



RESOLUTION 33-5

RESOLUTION CONCERNING PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

WHEREAS the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers adopted an *International Emergency Management Assistance Compact* (IEMAC) in 1998 which provides mutual assistance among states and provinces for the management of emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the governor or premier of the affected state or province; and

WHEREAS the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus is a new strain of influenza from which few people in the community have any immunity and a vaccine is in production and expected to be available for public distribution this Fall; and

WHEREAS the initial wave of the pandemic virus has had a varied impact on each of the jurisdictions in the region, it is expected that activity may increase over the 2009 fall/winter period when a second wave is anticipated to move through the region; and

WHEREAS all jurisdictions are committing financial and human resources to help prevent and contain outbreaks to support the tremendous work which is being done by health departments and public health agencies across the continent to deal with the H1N1 influenza; and

WHEREAS responding to H1N1 effectively requires strong cooperation and coordination of efforts by all orders of governments and community leaders; and

WHEREAS provinces and states continue to work on quick and effective mechanisms to best respond to H1N1 outbreaks wherever they occur.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers recognizes the quality of the work of the International Emergency Management Group (IEMG) and encourages its continuation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Premiers and Governors recognize the potential impact the H1N1 influenza can have on their respective citizens and pledge to continue to work together to decrease the impact of influenza; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the NEG/ECP will strive to enhance the use of the existing compact and its supporting mechanisms to improve collaboration and exchange of information to achieve the optimal implementation of emergency management mechanisms and the strategic management of the region's response to the current context of pandemic.

Adopted at the 33rd Annual Conference of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers in Saint John, New Brunswick, on September 15, 2009



Shawn Graham
Premier of New Brunswick
Co-chair



John E. Baldacci
Governor of Maine
Co-chair