

University of Manitoba Bannatyne Campus Research Ethics Board
Consent Disclosure Statement

Métis Perspectives on COVID-19

Thank-you for your interest in sharing your thoughts about Métis peoples' experiences with COVID-19, which is one part of our larger study entitled: The Paradox of Precaution: Examining Public Health COVID-19 Outbreak Management Strategies.

Who we are: Research and knowledge user partners from the University of Manitoba (Dr. Michelle Driedger who is also a Manitoba Métis citizen), the Manitoba Métis Federation Health and Wellness Department (Minister Frances Chartrand and Dr. Julianne Sanguins), the University of the Fraser Valley (Dr. Cindy Jardine), Ryerson University (Dr. Jordan Tustin), and Carleton University (Dr. Joshua Greenberg) are conducting a survey about Manitoba Métis experiences with COVID-19. We are also working with Dr. Brent Roussin (Provincial Health Officer for Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living), Dr. Bonnie Henry (Provincial Health Officer for BC Ministry of Health), and Dr. Margaret Haworth-Brockman (National Collaborating Centres for Infectious Disease).

Purpose of Study: Public health officials in Canada have faced several challenges in managing the COVID-19 outbreak, including implementing various public health measures and distributing COVID-19 vaccines. Health Canada has approved several COVID-19 vaccines and has been engaging in extensive monitoring of vaccines for safety and long-term effectiveness. Your participation in this research will help us better understand Red River Métis knowledge and concerns about COVID-19 and any approved vaccines, as well as perspectives about how public health has managed the pandemic. The survey is open to all Métis over the age of 18.

What types of questions are asked in the survey?: The survey asks a series of questions – some demographic information (including education, income, etc.), knowledge and awareness of COVID-19, what impacts from COVID-19 that you and your family have experienced, and what kind of information you have turned to, including benefits/barriers to finding/following public health safety advice, and personal decisions about accepting COVID-19 vaccines.

How long it will take to do: Your ideas will be collected through an online survey that will take about 15 – 20 minutes to complete. If doing this online is a challenge, a member of the research team can arrange a time to do this with you over the phone.

What your participation involves: Your participation on this online survey is completely voluntary. You don't have to answer any questions that you do not want to. In acknowledgement of your time to complete this survey, at the end of the survey you can enter a draw to win a \$100 gift card. A total of ten (10) prizes of \$100 each will be given out.

At the end of the survey, if you want to enter the draw, you will be directed to a new page to enter your name and contact information (email and/or telephone). This information will NOT be linked to your survey responses in any way and will be immediately destroyed once all the prizes have been awarded. Please note that once you submit your survey responses you will NOT be able to withdraw them as we cannot link the survey responses back to you. Only completed surveys are eligible to be entered for the draw. Your chance of winning depends on the number of Métis Citizens participating. Draw prizes will be done within two weeks of the survey being closed.

At the end of the survey, you will also have the option to participate in a future individual or focus group interview which will be conducted using a virtual channel (e.g. through video-chat or by telephone) or in a physically distanced way (if it is safe to do so). If interested in participating in one of these interviews, you will be asked to provide your name and contact information. Again, this information cannot be linked to your survey responses. We will retain this information until after the individual or focus groups interviews

are complete. If you are selected to participate in an interview, you would receive a gift of \$70, either in the form of an electronic gift card or a cash e-transfer.

Risks and Benefits: The risks of participating in the surveys are low. While participating in this research may not directly benefit you, we hope that what we learn from this research can help Métis Citizens in the future, including how the MMF can respond better to situations like these.

Privacy/Confidentiality: Your survey responses are anonymous as we cannot link your responses to any identifying information you provide to participate in either the draw prizes or future individual or focus group interviews. Further, the survey system will not record your email address or IP (Internet protocol) address. This survey is done through SimpleSurvey which collects and stores all data in Canada. Once anonymized survey data has been downloaded and verified, SimpleSurvey will delete all data off its Microsoft Canada data centres at the request of Dr. Michelle Driedger. All data will be analyzed by the University of Manitoba and the Manitoba Métis Federation.

Information gathered in this research study will be published or presented in public forums in an aggregated and anonymized fashion. Any information with personal identifiers will be destroyed immediately following the distribution of the draw prize (in the case of the survey). Any identifiers from completed individual or focus group data will be destroyed after seven years.

Non-identifiable information (anonymized survey responses, de-identified interview and/or focus group transcripts) will NOT be destroyed to have the possibility of using this data in the future to compare to other infectious disease outbreaks. Further, a condition of this CIHR funding states that for the duration of an international public health emergency, like COVID-19, requires that the World Health Organization (WHO) has rapid access to emerging findings that could aid in the global response. While we need to share short-term as well as final research data related to the outbreak, as well as pre-published and published papers, all data shared will be non-identifiable. Long-term non-identifiable data will be stored on secure password protected platforms like Dataverse at the University of Manitoba. The PI can control who has access to this information and will share information in an appropriate format to be usable by the MMF based on terms established in Data Sharing Agreements. The study team will also have data on password protected computers (desktops and laptops) while we continue to work from home as well as on University of Manitoba servers.

Your participation is important to us and will help the MMF and other government agencies better contain infectious disease outbreak in the future. If you have any questions about this survey study, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Julianne Sanguins, in the Health & Wellness Department at the MMF jsanguins@mmf.mb.ca, or Dr. Michelle Driedger, a Red River Métis researcher, University of Manitoba at michelle.driedger@umanitoba.ca.

Research Funders: The study is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

This study has been approved by the University of Manitoba Health Research Ethics Board (H2020:164). By continuing on and completing the on-line survey you are consenting to participate in the on-line survey.

Notice Regarding Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Personal Information by the University

Your personal information and personal health information is being collected under the authority of *The University of Manitoba Act*. The information you provide will be used for the purpose of this approved research study. Your personal information and personal health information will not be used or disclosed for other purposes, unless permitted by *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) and *The Personal Health Information Act* (PHIA). If you have any questions about the collection of your information, contact the Access & Privacy Office (tel. 204-474-9462), 233 Elizabeth Dafoe Library, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2.