

## **MORE VACCINE WILL BE COMING SO MORE CLINICS FOR THE HIGH RISK GROUPS**

The Health Unit has been informed that we will be receiving an additional 24,000 doses of vaccine. With this amount of vaccine, it is now possible to expand the eligibility criteria to include all the high risk groups as follows:

- Individuals under the age of 65 who have underlying medical conditions;
- Children between six (6) months and less than five (5) years of age;
- Household members of children under the age of six (6) months;
- Household members of individuals with compromised immune systems;
- Pregnant women with underlying medical conditions or healthy women over 20 weeks of pregnancy;
- Health care workers.

Additional clinics have been added such that there are now 16 clinics between Tuesday October 27 and Tuesday November 3. Anyone in the above groups can come to any of the clinics. The dates, times and location are posted on our web site at <http://www.healthunit.com/sectionList.aspx?sectionID=856> . Our consent and information sheet are posted there as well.

When the new supply arrives, long term care facilities will be receiving vaccine for a portion of their staff and hospitals will be receiving additional vaccine for their staff. More vaccine for community health care providers will be provided with our next shipment which is expected next week.

Sufficient vaccine to begin vaccinating the general public is expected to be available in about two weeks.

## **UNADJUVANTED VACCINE FROM AUSTRALIA**

The Federal Government announced today that they have purchased unadjuvanted vaccine from a supplier in Australia (the vaccine is called Panvax). The Federal Government was expecting to use unadjuvanted vaccine from GlaxoSmithKline, the Canadian manufacturer, but because this product will not be available for a few more weeks, they have gone to the Australian supplier. Unadjuvanted vaccine from Australia is expected to be in Canada next week.

Because of the level of influenza activity in our community which is very high, it is currently recommended that healthy pregnant women over 20 weeks gestation and women at any stage of pregnancy with underlying medical conditions receive the adjuvanted vaccine (Arepanrix) which is available now. These women are at increased risk for complications compared to the general public. The unadjuvanted vaccine will be mainly for healthy women in the first half of their pregnancy.