



Canada Border
Services Agency

Agence des services
frontaliers du Canada

99 Metcalfe Street, 3rd floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 0L8

November 16, 2009

Jason McMichael
4th National Vice-President
Customs and Immigration Union
1741 Woodward Drive
Ottawa ON K2C 0P9

Re: H1N1 Influenza and Vaccination

Dear Mr. McMichael,

Thank you for your letter of November 4, 2009.

Please be assured that the Agency takes the health and safety of its employees very seriously and is therefore committed to providing up-to-date information on the current H1N1 situation as soon as it becomes available. As you know, a section for H1N1 Influenza is included on the front page of ATLAS, where employees have easy access to medical facts related to H1N1 influenza, precautionary measures to take to avoid contracting the flu, and steps to take if symptomatic. In addition, on October 29, 2009, I forwarded a message to all employees, which provided information on H1N1 vaccination sequencing, and clinic locations and schedules.

The federal government has delegated to the provinces/territories the responsibility for developing plans and schedules for H1N1 vaccination, including identifying priority for certain occupational groups based on medical risks. We have contacted the Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS), and Health Canada, and have been advised that, at this time, Border Services Officers have not been identified as a priority group to receive the H1N1 vaccination. However, we will continue to communicate your concerns to TBS on this issue and provide you with any updates as they become available.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention. I look forward to our continued collaboration on employee health and safety issues, particularly during this flu season.

Sincerely,

Camille Therriault-Power
Vice-President
Human Resources Branch