

To: Associate Vice-Presidents and Directors of Administrative Units

From: Michael Atkinson, Provost and Vice-President Academic
Richard Florizone, Vice-President, Finance and Resources

Date: February 27, 2007

Re: **Pandemic Influenza Plans**

Pandemic influenza occurs two to three times per century on average, and the World Health Organization (WHO) and many other authorities have stated that the next expected occurrence is overdue. A severe flu pandemic could have significant effects on the University community and operations, and much of the population could be off work for several weeks while sick or caring for others at home. Governments and health authorities across Canada have advised universities to prepare reasonable plans to respond in the event of pandemic influenza.

In March 2006, the University of Saskatchewan began to develop a pandemic influenza plan. A Pandemic Planning Workgroup (PPW) has been established under the leadership of Don Litz and Nowell Seaman of Risk Management and Insurance Services.

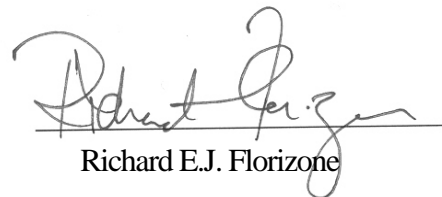
The University plan requires each administrative unit responsible for critical areas of operation to prepare plans to respond at the unit level. To assist in the process, the PPW has developed the enclosed *Pandemic Influenza Planning Guide and Workbook* and other resources including workshops and consultation services. Don Litz will be contacting you shortly to ask you to identify appropriate representatives from your area, and to arrange participation in a workshop as an initial step.

If you require additional information in the interim, please contact Nowell Seaman, University Emergency Measures Coordinator at 966-8788 or nowell.seaman@usask.ca or Don Litz, Emergency Planner at don.litz@usask.ca

With your support, we hope to bring plans to a reasonable level of readiness within the next few months. Thank you for your assistance with this important initiative.



Michael Atkinson



Richard E.J. Florizone

Attachment