

2021 CONNECTING OTTAWA (VIRTUAL) CONFERENCE



COVID-19 VACCINES: STATUS AND SUPPORTING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

APRIL 22, 2021
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Via webinar



REGISTER TODAY at: <https://forms.gle/et73Xof2BE3WvJcV8>

The *Connecting Ottawa 2021 Conference* will address the status of COVID-19 vaccines in Ontario, vaccine myths and hesitancy, and legal issues related to immigration and travel and employment. Our impressive line-up of speakers will discuss the vaccine program in Ontario, immigration and travel requirements and restrictions, and legal and human rights issues surrounding mandatory vaccination in the workplace.

Registration is **FREE** for [Connecting Ottawa network partners](#), \$25.00 for non-profit social service and legal workers/lawyers, and \$45.00 for private bar lawyers and employees*.

*Application has been made to the Law Society of Ontario for professional development credit



PROGRAM



ASL Interpretation provided

1:00 p.m. **Welcome and introductory remarks**

1:10 p.m. **Dr. Meb Rashid and Dr. Isaac Bogoch**

Overview of the status of vaccines in Canada and some of the challenges and myths related to vaccinating vulnerable populations

Dr. Meb Rashid has worked with newly arrived refugees for twenty years and is medical director of the Crossroads Clinic in Toronto. Dr. Isaac Bogoch is an epidemiologist and infectious-disease researcher who's a member of the province's vaccine task force. Drs. Rashid and Bogoch will discuss the status of the vaccine program in Ontario and the myths and challenges related to vaccines and vulnerable populations.

1:55 p.m. **Nadine Edirmanasinghe, Lawyer**

Legal issues related to vaccines and immigration/travel

Nadine Edirmanasinghe of Edirmana Law is an Ottawa based immigration lawyer and advocate of human rights and immigration and refugee issues. Ms. Edirmanasinghe will discuss the legal implications of COVID-19 passports, testing and vaccines for travel, and how Canada's requirements for travel and immigration may align with other G7 nations.

2:40 p.m. **Break**

3:00 p.m. **Tatha Swann and Daniel Chodos, Lawyers**

Legal issues and information related to vaccines and employment

Tatha Swann is a Partner at Levitt Sheikh Chaudhri Swann (LSCS) Law in Toronto. Daniel Chodos is a Partner at the firm Whitten & Lublin Employment Lawyers in Toronto. Ms. Swann and Mr. Chodos will discuss whether employers can institute mandatory vaccination policies in the workplace as well as human rights principles and privacy considerations related to employment and vaccines.

3:45 p.m. **Resources for Front-line Workers**

Connecting Ottawa lawyers, Alexandra Derisier and Liz Majic will share a list of local resources for front-line workers for supporting clients with social and legal issues surrounding vaccines.

3:55 p.m. **Closing remarks**

SEE YOU THERE! Questions? email us at info@connectingottawa.com

Connecting Ottawa is funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario