

## **H1N1 Update at Kwantlen**

Welcome back! It is a very busy time as everyone gets settled into work and classes. Kwantlen Polytechnic University wishes to ensure that its students and employees are fully aware of what is happening in regards to the H1N1 Influenza.

Kwantlen continues to monitor and to prepare for the Phase 6 Pandemic spread of the H1N1 Influenza. The Emergency Management Committee (EMC) at Kwantlen will continue to provide you with timely information about H1N1 Influenza and will take precautionary/preventative measures as needed.

KPU continues to follow the direction of applicable authorities (World Health Organization, Public Health Association of Canada, local Health Authorities, British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, etc.) as it plans for the coming flu season. The World Health Organization is “advising countries in the Northern Hemisphere to prepare for a second wave of pandemic spread.”

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

In order to support the Kwantlen community in the event of a second wave of pandemic spread, over the last few months KPU has purchased ‘handsfree’ hand sanitizer stations and has placed them at every major entranceway at its campuses.

We urge students and employees to use the stations provided and to continue to practice good personal hygiene practices (cover your cough/sneeze, wash your hands frequently, etc.). If at anytime you experience symptoms related to the H1N1 Influenza call 8-1-1 (HealthLink BC) for further information and guidance before going to your physician or the hospital as this will prevent exposing others to the virus.

Kwantlen has recently finalized its *Influenza Virus Exposure Control Plan*. This plan covers all aspects of transmission, spread, monitoring and handling of H1N1 Influenza cases at Kwantlen campuses. This document will help KPU to provide a timely and prepared response in the event of a case on campus.

If you have any questions or concerns about the H1N1 Influenza, please feel free to contact the Occupational Health & Safety Office at 604-599-2924 or visit [www.kwantlen.ca/h1n1info](http://www.kwantlen.ca/h1n1info) for more information.