

To view an archived recording of this presentation please click the following link:

<https://youtu.be/wv9yKbfVbN4>

Please scroll down this file to view a copy of the slides from the session.

Disclaimer

This document was created by its author and/or external organization. It has been published on the Public Health Ontario (PHO) website for public use as outlined in our Website Terms of Use. PHO is not the owner of this content. Any application or use of the information in this document is the responsibility of the user. PHO assumes no liability resulting from any such application or use.

Learning Exchange: COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake and Equity Considerations

10 March 2021

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

- This webinar is being hosted and recorded in Toronto on the traditional territory of many First Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples.
- We also recognize the enduring presence of many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples across the regions to which this webinar is being delivered.

Disclaimer

This presentation was developed by Public Health Ontario (PHO) in partnership with Dr. Lawrence Loh, Medical Officer of Health, Region of Peel and Dr. Dr. Sarah Funnell, Associate Medical Officer of Health.

PHO provides scientific and technical advice to Ontario's government, public health organizations and health care providers. PHO's work is guided by the current best available evidence at the time of publication.

The application and use of this presentation is the responsibility of the user. PHO assumes no liability resulting from any such application or use.

This presentation may be reproduced without permission for non-commercial purposes only and provided that appropriate credit is given to PHO. No changes and/or modifications may be made to this document without express written permission from PHO.

POLL

- Where are you joining us from today?
- Where do you work?

Webinar Objectives

Share equity centered health unit practices to support the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines

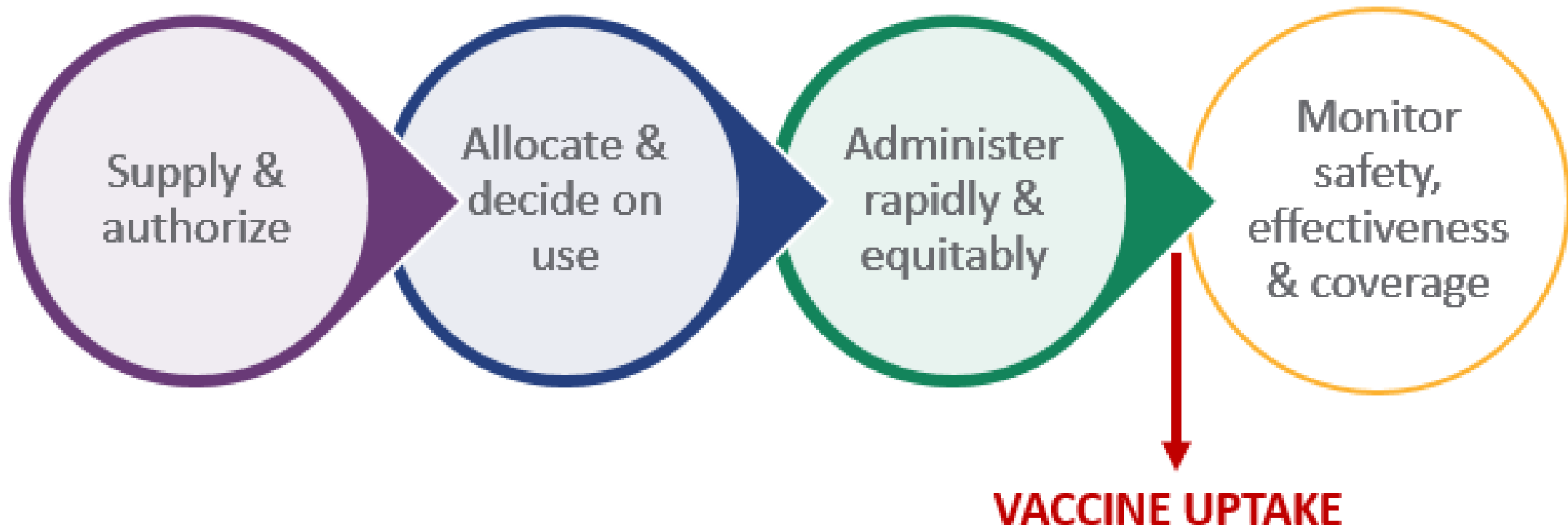
Highlight experiences/challenges/opportunities from various health units in this area

Share emerging best practices and resources for equity-centred vaccine program implementation

Agenda

| Time | Item |
|---------|------------------------|
| 2:00 pm | Welcome |
| 2:05 pm | Setting the context |
| 2:10 pm | Presentations |
| 2:30 pm | Interactive discussion |
| 2:55 pm | Wrap up |

Canada's Immunization Plan¹



Equity & Language^{2, 3}

Vaccine refusal

Vaccine hesitancy

Vaccine uptake

Using language to...

- Encourage conversations and questions
- Reflect on the complex factors driving interaction with the health system beyond the vaccine itself

EEFA (Ethics, Equity Feasibility, Acceptability) Framework⁴



Prioritizing Trustworthiness & Trust in COVID-19 vaccine uptake

- Ottawa Public Health
- Dr. Sarah Funnell, Associate Medical Officer of Health

Vaccine questioning

Potential implications during the COVID-19 Pandemic

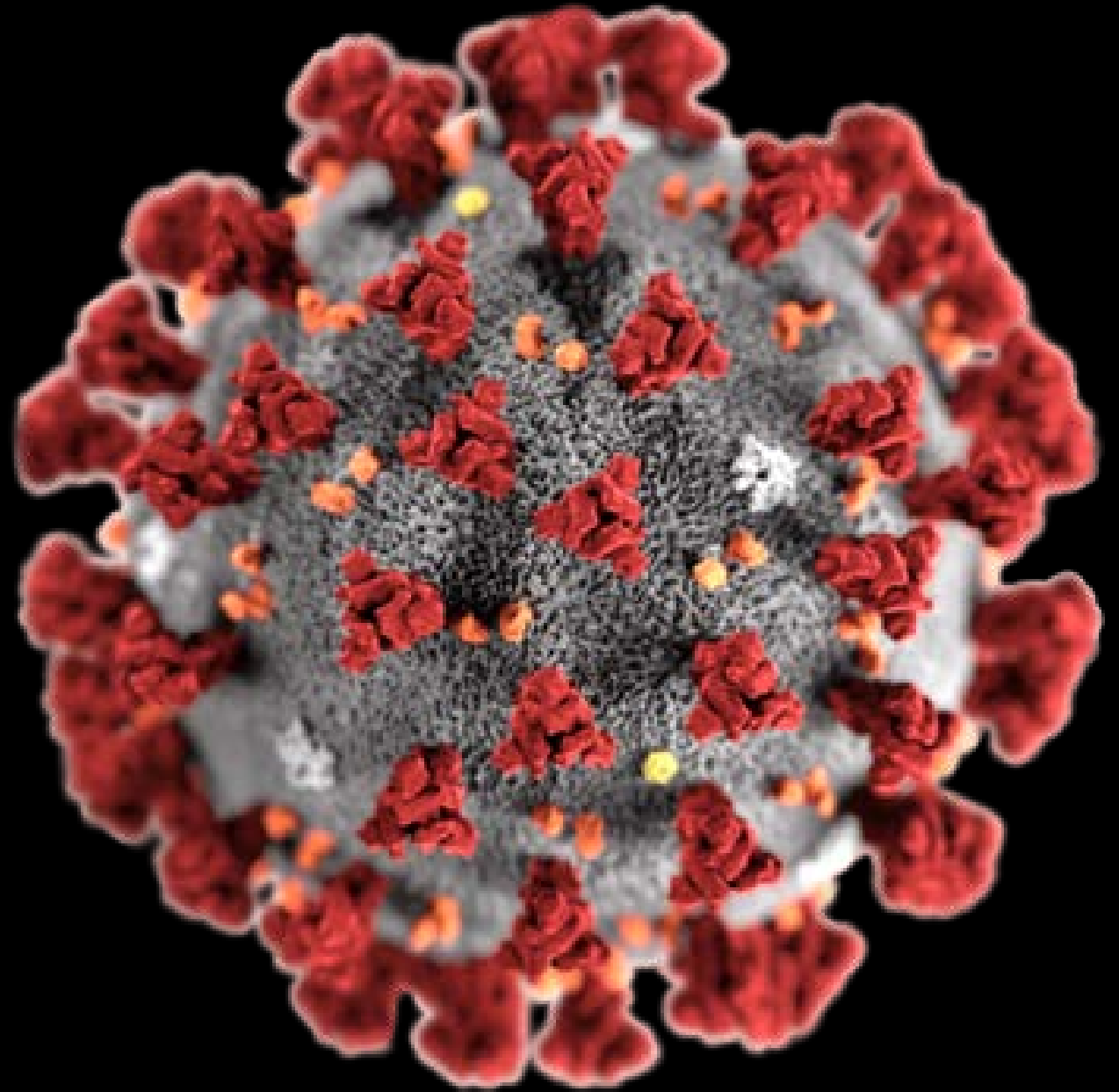
Presenter: Dr. Sarah Minwanimad Funnell



Respect the virus

“It is said, do not fear the virus, respect it. Respect is one of the cornerstones of our values. When we respect something, we lose fear of it and attitude and behavior changes. Like learning to swim, you must respect both the beauty and the danger of water. Same with the virus, we need to obey the precautions and safety practices, because fearing it may result in behavior that is dangerous.”

- Algonquin/Haudensaune Elder,
Simon Brascoupe



The Trickster

CDC COVID-19

3 C's

There are certain places where COVID-19 spreads more easily:



Crowded places

with many people nearby



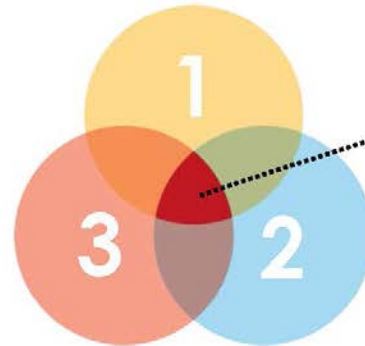
Close-contact settings

Especially where people have close-range conversations



Confined and enclosed spaces

with poor ventilation



The risk is higher in places where these factors overlap.

Even as restrictions are lifted, consider where you are going and #StaySafe by avoiding the Three Cs.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?





Vaccine Hesitancy

Reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of vaccines

Parents

Love



Canadian Paediatric Society: Working with vaccine- hesitant parents

Approaches to vaccine
hesitancy

Discuss the risk

Community protection

4TH EDITION

Your Child's Best Shot

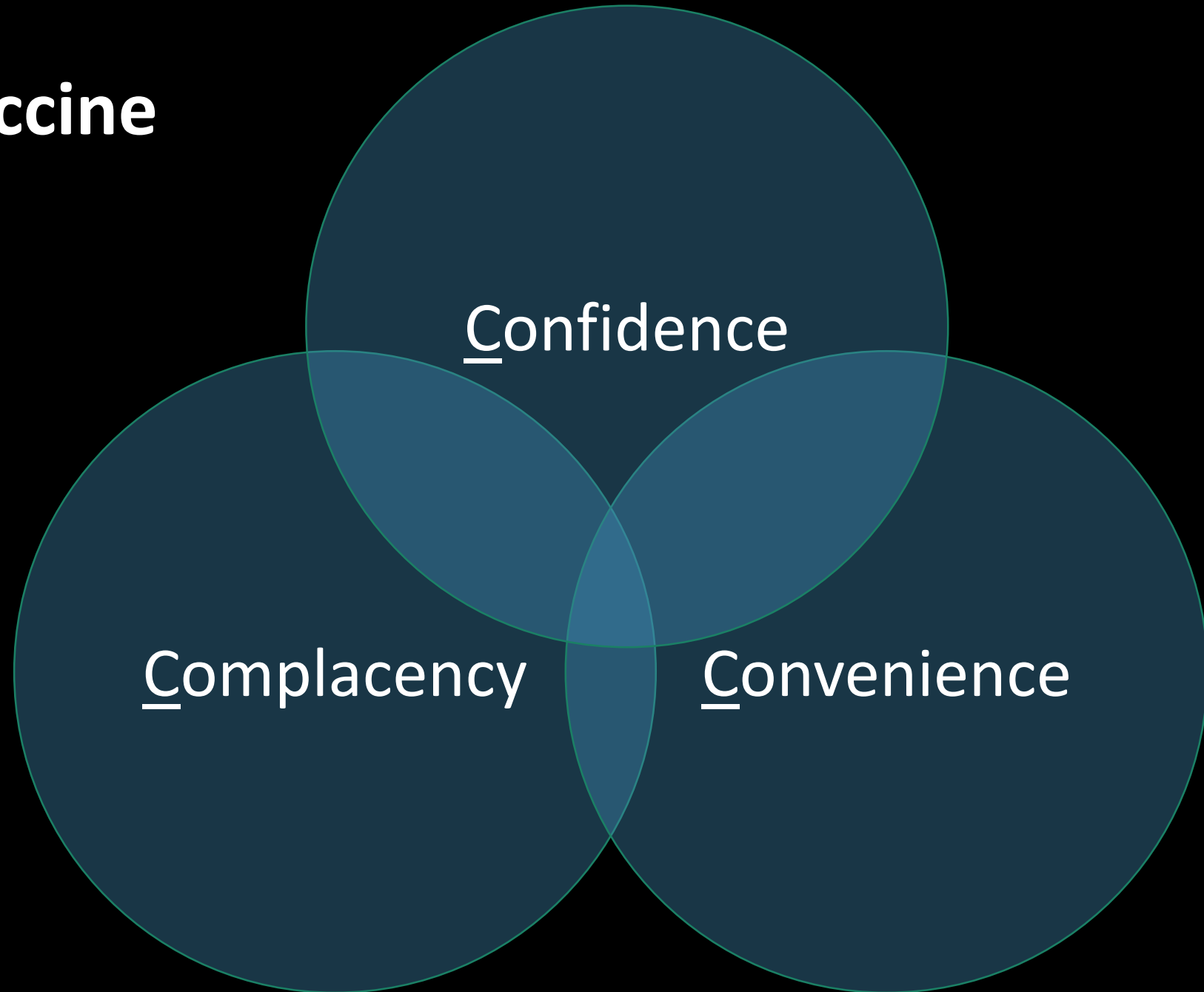
A parent's guide
to vaccination

Dorothy L. Moore, MD, Editor
Foreword by André Picard



Promotion of vaccine

Default choice



Convenience

**Remove
barriers to
access**



Complacency

**Address actual
dangers of COVID-19**

**Individuals &
Communities**





The Legacy of Nutritional Experiments in Residential Schools

CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE

HEALTH AND RECONCILIATION

Confidence

Medical concerns First Nations have around medical treatments are legitimate...we have sort of escaped federally sanctioned experiments that were done on our population.

-Grand Chief Arlen Dumas, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

Confidence

Address fears

Our own experts are ensuring due diligence, the proper science is done

Manitoba's First Nations pandemic response team works to dispel myths regarding COVID-19 vaccine



AMC Grand Chief says vaccine science was 'not something that was done on the back of a napkin'



Lenard Monkman - CBC News

Posted: January 10, 2021





Socially embedded perspective

- Worldview
- Social
- Cultural
- Political

Vaccine Hesitancy in Indigenous Communities

- Community-centred
- Culturally-safe
- Trauma-informed
- Humble



Cultural safety guidance for clinicians

1. Be alert about past traumatic experiences
2. Advocate for cultural-safety
3. Build relationships that create trust
4. Make it clear that information is owned by the patient
5. Access to resources



Equity centered health unit practices to support COVID-19 vaccine uptake

- Peel Public Health
- Dr. Lawrence Loh, Medical Office of Health

Peel's Community Mass Vaccination Plan

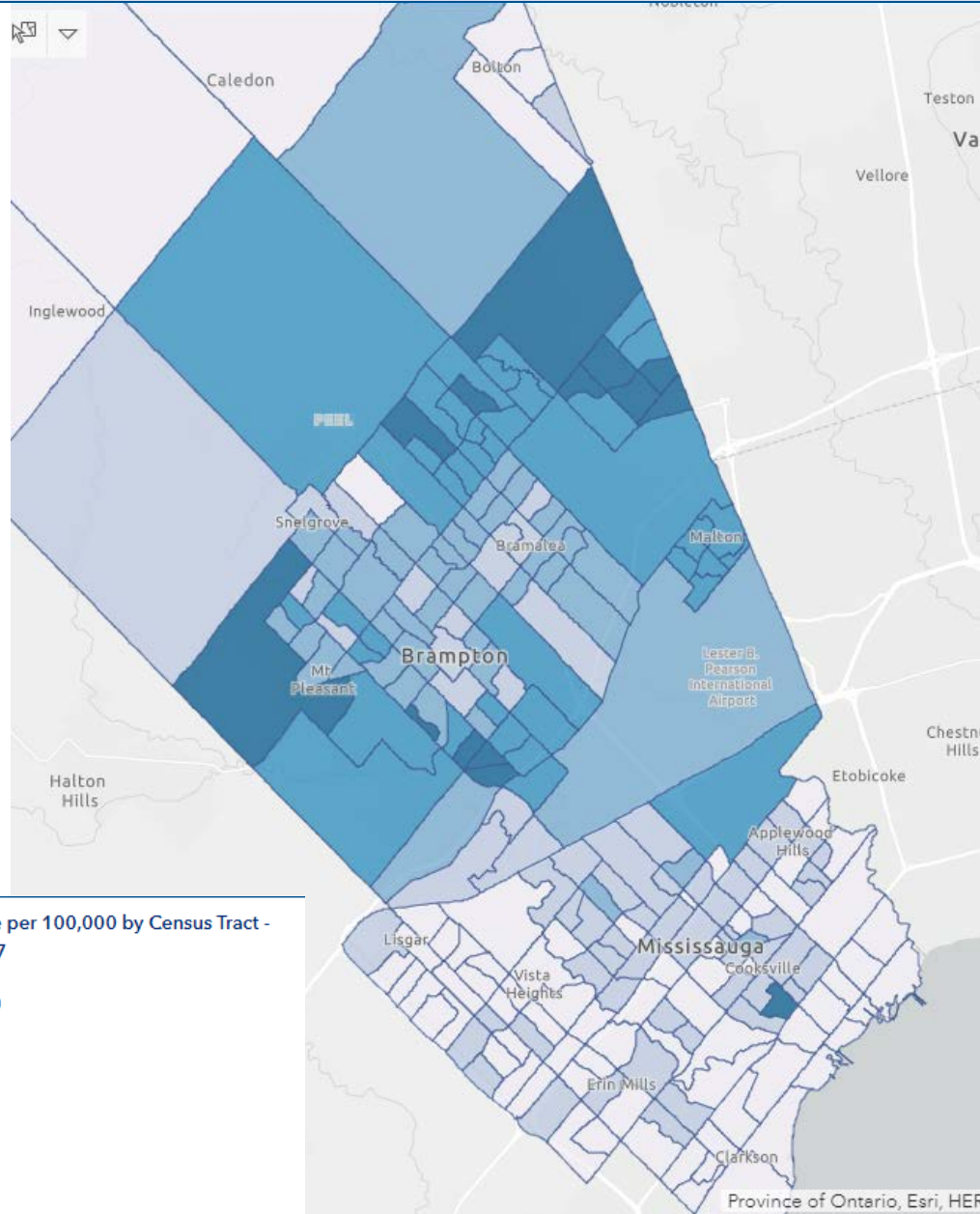
Lawrence Loh, MD MPH FCFP FRCPC FACPM
Medical Officer of Health, Region of Peel
March 10, 2021





Peel's Mass Vaccination Plan

- Goal: Vaccinate at least 75% of Peel's population against COVID-19 as quickly and safely as possible
 - Priority to the most vulnerable populations
 - Requires at least 2.3 million doses
- Flexibility for continuous adjustments, i.e., scale up if increase in vaccine supply
- Shared responsibility and partnership across health system, community sectors and local government

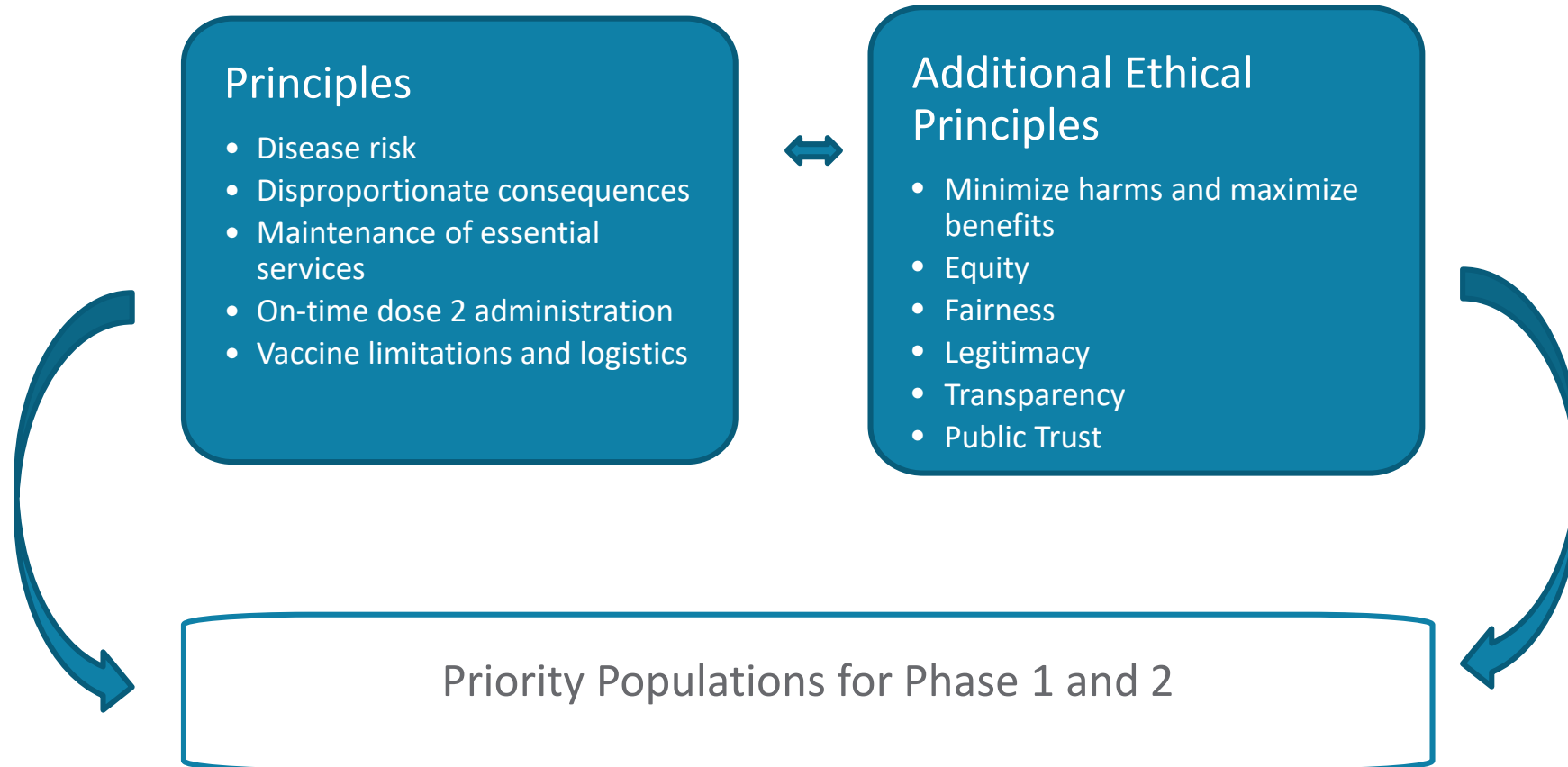


Peel context

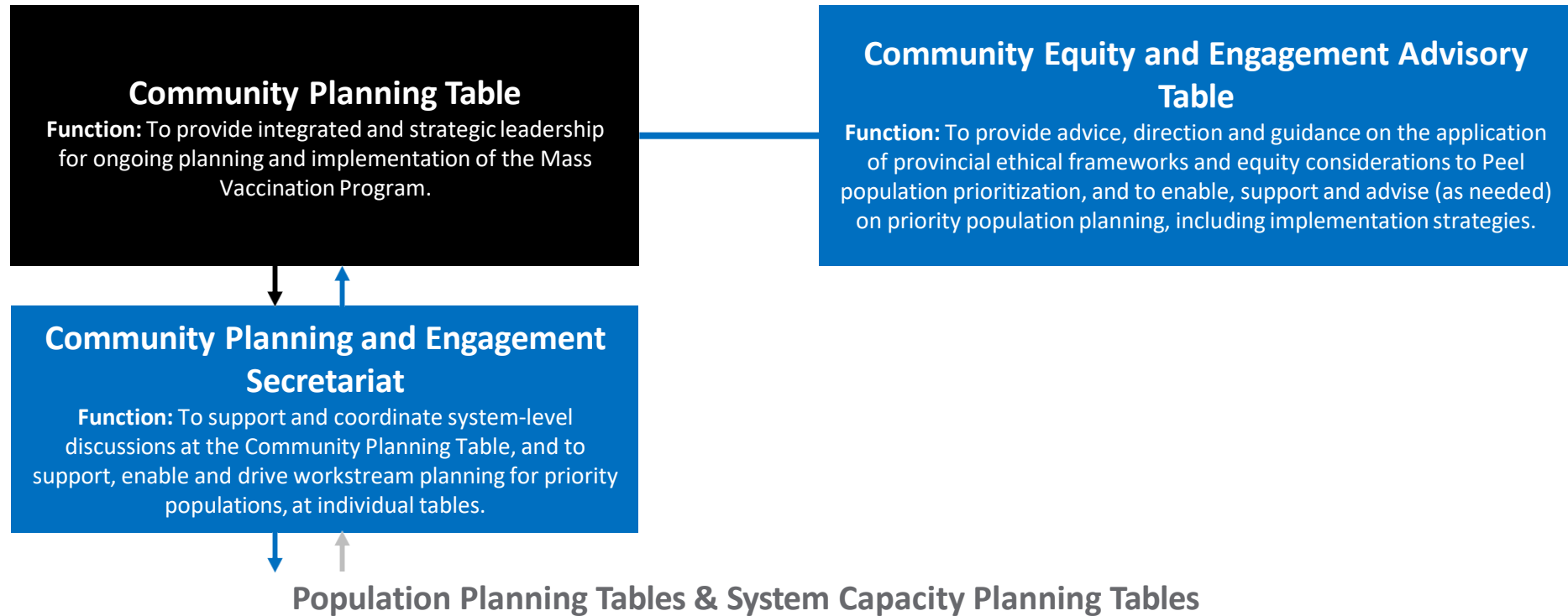
- High proportion (40-50%) of household exposure
- Interaction of household - workplace is an important driver of transmission
- Diverse race groups are over-represented (86% of Peel's COVID cases while they represent 63% of Peel's population)*
- Large proportion of essential workers, including sectors such as:
 - Trades, transport
 - Sales and services
 - Healthcare
 - Manufacturing

*Data from April 2020 to January 31, 2021

Priority population framework



Community Engagement and Planning | High Level Governance Structure



Legend: Population Planning Tables – Active Tier 1 in bright blue; Planned Tier 2-5 in light blue; System Capacity Planning Tables – active shaded in grey

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| Seniors Congregate Settings (workers, residents and essential caregivers) | Seniors and Older Adults | Health Care Workers | Indigenous Communities | Primary Care Working Group (immunizer pool and independent clinic models) | Agriculture and Manufacturing Workplaces (workers) | Essential Service Providers (workers) |
| Home Care and Assisted Living (clients and workers) | Shelters and Homelessness Supports (clients and workers) | Institutional Settings (workers and clients) | Community and Social Services Supports (workers and clients) | Pharmacy Working Group (immunizer pool and independent clinic models) | Childcare and School Settings (workers) | Adults and Children (general population) |

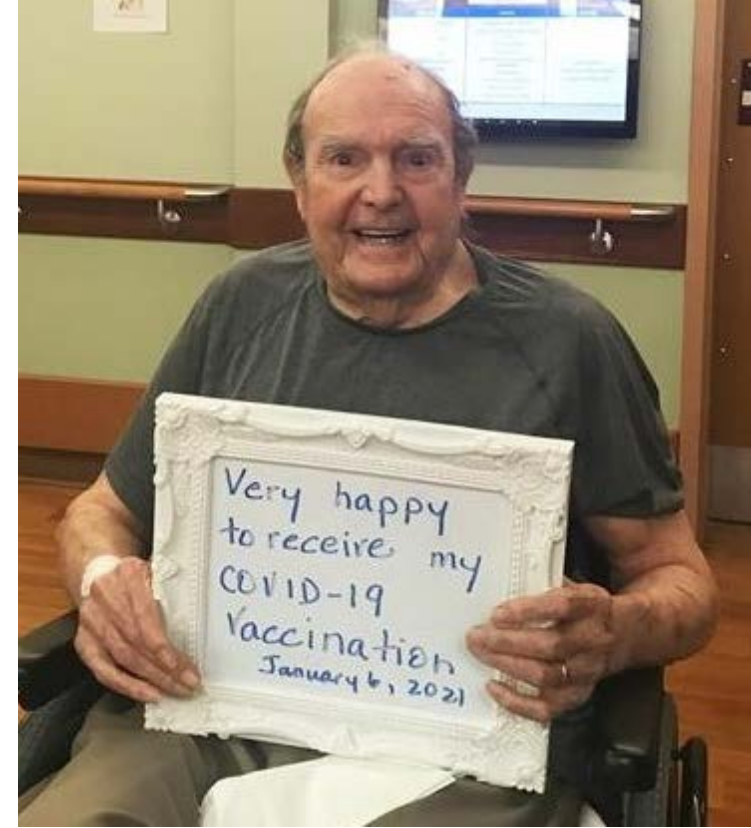
Planning teams for **defined priority population** groups, as per Ministry Direction and Peel Public Health Prioritization Framework. Sub-tables may be formed within each table. Planning Teams will be responsible for leading planning discussions and ensuring integrated vaccination (clinic) execution within their population (settings). This will be supported by the Secretariat in collaboration with Region of Peel Mass Vaccination Operations Team.

Risk mitigation and advocacy

| Challenge/Risk | Detail | Mitigation and Advocacy |
|--|---|---|
| Technology and data | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial vaccine information systems need to be online and accessible | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to provincial data |
| Vaccine allocation for Peel hot spots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peel has a number of COVID-19 hot spots with high rates of transmission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy for allocation to prioritize COVID-19 hot spots |
| Promoting vaccine confidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Outreach and engagement Accessible forums to have direct conversations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other levels of government support Leverage community resources |
| Public health measures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public health measures keep rates down and increase success of vaccination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy for adequate Provincial measures Peel specific measures as needed |

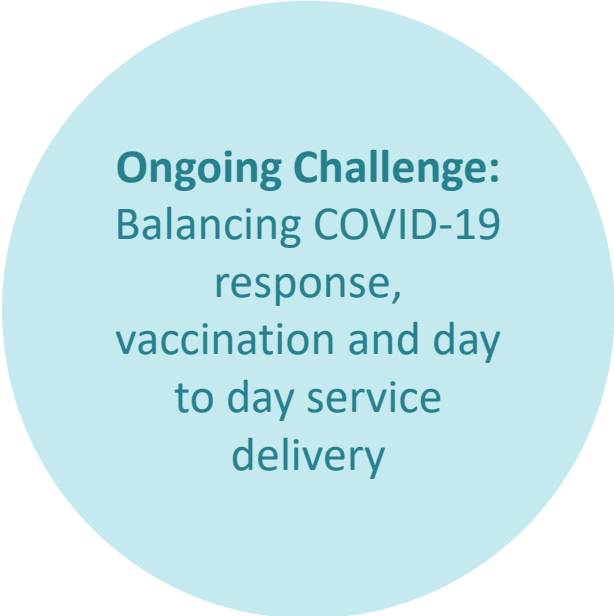
Communications and outreach: Partnering with community

- Build awareness and trust, correct misinformation and promote vaccine confidence amongst Peel residents
- Roster of diverse health professionals
- Offers of clinic space + public forums
- Ethno-racial task forces
- Community Response Table
- High Priority Communities Strategy
 - Community health ambassadors



Challenges

- Time and resources to broadly build capacity for equity work internally within the context of COVID-19
- Coordination and integration of community resources and contextual knowledge
- Balancing universal and tailored communications outreach and engagement (e.g. culturally relevant outreach to community members and various sectors)
- Limited capacity to address long-term structural barriers and indirect impacts of the COVID-19



Ongoing Challenge:
Balancing COVID-19
response,
vaccination and day
to day service
delivery



Next steps

- Balancing short-term and long-term goals
- Ongoing integration of community efforts
- Real-time learning and adaptation for improved outreach, operations and recovery planning

Questions for Panelists

What are ways to support people experiencing homelessness and those who do not have OHIP cards, to access and complete the vaccine series?

What are ways to measure/evaluate equity in terms of the COVID vaccination effort?

What are some important equity considerations beyond vaccine uptake?

Question & Answer with Participants



POLL

I'd like another webinar to be on equity and...

References

1. American Psychological Association. Building vaccine confidence through community engagement [Internet]. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association; 2020 [cited 2021 Mar 09]. Available from: <https://www.apa.org/topics/covid-19/equity-resources/building-vaccine-confidence.pdf>
2. Dubé E, Bettinger JA, Fisher WA, Naus M, Mahmud SM, Hilderman T. Vaccine acceptance, hesitancy and refusal in Canada: challenges and potential approaches. *Can Commun Dis Rep.* 2016;42(12):246-51. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.14745/ccdr.v42i12a02>
3. Public Health Agency of Canada. Canada's COVID-19 immunization plan: saving lives and livelihoods [Internet]. Ottawa, ON: Government of Canada; 2020 [cited 2021 Mar 09]. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/canadas-reponse/canadas-covid-19-immunization-plan.htm>
4. Ismail SJ, Hardy K, Tunis MC, Young K, Sicard N, Quach C. A framework for the systematic consideration of ethics, equity, feasibility, and acceptability in vaccine program recommendations. *Vaccine.* 2020;38(36):5861-76. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vaccine.2020.05.051>

Thank you!

For More Information About This Presentation, Contact:

healthequity@oahpp.ca

Public Health Ontario keeps Ontarians safe and healthy. Find out more at
PublicHealthOntario.ca