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*Research article*

## **Preserving rural school health during the COVID-19 pandemic: indigenous citizen scientist perspectives from a qualitative study**

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## **Appendix 2**

### **Smart Indigenous Youth - Focus group template for educators**

#### **September 2020**

Self – Introduction with name and designation

*SIY Project overview (Video/ ppt)*

- *This discussion is to understand challenges during COVID-19 lockdown and restrictions, and to understand steps been taken for safe school reopening.*

- *The identities of the participants will be kept confidential and participants can speak freely. This session is been recorded for research purposes, so if anyone feels uncomfortable they can turnoff their cameras.*

#### **COVID-19 lockdown challenges:**

1. When did the school locked down?
2. How did you cope with the lockdown?  
**Probe:** What changes did you make to your teaching?
3. What was the biggest challenge?
4. What was the students' reaction to the lockdown?

**Probe:** Did you notice any changes in their anxiety levels? How was their general response to online learning (if the school did online learning?)

5. Considering the fact that the semester had not ended, what steps did the school take to overcome those challenges during the lockdown?

**Probe:** How was your experience with remote teaching/online teaching?

6. What would you do differently if the school were to go in to lock down again?

### **COVID-19 School reopening**

Considering the safe return of students and educators to the schools,

1. Are you aware of school reopening policies or programs?
2. What do you think about these policies in general?

**Probe:** what would you like about them? What could be improved?

3. How do you think school reopening will affect students and educators?

**Probe:** Do you feel anxious about your own health or your student's health. What worries you?

4. What do you think are challenges for safe school reopening?
5. Are there any suggestions you would like to make in addressing the concerns in a safe school reopening plan?



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