

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Update re: COVID-19 with MNO, MNS and MNA

September 14, 2020

1:30-3:00pm EST (1.5 hours)

Dial-in Information: 1-877-413-4781 or local 613-960-7510 Conference ID: 9513647

NOTE:

- Purpose of today's call:
 - The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO), the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan (MNS) and the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) will meet with Government of Canada officials via teleconference. The last meeting with this group was on August 31, 2020.
 - Federal partners, including PHAC, will share an update on federal actions related to COVID-19 and MNO, MNS and MNA will share an overview of plans and pressures for their respective nations.

Health Portfolio Participation:

- Leah Campbell, PHAC
- Tasha Stefanis, HC

Follow-up actions from August 31st meeting

- PHAC to provide update about development and regulatory progress for vaccine and early deployment considerations: PHAC's Centre for Immunization and Respiratory Infectious Diseases (CIRID) will present an update at a future meeting.
 - This update on COVID vaccines and vaccine program planning will be scheduled for late September.
- List of jurisdictions that have signed up for the COVID alert app: We are working to obtain this information from PHAC colleagues.
 - ON- 2 months into COVID Alert app use, over 2M users
 - NL launched use of COVID Alert app in early September
 - 2 more PTs expected to launch it soon (NB, SK)
 - 5 additional PTs are actively discussing with federal government the opportunity to adopt the app in their jurisdiction

PHAC SITUATIONAL BRIEFING/UPDATE – LEAH CAMPBELL

Domestic Situation (September 13, 2020) For Reference

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- 136,659 cases (*responsive only: 9,171 deaths*).
 - 88% of people have now recovered.
 - Labs across Canada have tested 6,154,7468 people for COVID-19 to date.
 - Labs across Canada tested an average of 47,806 people daily over last week with 1.1% testing positive.

1. Areas of Collaboration: Special Advisory Committee

- As we move into the Fall, informed by the FPT Public Health Response Plan for Ongoing Management of COVID-19, the Special Advisory Committee has identified the following areas for continued coordination and collaboration across levels of government:
 - Surveillance/data: expand our data, collect new data to address gaps (e.g., race/ethnicity and outbreak reporting).
 - Monitoring school outbreaks carefully, and developing national guidance on school outbreak investigations to support consistent data collection/analysis.
 - Capacity: ensuring sufficient public health and health human resources and sufficient supplies for PPE, testing, etc.
 - Communication: value of common messages and sharing on how to use behavioural insights to support more effective public messaging at a time when there is fatigue with COVID information and measures.
 - Supporting vulnerable populations: In order not to repeat our experience of morbidity and mortality of a few months ago, we need to build in strong measures to protect those at higher risk and shore up capacity, and address inequities. This may be our biggest challenge.

2. Update: Risk Communications Aimed at Youth (from SAC Sept 1)

- Given we have continue to see cases grow among younger adults across the country, PHAC has launched a communications campaign to target youth & young adults, using appropriate behavioural/risk communications strategies.
 - The multi-tiered campaign runs from August until the end of September 2020 and includes:
 - Two short videos that show the unintended consequences of ignoring current public health advice in favour of socialising. These videos will appear on APEX mobile (gaming), Twitch (streaming site), Native touch, YouTube, Spotify, Facebook, Twitter and Pintrest.
 - Series of youth testimonials that feature Canadian youth who have contracted COVID-19 available on the Canada.ca/coronavirus website, as well as YouTube and Instagram.
 - Snapchat custom and semi-custom filters that feature a variety of face masks and COVID-19 related messaging to engage youth audiences; and
 - A planned set of sponsored Tweets, interactive Twitter cards and potential series of BuzzFeed quizzes aimed at youth.
 - Also working on messages on youth mental health that address back to school mental health (e.g., take breaks from social media and the news; think of the positive things that happen each day; do things you enjoy, start a hobby or learn a new skill, and talk to a trusted adult and ask for help if emotions become overwhelming.)

3. Latest Guidance (posted on Canada.ca):

- Updated: Public health management of cases and contacts associated with COVID-19
 - New (Sept 11): Canadian Biosafety Guideline: Biosafety in the Elementary, Intermediate, and Secondary School Classroom (surfaces, handling of waste, etc.)
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- In development: guidance for planning of COVID-19 vaccination programs

Upcoming Webinars:

- Seasonal Influenza 2020-2021 Recommendations in the Context of COVID-19 by National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases / Centre de collaboration nationale des maladies infectieuses (Monday, September 21, 2020 12:00 – 2:00pm (EST))

Future updates from PHAC (to be scheduled with PHAC leads):

- Update on vaccine development and deployment program planning
 - Update on Testing Approaches and Technology
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