


From: Farshad Pourmalek pourmalek_farshad@yahoo.com 
Subject: Ongoing scientific research about COVID-19 in BC and Canada - Asking for help
Date: August 15, 2021 at 9:14 PM
To: justin.mcelroy@cbc.ca
Cc: Farshad Pourmalek Pourmalek_purmalek@u.washington.edu

FP

Situation Report of COVID-19 epidemic trajectory in Canada and provinces from international models

Dear Mr. McElroy,

I am a physician and epidemiologist who has worked at the University of British Columbia, University of Washington, WHO, UNDP, and UNICEF.

I am writing to you to ask for your kind consideration to look at ongoing scientific research about COVID-19 in Canada and its provinces I have been performing since April 2021. The research project is "CovidVisualizedCountry: Combine and visualize international periodically updated estimates of COVID-19 at the country level, countries with subnational level estimates - Canada: national level, provinces and territories". <https://github.com/pourmalek/CovidVisualizedCountry>

I have contacted public health officers of BC and the national level and some UBC professors I knew. <https://github.com/pourmalek/CovidVisualizedCountry/tree/main/situation%20reports/sent%20emails%20and%20regular%20postage> and I received a suggestion to ask for help from journalists interested in the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, like you.

Attached, please find a second situation report of predictions of the COVID-19 epidemic trajectory in Canada at the national and province levels in the next three months, which I have curated from five international and periodically updated epidemic models. It contains graphs, text, and tabular descriptions of daily deaths, infections, and bed needs, predicted by different studies. When one or more models predict an increase in cases and deaths, this can be used as an early alarm. The ultimate target group are technical advisers to national and subnational health decision-makers and health researchers.

Latest models' updates predicted the start of the fourth wave of the epidemic at the national level in Canada in August, reaching 21,111 daily infections, 5,552 daily bed needs, 1,663 daily ICU bed needs, and 32 daily deaths on November 1st, with a still-would-be-increasing slope. With the periodical release of models' updates, I update the results for Canada and provinces in the project GitHub repository.

This report is based on an online tool I created, a GitHub repository named "CovidVisualizedCountry" available at <https://github.com/pourmalek/CovidVisualizedCountry>. The report is a snap-shot and stand-alone version of the latest models' updates for Canada. A pre-print Data Note manuscript describing the methods used to create the GitHub repositories is also attached.

I have done similar research and dissemination about COVID-19 in Iran: <https://github.com/pourmalek/covir2> and at the global level: <https://github.com/pourmalek/CovidVisualizedGlobal>

I would be glad to discuss the project, its results, usability, and implications with you, provide further explanation and learn about your opinion.

Thank you,

Farshad Pourmalek

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