



**NCI | CeNC**

**NATIONAL CITIZENS INQUIRY**

**EVIDENCE  
TORONTO HEARINGS**

**NCI | CeNC**

**Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
March 30 to April 1, 2023**

## **ABOUT THESE TRANSCRIPTS**

The evidence offered in these transcripts is a true and faithful record of witness testimony given during the National Citizens Inquiry (NCI) hearings. These hearings took place in eight Canadian cities from coast to coast from March through May 2023.

Raw transcripts were initially produced from the audio-video recordings of witness testimony and legal and commissioner questions using Open AI's Whisper speech recognition software. From May to August 2023, a team of volunteers assessed the AI transcripts against the recordings to edit, review, format, and finalize all NCI witness transcripts.

With utmost respect for the witnesses, the volunteers worked to the best of their skills and abilities to ensure that the transcripts would be as clear, accurate, and accessible as possible. Edits were made using the "intelligent verbatim" transcription method, which removes filler words and other throat-clearing, false starts, and repetitions that could distract from the testimony content.

Many testimonies were accompanied by slide show presentations or other exhibits. The NCI team recommends that transcripts be read together with the video recordings and any corresponding exhibits.

We are grateful to all our volunteers for the countless hours committed to this project, and hope that this evidence will prove to be a useful resource for many in future. For a complete library of the over 300 testimonies at the NCI, please visit our website at <https://nationalcitizensinquiry.ca>.

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## NATIONAL CITIZENS INQUIRY

Toronto, ON

Day 2

March 31, 2023

### EVIDENCE

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**Opening Statement: Shawn Buckley**

**Full Day 2 Timestamp: 00:33:40–00:54:19**

**Source URL: <https://rumble.com/v2fm8wg-national-citizens-inquiry-toronto-day-1.html>**

[00:00:00]

#### **Shawn Buckley**

Commissioners, my name is Buckley, initial S. I'm attending this morning as agent for the Commission Administrator, the Honourable Ches Crosbie. We welcome everyone to the second day of the Toronto hearings of the National Citizens Inquiry.

For those watching online that are not familiar with the National Citizens Inquiry, we are a citizen-organized, a citizen-run, a citizen-funded organization, and our goal is to hold hearings across the country. We've started in Truro, Nova Scotia two weeks ago. We're now in Toronto. We're going to Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Red Deer, Victoria, Vancouver, Quebec City, and then we're going to end in our nation's capital, Ottawa. And as we go, we are planning on just having the momentum grow and grow and grow.

We want all Canadians to be participating in this dialogue. We want all Canadians to have the freedom—and I choose that word carefully—the freedom to simply share their stories without fear. So that we can come together to discover what happened, and together figure out how to do things better the next time. I am inviting you to please go to our website, [nationalcitizensinquiry.ca](http://nationalcitizensinquiry.ca). We have a petition. Sign it, so that we know that you're supporting us, you're supporting this initiative. We ask that you would donate. As I say, we are citizen-funded. We don't have a single big donor. We're relying on small donations from the citizens to drive this forward. And it gives us freedom to move by doing this, but it only works if you participate. So I invite you to do that.

Commissioners, before we begin, I just wanted to share a few words about something a witness said yesterday. And then my thoughts on it, which I think are important for us going forward.

We had Dr. Robert Malone testify yesterday. And part of his presentation involved psychological operations being run by military, including the Canadian military, against citizens. If I recall correctly, he brought up four or five news articles about this happening in Canada by our authorities. He showed us some clips and gave a presentation that indicated that we literally are in a battle for our minds—for our minds. And that we won't know that they're in our minds. We won't know that we're being influenced and being

captured. One of the things that they do is they play on our emotion. This has divided us. But one of the things is that when you see a tactic, when you can finally identify it, it gives you the ability to basically neutralize it.

I wanted to speak about just basically this tactic of influencing our minds so much that we become strongly emotional about a subject.

I had an experience about seven years ago where I was getting to know some new people, and the topic of climate change came up. They were voicing a specific side of the climate change argument in a very strong way. And I just suggested that there's more to that story; there's another side. These two people literally exploded on me. They started yelling. They literally started yelling. They were so emotionally invested in their narrative that they had an emotional reaction. Now, that is the sign that you're captured, your mind is captured. Whenever you find yourself on any topic that comes up and now you are strongly emotionally invested, understand that the emotion closes your mind.

We have these terms: "open mind," "closed mind," "change your mind." Do you know that when you change your mind— We've all had this experience where we believed a certain thing. And then we learned different information, and we believe something else. Well, in our mind, actually,

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the neurons get rewired to say that something else is now your truth. We literally do "change our mind." And I think that term, "having a closed mind," is true.

When you feel strongly emotional on a topic, you are not willing to listen to the other side because you're experiencing strong emotion. Who does that hurt? Does that hurt the other side? The only person that isn't willing to receive new information when you're feeling strongly about something is you. Let me say that again: The only person who is not willing to hear new information when you're feeling strongly about a subject is you. Surely, it doesn't help you if your mind is closed to new information. Receiving new information doesn't mean you need to change your mind. But if your mind is closed, that means your thoughts are captured, because you are incapable of hearing new information that would permit you to choose to change your mind. So if you have a strong emotional reaction to any subject, understand you are captured: your thoughts are captured, and you are not free to think differently.

Now, when we are captured, we literally can't see it. So this morning, when I'm talking or just kind of thinking about what I wanted to introduce this, or how to explain this topic, the idea of stock market bubbles came up to me. For those of you who don't know what a stock market bubble is, that's where the prices of stocks are just getting inflated and inflated and inflated for no good reason.

If we use the dot-com bubble—you just start a website and have a business idea and all of a sudden, you're getting all this venture financing. But you're not making any money, you're not selling a product. But these stocks just kept going up and up. It was a bubble. People with experience in the stock market will know the phrase—or the axiom—that people inside a stock market bubble can't see the bubble. Afterwards, they understand there was a bubble, but while you're in it you just can't see it. Your mind is closed. You're just caught up in this euphoria. But it's being able to understand that we get captured— I'm just using it as another example of how we get captured.

Now that I've set this up, I want to introduce the most important part: I want to talk about vax passports, and I want to talk about digital passports. Because we think of vax passes and we think of digital passports as things, as maybe actions, but they are messages. They are messages.

I don't know how many here, because he's a little dated, remember the Canadian philosopher Marshall McLuhan, in his famous phrase, "the medium is the message." Now, he was speaking in the television age. And his point was we've gone from print to a video medium and a radio medium. And we're getting messaging. But actually, it's the medium itself which is also the message that is communicating to us. So TV captures you in a different way and has a different message.

He was gone before we hit this smartphone age. It's funny— I'm one of the few people in the world now that does not carry a cell phone. And I can be in a place like an airport with, you know, 500 people, and I'm the only one looking up. It's happened to me where literally, I've scanned the room and out of hundreds of people, I'm the only one looking up. And we all know with the younger generations that now they're thinking differently because the medium has changed that generation. The medium is the message.

The digital passports, vaccine passports are a message. They are not a thing. They are not an action. They are a message. And let me explain because they're a mechanism of control. They are message to control—and you'll understand after I finish my explanation. And I'll use Alberta as an example.

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We're here today on March 31st, 2023. If we were just to back up 14 months in Alberta, which is not long ago, we were separated into two groups of people. We had vaccinated people. We had unvaccinated people. We were having to wear masks. Unvaccinated people could not go to, let's say, their child's hockey game. They could not go to a restaurant. They basically were limited to accessing essential services—those being grocery stores and gas stations and the like. Now, people in the vaccinated group—and I've heard them say this—they actually felt that they were in a better situation. They actually felt that they had privileges that the unvaccinated people didn't have. And they didn't understand that actually they were in a worse situation than the unvaccinated people, because they were receiving a message that the unvaccinated people were not receiving.

To put this into context; Prior to this COVID adventure and prior to these mandates, all of the vaccinated people were free. When you're free, you don't need anyone's permission to do something. So the vaccinated people prior to the passports: They were free to go to their child's hockey game. They were free to go to a restaurant. They didn't have to ask anyone's permission. They were just free to do it. They wouldn't have even thought of it. The idea of asking for somebody's permission, or the idea of going through a police-state ritual to be able to do something like that, was foreign to them.

But now that they were vaccinated and they had their identity papers—they had their vaccine passport—they were now able to participate in the message: the police-state ritual of going to a restaurant and showing their identification papers. Now, here's the message. And police-states do this not because they need to know that you went to the restaurant, not that they need to know you went through a roadblock, not that they need to know you went to your child's hockey game. That's not the real purpose. The real purpose is to send the message that they are the master and you are the servant. Because you are not free to go to your child's hockey game unless you show your identification papers, which gives you



permission from your master to enter the rink. Do you understand? A vaccine passport—a digital passport—is not a thing. It is not an action. It is a message.

You know, go back to Nazi Germany or Stalinist Russia, where they had roadblocks and you had to show your papers. It wasn't about controlling your access. Did they really care that you went from one part of the city to the next? They knew where you lived. They knew where you were going to go home for supper that night. But by having you participate in that police-state ritual: Every time it happens, at a subconscious level, it sends the message that you are the servant being granted permission by your master to participate in whatever privilege you are now being granted from your master. And it reinforces that you do not have the "right" to do what your master is allowing you to do—if you participate in the messaging.

And so going forward— We've just had this experience with vaccine passports where people would be bragging online digitally about, "I can go to the restaurant," and this and that. And rubbing it in the face of unvaccinated people that couldn't go anywhere, not understanding that the joke was on them. Because every time they were doing that, they were participating in the message that they were the servant, that the state was their master. And that whereas they were free to do this before, they are now accepting as the message that it is now a privilege—not a right, it is a privilege—being granted to them from their masters.

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We have to start thinking philosophically about what these things mean. We are going to be asked, going forward, to accept digital passports. Major grocery store chains are already starting to put turnstiles. I've seen it in the Edmonton area where I live. That's part of the vaccine passports where, for simple things, we're going to have to start showing these IDs, for our safety, to help the government, for whatever reason it's going to be. But it's actually not about that. It's not about contact-tracing. It's not about safety. It's about the message. The passports are the message. And we have to understand that to protect ourselves from accepting the message. Even if we find ourselves in a situation where we haven't been able to resist them, understand that they are a message—so that you do not subconsciously find yourselves in the situation where you believe you are not a free human being but that you are a slave being granted permission from your master.

I didn't mean to get so dark, but I think it's really important to speak about this. We had Professor Bruce Parry yesterday talking about how we have arrived in an administrative state as opposed to a democratic state. And going actually back down to philosophical principles. Professor Parry did us a great service by showing us something that we didn't see before. Because he was pointing out that we can argue about things like: Was masking in the public interest? Were mandates in the public interest? Were lockdowns in the public interest? But the real issue is: Why did the health authorities get to decide what was in the public interest?

So you know, we have to start paying attention in a different way to what's going on and questioning what things mean. Because if we don't understand what's going on, we can't decide what we're going to do about it—because then our minds are captured.

Unless the commissioners have some comments to start our day, we'll call our first witness. I think we're good to go. And I'd like to introduce, we've got—

Oh yes. I'm sorry, we're going to watch a video first. And then we'll call our first witness, thank you.

[A video clip was played of Global News footage of a press conference held by Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, announcing renewed lockdowns in Ontario.]

**[Video Clip] Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario**

Good afternoon. I know we are all eager to get things back to normal, and no one wants to get the economy going and get people back to work more than I do. And that means having a responsible plan. It means taking the best scientific advice and working together with our partners....

Yeah, so our chief medical officers are in contact with all the other chief medical officers, including the one in Toronto. I'm in close contact— I had a good conversation with Mayor Tory. You know, we don't make a move in any region without the full consent of the local chief medical officer and, most times, the local mayor. So Travis, we would be able to answer that probably a little better in the next few days. And that would probably be a good question for Mayor Tory to answer, and the chief medical officer of Toronto to answer.

**[Video Clip] Unidentified Reporter:**

Hi Premier. You just mentioned the people trying to work hard to put food on their table, and following up on Randy's question, what's to say that they wouldn't or shouldn't just start ignoring emergency messages? We saw over the weekend protests throughout the province. Massive protests in Toronto over two days. We've seen the Trinity Bellwoods Park before. We've seen weeks of protests outside Queen's Park with no enforcement. The Prime Minister even took part in a protest with no social distancing. Not everyone was wearing masks and there was no enforcement. Yet steps from there, a restaurant gets fined for letting people eat on their patio. So if there's not enforcement of the rules for everyone, why should business owners say, "You know what, I'm going to keep listening to the Premier, to the Province, and sacrifice my livelihood when others aren't?"

**[Video Clip] Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario:**

I understand the question, and for the most part, the vast majority of the people are listening. And as for the protest, people are hurting. You know, certain communities are hurting out there.

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I understand the protest. And I understand a lot of them were social distancing and some weren't. But they're in pain right now, and collectively as a province, we're all going to work together to fix that. As for the Prime Minister being out there, you're going to have to ask him that question. But I truly believe in the people of Ontario, and the people of Ontario have stuck with us. We're on the same team. And yes, there's been a few incidents. But the vast majority of the people across this province have been working well together with us. As I always say, we're all in this together, so we'll get through it together too.

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**Final Review and Approval:** Jodi Bruhn, August 16, 2023.

*The evidence offered in this transcript is a true and faithful record of witness testimony given during the National Citizens Inquiry (NCI) hearings. The transcript was prepared by members of a team of volunteers using an “intelligent verbatim” transcription method.*

*For further information on the transcription process, method, and team, see the NCI website:*  
<https://nationalcitizensinquiry.ca/about-these-transcripts/>

