## media release



## 21 July 2009

## **EKKA FUN IN THE SUN**

Statement in response to Queensland Health press conference today regarding H1N1.

Ekka organisers today reinforced the message to Queenslanders that if you are fit and healthy, there is no logical reason to miss out on Ekka fun.

"If you are comfortable going to major shopping centres, riding public transport or going to local festivals, fetes or the footy, you should come to Ekka," said RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny.

"Winter in Queensland is perfect. It's a constant 23 degrees, the sun is shining and the majority of the Ekka is outdoors, across 22 hectares of open grounds.

"It is a shame the Ekka is tagged with the mythical 'Ekka flu'," he said. "It's the most recognised event in Queensland, so it's an easy target.

"Queenslanders need to apply common sense and logic with this issue.

"All of us should practice excellent personal hygiene," he said. "That goes a long way to keeping most illnesses at bay."

The RNA will assist in good personal hygiene by installing 100 large anti-bacterial hand gel dispenses across the grounds, ready to dispense 1000 litres of hand gel to Ekka visitors, in addition to hand washing facilities.

Ekka gates open in 16 sleeps on Thursday 6 August.

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