We Count COVID-19: Integrated and Indigenous-Led Public Health Approach to FNIM COVID-19 in Toronto



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Objectives for Today

- 1. Share overview and get input on We Count COVID-19 project
- Provide an overview of the data collection tool and process, and how this information can be used to mobilize a local public health response



COVID-19 - Core Public Health Response Functions

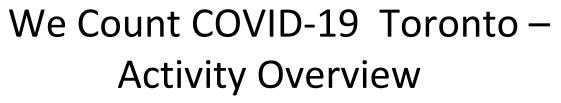
- 1. "Case" identification and management
- Contact Tracing
- 3. Linkage to health and social service supports
- 4. Tracking, mapping, understanding, and then strategically acting to stop/reduce spread work

The best COVID-19 response systems are the systems where these functions are integrated and run by the same team



We Count COVID-19 Toronto

- Partnership between Na-Me-Res, SGMT and Well Living House
- Funded through a special call and funding stream of Indigenous Health Services (distinct from urban Indigenous community support funds)
- Designed to respond to gaps in identification of and streamed provincial/territorial/federal responses to COVID-19 in urban and related homelands
- Action research demonstration project focused on public health service provision with a streamlined project evaluation component



Rapidly develop and implement an Indigenous led, parallel to/harmonized with TPH COVID-19 response over the summer

- Formalization of partnerships, collaboration, governance
- Develop and implement Indigenous specific public health training for own community members
- Set up Indigenous specific fixed testing site
- Outreach to FNIM community members who have had, do have and/or are at risk of COVID-19
- Respond to their needs in a good way
- Develop community-governed information regarding FNIM COVID-19 testing, infection, and spread in Toronto



Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong

- Indigenous COVID-19 Assessment Centre
- Offer both saliva sample and nasopharyngeal swab
- Supported by Outreach Workers

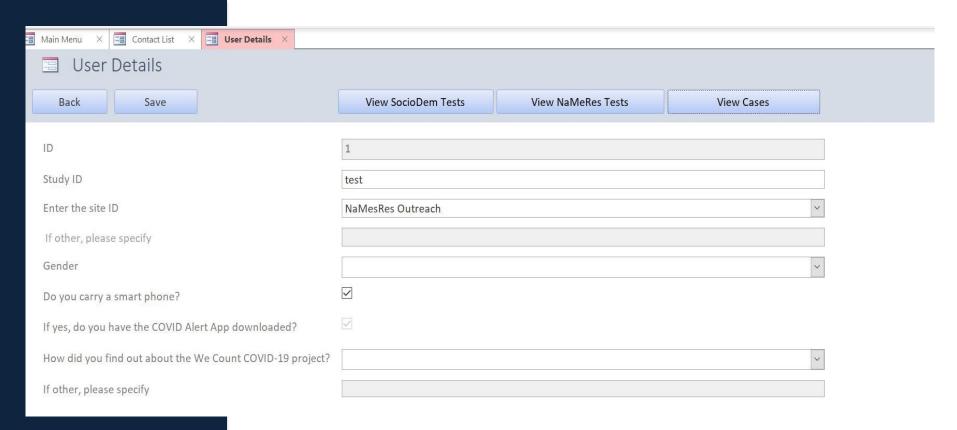


Data Collection

- Developed a customized Indigenous COVID-19 case database
- Gather relevant sociodemographic, Indigenous identity, testing, outcome, travel, and access to care information



Database Example 1





Database Example 2

SocioDem Test	
Back	
ID 2 user_id 1	created_at 26-Oct-20 modified_at 26-Oct-20
Section C: Demographics Section D: Housing Section E: Testing Section F: Disposition Section G: Co-Morbidities Section H: Interviewer Comments	
How do you self-identify?	
FN: Are you status? (eg. Registered Indian according to the Indian Act)	V
FN: What is your nation or nation? (eg. Cree, Mohawk, etc.)	
FN: What is your reserve or band affiliation, if any?	
Métis: Do you identify with a particular nation or nations?	v
If yes, which one(s):	
Métis: Are you registered with the provicial Metis organization or Metis Nation?	v
Métis: If yes, which one:	V
If other, please specify	
Inuit: If yes, are you a beneficiary of an Inuit land claim?	_



Data Collection Process

- Main ways for an Indigenous person to be counted into the database
 - Auduzhe Testing Site
 - Outreach
 - Community Testing



Addressing gaps with data

- Informing policy, including address vaccination injustices
- Reducing funding and service barriers
- Tracking emerging patterns
- Sharing tools, methods and lessons learned to support other Indigenous agencies



Questions?

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