


CBC NEWS REQUEST

Cindy Gu 

Tue, Apr 28, 2020 at 11:59 AM

To: KATIE NICHOLSON 

Cc: Andrea Bellemare , Jason Ho 

Hi Katie,

Thank you for the inquiry.

1) **The Epoch Times was founded by Chinese immigrants in North America who fled communist persecution in their home country.** All of our editors and reporters in China were arrested, with some enduring long prison sentences and brutal torture. We have connections in China with people who provide exclusive information that we report on. For instance, [here](#) and [here](#) are two recent articles about the virus outbreak based on internal government documents leaked to The Epoch Times. The Epoch Times has broken many important stories related to China over the last two decades.

2) We started to report on the worrisome situation of the virus on Dec. 31, 2019. In early February we reported that the real number of deaths and infections inside China was at least 10 to 20 times the Chinese government's official numbers, way ahead of other media. If more people had read our reports, the world would have been better prepared. Timely information can save lives.

3) **The Epoch Times has recently been "sampling" copies of a special edition on Beijing's coverup that led to a global pandemic in select areas because we consider that information to be important to Canadians. We regard this sampling as an act of good citizenship.**

Sampling refers to distributing copies of a newspaper to specific neighbourhoods. This is a standard way of raising brand awareness and recruiting new subscribers.

4) Some people may have erroneously conflated criticism of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) with criticism of the Chinese people. **The Chinese Communist Party does not represent the Chinese people or China. Understanding the difference is vital and will eliminate racial tension,** as people come to understand that the criticism of the handling of the virus is of the CCP, not the Chinese people.

The current confrontation is between the CCP and the people of the world, both in and outside of China. **Both the Chinese people and Canadians are victims of the CCP's coverup.**

We are not alone in pointing out the distinction between the CCP and China. Consider these recent headlines: Washington Post: "Don't blame 'China' for the coronavirus — blame the Chinese Communist Party"; Globe and Mail: "The coronavirus exposes the lie at the heart of Communist China"; National Post: "Beijing's communist regime is the biggest 'China virus' threatening our survival."

5) Regarding the Wuhan lab, it is a small part of our reporting on the coronavirus. China silenced early whistleblowers, destroyed samples, and falsified data. We simply asked questions like many others. In the

past, CCP top military officials openly talked about the development of bioweapons. Whether the virus is engineered or not, has neither been proven nor disproven at this point.

In our documentary we only raise questions, it never ruled out a natural origin and it does not assert that the virus was engineered. The documentary is fastidious in not giving any definitive conclusions regarding the origin. It presents the facts that were known and the opinions of experts.

6) While most newspapers have been experiencing a decline in circulation, The Epoch Times has been growing in recent years, against the trend.

Worth noting:

The Epoch Times was among the first to report on the SARS outbreak in 2003, three weeks before the Chinese regime publicly admitted there was an outbreak. Our early coverage of the SARS outbreak earned our Chinese edition a national award from the National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada.

According to a recent study by the University of Southampton, if “non-pharmaceutical interventions—such as early detection, isolation of cases, travel restrictions and cordon sanitaire ... could have been conducted one week, two weeks, or three weeks earlier, cases could have been reduced by 66 percent, 86 percent and 95 percent, respectively—significantly limiting the geographical spread of the disease.”

Dr. Shawn Whatley, past president of the Ontario Medical Association, said “I first learned about the damage by the new, aggressive Wuhan virus from The Epoch Times. Kudos to ET for doing what we pay the departments of health billions of dollars to do.”

About the Special Edition:

Our Special Edition features some of our coverage of the virus that has engulfed the globe, causing a serious threat to people’s health and way of life. There have been multiple reports and studies, and even remarks by governments, noting that had the Chinese communist regime been forthright about the outbreak and the risks sooner, many lives could have been saved and the damage to economies would have been minimal.

The Special Edition delves into topics such as how the Chinese Communist Party’s coverup led to a pandemic, how the regime persecuted medical professionals in China who tried to get information out about the outbreak, how it is still hiding the true scale of the pandemic and the number of deaths in China, and how it has launched a global disinformation campaign to lay the blame for the pandemic elsewhere.

Regards,
Cindy Gu
Publisher, The Epoch Times Canada

[Quoted text hidden]