

## Zone Contacts

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### South

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## Planning for Success!

This year, several activities are underway to enhance our provincial program. Our objectives are to increase the availability of vaccines, manage the inventory, streamline the distribution to providers, enhance uptake by the public and especially by health care workers, rationalize the collection of data, and report back on the success of the program in a timely manner.

All partners will be asked to assist in the goal to have 80% of Health Care Workers immunized with influenza vaccine to assist in protecting those we work with.

## Ever Increasing Commitment

As of April 30, 2014, a record number of doses of influenza vaccine were administered to Albertans - 1,157,550 doses. This is a 23% increase in doses of influenza vaccine administered compared to the 2012-2013 influenza season. In addition, community provider participation increased by 12% over the 2012-2013 season.

- Physician providers immunized 129,121 (11%) Albertans
- Pharmacist providers immunized 334,418 (29%) Albertans
- Other non-AHS providers immunized 68,706 (6%) Albertans
- Other AHS (Non Public Health) providers immunized 54,305 (5%) Albertans
- AHS Public Health immunized 557,978 (48%) Albertans
- First Nations and Inuit Health Branch immunized 13,022 (1%) Albertans

## End of Season Reminder

If you still have influenza vaccine remaining at your site, please contact the appropriate vaccine depot in your zone to make arrangements to return the product.

## 2014-2015 Vaccine Update

- The 2014/2015 seasonal influenza vaccine for the northern hemisphere as recommended by the World Health Organization will contain the following strains:
  - an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus
  - an A/Texas/50/2012 (H3N2)-like virus
  - a B/Massachusetts/2/2012-like virus
- The influenza vaccines available for use in Alberta for the 2014-2015 season will be Agriflu®, Fluviral®, FluMist® and Fludac® (in limited distribution).
- Alberta Health has purchased enough influenza vaccine to immunize 45% of Albertans.
- Community Pharmacists will be receiving their influenza vaccine through their wholesale distributors, freeing up Public Health to focus on distribution to physicians and other community providers.

## Enhanced Reporting for 2014-2015

Alberta Health will require monthly reporting of influenza vaccine doses administered and influenza vaccine doses on hand by all providers. Operational tools to assist with this additional reporting will be available on the Alberta Health Services web site. As in past seasons, the reporting forms will be provided by your Zone contacts.

## 2014-2015 Planning Update

Alberta Health Services has started planning for the 2014-2015 Influenza Immunization Campaign. The following summarizes planning activities to date:

- Proposed start date for public immunization clinics is October 20, 2014.
- The Influenza Vaccine Agreement for Community Providers and supporting documents will be updated for the 2014-2015 campaign and available in September 2014.