Currently, the Dog Creek Community Gym has been identified as the location of the clinic. The Logistics Manager will ensure the building is open with sufficient security, tables and chairs and create a list of all attendees who will require transportation. The Logistics Manager will also arrange for pick up of these community members. The Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure it has sufficient staffing for provision of vaccine. If there does not appear to be enough staff Interior Health/FNHA will be contacted. Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure that the Interior Health and Incident Commander are kept up to date on numbers of persons immunized and those remaining.

Communication is addressed in the Three Corners Health Services Society Communication Plan.

*Note: See Communications*

If for any reason the Logistics Manager cannot get a community member to the clinic, Three Corners Health Services Society will do their best to attend the residence to provide vaccination.

Vaccine will be administered to community members as per priority groups as determined by the Medical Health Officer or designate.

*Note: As there may be a chance that not all community members will receive the vaccine, it is the responsibility of Three Corners Health Services Society to ensure those who are not eligible to receive the vaccine are explained the reasons why. Community members will be advised about who will be eligible to receive the vaccine.*

It is the responsibility of Three Corners Health Services Society to monitor vaccine coverage and adverse effects. It is also their responsibility to report both to Interior Health and FNHA.

# Anti-Viral

## Pandemic

## **Anti-viral - Pandemic**

- Three Corners Health Services Society will work with Interior Health to ensure community members who require anti-virals have them available. Anti-virals will be locked and properly stored. Storage of supplies, anti-virals and vaccine will be held at Three Corners Health Services Society.
- Anti-virals will be managed according to the existing TCHSS Nurse Managed Drug Inventory policy and procedure.
- Information will be provided to the community members about the use of antiviral medications. As information is passed onto Three Corners Health Services Society, they will keep the community members informed. If they are for specific community members, Three Corners Health Services Society will advise those individuals about medication use.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will dispense or administer anti-virals to priority groups or individuals as delegated by Interior Health Authority's Medical Health Officer. As supplies of these drugs will likely be limited, Interior Health will provide information as to priority groups and distribution.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will monitor usage of anti-virals maintaining records on use and adverse events/effects.

# Clinical Health Services

## Pandemic

## Clinical Health Services - Pandemic

- At this time, caregivers of those who are sick should be using respiratory precautions (gloves, masks, gowns). It will be the responsibility of Three Corners Health Services Society in consultation with Interior Health to ensure community members are informed of precautions for the particular influenza virus.

*Note: When infection control measures are in place, the use of respiratory precautions (gloves, masks) as recommended by BCCDC is sufficient. It is recommended that if possible, once used they be placed into a Hazardous Material container, and then burned. However it is reasonable for gloves/masks/tissues etc. to be thrown into the garbage i.e. plastic bag that can be tied off. The route of transmission will be droplet spread, so as long as the gloves/masks/tissues are in the garbage and not disturbed they will not pose a risk. Once the droplets dry they will not pose any risk at all.*

- Three Corners Health Services Society will assess availability of staff to provide health care services.
- Once notified by a community member of an illness, a member of Three Corners Health Services Society may encourage self care, attend their residence or refer them to an alternate care site as appropriate dependant on current IHA/BCCDC recommendations.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will review staffing levels, determine ability to provide clinical support and report this information to First Nation & Inuit Health and Interior Health. Utilising the list of essential service workers, all persons with first aid qualifications have been identified and may assist in the event more persons are needed to care for the sick.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will ensure all community members are aware of the location of the closest alternate care site and ensure transportation is available.
- If a member of the community has been identified as being too ill to be cared for within the community, Three Corners Health Services Society will arrange for transportation. The Logistics Manager will identify the means of transportation.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will collaborate with the Bands to arrange for transportation of deceased community members, or storage if advised to keep the deceased in the community.
- If a community member dies as a result of the illness, an attempt will be made to send the deceased to the Hospital, Coroners office, or Funeral Home, as is normally done.
- If advised to keep the deceased in the community, then Three Corners Health Services Society needs to complete a *Registration of Death* (form number HLTH 406 REV 92/12) Province of British Columbia.

*See Appendix 4: Registration of Death Form*

- A place may need to be established to store the deceased until burial (cool and dry if possible). This site will be set in collaboration with the Band. It is recommended to bury the deceased as soon as

practical and as appropriate for the community. The community will be consulted with and decisions will be made by the community.

*Note: A death certificate must be issued before the deceased can be buried.*

- Three Corners Health Services Society will monitor and maintain material supply inventory and ensure that it is checked regularly. Additional supplies will be ordered immediately. Plan at least 30 days ahead.

# Surveillance

## Pandemic

## **Surveillance - Pandemic**

- Three Corners Health Services Society will collaborate with Interior Health to track the impact of influenza at the community level.

Note: The impact refers to, number of ill community members, economic loss to the community, physical and emotional impact to the community.

- Three Corners Health Services Society will review surveillance information as provided by Interior Health and FNHA and provide this information to the community members.



# Communication

## Pandemic

# **Communications - Pandemic**

## **Medical Health Officer Pronounces Pandemic**

The Provincial Health Officer will declare when it is time to activate plans for the pandemic phase.

## **Community Notification**

Three Corners Health Services Society's Incident Commander will contact the Chief or alternate in each community immediately following the Medical Health Officer pronouncing a pandemic.

Chief and Council and Band administration staff will immediately begin contacting each household in the community to inform them of the community meeting. It will be required that one member of each household attend.

- Meeting location will be identified
- Date and time will be identified

Three Corners Health Services Society, in collaboration with the Band, will provide transportation to meeting if needed.

## **Staff Communications Meeting**

- All staff will be required to attend
- Incident Commander is the spokesperson for Three Corners Health Services Society
- Staff will be informed on relevant events and actions
- All non-essential services will be stopped
- Expenses will be recorded and forwarded to the Financial Manager
- Health of the Three Corners Health Services Society staff will be assessed to identify cases of influenza early
- Steps will be taken to reduce the internal spread of the disease
- Staff will be advised to take protective measures i.e. hand washing/sanitizer, etc.
- The staff response plan and staff responsibilities will be reviewed
- Pandemic Plan will be reviewed and next steps will be identified

## **Notification to Emergency Response Teams**

The Nursing Manager will contact emergency response team coordinators in each community and inform them of relevant events and actions and identify potential roles.

## **Community Meetings**

The recommendation or directive of the MHO will be considered when determining whether meetings will be held. If the meetings are to go ahead, a meeting will be held in all of the communities within 72 hours of the Medical Health Officer pronouncing a pandemic. The locations will be as follows:

- Dog Creek Gymnasium
- Deep Creek Community Hall
- Sugar Cane Gymnasium

Three Corners Health Services Society will cross-reference all community members attending meeting with current housing list.

*See Appendix 8: Housing Lists*

Three Corners Health Services Society will inform communities of most current information on immunization, vaccine supply, vaccine eligibility, anti-virals, etc.

Three Corners Health Services Society will inform communities of the role of Interior Health and FNHA.

Three Corners Health Services Society will inform communities of the Society's role in monitoring health care, keeping the communities informed on all relevant actions and events, toll free lines, websites, and BC Nurseline.

Three Corners Health Services Society will provide information on self care such as hand washing, taking temperatures, using the self care guide, family preparation, etc.

Three Corners Health Services Society will inform communities of alternate care sites.

Three Corners Health Services Society will work in collaboration with the Bands to provide transportation if needed.

Three Corners Health Services Society will identify next steps.

## **Ongoing Communications**

Clear lines of communication will be identified

Timely updates to community will be delivered to each household or subsequent meeting will be held in the communities.

Incident Commander will serve as community spokesperson for the media and government.

Three Corners Health Services Society will keep staff informed of relevant events and actions throughout the course of the pandemic outbreak.

Three Corners Health Services Society will activate the communications plan to gather then disseminate information. Three Corners Health Services Society will liaise with Interior Health, FNIH and any local emergency service providers.

# Emergency Response

**Post Pandemic**

## **Emergency Response - Post Pandemic**

The Three Corners Health Services Society will meet once they have been advised by the Medical Health Officer or designate that the pandemic outbreak is no longer a threat.

At this meeting you need to:

- Deactivate the plan
- Assess the effectiveness of this plan
- Document success and challenges and revise plan as needed
- Seek redress for any financial impact due to the health emergency

# Vaccine

## Post Pandemic

## **Vaccine - Post Pandemic**

Three Corners Health Services Society will dispose of excess vaccine as directed by Interior Health

Three Corners Health Services Society evaluate the process of vaccine delivery. Was it effective?



# Anti-Viral

## Post Pandemic

## **Anti-viral - Post Pandemic**

- Three Corners Health Services Society will dispose of any excess anti-viral as directed by Interior Health.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will evaluate the process of anti-viral delivery. Was it effective?

# Clinical Health Services

## Post Pandemic

## **Clinical Health Services - Post Pandemic**

- Three Corners Health Services Society will determine when facilities affected by the outbreak can resume normal operations and inform the community.
- Three Corners Health Services Society, in collaboration with the Bands, will arrange for the return of any community members who may be out of the community in hospital or at other care sites.
- Counselling will be provided as needed.
- The plan will be evaluated and revised.

# Surveillance

## Post Pandemic

## Surveillance - Post Pandemic

- Three Corners Health Services Society will complete any surveillance reporting required.
- Three Corners Health Services Society will resume regular surveillance activities.

*Note: There will be a continued need for regular surveillance for illness in the community for some time. Although the pandemic influenza has passed, we need to ensure that if community members become ill, that it is reported to Three Corners Health Services Society. The effects of a pandemic influenza can and will be felt for a long time in the community once the pandemic is over.*

# Communication

Post Pandemic

## **Communications - Post Pandemic**

Three Corners Health Services Society will inform the community members of the pandemic being over and hold a community meeting to discuss how it affected the community.

Three Corners Health Services Society will evaluate and revise the plan as needed. Evaluating the current plan is needed for best results in preparation for the next pandemic influenza outbreak.

Three Corners Health Services Society will encourage planning for future pandemics.