

VPRI Report for Senate: COVID-19 testing & technologies

- CFI Exceptional Opportunities Fund – COVID-19
 - \$ 300K for infrastructure to test COVID-19 genetic signature in sewage: “canary in the coal mine”: **Mike McKay**, Daniel Heath, Lisa Porter, Rajesh Seth, and Chris Weisener
 - Anticipate operational funding from the Province
 - Project initiated with support from NSERC Alliance COVID-19 grant using technologies developed by **Yufeng Tong**
- WE-SPARK Ignite Discovery COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants that supported testing technologies
 - Yufeng Tong for a rapid PCR test in collaboration with SM Research – test does not require instrumentation and reagents in competition with those used by the Province for public testing

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- **Munir Rahim** in collaboration with Medical Labs of Windsor to develop serology testing for antibodies against COVID-19
- **Simon Simon-Gagne** and **Jalal Ahamed** to develop a chip-based technology for rapid detection of COVID-19
- Bringing together all of the above technologies to pre-screen COVID-19 in the UWindsor community and beyond?
 - Proposed by Porter, Tong and McKay
 - Reduce demand for provincial testing and support safe return to campus
 - Pilot first at UWindsor
 - Periodic testing of pooled samples from self-administered buccal swabs of individuals
 - Periodic testing of sewage samples from locales in Windsor