Date: May 23, 2000

Re: Handwashing at Walkerton Schools and Daycares

Today we now have evidence that the municipal water supply in Walkerton has been contaminated and is not considered safe for drinking unless boiled for five minutes. In addition we have concerns about using the water supply for handwashing. As a precaution we are advising all Walkerton schools and daycares not to use the municipal water for handwashing unless it is boiled or treated with chlorine. If the instructions listed below can not be followed then we recommend sending the students and children home until an alternate safe water supply is available.

Batch Chlorination of Municipal Water for Handwashing Use (NOT SUITABLE FOR DRINKING)

· Place 1.5 oz of liquid household bleach in 10 gallons of water

· Mix and let stand for at least 10 minutes prior to use.

Hand Washing Solution using a 10 Litre Container

Add 10ml (2 teaspoons) of bleach to 10 litres of tap water. Mix well and let stand for 15 minutes.

The mixture may be placed in suitable containers for use. Using a clean scoop dip treated water from container and wet hands. Wash with soap and rinse hands with treated water (Do not wash hands directly in the container unless washwater is emptied after each use).