



MODEL CITY HALL ONLINE 2020

**COVID-19: THE PANDEMIC AND ITS
EFFECTS COMMITTEE**

Resource Guide 2020:

**Mental Health
Emergency Funding**

Hello delegates!

My name is Ben Martin and I'm entering fourth year at UofT pursuing a neuroscience specialist. My hobbies include music production, cycling and wasting unbelievable amounts of time on the internet. I first participated in MCH as a page in 2015 and as a co-chair the following year. My experience with MCH has allowed me to engage in exciting and relevant discussions, and connect with long-term friends.

I will be chairing the COVID-19 committee with Angela Nguyen, a recent alumni from the Honours Bachelor of Health Sciences program and a future graduate student of the Master in Global Health program at McMaster University. Throughout her undergraduate study, Angela has co-chaired the public health committee for both Model City Hall Toronto (2017) and Model City Hall Hamilton (2018). She is also a major foodie and Korean Pop Culture enthusiast; Angela has taken on various leadership roles during her undergraduate study, including being the co-president of McMaster's Korean Pop Culture club. Angela is also an active volunteer, especially within the elderly community - she has been volunteering as part of the Maximizing Aging Using Volunteer Engagement (MAUVE) program at Mount Sinai Hospital since grade 10. In the future, Angela hopes to become a geriatrician to further her passion for helping the aging population.

As an individual strongly passionate about health care, Angela is excited to share her knowledge with other students, hoping to influence them to take on challenges and step out of their comfort zone to address the issues within public health care.

We look forward to meeting all of you during our online conference and hope you enjoy the COVID-19 committee!

Kind regards,

Ben Martin and Angela Nguyen

Topic A: Mental Health During the Pandemic

Overview

[Facing Mental Health Fallout from the Coronavirus Pandemic | World Health Organization](#)

[The Mental Health Consequences of COVID-19 and Physical Distancing: The Need for Prevention and Early Intervention | Journal of the American Medical Association](#)

History

[Rolling Updates on the Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) | World Health Organization](#)

[COVID-19: A Brief History and Treatments in Development | The Prescriber Journal](#)

[COVID-19: The First Documented Coronavirus Pandemic in History | The Elsevier Biomedical Journal](#)

Current Situation

[COVID-19 Effects on the Mental Health of Vulnerable Populations | Canadian Mental Health Association](#)

[The Implications of COVID-19 for Mental Health and Substance Use | Kaiser Family Foundation](#)

[Mental Health Effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic will be ‘severe’, expert warns | Global News](#)

Questions for Discussion

1. How might mental health issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic adversely affect marginalized people groups?
2. How will changes in people’s mental health affect other social issues in Ontario such as substance abuse and unemployment?
3. What systemic measures can the government take to improve the mental health of their constituents during this time?
4. How can the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic be adapted to improve mental health services in the future?

Additional Resources

[COVID-19: Mental Health Resources | City of Toronto](#)

[COVID-19 Fact Sheet: Resources for Ontarians Experiencing Mental Health and Addictions Issues During the Pandemic | Ontario Ministry of Health](#)

[Taking Care of Your Mental and Physical Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic | Government of Canada](#)

[Resource Hub: Mental Health and Wellness During the COVID-19 Pandemic | Mental Health Commission of Canada](#)

[COVID-19 and Mental Health | Canadian Mental Health Association](#)

Topic B: Emergency Funding During the Crisis

Overview

[Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan | Government of Canada](#)

[Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19 | Government of Ontario](#)

Current Situation

[CERB Extension Delays Tough Questions for Workers Hurt by COVID-19 | Macleans](#)

[One Quarter of Canada's Small Businesses Report Staff Refusing to Return to Work: Survey | Global News](#)

[Retroactive Fines for Fraudulent CERB Claims Raise Concerns Over Fairness, Constitutionality | Global News](#)

Questions for Discussion

1. How could emergency funding be beneficial or detrimental?
2. How can the emergency funding system be better implemented?
3. What other demographics or sectors could benefit from emergency funding?
4. How can people be held accountable for false emergency funding claims?
5. Where will emergency funding ultimately come from?

Additional Resources

[Canada Emergency Response Benefit \(CERB\) | Government of Canada](#)

[Canada Emergency Student Benefit \(CESB\) | Government of Canada](#)

[Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy \(CEWS\) | Government of Canada](#)

[Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance \(CECRA\) | Government of Canada](#)

[Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility \(LEEFF\) | Government of Canada](#)