

Action items from the 21 September 2021 meeting of steering committee

0. Review action items from last meeting and today's agenda	Action items from last meeting - see attachment 2 - all addressed or in progress Other agenda items for today? (key items are in yellow cells)
OVERALL PROJECT REVIEW	
1. Project progress	
Status overview <i>2.5 months to go on the current grant</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80+ products completed to date Status of conversations with CIHR and PHAC about potentially continuing support for COVID-END in Canada
2. Legacy planning	
Evidence Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update about the Global Commission on Evidence to Address Societal Challenges Exhibits are available here <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACTION: Steering Committee members are welcome to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide feedback to the secretariat on how to improve exhibits build some of these exhibits into their own presentations to advance discussions about renewed evidence-support systems across Canada ACTION for all: communicate with the Commission and keep up to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn and share the Evidence Commission posts sign-up to receive the monthly newsletter
COVID-END in Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ontario asset map expected in September, which could be a prototype for a national asset map <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeremy provided an update. The project is progressing well: identified everyone in the Cochrane databased who is linked to Ontario (about 1,600 entries currently), included the ten Ontario-based SPOR EA evidence-synthesis teams; and now adding methodologists and identifying evidence-synthesis programs at Ontario universities. The final product will likely have a multi-level set of ways into the asset map. The team will circulate it when ready and will ask whether any important entries might be missing.
STANDING ITEMS	
A) Activity streams	Topic (change to 'Notes and actions' in action items doc)
3. New or updated syntheses	
Intake and prioritization <i>(includes intake for living docs)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of requests and completed products (including plain language summaries)
Rapid evidence profiles (REPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above
Rapid evidence syntheses (RSs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above
Plain language summaries <i>(includes summaries for living documents below)</i>	<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)
4. 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)
5. Inventory of 'best evidence syntheses'	
Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10,564 syntheses from high-quality/high-yield sources → 8,008 non-duplicate syntheses → 5,251 decision-relevant syntheses → 556 'best' evidence syntheses (updated 16 September) Additional fields for equity considerations being planned
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
6. 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	<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
Provincial and territorial governments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinars (and presentations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webinars and presentations conducted since the last steering committee meeting (full roster for COVID-END in Canada can be found here: webinars, presentations) • Upcoming: An introduction to economic modelling in the context of HTA (21 September)
7. Horizon scanning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjustments to existing process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizon scans are published once a month and include a briefing note about emerging issues, and a panel summary about priority issues for Canada.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian panel membership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 Canadian horizon scanning panel members; three meetings completed (28 April, 26 May, 28 July), two more provisionally scheduled (29 September, 27 October) • Many Canadian members observing the global horizon scanning panel meeting
8. Evidence-supply coordination	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence-synthesis teams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly meeting of the evidence-synthesis teams (two completed: 29 March, 22 June), and two more provisionally scheduled (27 September, 22 November) • The ‘Resources for researchers’ webpage has been further enhanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian synthesis spotlights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian spotlights can be accessed here
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Plans underway for citizen-focused social media communications (see below)
B) Cross-cutting	
1. Citizen partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project with the COVID-END global Prioritizing working group (includes creating documents for citizen engagement targeted to specific review which may be transferable to Canadian reviews) • Website and social media project underway ‘for the public’ • We have 20 citizen partners who have been trained and 18 are currently active and available to partner with research teams. They can provide input into framing the question, feedback on the syntheses, perspectives from their lived experiences, and support the preparation of plain language summaries and infographics. Currently, ten citizen partners are engaged with teams working on various topics, so there is availability among the overall group, and requests for citizen engagement are welcome. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ACTION: Anyone needing support from citizen partners to contact Maureen Smith • Reminder that resources are available to researchers for engaging citizens. • Increased efforts to improve citizen engagement with evidence synthesis teams, and to acknowledge citizen engagement visibly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ACTION: Secretariat to remind evidence-synthesis teams to more visibly acknowledge citizen contributions when citizen partners have been engaged
2. Indigenous peoples engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans underway to connect with five teams who received CIHR funding for knowledge syntheses, and to collaborate with CoVaRR’s Indigenous reach and groups such as the Indigenous Primary Health Care and Policy Research (IPH CPR) Network based in AB. • Also, advisors identified through the evidence commission work

3. Website and communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for Canadians section of the COVID-END site • Citizen-focused content added, and a separate page being planned to facilitate direct access to plain language summaries
4. Measuring impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
OTHER BUSINESS / ARISING ISSUES	
1. Round table: relevant initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief updates about other relevant initiatives underway in Canada • MOH has noticed a reduction of requests for evidence synthesis related to COVID-19, and an increase in requests about post-covid recovery • NCCMT has received a request for the topic of COVID-19 impact on health professionals and their future careers Andrea Proctor offered that her team could take on the topic. To see if any other teams are working on this: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ ACTION: Maureen Dobbins to ask Mike Wilson to search the domestic and global inventories. • Collaborative work is underway across networks and workstreams involved in COVID-19 research. For example, COVID-END had had productive discussions with the two CIHR-funded networks (CANMOD and One Society Network) to support greater sharing of work across the evidence synthesis and modeling communities in Canada and globally.
2. Other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOR-EA is launching a seed grant for early career researchers on 4 October. The 2021 theme is ‘Knowledge Dissemination and Implementation with Patient Partnership Using an Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice Lens.’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Application details will be available soon through the SPOR-EA website and social media • Proposed approach to keep in touch with Steering Committee, Collaborators and Evidence Synthesis teams for the remaining duration of the current project (to end of November) - potentially replace meetings with email updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ ACTION: Secretariat to proceed with email updates in lieu of the upcoming evidence-synthesis meeting of 27 September and collaborators meeting of 6 October. (The approach will be revisited if COVID-END funding is renewed)

Steering committee members
(Last updated 20 September 2021)

Role category	Name	Role	Organization	Email
Representatives of evidence-synthesis teams based in government	Trevor Corneil	Senior Medial Advisor, COVID-19 Pandemic Response, Government of BC	BC CDC and Ministry of Health	trevor.corneil@ubc.ca
	Anne Hayes	Director, Research, Analysis and Evaluation Branch (RAEB)	Ontario Ministry of Health	anne.hayes@ontario.ca
	Andrea Proctor <i>(delegate for Anne)</i>	Manager, Evidence Synthesis Unit, RAEB	Ontario Ministry of Health	andrea.proctor@ontario.ca
	Denis Roy	Vice-président, Stratégie, Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux	INESSSS	denis.roy@inesss.qc.ca
Representatives of KT/ intermediary initiatives	Maureen Dobbins	Scientific Director	National Collaborating Centres for Methods and Tools (NCCMT)	dobbinsm@mcmaster.ca
	Margo Greenwood	Academic Leader	National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health	margo.greenwood@unbc.ca
Citizen leaders	Maureen Smith	Chair	Cochrane Consumer Network Executive	maureen_smith@rogers.com
Representatives of major professional bodies	Doris Grinspun	Chief Executive Officer	Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario	dgrinspun@rnao.ca
	Owen Adams	Senior Advisor to the CEO	Canadian Medical Association	owen.adams@cma.ca
Representatives of policymakers/ leaders	Marina Salvadori	Senior Medical Advisor, Clinical Lead COVID-19	Public Health Agency of Canada	marina.salvadori@canada.ca
	Braden Manns	Associate Chief Medical Officer	Alberta Health Services	braden.manns@albertahealthservices.ca
	Gaynor Watson-Creed	Assistant Dean, Serving and Engaging Society, Faculty of Medicine	Dalhousie University	gwatson@dal.ca
Co-principal applicants	John Lavis	Co-Lead, COVID-END and Director, McMaster Health Forum	COVID-END, McMaster Health Forum RISE	lavis@mcmaster.ca
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	Nancy Santesso	Deputy Director	Cochrane Canada	santesna@mcmaster.ca
	Jeremy Grimshaw	Co-Lead, COVID-END, and Senior Scientist, Clinical Epidemiology Program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI)	COVID-END, OHRI RISE	jgrimshaw@ohri.ca
Ex-officio members	Alfonso Iorio	Chair, Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence & Impact and Director, Health Information Research Unit	COVID+, McMaster University	iorioa@mcmaster.ca
	Ileana Ciurea	Senior Advisor, Strategy, Collaborations, and Innovation	COVID-END, McMaster Health Forum RISE	ciurea@mcmaster.ca