

# COVID 19 Canadian Economic Stimulus & Business Supports

*Current as of June 16, 2020*

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## Overview

In response to the COVID19 pandemic the Government of Canada has acted to provide fiscal measures to support businesses, households and individuals. These measures have been introduced by Minister of Finance Bill Morneau, the Bank of Canada, and the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI). With the addition of wage subsidies and additional business support, the cost of Canada's overall aid package is now estimated to total over **\$260 billion**.

In addition to these measures announced by the Federal government, provinces and territories have announced specific economic measures aimed at supporting businesses and people.

# Federal Government

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p><b>Wage Subsidy (10%)</b> A business wage subsidy equal to 10% of remuneration paid during a 3-month period, up to a maximum subsidy of \$1,375 per employee and \$25,000 per employer.</p> <p><b>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy CEWS (75%)</b> Wage subsidy amount for a given employee on eligible remuneration paid for the period between March 15 and August 29, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Up to a maximum benefit of \$847 per week or 75% of the employee's pre-crisis weekly remuneration, whichever is less.</li> <li>- 100 % refund for certain employer-paid contributions to Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, the Quebec Pension Plan, and the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan.</li> <li>- Online portal for the CEWS available April 27<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> <p>Employers who do not qualify for CEWS may still qualify for the 10% subsidy.</p>	<p>Eligible employers are individuals, non-profit organizations, registered charities, Canadian-controlled private corporations.</p> <p>Eligible employers include individuals, taxable corporations, partnerships whose partners are eligible employers, non-profit organizations, and registered charities. This subsidy would be available to eligible employers that see a drop of at least 15 % of their revenue in March 2020 and 30 % for the following months.</p>

# Federal Government (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business support</b>	<p><b>Deferred income tax</b> The Canada Revenue Agency will allow businesses to defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after March 18, 2020 and before September 2020.</p> <p><b>Canadian Emergency Business Account (CEBA)</b> Via the Business Credit Availability Program, CEBA provides eligible businesses \$40,000 at 0% interest until December 31, 2022. The remaining balance is then converted to a 3-year term loan at an interest rate of 5% per annum. If the loan is paid by Dec 31, 2022. 25% of the loan (up to \$10 000, will be forgiven.)</p> <p><b>Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)</b> for small businesses. The program seeks to provide loans, including forgivable loans, to commercial property owners who in turn will lower or forgo the rent of small businesses for the months of April (retroactive), May, and June.</p>	<p>This extended tax payment deadline is intended for corporations. Updates and additional details on tax deadlines for corporations and individuals, charities, trusts, self employed can be found <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>Businesses and non-profits with total payroll between \$20,000 and \$1.5 million in 2019 will now qualify for loans under CEBA. This includes sole proprietors receiving business income directly, as well as family-owned corporations remunerating in the form of dividends.</p> <p>Eligible small businesses must have a rent lower than 50 000\$ a month and have experienced at least 70% drop in pre-covid revenues. Charities and non-profits included.</p>

# Federal Government (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p><b>SME's – RRRF Regional Recovery Relief Fund</b>            \$962 million to regional economic agencies and community futures network to provide help to small business who don't qualify for CEWS or CEBA.            \$270 million to Futurpreneur and IRAP to support innovators who don't qualify for wage subsidy.</p> <p><b>Arts, Culture and Sport</b></p> <p>\$72 million will be provided to the sport sector;            \$53 million <a href="#">Museums Assistance Program</a>; and,            \$3.5 million <a href="#">Digital Citizen Initiative</a>.            \$55 million <a href="#">Canada Council for the Arts – \$88 million Canada Media Fund</a>  <a href="#">\$27 million Telefilm Canada</a></p>	<p>Regional relief funds will be administered by Canada's regional development agencies and interested stakeholders must reach out to their RDA. (CanNor, FedDev Ontario, Western Development Agency, CED-Quebec, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, FedNor). Inteded for smaller firms ineligible for existing aid.</p> <p>Funds will be delivered to <a href="#">eligible recipients in 2 phases</a>.</p>

## Federal Government (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business support</b>	<p>Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF) to provide bridge financing to Canada's largest employers, whose needs during the pandemic are not being met through conventional financing, in order to keep their operations going. Min</p> <p>Expanded Business Credit Availability Programs (BCAP) to mid-sized companies with larger financing needs. Support for mid-market businesses will include loans of up to \$60 million per company, and guarantees of up to \$80 million. Through the BCAP, Export Development Canada (EDC) and the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) will work with private sector lenders to support access to capital for Canadian businesses in all sectors and regions.</p> <p>\$15 million comes in the form of additional capital for Women Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES) Ecosystem Fund organizations.</p>	<p>Large companies who require access to at least \$60 million.</p> <p>This is intended for midsize companies with larger financing needs that small businesses. Further details <a href="#">available here</a>.</p> <p>Distributed among members of the WES network of organizations.</p>

## Federal Government (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
Employment Insurance and income support	<p><b>The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)</b></p> <p>\$2,000 a month for four months. For workers who have stopped working due to COVID-19.</p> <p>* The CERB will be extended from 16 weeks to 24 weeks.</p>	<p>An applicant must be a Canadian resident over 15 years of age who has stopped working because of the pandemic. The applicant also must have earned a minimum of \$5,000 over the last 12 months and must expect to make less than \$1,000 a month while collecting the benefit.</p> <p>The CERB was recently updated to include seasonal workers and part time employees.</p>

## Federal Government (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Employment Insurance and income support</b>	<p><b>Extending Work-Sharing program</b>            The Government of Canada is Implementing the EI Work Sharing Program, which provides EI benefits to workers who agree to reduce their normal working hour as a result of developments beyond the control of their employers, by extending the eligibility of such agreements to 76 weeks, easing eligibility requirements, and streamlining the application process.</p> <p>* The Government is also waiving the requirement to provide a medical certificate to access EI sickness benefits.</p>	<p>Employers and employees must agree to participate in Work-Sharing and apply together.</p> <p><b>Employers</b>            To be eligible for a WS agreement, your business must:            -be a year-round business in Canada in operation for at least 1 year            - be a private business or a publicly held company, and have at least 2 employees in the WS unit</p> <p><b>Employees</b>            To be eligible for WS, your employees must:            be year-round, permanent, full-time or part-time employees needed to carry out the day-to-day functions of the business (your "core staff")</p>



## Federal Government (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Student Support</b>	Interest free 6-month moratorium on Canada Student Loans. The government will invest up to \$9 billion for Canadian Emergency Student Benefits (CESB). Post-secondary students can apply for a \$1250 wage subsidy from May – August. Students must attest that they are seeking work. \$2000 / month for students with children and disabilities.	Students and graduates with unpaid student loans. Students who are enrolled in a post-secondary education program leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate, as well as for students who graduated no earlier than December 2019. Details <a href="#">here</a> .

# Quebec

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p>The government will offer eligible companies seeking a minimum of \$50,000 each, in loans and loan guarantees, under advantageous terms. Focus is on helping industries it considers strategically important to the Quebec economy, such as aerospace, artificial intelligence and life sciences.</p> <p>Emergency support to support SME's. \$150 million to support small businesses across the province, these funds will be distributed and administered by region and are aimed for business who require access to less than \$50 000. In Montreal, funds will be managed by PME MTL.</p> <p>PACME Up to \$100,000 in subsidies for online training expenses, and 50% of expense between \$100 000 and \$500 000. The goal is to retain employees while improving their professional skills.</p> <p>Panier Bleu platform to promote local provincial business.</p>	<p>Businesses will have to make the case that this loan will assist them in generating a profit after the pandemic subsidies.</p> <p>Businesses in all industries, including co-operatives, non-profit organizations and social economy businesses engaged in commercial activities are eligible.</p> <p>Independent businesses of all sizes, co-ops, professional associations, NGO's, self employed.</p> <p>Québec based retail : Visit <a href="http://www.lepanierbleu.ca">www.lepanierbleu.ca</a></p>

# Quebec

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p>\$400-million grants and loans package for cultural projects, of which \$250-million is new funding for music, dance, film, television, and digital industry projects.</p> <p>\$50 million fund meant to support small business owners in the City of Montreal. The funds will be administered by PME MTL.</p> <p>Extended tax deadlines for businesses. Harmonized with the Federal government.</p>	<p>For those cultural enterprises that had to close or was heavily affected during the pandemic, as well as for performance arts companies and music projects. Also included is an emergency fund for artists.</p> <p>This financial assistance is for businesses that are unable to access other federal programs, or which were denied assistance under these programs.</p>

# Ontario

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p>Employer Health Tax exemption is increased from \$490,000 to \$1 million for 2020.</p> <p>A Regional Opportunities Investment Tax Credit will be given to Canadian-controlled private corporations that construct, renovate, or acquire eligible commercial and industrial buildings and other assets in specified regions of Ontario after March 25, 2020. The tax credit will apply to expenditures of between \$50,000 and \$500,000, at a rate of 10% of eligible expenses.</p> <p>Tax filing deadlines for select Provincial taxes, including the Employer Health Tax, Tobacco Tax, Fuel Tax, Gas Tax, Wine and Spirits Taxes, Mining Tax, Insurance Premium Tax, International Fuel Tax Agreement, and Retail Sales Tax on Insurance Contracts and Benefit Plans, are extended until August 31. The government is also postponing the planned property tax reassessment for 2021.</p> <p>Workplace Safety and Insurance Board payments can be deferred for up to six months.</p> <p>Electricity prices for time-of-use customers (including small businesses) will be set at the lowest rate, known as the off-peak price, for 24 hours a day for 45 days.</p>	<p>A list of the specified regions and specifics on eligibility <a href="#">can be found here</a>.</p>

# Ontario

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	Digital transformation grant : \$2500 grant to support small businesses move products online. The program will be managed by Digital Main Street, in partnership with the Government of Ontario, City of Toronto. The program is not yet launched and more details are to be released soon. Interested applicants can <a href="#">sign up</a> for news on program details.	.

# British Columbia

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p>Organizations with a payroll over \$500,000 per year can defer employer health tax payments until September 30, 2020.</p> <p>Tax filing and payment deadlines for the PST, municipal and regional district tax on short-term accommodation, tobacco tax, motor fuel tax, and carbon tax are extended until Sept 30, 2020.</p> <p>The increase to the provincial carbon tax and the new PST registration requirements on e-commerce are delayed to Sept 30, 2020.</p> <p>Non-profit organizations and charities will continue to receive Provincial funding, even if they are closed or their regular operations have been disrupted.</p> <p>The Action Plan also allocates \$1.5 billion for longer-term economic recovery and will be partnering with industry to develop the plan.</p>	For businesses, non-profit organizations, and charities,

# Alberta

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p>Delaying corporate income tax until August, which will give businesses access to about \$1.5 billion in funds to help them cope with the COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p>WCB premium relief for business.</p> <p>Residential, farm, and small commercial customers can defer utility payments for up to 90 days, including natural gas and electricity regardless of provider.</p> <p>Tourism levy delayed until August 31.</p> <p>One-time relaunch payment to Alberta's small businesses impacted by Covid-19. Eligible businesses will receive a one-time payment of up to \$5,000.</p> <p>Support the oil and gas sector. <a href="#">Alberta's Site Rehabilitation Plan</a></p>	<p>Small and medium business, non-profits.</p> <p>Small medium and large corporations can benefit from the WCB relief.</p> <p>Small commercial customers, farms.</p> <p>Hotels and lodging businesses.</p> <p>Organizations with less than 500 employees that were forced to close or were deeply affected by the pandemic</p> <p>Energy sector.</p>

# Saskatchewan

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
Business Support	<b>Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment (SSBEP)</b> One-time grant for small and medium-sized enterprises directly affected by government public health orders related to COVID-19. Grants will be paid based on 15 per cent of a business's monthly sales revenue, to a maximum of \$5,000.	SME's.
	<b>PST deferral</b> Saskatchewan businesses which are unable to remit their PST due to cashflow concerns will have three-month relief from penalty and interest charges.	Businesses of all sizes.
	<b>Utilities</b> Bill deferral programs to be implemented allowing a zero interest bill deferral up to 6 months.	Businesses of all sizes.
	<b>WCB</b> Premiums waived from April 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020.	Businesses of all sizes.



# Manitoba

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
Business support	<p><b>Manitoba Protection Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extending the April and May tax filing deadlines for Retail Sales Tax until June 22, 2020 for small and medium businesses with monthly RST remittances of no more than \$10,000 (see this bulletin for full details);</li> <li>- Not charging interest or penalties for Manitoba Hydro, Centra Gas, Workers Compensation Board and Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI);</li> <li>- Relax ordinary practices on policy renewals and collections at MPI;</li> <li>- Not charge interest on Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries receivables from restaurants, bars and specialty wine stores; and</li> <li>- Not charging interest on education property taxes.</li> </ul> <p><u><a href="#">Manitoba Gap Protection Program</a></u>: \$6,000 in immediate provincial support</p> <p><u><a href="#">Manitoba Summer Student Recovery Jobs Plan</a></u>: , totaling \$5,000 in funding for up to 5 students per organization</p>	<p>Businesses, non-profits, charities can benefit from the Manitoba Protection Plan.</p> <p>SME"s.</p>

## Manitoba (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
Business support	<p>Extend the April and May filing deadlines for small and medium-sized business with monthly remittances of not more than \$10,000. Businesses will have up to two additional months to remit retain sales taxes, and the Health and Post-Secondary Education Tax Levy.</p> <p>The Minister of Finance also noted that it will work with businesses regarding flexible repayment options above the \$10,000 cap.</p>	Businesses, non-profits, charities can benefit from the Manitoba Protection Plan.

# Nova Scotia

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p>Defer payments until June 30 on all government loans, including those under the Farm Loan Board, Fisheries and Aquaculture Loan Board, Jobs Fund, Nova Scotia Business Fund, Municipal Finance Corp. and Housing Nova Scotia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>small business fees, including business renewal fees and workers compensation premiums (a list of fees will be posted online early next week)</li> </ul> <p>Changes to the <b>Small Business Loan Guarantee Program</b>, administered through credit unions, include: deferring principal and interest payments until June 30 enhancing the program to make it easier for businesses to access credit up to \$500,000. Those who might not qualify for a loan, government will guarantee the first \$100,000 Further measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>small businesses which do business with the government will be paid within five days instead of the standard 30 days</li> <li>suspending payments on Nova Scotia student loans for six months, from March 30 to Sept. 30 and students do not have to apply</li> </ul>	<p>Small and medium sized businesses.</p> <p>Small businesses.</p>

# New Brunswick

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p><b>Waiving late penalties on property taxes:</b> Though business property taxes must be paid by May 31, late penalties will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to see if the penalty can be waived</p> <p><b>Deferring interest and principal payments on existing loans:</b> defer loan and interest repayments for up to six months on existing provincial loans. This assistance is available, on a case-by-case basis, to any business that has a loan with an existing Government of New Brunswick department. The deferral can be requested by contacting the department that issued the loan.</p>	<p>Case by case review.</p> <p>Any size business.</p>

## New Brunswick (cont'd)

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
<b>Business Support</b>	<p><b>New operating loans for small business</b>            Provide operating loans to support small businesses. Loans will help companies respond to challenges Loans will be up to \$100,000.            Payments of interest and principal will not be required during the first 12 months.            More details will be available on application process in the coming days.</p>	Small business.
	<p><b>Injecting needed working capital for mid-to-large employers:</b>            Opportunities New Brunswick will make available support mid-to-large sized employers.            ONB will also provide – upon request – working capital in excess of \$200,000 to help large employers manage the impacts of COVID-19 on their operations.            Large employers will be able to apply for this assistance directly from Opportunities New Brunswick.</p>	Mid- large business.
	<p>Moratorium on evictions for non payment of commercial rent until May 31.</p> <p>Self employed relief. A one time payment of 900\$ from the province is available.</p>	Self employed.

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
Business Support	<p><b>Support for small businesses and employees</b></p> <p>The scheduled loan payments are deferred for the next 3 months for clients of Finance PEI, Island Investment Development Inc., and the PEI Century Fund;</p> <p>\$4.5 million will be provided to Community Business Development Corporations across the province to deliver financing to small business and entrepreneurs; and</p> <p>a temporary allowance of \$200 per week for employees that have a significant drop in their working hours.</p> <p><b>Emergency Income Relief for the Self-Employed</b> \$500 per week for the period of March 16 to March 29, 2020. To be eligible to the program, the individuals must have declared business income on their most recent tax return, business income must be their primary source of income, must be able to demonstrate direct financial losses related to COVID-19 isolation measures and don't receive any other income support.</p> <p>The <b>Worker Assistance Program</b> is a temporary program aimed at providing financial support to employers to assist their employed workers. The employers eligible will receive a maximum of \$250 per week for each employed worker that experienced a reduction of at least 8 hours per week during the two week period March 16-29, 2020..</p>	<p>Small businesses.</p> <p>Self employed</p> <p>Registered private sector business</p>

# Newfoundland

Type of support	Description	Who is eligible
Business Support	<p><b>City of St. John's, Tax Relief:</b></p> <p>No interest on residential and commercial property taxes and water tax (Up to and including August 31, 2020). Commercial property vacancy allowance claim has been extended. Claims for the first quarter, typically due on April 30th are not due until May 31, 2020.</p> <p>The City will continue to issue tax bills, however there will be no interest charges on late payments. Property owners that have their tax and mortgage payments combined must Commercial tax bills for the second quarter normally sent in May, will now be sent in June. contact their banking institutions to discuss options regarding tax relief and or mortgage deferrals.</p> <p><b>WorkplaceNL :Deferring the collection of assessment payments</b></p> <p>From employers until June 30, 2020, and waiving interest charges or penalties.</p> <p>Deadline extended for fuel tax exemption permits and tax returns</p> <p>Compensation for private sector employers for continuation of pay to employees who were required to self-isolate for 14 days due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions. This includes individuals who are self-employed.</p>	<p>Commercial and residential property owners.</p> <p>Employers can apply <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

# Updated resources (Federal and Provincial)

## **Canada Economic Response plan – Covid19**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

**Alberta support for employers and employees** <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-support-for-employers.aspx>

## **BC Provincial Support Measures**

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support>

## **Manitoba : Covid information for Manitobans**

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/infomanitobans/index.html>

## **Saskatchewan: Information for business and workers**

[https://www.saskatchewan.ca/~link.aspx?\\_id=380105922B1249708F22D35E974FE476&\\_z=z](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/~/link.aspx?_id=380105922B1249708F22D35E974FE476&_z=z)

## **Ontario: Information on Ontario Economic Action Plan**

<https://budget.ontario.ca/2020/marchupdate/action-plan.html>



## **(cont'd)**

### **Quebec: Support for workers**

<https://www.quebec.ca/en/family-and-support-for-individuals/financial-assistance/temporary-aid-for-workers-program/>

**Business support from investissement QC :** <https://www.investquebec.com/quebec/fr/salle-de-presse/nouvelle/programme-daction-concertee-temporaire-pour-les-entreprises-pacte.html>

**QC resource hub:** [www.Quebec.ca/coronavirus](http://www.Quebec.ca/coronavirus)

### **Nova Scotia : Support for businesses, families and individuals**

<https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/#support>

### **New Brunswick: Covid19 resources**

[https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory\\_diseases/coronavirus.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/coronavirus.html)

### **PEI: Resources for Business - Covid19**

<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/for-business>

### **Newfoundland: Resources for people and businesses**

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/resources-2/>