

Meeting of co-investigators/collaborators and evidence-synthesis teams

Annotated agenda for 10 March 2022

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OVERALL PROJECT REVIEW and DISCUSSION ITEMS		
1. COVID-END in Canada project progress		
Status overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of requests and completed products (including plain language summaries) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently we have 115 completed products (new and updates), 7 in-progress, and 22 planned already to 31 March 2023 (144 total) ○ This includes 3 inter-related living evidence syntheses (LES) about vaccine effectiveness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the effectiveness of available COVID-19 vaccines for adults, including for variants of concern and over time frames up to 120 days? - What is the effectiveness of available COVID-19 vaccines for children and adolescents, including for variants of concern? - What is the long-term effectiveness of available COVID-19 vaccines for adults, including for variants of concern and over time frames beyond 112 days in those with a primary series and beyond 84 days in those with a primary series and an additional dose? ○ This also includes an updated review on vaccine effectiveness in immunocompromised individuals, as well as rapid syntheses about the risk of severe outcomes in children and the effect of COVID-19 vaccine mandates on trust, psychological reactance, and future vaccine intention • Review of key points in the annotated standing items in the table below • Leveraged relationships, grants, and contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PHAC ○ CoVaRR ○ Other CIHR and NSERC-funded networks and teams (modeling, trials, Indigenous) ○ COVID-END in Canada partners 	20 min
Round table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief updates from participants about other relevant initiatives underway in Canada 	10 min
2. Global Commission on Evidence to Address Societal Challenges		
Update from the secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Excerpted links from the presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evidence Commission report available in multiple languages and formats ○ Sample media coverage links: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature editorial 28 February 2022: Wanted: better systems for turning evidence into action - The New York Times guest essay 8 February 2022: Getting rid of Joe Rogan won't solve the health misinformation problem - The Conversation - article 6 February 2022: 5 ways to tackle ignorance about evidence during and after the COVID-19 pandemic • Excerpted list of priorities in the pathways to influence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ rapid jurisdictional assessments ○ global evidence architecture ○ citizen engagement 	15 min
Round table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief updates from participants about other relevant initiatives underway in Canada 	15 min

STANDING ITEMS		
A) Activity streams		
0. New or updated syntheses		
Rapid evidence profiles (REPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above (in project progress) 	
Rapid evidence syntheses (RSs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above (in project progress) 	
Plain language summaries (includes summaries for living documents below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressing well, in collaboration with citizen partners. Plain language summaries available through the scan evidence products link in the ‘resources for decisionmakers’ section (and plans underway for additional dedicated page) 	
1. Living evidence syntheses		
Living evidence profiles (LEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above 	
Living evidence syntheses (LES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living behavioural sciences documents funded by PHAC (see link above) 	
2. Inventory of ‘best evidence syntheses’		
Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13,091 syntheses from high-quality/high-yield sources (of which 96 living syntheses) → 9,410 non-duplicate syntheses → 6,525 decision-relevant syntheses assessed and included in the database → 644 ‘best’ evidence syntheses included in the inventory (updated 8 March) • Equity considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ methods developed to identify syntheses that address key equity domains, extract in a standardized way equity-related insights from the syntheses ○ piloted with 37 reviews from the inventory ○ next steps: adapt methods to integrate equity considerations into new searchable online inventory 	
Searchable database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full database of syntheses from around the world powers the inventory, and it will soon be available in searchable form 	
Inventory spotlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian (see below) and global inventory spotlights 	
3. Evidence-demand coordination		
Canadian Public Health Network (SAC and TAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content from our spotlights is being included in the weekly evidence summary being distributed to all SAC members 	
Other PHAC (e.g., Chief Science Officer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular communications 	
Other federal government Provincial and territorial governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat continues to reach out to government contacts with three calls to action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) sign-up for the twice-a-month email updates 2) submit a request using the online form (for questions from high-level decision makers) 3) use the COVID-END inventory when looking for the best global evidence and reminders to use the COVID-END website for additional resources 	
• Tracking		
• Webinars (and presentations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full roster for COVID-END in Canada webinars can be found here: webinars • Recordings from the Evidence Commission launch webinars and other events are available here 	
4. Horizon scanning		
• Adjustments to existing process • Canadian panel membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are replacing our global horizon-scanning initiative with a version that allows for more ad hoc engagement of panelists as the pandemic and pandemic response evolve • We are transitioning to a more agile version of our Canadian horizon-scanning initiative that reduces the frequency of regular meetings but allows for more ad hoc engagement between meetings. • We are complementing our COVID-focused horizon scanning with more broad-based horizon scanning about building a better evidence-support system for future pandemics, health emergencies, and health challenges more generally (through the Global Commission on Evidence to Address Societal Challenges). 	

5. Evidence-supply coordination		
• Evidence-synthesis teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings now combined for co-investigators/collaborators and evidence-synthesis teams • The ‘Resources for researchers’ webpage continues to provide 	
• Canadian synthesis spotlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian spotlights can be accessed here 	
• Dissemination vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder to subscribe here (and encourage others to do the same) to the Canadian COVID-19 email update, which provides three types of products from COVID-END in Canada: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Canadian spotlights, ◦ global spotlights, and ◦ horizon scans • Distribution also through partner newsletters, websites, and social media • Citizen-focused social media communications (see below) 	
B) Cross-cutting		
1. Citizen partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of citizen engagement with the research teams • Expanding the citizen pool (three new citizen partners onboarded) • Evaluation planning meeting with SPOR EA • Evaluation tools for citizens/research teams (in progress) • Citizen engagement priorities related to Recommendation 13 of the Evidence Commission report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ COVID-END citizen partners (global and Canada) - being engaged to promote the report recommendations ◦ Canadian and international organizations ◦ citizen section on the Evidence Commission website • Reminder that resources are available to researchers for engaging citizens. 	
2. Indigenous peoples engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence Commission section on Indigenous rights and ways of knowing 	
3. Website and communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for Canadians section of the COVID-END site • Resources to support the public section of the COVID-END website, including separate page to facilitate direct access to plain language summaries, and sections with answers to frequently asked questions 	
4. Measuring impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation framework as outlined in our grant submission for year 2, outlining existing and new approaches to evaluation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ processes (e.g., citizen partners’ engagement experiences; improvement in the signal-to-noise ratio by sharing only the world’s ‘best’ evidence syntheses and – in a single place – all new Canadian contextualized syntheses). ◦ outputs (e.g., quality of our evidence syntheses; comparative evaluations of our plain-language summaries and inventory against best-in-class examples of each), ◦ outcomes (e.g., views and downloads of our work; decision-makers’ experiences in using our products), and ◦ impacts (e.g., case descriptions of how our products influenced decision-making). 	