



## Perth District Health Unit

653 West Gore Street  
Stratford, Ontario N5A 1L4  
(519) 271-7600 • [www.pdhu.on.ca](http://www.pdhu.on.ca)

DATE: January 9, 2018

MEMO TO: Stratford Northwestern School Student/Parent/Legal Guardian

FROM: Perth District Health Unit– Communicable Disease Team

RE: **Positive Case of Pertussis (Whooping Cough)**

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This letter is to inform you that there has been a case of pertussis (whooping cough) confirmed in a student at Stratford Northwestern School. For more information about pertussis, please see the attached fact sheet.

This is a great opportunity for students to check their immunization status to see if they are up-to-date.

Normally, students in Ontario receive a booster dose of a pertussis-containing vaccine about 10 years after the last childhood immunization. These students are usually between 14-16 years of age. If a student is not sure if they are up-to-date, please call the Perth District Health Unit's Health Line 519-271-7600 ext 267 or toll free at 1-877-271-7348 ext 267, or check with their physician's office.

This happens to be the time of year when letters are being sent by the Health Unit to students that require a dose of Tdap (Adacel) vaccine. This protects against: tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis infections. If the Adacel vaccine is needed, students can attend their school clinic in late February, or make an appointment through their physician's office.

**Pregnant women in their third trimester and infants** who have been in contact with a pertussis case should consult their health care provider as soon as possible.

We will continue to monitor for further cases and contacts, and will update our recommendations as needed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Health Unit at 519-271-7600 ext 225 or toll-free at 1-877-271-7348 ext 225.