

# PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

## Are *you* ready?

### *Keeping Your Business in Business*

In the event of a pandemic influenza, businesses will play a key role in protecting employees' health and safety, as well as limiting the negative impact a pandemic influenza could have on the economy and society.

Some steps to ensure business continuity include:

- Plan for an employee absenteeism rate of 25-30 per cent over several weeks at a time throughout the phases of the pandemic.
- Train employees to be backups to other employees who are essential to business continuity.
- Consider alternative policies such as a policy that enables employees to work from home with appropriate security and network access to software.
- Provide regular timely and useful information for employees about the steps the company is taking to prepare for and respond to a pandemic influenza.
- Maintain a healthy work environment by:
  - Promoting frequent handwashing with soap and water.
  - Educating staff on proper respiratory hygiene - sneezing or coughing into their sleeves or a tissue, followed by handwashing.
  - Ensuring frequent cleaning of counter tops, doorknobs, taps and desk surfaces.
  - Encouraging employees who are ill to stay at home until they are better or non-contagious.
  - Encouraging employees to get annual flu vaccination.

For more  
information, go to:  
[www.hrha.sk.ca](http://www.hrha.sk.ca)

