



September 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

The Huron County Health Unit, the Perth District Health Unit, the Avon Maitland School Board and the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board are pleased to be working together on the new School Health Monitoring Program. The information collected through this program will help us keep a close watch on illness in Huron and Perth Counties.

As part of the program, there is a new way for you to report absences due to illness.

**If your child is sick and will not be attending school:**

1. As always, please phone the school as soon as possible to inform them of your child's absence.
2. *New ...* Whether leaving a message or speaking directly to a secretary, please describe if your child's illness is:
  - Respiratory or breathing-related (coughing a lot, sneezing, trouble breathing and/or sore throat)
  - Gastrointestinal or stomach-related (vomiting and/or diarrhea), or
  - An "other" type of illness

The privacy of your child will be protected. The names of students will not be given when reporting information about illness to the Health Units.

Remember, if your child is ill with influenza keep them at home until they are feeling better and they do not have a fever.

Thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate Health Unit. For Huron County schools contact the Huron County Health Unit at (519) 482-3416. For Perth County schools contact the Perth District Health Unit at (519) 271-7600 ext. 267, Listowel area residents call 1-877-271-7348 ext. 267.

We wish you and your children a very healthy school year.

Dr. Nancy Cameron, Medical Officer of Health/CEO  
Huron County Health Unit

Dr. Miriam Klassen, Acting Medical Officer of Health  
Perth District Health Unit