

Renfrew County and District Health Unit "Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 2:00 p.m., October 6, 2020)

RCDHU Flu Campaign - Flu is Just Around the Corner

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) is working with primary care and community partners to plan and implement a Renfrew County and District Flu Campaign. The Ministry of Health is releasing flu vaccine in stages across the province to priority groups first; long-term care homes, hospitals and primary care. It is anticipated that community flu clinics will start in late October – early November, pending the announcement of the provincial launch.

Flu clinics are currently being planned with primary care partners across Renfrew County and District and will look different than previous years due to COVID-19. **Please watch the RCDHU** website and local media for upcoming information on dates, locations and other details.

"During this COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that we do our best to prevent co-infection related to the flu and reduce visits to primary care and emergency departments. This will help ensure that there is sufficient capacity to respond to COVID-19 activity," states Dr. Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health, RCDHU.

The flu shot is the best defence against getting and spreading the influenza virus. Let's all do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and the flu; get the flu shot, stay home if sick, avoid contact with people who are ill, practice physical distancing (2 metres), wear a mask/face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, wash our hands, and use the COVID Alert App.

For more information visit RCDHU's website at: <u>https://www.rcdhu.com/</u> or call 613-735-8654 or 1-800-267-1097.

- 30 -

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