



Occupational
Health Clinics
for Ontario
Workers Inc.

Centres de
santé des
travailleurs (ses)
de l'Ontario Inc.

Informed Consent for Participants

Mental health and wellbeing of young public transport workers in Canada

Principal Investigator:

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Co-Investigators

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Shirly Yan, Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario

Study Purpose: The purpose of this project is to collect information that will help us to better understand what the main mental health issues that young workers in the public transport sector have been experiencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the existing supports in Canada as well as the potential actions that unions can take to address these issues.

Study Funder: This project is supported in-kind by Partnership for Work, Health and Safety, a research unit at the School of Population and Public Health at The University of British Columbia (UBC) and the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers (OHCOW).

Data Collection: The focus group interview will be completed remotely using Zoom and may take approximately ninety minutes. Interviews will be digitally recorded, transcribed and analyzed in MAXQDA software to abstract the key themes. You will be identified in the interview by a subject ID and your name will not be recorded. All project files will be saved in Canada. Your participation is **entirely voluntary**. The decision to participate is up to you. You may choose at any time not to answer a question, change your responses, withdraw an answer, or stop the interview.

Study Results: Information provided for this project will not be used for any other purpose than to inform the research report and related publications. Information collected by this interview will **not** be subject to funding open data policies.

Confidentiality: Your identity will be kept strictly confidential. We encourage all participants to refrain from disclosing the contents of the discussion outside of the focus group; however, we cannot control what other participants do with the information discussed. The Research team will not release your name, your organization's name, or any other information that could affect your privacy to your Union

or any other parties. No names or other unique organization identifiers will be included in any published report. The following people will have access to the interviewee's name and subject IDs: (1) Dr. Chris McLeod and (2) his research team.

Your confidentiality will be respected at all times. Your rights to privacy are also protected by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario and the BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act [RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 165. Collectively, these acts state rules for the collection, protection, and retention of your personal information by public bodies, such as the University of British Columbia and its affiliated teaching hospitals. Further details about these acts are available upon request.

Risk and Benefits: We do not think there are any risks to participating in an interview. Findings from this project may guide mental health support resources for workers in the public transportation sector by their unions (and employers) and enhance our understanding of the psychosocial hazards during a pandemic in these occupations.

Contacts for questions or concerns: If you have any questions about this study at any time, please contact Suhail Marino, the Project Manager and Privacy Officer of the research team at 604-822 -0200.

If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598. UBC Ethics ID: H21-03228

Participant Consent: Taking part in this study is entirely up to you. You have the right to refuse to participate in this project. If you decide to take part, you may choose to pull out of the project at any time without giving a reason and without any negative impact on your employment.

- Your signature below indicates that you have received a copy of this consent form for your own records.
- Your signature indicates that you consent to participate in a key informant interview and consent to have the interview digitally recorded.

Participant Signature

Date

Participant Name (Print)