

'Pandemic Preparedness Assessment Workshop'



Pandemic Response Planning is most certainly the hot-topic of the year and yet reportedly as many as 60% of organizations have not been entirely diligent and of the 40% who have completed plans, many are not sure their plans will really do the job. Many basic questions are still being asked. 'How far should we go in our planning efforts', 'have we met our key obligations', 'are we as ready as we think we are'.

A vaccine is on its way! While it is great news, it also generates a series of questions; 'what happens if the virus mutates', 'how much supply will be available, where and when', 'who will have priority over the supply', 'do we still need to plan for a widespread infection' or 'do we now plan differently'?

Whether or not you have completed extensive planning or your planning effort is just beginning, it is clear that many organizations would benefit from a confirmation of their plans and endeavors to-date.

CRPC, an internationally recognized Crisis Management consulting company, has applied its extensive expertise in the development of a very unique '**Pandemic Preparedness Assessment Workshop**', a short, painless process that answers all of those outstanding questions and more. CRPC applies a proprietary process and experts in Crisis Management, Public Safety and Pandemic Response Planning to help you obtain the confidence that your plans will work as and when required.

This is a unique opportunity to validate the completeness and effectiveness of your plans against best demonstrated practices and the experiences of others.

The World Health Organization issued a warning that H1N1 is the dominant influenza strain in the world today.



Workshop Agenda

While the actual list of subject matter is customized with each client, the workshop discusses:

- ✓ The top seven risks of a widespread Pandemic infection.
- ✓ Awareness and education as the cornerstone of your mitigation plans.
- ✓ Challenges of an at home (virtual) work strategy.
- ✓ Widespread absenteeism – maintaining workforce continuity.
- ✓ Preparing to communicate, communicate, communicate!
- ✓ The alignment of Company & Employee expectations and priorities.
- ✓ Conflicting H.R. policies and practices.
- ✓ Mitigating risk through proactive prevention and precautionary steps.
- ✓ The 'WOW' factor of the B2B challenge.
- ✓ Retention and Resumption versus Business Continuity.
- ✓ Practical and achievable response plans.
- ✓ Interdependencies and managing expectations of external stakeholders (customers, suppliers and critical service providers).

Workshop Deliverables

The 'Pandemic Preparedness Assessment Workshop' follows a structured format, but it is designed to be an interactive thought-provoking exercise, with a degree of the unexpected. The basic steps:

1. **Pandemic Questionnaire:** It starts with your completion of a CRPC proprietary 'Preparedness Questionnaire' (an organization profile, planning status and a self-assessment) which will provide the workshop facilitators with a working understanding of your planning status, as well as your key issues and concerns. CRPC team members will walk you through this easy to complete step.

2. **Customized Workshop:** CRPC then customizes its workshop materials to reflect your organization, status and the issues most important to you. This will ensure the most appropriate emphasis is applied by the facilitators.
3. **The Workshop:** The inter-active workshop will take up to 4 hours to complete, depending on your state of preparedness and the number of issues and concerns to be resolved. The workshop will include;
 - an update on the current status (threat and impact) of the H1N1 pandemic,
 - dialogue on common issues and concerns, and their resolution,
 - a review of your current Pandemic Planning status,
 - consideration of best practices in your environment,
 - a review of past experiences of organizations directly impacted by epidemics and pandemics,
 - interactive analysis of risks and concerns,
 - scenario based exercises help underline your issues, concerns and priorities.
4. **Post Workshop Report:** CRPC will then prepare a formal 'Pandemic Preparedness Assessment' (report card), reflecting the issues, your organizations status, the action decisions made or to be recommended, the remaining gaps and weaknesses (if any) and an overall assessment of your organization's state of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Planning.

The H1N1 virus, unlike the common flu, targets the young and healthy.



Workshop Facilitators

CRPC Advisory Services will provide two workshop facilitators, with one facilitator designated as the 'session lead'. The workshop facilitators will be:

Dennis Hamilton – with over 20 years of Crisis Management consulting expertise, is internationally recognized as one of North America's leading experts in Crisis Management and Pandemic Preparedness and Response Planning. Dennis has been engaged by leading organizations to strategize and direct pandemic response planning for SARS, Avian Flu and of course H1N1.

Rod Piukkala – A former police senior executive with significant experience in public safety - notably in the 'first responder' community, and also within the private sector's enabling technology field, Rod is a highly regarded subject matter expert in emergency response/communications, public safety and workplace safety.

The Value of Planning

While there is a cost and effort to making your organization resilient to the effects of a wide scale pandemic infection, the benefits of knowledge-based planning will far out weigh the effort, including;

- ✚ ensuring the health & safety of your valued employees and contractors,
- ✚ employee belief and trust that leadership have done what they can,
- ✚ mitigation of CBA confrontation through interim compliance,
- ✚ competitive advantage through effective value-based planning,
- ✚ protection of your reputation and brand image,
- ✚ mitigation of risk and impact through preventive and precautionary steps,
- ✚ gain public / community confidence,
- ✚ satisfy regulatory compliance,
- ✚ meet Board and Shareholder expectations,
- ✚ business retention.

While we talk of the critical need for planning and mitigation, there is nonetheless a danger with an over-reaction or taking preparedness planning too far. It can be a challenging dichotomy between common sense and what makes sense for the well-being of your employees and your business.

'Pandemic Preparedness Assessment Workshop'



This is a 'leadership' issue requiring strategizing, policy setting and decision making that will successfully direct your organization's pre-event response planning and in-crisis actions.

For this vital senior management workshop participation should include:

- ✓ Members of your Pandemic Response Team(s),
- ✓ Leaders from:
 - Human Resources
 - Corporate Security
 - Corporate Communications
 - Facilities Management
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - Health and Safety
 - Business Continuity
 - Information Technology

In the workshop, we will discuss the primary issues of H1N1 as a widespread infection; outline the possibilities and probabilities of events yet to unfold and then show how these would impact all organizations, regardless of your product or service. Getting the right people involved at the very beginning is most certainly a critical success factor.

CRPC workshop objectives are clear:

1. To assist you in validating your existing H1N1 state of preparedness; your current strategies and plans.
2. To participate in the development of a 'road-map' of enhancements and actions required to lower the risks associated with H1N1 and measurably increase your capability to satisfy your overall response planning objectives.

Pandemic Preparedness Assessment Workshop

Time is running out!

If you would like to schedule a Pandemic Preparedness Assessment Workshop webinar or learn more about this unique offering, contact us today.

Call now to reserve your preferred workshop date.

Crisis Response Planning Corporation

416-500-5517

or

416-994-9750

www.crpccrisismanagement.com



New vaccine is good news, but don't let your guard down.

