

What Is the National Citizens Inquiry (NCI)?

The **National Citizens Inquiry (NCI)** is an independent, citizen-led commission established to investigate the Canadian government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Created out of widespread public concern over the impacts of pandemic policies, the NCI held public hearings across Canada, collecting testimony from hundreds of experts, professionals, and everyday Canadians. Its purpose is to evaluate whether COVID-19 measures were lawful, evidence-based, and proportionate, and to ensure accountability for decisions that affected millions of lives.

Key Talking Points: What the NCI Is

1. The NCI is a **non-governmental, grassroots public inquiry** initiated by Canadian citizens—not the state.
2. It was **formed in response to growing concerns** about the government's use of emergency powers and lack of transparency during COVID-19.
3. The Inquiry held **public hearings in multiple provinces**, ensuring national representation and inclusivity.
4. It gathered **over 300 witness testimonies**, including scientists, doctors, lawyers, economists, educators, and affected citizens.
5. The NCI functioned **outside political parties and the mainstream media**, maintaining full independence from institutional influence.
6. Proceedings were **recorded, archived, and made publicly available**, promoting transparency and public access to evidence.
7. It sought to **examine the legality, medical justification, and societal impact** of measures such as lockdowns, vaccine mandates, masking, and censorship.
8. The NCI explored whether public health decisions were **supported by science or driven by politics, profit, or ideology**.
9. Testimonies addressed the **personal, economic, psychological, and medical harms** caused by pandemic policies.
10. The NCI released an **Interim Report in September 2023** and a **Final Report in November 2023**, offering detailed findings and policy recommendations.

Why Does It Matter?

1. Restores Public Accountability:

The NCI holds officials to account where institutional oversight failed or was absent.

2. Protects Civil Liberties:

It documents how pandemic measures affected fundamental rights, including freedom of speech, movement, and bodily autonomy.

3. Gives a Voice to the Silenced:

Injured individuals, dissenting experts, and marginalized communities had an opportunity to be heard.

4. Reveals Flaws in Emergency Governance:

The NCI uncovered how emergency powers were used without adequate checks, leading to potentially unlawful policies.

5. Exposes Regulatory Failures:

It details how COVID-19 vaccines were authorized without requiring traditional proof of safety and efficacy.

6. Informs Future Policy:

Its recommendations aim to ensure better preparedness, accountability, and respect for rights in future health crises.

7. Challenges Official Narratives:

The NCI provides a critical counterbalance to government and media messaging by presenting unfiltered testimony and analysis.

8. Promotes Transparency:

It calls for the public release of documents and data withheld from Canadians throughout the pandemic.

9. Strengthens Democracy:

By involving citizens directly in oversight, the NCI reinforces democratic values and civic participation.

10. Honours Those Affected:

The Inquiry recognizes and documents the suffering of individuals and families affected by COVID-19 measures, creating a public record for history and justice.