

For all you've done, thank you.

December 22, 2009

Dear citizens and community partners,

In 45 days, you helped us vaccinate more than 60,000 people through 130 clinics in 40 locations, from West Hants to the Eastern Shore and the Halifax Regional Municipality. Wow!

This is the largest vaccination campaign in history, and we at Public Health are tremendously grateful for the dedication of countless community partners who helped make it happen. For each person vaccinated, there was a team of people helping behind the scenes to make that possible. From venues to caterers to printers to the media to suppliers – and of course the many volunteers, interpreters and staff – this mammoth effort could not have been undertaken without each and every one of you.

As of today, we have distributed (through our public clinics, to family doctors and employers) enough vaccine to immunize well over half the population in our district.

We had people willingly step aside so that pregnant women and children could receive vaccine first. We saw homeless youth – who we would argue are at high risk themselves – ask that others get the vaccine before them. It felt as though the entire community mobilized around this pandemic and that was a tremendous comfort to those of us on the front lines.

Finally, we want to stress that while we have closed public vaccination clinics for 2009, this is, by no means, the end of the vaccination campaign. This serious illness will continue to threaten our population in the days and weeks to come, and so we continue to urge everyone to get vaccinated in the days ahead.

To all those who made our vaccination campaign a success, we thank you.

Wishing you healthy and happy holidays,



Linda Young
Director, Public Health Services
Capital Health



Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed
Medical Officer of Health, Capital Health district
Department of Health Promotion and Protection

P.S. The best gift you can give yourself and loved ones this holiday season is the gift of health. If you haven't already received yours, the H1N1 shot is available at many family doctor's offices and walk-in clinics. Here's to your health!

