



An increasing number of Canadians are concerned about how the COVID crisis was handled by our governments and institutions. We're alarmed by the serious consequences of their decisions and, at times, their seeming indifference. Those consequences include tragic impacts on the personal lives of many, violations of constitutionally guaranteed rights and freedoms in the name of health protection, and economic impacts of lockdown measures, which subjected millions of us to unemployment, loss of income and business closures.

Canadians are asking questions: Were the measures taken by governments in Canada appropriate to the threat? Were they based on sufficient clinical and statistical evidence? Were they suitably focused? How effective were they? Were there conflicts of interest at play? Was there enough emphasis on prevention and early treatment? On informed consent? Was sufficient debate permitted? In attempting to prevent COVID, what other maladies were we ignoring or fostering?

These concerns have given rise to a growing demand for an Independent National Inquiry into the management of the COVID crisis in Canada. To encourage and inform such an inquiry, from June 22nd – 24th the Canadian Covid Care Alliance, in partnership with CAERS, Fearless Canada, United Healthcare Workers of Ontario and the Frontier Centre For Public Policy among others, is sponsoring a cross-country streaming event, moderated by a diverse panel of experts, to:

- Receive testimony illustrating the harms that have resulted from government policies implemented to cope with the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Receive scientific, medical, and legal testimony as to alternative approaches that were ignored or even banned, which might have been pursued.
- Generate recommendations to ensure that Canadians never again experience the degree of loss, trauma and disruption caused by the official response to COVID-19.

A Citizens' Inquiry will consist of five sessions of testimonials challenging the official responses of Canada's federal and regional governments and recommendations for better handling the next public health crisis:

Session One:	Personal, educational and social impact.
Session Two:	Medical and scientific assumptions.
Session Three:	Constitutional rights and freedoms.
Session Four:	Economic impact.
Session Five:	Next Steps Taskforce: Recommendations and roadmap for the future.

Canada's response to COVID-19 has been far from perfect. We can and should learn from our mistakes. The landscape of this enormous challenge has been and is constantly changing. **A Citizens' Inquiry** aims to contribute to a national conversation of truth and understanding that might lead us to a new preparedness. To face the next health crisis, we must change the narrative from one of fear and reaction to one of confidence in a properly managed, pro-active and nuanced emergency management process that reacts to real world data, and keeps dialogue and consultation with a cross-section of stakeholders open and transparent.

For additional information, please contact info@CanadianCovidCareAlliance.Org and type TESTIMONY in the subject line.