The prevention, management and control of communicable diseases requires the active participation and cooperation of all health-care professionals and practitioners. The guidelines included in the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual have been developed by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health with input and advice from Medical Health Officers, public health nurses, public health inspectors, Saskatchewan Disease Control Laboratory, medical microbiologists and infectious disease specialists. The guidelines outline the recommended practices for the follow-up of selected communicable diseases and are intended for use by public health professionals in Saskatchewan.

This manual is intended to act as a guide to communicable disease control within the Province of Saskatchewan. Professional judgment is still required by those involved in communicable disease follow-up and those who provide health care services.

Chapters on specific communicable diseases contain summary information relating to the organism and associated disease. Additional information focuses on public health investigation and appropriate follow-up. The information included in the protocols reflects best practices at the time of writing. As advances in scientific knowledge and health care practices become available, our collective response to well established and newly identified and evolving pathogens must be routinely reviewed and updated. Although this manual will be updated periodically, practitioners must take responsibility to ensure that they have the most recent knowledge relating to the case they are dealing with. It is useful, as appropriate, to consult the most current versions of the following publications for further information:

- *Canadian Immunization Guide* – Public Health Agency of Canada;
- *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual* – American Public Health Association;

The following organizations also have useful information on their websites:

- *Public Health Agency of Canada*;
- *US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*;
- *World Health Organization*;
- *Infectious Diseases Society of America (Practise Guidelines).*