



## **Biography of Karen-Denise Cyr**

---

In her role as Coordinator of **Disaster Management** for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Karen is responsible for all hazards disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities. She collaborates extensively with both government and non-government organizations and engages volunteers and staff in disaster management activities to build community capacity to effectively plan for, respond and recover from disasters.

Karen is also an active member in the **Volunteer Management** profession. She has developed and led Volunteer Services programs for the Independent Living Resource Centre (1994-97), Misericordia Health Centre (1997-2002) and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (2003-2008). She has served on the board of the Canadian Administrators of Volunteer Resources, is Past President of the Manitoba Association for Volunteer Administration and chairs the United Way of Winnipeg's Volunteer Impact Council- leading a process to support best practices in Volunteer Management, as well as Chair of the Winnipeg Folk Festival Emergency Management Advisory Group. Karen facilitates workshops sponsored by Volunteer Manitoba on both Volunteer Management and Disaster Management topics and is an instructor with the Canadian Red Cross' Disaster Management program.

### **Karen offers training and facilitation on the following topics:**

- Volunteer Job Design
- Risk Management in Volunteer Programs
- Engaging Volunteers to Support Disaster Management activities
- Service Continuity Planning/Disaster Preparedness for non profit/voluntary sector organizations;
- Strategic Planning and Non Profit Board Development.

For further information please contact Karen-Denise Cyr at [karendcyr@mts.net](mailto:karendcyr@mts.net).

### **KAREN'S PRESENTATION IS ON APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> AT THE CENTRE IN DRYDEN**

#### **H1N1 Pandemic Response: Lessons Learned**

In the aftermath of the World Health Organization declared H1N1 Influenza Pandemic, participants will learn how the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority responded to a public health outbreak unlike any seen in recent memory. Hear how staff, volunteers, non-government organizations and local community collaborated to immunize 250,000 Winnipeg citizens. Lessons learned include tips for planning and operations in a rapidly changing environment, the role of the media and its impact on public behaviour, the importance of psycho-social support for clients, worker care initiatives, human resource considerations, community engagement and more!