

**Provincial Job Protections: COVID-19**  
**(as of April 21, 2020)**

Province/Territory	Date	Plan	Link
Ontario	19/03/2020	<p>The Ontario Government held an emergency sitting of the legislature and passed two pieces of legislation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The <i>Employment Standards Amendment Act (Infectious Disease Emergencies), 2020</i> provides job-protected leave for employees who are in isolation or quarantine due to COVID-19, or those who need to be away from work to care for children because of school or day care closures or to care for other relatives. These measures are retroactive to January 25, 2020, the date the first presumptive COVID-19 case was confirmed in Ontario. The legislation will also make it clear employees cannot be required to show sick notes.</li> <li>2. The <i>Municipal Emergency Act, 2020</i> will ensure that for the near future, the delivery of goods to Ontario's businesses and consumers isn't impacted by municipal noise by-laws that may unintentionally be impeding such deliveries when they are most urgently needed. The legislation also gives municipalities the ability to fully conduct Council, local board and committee meetings electronically when faced with local and province-wide emergencies, empowering the government's municipal partners to respond quickly when in-person meetings cannot be held.</li> </ol>	<p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-supporting-workers-municipalities-and-retailers-in-response-to-covid-19.html">https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-supporting-workers-municipalities-and-retailers-in-response-to-covid-19.html</a></p>

	<p>24/03/2020</p> <p>25/03/2020</p>	<p>The Government of Ontario is providing immediate electricity rate relief for small businesses (as well as families and farms paying time-of-use (TOU) rates.)</p> <p>Finance Minister Rod Phillips released Ontario's Action Plan: <b><i>Responding to COVID-19 (March 2020 Economic and Fiscal Update)</i></b>. This plan includes \$3.7 billion for individuals and job protection, along \$10 billion in support for people and businesses through tax and other deferrals to improve their cash flow, protecting jobs and household budgets. These measures include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proposing to double the Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) payment for low-income seniors for six months.</li><li>• Cutting taxes by \$355 million for about 57,000 employers through a proposed temporary increase to the Employer Health Tax (EHT) exemption.</li><li>• Expanding access to the emergency assistance program administered by Ontario Works to provide financial support to people facing economic hardship and help more people meet basic needs such as food and rent during this public health emergency.</li><li>• Helping to support regions lagging in employment growth with a proposed new Corporate Income Tax Credit, the Regional Opportunities Investment Tax Credit.</li><li>• Making available \$6 billion by providing five months of interest and penalty relief for businesses to file and make payments for the majority of provincially administered taxes.</li></ul> <p>The province has also launched a toll-free line 1-888-444-3659 to provide support to Ontario businesses who have questions about the province's recent emergency order (March 14<sup>th</sup>) to close all at-risk workplaces.</p>	<p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-providing-electricity-relief-to-families-small-businesses-and-farms-during-covid-19.html">https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-providing-electricity-relief-to-families-small-businesses-and-farms-during-covid-19.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/mof/en/2020/03/ontarios-action-plan-responding-to-covid-19.html">https://news.ontario.ca/mof/en/2020/03/ontarios-action-plan-responding-to-covid-19.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/stop-the-spread-business-information-line-now-open-at-1-888-444-3659">https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/stop-the-spread-business-information-line-now-open-at-1-888-444-3659</a></p>
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	26/03/2020	<p>The Ontario Government is enabling \$1.9 billion in relief for employers to reduce the financial strain on business brought on by COVID-19. The measure, which will run through the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), will see premium payments deferred for six months for all businesses in the province.</p>	<p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2020/03/ontario-enabling-financial-relief-for-businesses-1.html">3659.html?utm_source=ondemand&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=p</a></p> <p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2020/03/ontario-enabling-financial-relief-for-businesses-1.html">https://news.ontario.ca/mol/en/2020/03/ontario-enabling-financial-relief-for-businesses-1.html</a></p>
	04/07/2020	<p>During the COVID-19 outbreak, the Ontario government is deferring \$15 million in property taxes for people and businesses in parts of Northern Ontario located outside of municipal boundaries. This tax deferral builds on the \$10 billion in cash flow supports made available to people and businesses as part of <a href="#"><i>Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19.</i></a></p> <p>Through these measures, Ontario is giving taxpayers in unincorporated areas more time to pay each of the four 2020 Provincial Land Tax installments. Taxpayers will have 90 extra days to pay without incurring interest or penalties. For example, taxpayers who would be required to pay the April 7 property tax installment will have until July 6 to pay without interest or penalties.</p> <p>This action is complementary to new support for municipalities that was announced in Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19. In this plan, the Province announced it is deferring the upcoming quarterly (June 30) remittance of education property tax to school boards by 90 days. This will provide municipalities with the flexibility to, in turn, provide property tax deferrals of over \$1.8 billion to local residents and businesses.</p>	<p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/mof/en/2020/04/ontario-providing-relief-for-remote-northern-property-taxpayers-during-covid-19.html">https://news.ontario.ca/mof/en/2020/04/ontario-providing-relief-for-remote-northern-property-taxpayers-during-covid-19.html</a></p>
	04/08/2020	<p>In response to the outbreak of COVID-19, Ontario is extending construction hours for essential construction</p>	

	<p>04/09/2020</p> <p>04/11/2020</p>	<p>projects, like critical projects in the health care sector, to 24 hours a day. Work on new hospital builds, expansions, and COVID-19 assessment centres will be able to continue any time of the night or day in order to help accelerate the construction of these important projects and enable employers to take additional steps to protect the health and safety of workers on these job sites.</p> <p>Post-pandemic growth &amp; prosperity taskforce named</p> <p>Emergency orders extended</p>	<p><a href="https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-accelerates-essential-construction-projects-during-covid-19.html">https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-accelerates-essential-construction-projects-during-covid-19.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-starts-planning-for-economic-recovery.html">https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-starts-planning-for-economic-recovery.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-takes-further-action-to-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19.html">https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-takes-further-action-to-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19.html</a></p>
Quebec	<p>17/03/2020</p> <p>18/03/2020</p>	<p>The Gouvernement du Québec and the Red Cross have partnered up to deliver a program, <b>Temporary Aid for Workers Program</b>, that offers financial assistance to meet the needs of workers who, because they are in isolation to counter the propagation of the COVID-19 virus, cannot earn all of their work income and are not eligible for another financial assistance program. Application submissions will be reviewed starting March 19, 2020.</p> <p>The program includes a lump-sum amount granted to an eligible person of \$573 per week, for a period of 14 days of isolation. If justified by one's state of health, the coverage period for an eligible person could be extended to a maximum of 28 days.</p> <p>Quebec's Minister of Finance Éric Girard announced flexibility measures for individuals and businesses,</p>	<p><a href="https://www.quebec.ca/en/family-and-support-for-individuals/financial-assistance/temporary-aid-for-workers-program/">https://www.quebec.ca/en/family-and-support-for-individuals/financial-assistance/temporary-aid-for-workers-program/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.finances.gouv.qc.ca/documents/Bulletins/en/BULEN_2020-4-a-b.pdf">http://www.finances.gouv.qc.ca/documents/Bulletins/en/BULEN_2020-4-a-b.pdf</a></p>

	<p data-bbox="447 269 596 293">19/03/2020</p> <p data-bbox="447 1409 596 1433">04/07/2020</p>	<p data-bbox="632 172 1310 228">by extending deadlines for the payment of certain amounts payable pursuant to various tax provisions.</p> <p data-bbox="632 269 1293 431">The Premier of Québec François Legault, his Minister of Finance Éric Girard and his Minister of the Economy Pierre Fitzgibbon, announced the following measures to support businesses suffering from COVID-19:</p> <ul data-bbox="680 440 1320 1247" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="680 440 1320 967">• <b>Programme d'action concertée temporaire pour les entreprises (PACTE):</b> \$2.5 billion to help companies that have or will have cashflow problems due to the coronavirus crisis, in addition to the \$10 billion announcement made by the Federal government. This program is meant to support business' working capital to help them continue their operations. All industries will be eligible for this program, but businesses will have to demonstrate that they are likely to be profitable after the crisis. The financial assistance is a minimum amount of \$50,000, provided in the form of a loan guarantee, but may also take the form of a loan.</li><li data-bbox="680 980 1320 1143">• In order to support businesses affected by the impacts of COVID-19, flexibility for outstanding loans and loan guarantees are being put in place by the <i>Fonds local d'investissement ("FLI")</i>.</li><li data-bbox="680 1149 1320 1247">• Harmonize measures with BDC and EDC for companies who have arrangements and agreements in place.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="632 1284 1241 1409">Quebec's government website has launched a helpful tool to help determine what type of assistance is available and best suited for your specific situation.</p> <p data-bbox="632 1450 1125 1479">Additional Measures as of 04/07/2020</p>	<p data-bbox="1348 237 2018 334"><a href="http://www.fil-information.gouv.qc.ca/Pages/Article.aspx?aiquillage=aid&amp;type=1&amp;lang=en&amp;idArticle=2803194638">http://www.fil-information.gouv.qc.ca/Pages/Article.aspx?aiquillage=aid&amp;type=1&amp;lang=en&amp;idArticle=2803194638</a></p> <p data-bbox="1348 1247 2003 1308"><a href="https://www.quebec.ca/en/government-assistance-programs-covid19/">https://www.quebec.ca/en/government-assistance-programs-covid19/</a></p>
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<b>Manitoba</b>	18/03/2020	<p>The Manitoba Government has advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employers should review their business continuity plans and take steps to ensure employees can stay home when ill, without facing barriers such as the requirement for sick notes, and work from home if possible.</li> <li>• Employers should also discontinue non-essential, work-related travel outside of Manitoba and encourage virtual meetings to</li> </ul>	<a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=46957">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=46957</a>

		reduce prolonged, close contact between individuals.	
	19/03/2020	The Manitoba government is tabling a supplementary document that will outline measures in Budget 2020 to address the COVID-19 pandemic. More details to follow in the coming days.	<a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47117&amp;posted=2020-03-19">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47117&amp;posted=2020-03-19</a>
	22/03/2020	The province is extending tax filing deadlines for businesses impacted by COVID-19. This will extend the April and May filing deadlines for small and medium-sized businesses with monthly remittances of no more than \$10,000.	<a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47161&amp;posted=2020-03-22">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47161&amp;posted=2020-03-22</a>
	27/03/2020	The Manitoba government is adding a temporary exception to employment standards regulations to give employers more time to recall employees laid off as a result of COVID-19. Under current employment standards legislation, employees who have been laid off for eight or more weeks in a 16-week period are deemed to have been terminated and are entitled to wages in lieu of notice. Now, the province is making temporary amendments that would ensure any period of layoff occurring after March 1, 2020, will not be counted toward the period after which a temporary layoff would become a permanent termination. This measure is temporary and specific to situations where employees will eventually be rehired once the COVID-19 crisis has subsided and economic activity picks up again, said the minister.	<a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47284">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47284</a>
	03/04/2020	Province announced additional measures to the Manitoba Protection Plan, providing the following protections for the next six months until Oct. 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructing Manitoba Hydro, Centra Gas and Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) to not</li> </ul>	<a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47380&amp;posted=2020-04-03">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47380&amp;posted=2020-04-03</a>

charge interest or penalties in the event that Manitobans are unable to pay at this time

- Instructing MPI to relax ordinary practices on policy renewals and collection
- Supporting Workers Compensation Board (WCB) to do the same and asking WCB to extend relief from penalties for late payments
- Directing Manitoba Hydro and Centra Gas to not disconnect customers during these times

The government is also deferring provincial income tax and corporate income tax filing deadlines and payments to coincide with the current revised federal deferral of income tax to Aug. 31 and has indicated it would be willing to extend these deferrals until Oct 1.

Also taking steps to make home and business property insurance more affordable to Manitobans by accelerating the removal of \$75 million of annual PST from residential and business properties, effective July 1.

The new measures are in addition to the recently announced two-month deferral for small businesses that remit up to \$10,000 in Manitoba payroll tax or \$10,000 in sales tax. This will result in \$80 million in deferred remittance to the province.

Pallister also announced plans to help make insurance more affordable for Manitobans. While the province has no ability to allow for deferrals of payments or the waiver of interest charges and penalties, Manitoba is taking steps to make home and business property insurance more affordable to Manitobans by accelerating the removal of \$75 million of annual PST from residential and business properties, effective July 1.

This will save residential property owners an



	<p>04/07/2020</p> <p>04/13/2020</p> <p>04/14/2020</p>	<p>estimated \$38 million per year and business property owners \$37 million a year.</p> <p>The Manitoba government's recent proposal the federal government borrow on behalf of provincial governments and loan that money to provinces as part of a collective financial response to COVID-19 has received the support of all premiers in a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Brian Pallister announced today.</p> <p>The Manitoba government has engaged Manitoba-based business, 24-7 Intouch, to help businesses, not-for-profits and charities facing economic challenges due to COVID-19 connect with support programs, Premier Brian Pallister announced today.</p> <p>The Manitoba government will now compensate health-care workers who are required to self-isolate for 14 days due to possible exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace. The province is also proposing new provisions to the Employment Standards Code that would allow employees to be away from work for specified reasons related to COVID-19.</p> <p>After consulting the Labour Management Review Committee, which made a consensus recommendation to provide job protection for employees affected by COVID-19, the province is moving forward with changes that would allow employees protected leave for eligible purposes.</p> <p>Employees would be able to take as much unpaid time off work as needed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be in isolation or quarantine or take any other control measure in accordance with information or</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47517&amp;posted=2020-04-13">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47517&amp;posted=2020-04-13</a></p> <p><a href="https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47520&amp;posted=2020-04-14">https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47520&amp;posted=2020-04-14</a></p>
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		<p>directions related to COVID-19 by health professionals, health officers, Health Links–Info Santé, the government of Manitoba or the Government of Canada, a municipal council or a board of health;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• obtain medical examination, supervision or treatment;</li> <li>• comply with an order made under The Emergency Measures Act or The Public Health Act;</li> <li>• provide care or support to a family member as a result of COVID-19, including but not limited to, school and daycare closures; or</li> <li>• comply with travel restrictions.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Alberta</b></p>	<p>17/03/2020</p>	<p>The Alberta Government has implemented paid job-protected leave for workers affected by COVID-19. Premier Jason Kenney announced that there will be changes to Alberta's Employment Standards Code, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full and part-time employees can access 14 days of job-protected leave for the purpose of self-isolation related to COVID-19, retroactive to March 5.</li> <li>• The leave does not apply to self-employed individuals or contractors.</li> <li>• The requirement to have worked for an employer for 90 days to access COVID-19 specific leave is no longer required.</li> <li>• Employees self-isolating due to COVID-19 do not require a medical note to access leave.</li> <li>• As a job protected leave, employees cannot be terminated or laid off during the leave.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=69831287F86B2-0CDB-543B-1137EAA2AD56F3D4">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=69831287F86B2-0CDB-543B-1137EAA2AD56F3D4</a></p>

	23/03/2020	<p>The Alberta government announced additional emergency funding to charities, not-for-profits and civil society organizations to support their COVID-19 response. Although Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is assisting in disbursing the funds, projects do not need to follow FCSS program guidelines, or be existing FCSS partners.</p> <p>The Alberta Government announced three significant decisions that will give Albertans and Alberta employers additional supports as they deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Education property tax freeze</li> <li>2. Education property tax deferral for businesses (Will defer education property tax for businesses for six months.)</li> <li>3. WCB premiums deferral for private sector businesses and support for small and medium businesses</li> </ol> <p>Additional measures to help employees and employers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The collection of corporate income tax balances and instalment payments is deferred until Aug. 31, 2020. This gives Alberta businesses access to about \$1.5 billion in funds to help them cope with the COVID-19 crisis.</li> <li>• \$50 million to support emergency isolation for working adult Albertans who must self-isolate, including persons who are the sole caregiver for a dependent who must self-isolate, and who will not have another source of pay or compensation while they are self-isolated. It is distributed in one payment instalment to bridge the gap until the federal emergency payments begin in April.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-funding-for-charities-and-not-for-profit-organizations.aspx">https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-funding-for-charities-and-not-for-profit-organizations.aspx</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=699045A66118C-FA03-F4F5-959455E3316B8564">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=699045A66118C-FA03-F4F5-959455E3316B8564</a></p>
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	25/03/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utility payment deferral for residential, farm, and small commercial customers to defer bill payments for the next 90 days and ensure no one is cut off from electricity and natural gas services during this time of crisis.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=69916B3E9D715-B3EF-8F06-5734E78676744823">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=69916B3E9D715-B3EF-8F06-5734E78676744823</a>
	27/05/2020	<p>Emergency Isolation Financial Support for self-isolating Albertans with no other source of income is now available. Refer to link to check eligibility. Qualifying applicants will receive a one-time payment of \$1,146 through Interac e-Transfer. The payment from the Government of Alberta is meant to provide emergency funds until financial supports from the Government of Canada are available.</p> <p>The Alberta Government announce tax relief measures for the tourism industry. Hotels and other lodging providers can delay paying the tourism levy until August 31st for amounts that become due to government on or after today. <b>This will free up more than \$5 million in additional cash flow for employers – money that can be used to retain staff, maintain operations and continue providing a valuable service.</b> Hotels and other lodging providers are still expected to file returns, as required by legislation, and must continue to collect the tourism levy from guests staying at their properties during this period. Payments deferred until Aug. 31 will not be subject to penalties or interest.</p>	<a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=699322729AFDC-B755-2F62-A90F227077AD0C8D">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=699322729AFDC-B755-2F62-A90F227077AD0C8D</a>
	04/04/2020	<p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investment of \$1.5 billion in the Keystone XL (KXL) pipeline to accelerate construction, create jobs for Albertans and ensure it is operational by 2023 (March 31).</li> <li>Introduction of Bill 11, Tenancies Statues (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act,</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70006F59C34A1-DAA3-C970-FA8F91A676395591">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70006F59C34A1-DAA3-C970-FA8F91A676395591</a>

	04/09/2020	<p>2020, which will ensure no one can be retroactively charged for residential rent increase or late fees while the state of public health emergency is in effect, if passed (March 31).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of Bill 12, Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020, which will provide greater authority for the Orphan Well Association to fast-track well and site cleanup work and boost employment in the oil services sector, if passed (March 31).</li> <li>• Suspension of hospital parking fees for health-care workers and the general public to make worksite transitions easier for health-care professionals and reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread from touch screens and buttons at payment sites (April 2).</li> <li>• Deferral of timber dues for six months to help ensure forestry companies can continue operations and retain staff during the pandemic (April 4).</li> </ul> <p>In response to the COVID-19 recession, the Alberta government will allocate almost \$2 billion from the 2020 Capital Plan to resurface roads, repair bridges, restore schools and fill potholes, all to get thousands of Albertans back to work.</p> <p>Small Business Support Resource launched  →Business Link will serve as a one-stop shop to help small businesses learn about and connect to available COVID-19 supports based on their unique business needs.</p> <p>Business Link can provide one-on-one guidance to Albertans who operate a small business or are pursuing an entrepreneurial venture. Small businesses can access a list of available supports on Business Link’s website, or connect</p>	<p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70048BECAA8D7-08BF-B86B-3E55D7AB543E4E26">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70048BECAA8D7-08BF-B86B-3E55D7AB543E4E26</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70053C437B87D-BC27-A5B2-108674E6BE143FA2">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70053C437B87D-BC27-A5B2-108674E6BE143FA2</a></p>
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	04/12/2020	<p>with a business strategist by phone, email or live chat.</p> <p>Business Link is also offering free programming through June, including webinars on a variety of topics, online events, and free expert sessions with lawyers, accountants, marketing specialists, e-commerce specialists and more.</p> <p>Promoting Agri-jobs &amp; protecting them → new Agriculture Jobs Connector website is a tool for Albertans to find essential agriculture work opportunities and for essential agriculture businesses to find workers.</p> <p>Supporting charitable sector by: Starting April 15, the Alberta government will match, dollar-for-dollar, donations up to \$2 million to Alberta-based charities and non-profit organizations with COVID-19 fundraising campaigns.</p> <p>Summary to date (04/13/2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doubled capital maintenance and renewal (CMR) funding in 2020-21 from \$937 million to \$1.9 billion by accelerating the capital plan, getting thousands of Albertans back to work resurfacing roads, repairing bridges, restoring schools, fixing potholes and more (April 9).</li> <li>• Adjustments to operations to allow employers to appropriately respond to public health measures and allow employees to remain attached to jobs and access federal assistance programs (April 6).</li> <li>• Deferment of specific reporting requirements for energy companies to help this vital industry deal with the devastating downturn caused by COVID-19 (April 8).</li> <li>• One-stop Business Link support for small businesses to help connect them with</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70057CA851834-ABD1-06C4-65B46B070B89E201">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=70057CA851834-ABD1-06C4-65B46B070B89E201</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=7007558C88EA2-0676-88A4-A16942AEB2DF250E">https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=7007558C88EA2-0676-88A4-A16942AEB2DF250E</a></p>
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		<p>COVID-19 supports that meet their unique business needs with services such as one-on-one guidance, webinars, expert sessions legal and financial specialists, and more (April 9).</p> <p>New online resource helping connect out-of-work Albertans with opportunities in the critical agriculture sector to fill jobs and keep the food supply chain operational (April 9).</p>	
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	17/02/2020	<p>The Government of Saskatchewan introduced amendments to The Saskatchewan Employment Act ensuring employees have access to job protected leaves during a public health emergency.</p> <p>The proposed amendments to the Act are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To remove the requirement of 13 consecutive weeks of employment with the employer prior to accessing sick leave</li> <li>• To remove the provision requiring a doctor's note or certificate</li> <li>• Introduction of a new unpaid public health emergency leave that can be accessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ When the World Health Organization has determined that there is a public health emergency and the province's chief medical health officer has also issued an order that measures be taken to reduce the spread of a disease</li> <li>➤ Or, the province's chief medical health officer has independently issued an order that measures be taken provincially to reduce the spread of a disease where it is believed there is sufficient risk of harm to citizens of the province. The orders would also be made public to ensure everyone is aware of the direction.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The amendments to the Act would come into force retroactive to March 6, 2020.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/17/labour-changes-for-employees-during-covid-19">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/17/labour-changes-for-employees-during-covid-19</a></p>

	18/03/2020	<p>The Government of Saskatchewan announced additional work-related updates to those listed above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All crown utilities will implement bill-deferral programs allowing a zero-interest bill deferral for up to six months for Saskatchewan residents whose ability to make bill payments may be impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions.</li> <li>• All Government of Saskatchewan ministries, agencies and Crown corporations will implement a phased-in work from home policy effective Monday, March 23, applicable to employees deemed non-essential. This means that any employees able to work from home should do so immediately, while providing managers a period to plan for work-force continuity.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/18/covid-19-state-of-emergency">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/18/covid-19-state-of-emergency</a></p>
	20/03/2020	<p>Premier Scott Moe announces financial support plan for Saskatchewan employers and employees hit by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These new measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Self-Isolation Support Program, which will provide \$450 per week, for a maximum of two weeks or \$900. The Self-Isolation Support Program is targeted at Saskatchewan residents forced to self-isolate that are not covered by recent federally announced employment insurance programs and other supports. The program is designed to ensure that all Saskatchewan residents are covered by either a federal or provincial program to ensure no one is faced with choosing to work instead of protecting their family and community from COVID-19 by self-isolating.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/20/covid-19-financial-support">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/20/covid-19-financial-support</a></p>



- Three Month PST Remittance Deferral and Audit Suspension
- Crown Utility Interest Deferral Programs
- Changes to Employment Standard Regulations. In addition to changes made to changes to The Saskatchewan Employment Act that introduced a new unpaid public health emergency leave and removed the 13-week employment requirement to access sick leave and the requirement for a doctor's note to access sick leave, *The Employment Standard Regulations* have been amended to:
  - Ensure that during a public emergency, businesses will not have to provide notice or pay in lieu of notice when they lay-off staff if it is for a period of 12 weeks or less in a 16-week period.
  - And if an employer lays off employees periodically for a total of more than 12 weeks in a 16-week period, the employees are considered to be terminated and are entitled to pay instead of notice as outlined in the Act. This will be calculated from the date on which the employee was laid off.

23/03/2020

The Government of Saskatchewan has launched a Business Response Team to support businesses in the province dealing with the economic challenges resulting from COVID-19. The Business Response Team, led by the Ministry of Trade and Export Development, will work with businesses to identify program supports available to them both provincially and federally. An email address and toll-free telephone number have been created to provide businesses a single point of contact to help answer

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/23/business-response-team>

	04/09/2020	<p>questions: 1-844-800-8688 and <a href="mailto:supportforbusiness@gov.sk.ca">supportforbusiness@gov.sk.ca</a></p> <p>Saskatchewan small businesses will receive additional provincial support to help deal with current COVID-19 challenges through the new <b>Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment (SSBEP)</b>.</p> <p>The \$50 million program will provide financial support to small and medium-sized businesses that have had to temporarily close or significantly curtail operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The SSBEP provides a 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' monthly sales revenue, to a maximum of \$5,000.</p> <p>To be eligible for the SSBEP, a business must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have been fully operational on February 29, 2020;</li> <li>• have ceased or curtailed operations as a result of the COVID-19 public health order;</li> <li>• have less than 500 employees; and</li> <li>• commit to reopen business operations following the cancellation of the COVID-19 public health order.</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/april/09/small-business-support">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/april/09/small-business-support</a> (application)</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/april/09/small-business-support">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/april/09/small-business-support</a></p>
	04/13/2020	<p>Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority (FCAA) is informing Saskatchewan businesses that grossly</p>	

excessive pricing of products or services during a period of crisis that takes advantage of consumers who are unable to protect their own interests due to the impact of the crisis is not permitted. Businesses could face regulatory action and prosecution if found to have engaged in this conduct as it is an unfair business practice contrary to *The Consumer Protection and Business Practices Act*.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/april/13/price-gouging>

04/14/2020

Oil Industry Supports

Provincial relief measures by the Government of Saskatchewan include:

- Extending a series of filing and other deadlines to assist the oil and gas sector in stabilizing operations, as their employees transition to working from home. These extensions do not impact health or environmental safety and apply to routine reporting activities, which will be addressed when the sector returns to normal operations.
- Extending mineral rights, scheduled to expire in 2020, by one year. This includes rights granted under the terms of an oil and gas lease, exploration license or permit. The extension will provide oil and gas disposition holders with the time necessary to properly evaluate their properties once the current situation stabilizes.

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/april/14/oil-industry-support>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing the industry portion of the Oil and Gas Administrative Levy by 50 per cent this fiscal year and delaying the invoicing of the remaining balance until October 1, 2020. This will provide the sector with relief of \$11.4 million to address immediate liquidity challenges. (It is important to note that unlike other sectors, the oil and gas sector pays for 90 per cent of its own regulatory costs).</li> </ul>	
<b>British Columbia</b>	23/03/2020	<p>The B.C. government has announced their COVID-19 Action Plan, making two major changes to the Employment Standards Act: The B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers and the enhanced B.C. Climate Action Tax Credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers will provide a tax-free \$1,000 payment to British Columbians whose ability to work has been affected by the outbreak. The benefit will be a one-time payment for British Columbians who receive federal Employment Insurance (EI), or the new federal Emergency Care Benefit or Emergency Support Benefit as a result of COVID-19 impacts. This includes workers who have been laid-off, who are sick or quarantined, parents with sick children, parents who stay at home from work while child care centres and schools are closed, and those caring for sick family members, such as an elderly parent. The workers can be EI-eligible and non-EI eligible, such as the self-employed. The benefit will be paid to B.C. residents, in addition to their federal income supports.</li> </ul>	<p>Announcement:  <a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/covid-19-financial-supports#BCEBW">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/covid-19-financial-supports#BCEBW</a></p> <p>Business Supports in BC:  <a href="https://smallbusinessbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID-19-Small-Business-Supports-1.pdf">https://smallbusinessbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID-19-Small-Business-Supports-1.pdf</a></p>

- Boosting income supports by increasing and expanding the B.C. Climate Action Tax Credit in July 2020. Eligible families of four will receive up to \$564 and eligible individuals will receive up to \$218 in an enhanced payment. This boosts the regular climate action tax credit payment of up to \$112.50 per family of four and up to \$43.50 per adult.

In terms of supporting B.C businesses, the province has announced:

- Effective immediately businesses with a payroll over \$500,000 can defer their employer health tax payments until Sept. 30, 2020.
- The province will also be extending tax filing and payment deadlines for the provincial sales tax (PST), municipal and regional district tax on short-term accommodation, tobacco tax, motor fuel tax and carbon tax until Sept. 30, 2020. The scheduled April 1 increase to the provincial carbon tax, as well as the new PST registration requirements on e-commerce and the implementation of PST on sweetened carbonated drinks, will be delayed and their timing will be reviewed by Sept. 30, 2020.
- Business and light- and major-industry property classes will see their school tax cut in half. This will provide \$500 million in immediate relief for business that own their property and allow commercial landlords to immediately pass savings on to their tenants in triple-net leases.

Also created a new information hotline solely dedicated to answering non-medical questions about COVID-19. Service providers at the new phone line will help answer questions about travel recommendations, social distancing, and what kinds

	01/04/2020	<p><u>of support, resources and assistance are available from the provincial and federal governments.</u> The new hotline, which can be reached by calling 1-888-COVID19 or 1-888-268-4319, will be staffed from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day with information available in more than 110 languages.</p> <p>BC Hydro will offer new, targeted bill relief to provide immediate help individuals, small businesses and industries in need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential customers who have lost their jobs or are unable to work as a result of COVID-19 will receive a credit to help cover the cost of their electricity bills. The credit will be three times their average monthly bill over the past year at their home and does not have to be repaid.</li> <li>• Small businesses that have been forced to close due to COVID-19 will have their power bills forgiven for three months. BC Hydro is waiving bills for these customers from April to June 2020.</li> <li>• Major industries, like pulp and paper mills and mines, will have the opportunity to defer 50% of their bill payments for three months.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0018-000611">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0018-000611</a></p>
	02/04/2020	<p>Announced additional financial support for vulnerable populations in the province. For people in B.C. currently receiving income assistance or disability assistance, the Province will temporarily exempt federal employment insurance benefits, including the new \$2,000 Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). These payments will be fully exempted for the next three months so people receiving income assistance and disability assistance in B.C. will benefit from these new emergency federal support programs, without any reductions to their monthly assistance payments.</p>	<p><a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020SDPR0012-000620">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020SDPR0012-000620</a></p>

	03/04/2020	<p>For everyone on income assistance or disability assistance who is not eligible for the emergency federal support programs, including the CERB, the Province will provide an automatic \$300-monthly COVID-19 crisis supplement for the next three months</p> <p>The province has launched a new Economic Recovery Task Force. The task force will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help ensure the benefits of provincial programs are reaching their intended targets and complement federal programs</li> <li>• Explore issues around the designation of essential and critical services; child care and other supports for essential workers</li> <li>• Safe workplace operations for businesses operating now, as well as those restarting after the crisis.</li> <li>• Discuss long-term economic recovery following COVID-19.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0046-000618">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0046-000618</a></p>
	04/14/2020	<p>All temporary foreign workers (TFWs) arriving in British Columbia for seasonal farm work will be required to self-isolate in government-managed accommodations for 14 days prior to being transported to farms throughout B.C. during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p><a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EMBC0020-000689">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EMBC0020-000689</a></p>
	04/15/2020	<p>To improve travel for commercial truck drivers, the Government of B.C. is funding the installation of portable toilets at several commercial vehicle pull-outs, inspection stations and chain-up locations throughout the province</p>	<p><a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020TRAN0056-000690">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020TRAN0056-000690</a></p>

<p><b>Nova Scotia</b></p>	<p>20/03/2020</p>	<p>The Nova Scotia government will invest \$161 million to address cash flow and access to credit for small and medium-sized businesses in Nova Scotia.</p> <p>Government will defer payments until June 30 for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <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 Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, administered through credit unions, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deferring principal and interest payments until June 30</li> <li>• enhancing the program to make it easier for businesses to access credit up to \$500,000</li> <li>• those who might not qualify for a loan, government will guarantee the first \$100,000</li> </ul> <p>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> <li>• ensuring more Nova Scotians can access the internet to work from home, by providing \$15 million as an incentive to providers to speed up projects under the Internet for Nova Scotia Initiative and complete them as soon as possible</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=2020032003">https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=2020032003</a></p>
	<p>27/03/2020</p>	<p>Announced that the government is encouraging retail and commercial landlords to defer lease payments for the next three months for businesses that had to</p>	<p><a href="https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=2020032704">https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=2020032704</a></p>



	02/04/2020	<p>close directly due to the public health order. Landlords who participate by granting such businesses a three month deferral and register by April 3 will be able to claim losses of up to \$5,000 per month, if the renting business does not continue operating. Landlords are not permitted to change locks or seize property of businesses who cannot pay rent, if the business closed directly because of COVID-19 public health orders.</p> <p>Announced new measures announced to help businesses in the province:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A \$20 million Worker Emergency Bridge Fund to help the self-employed and those laid-off workers who do not qualify for Employment Insurance. Government will provide a one-time, \$1,000 payment, to bridge the gap between layoffs and closures and the federal government’s Canada Emergency Response Benefit</li><li>2. \$20 million to fund a new program -- the Small Business Impact Grant. Eligible small businesses and social enterprises will receive a grant of 15 per cent of their revenue from sales -- either from April 2019 or February 2020, up to a maximum of \$5,000. This flexible, one-time, upfront grant can be used for any purpose necessary</li></ol> <p>Today’s announcements, totalling \$40 million, will come out of a new \$50 million fund that will be administered by Dalhousie University in Halifax.</p>	<p><a href="https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20200402005">https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20200402005</a></p>
	04/13/2020	<p>Small businesses, non-profits, or charities ordered to close or substantively curtail their operations under the COVID-19 public health order may be eligible for the Small Business Impact Grant. The one-time grant is equal to 15% of sales revenue from either April 2019 or February 2020, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per business.</p>	

		<p>You can choose which month will be used to calculate the grant amount.</p> <p>Info: <a href="https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/Small-Business-Impact-Grant-guidelines.pdf">https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/Small-Business-Impact-Grant-guidelines.pdf</a></p>	<p><a href="https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/Small-Business-Impact-Grant-guidelines.pdf">https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/docs/Small-Business-Impact-Grant-guidelines.pdf</a></p>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	18/03/2020	<p>P.E.I. Premier Dennis King announces \$25M COVID-19 Emergency Contingency Fund has been announced to help Islanders, employees, small business operators and other employers who have been financially affected by the virus.</p> <p>Support announced as of March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deferring all scheduled loan payments for clients of Finance PEI, Island Investment Development Inc., and the PEI Century Fund for the next 3 months;</li> <li>• providing \$4.5 million to Community Business Development Corporations across the province to deliver financing to small business and entrepreneurs; and</li> <li>• a temporary allowance of \$200 per week for anyone who has experienced a significant drop in their working hours. <b>[UPDATE: \$250 as of 20/03/2020)</b></li> </ul> <p>In response to the closure of provincially licensed early childhood centres, new measures to support childhood educators/childcare operators include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are eligible for employment insurance benefits;</li> <li>• Provincial operational grants and subsidies are continued;</li> <li>• The ability to apply for business support grants is provided.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-more-financial-support-islanders">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-more-financial-support-islanders</a></p>

	<p>24/03/2020</p>	<p>Additionally, emergency child care services will be available to essential workers who have no other alternative during this pandemic.</p> <p>Minister of Economic Development Matthew MacKay said a phone line has been developed to address the needs of the Island's employers beginning at 8 a.m. on March 16, 2020 and will operate daily until 8 p.m. That phone number is 1-866-222-1751.</p> <p>The Province has announced additional financial support by partnering with Sobeys Inc. to provide gift cards to Islanders who have been laid off as a direct result of the pandemic. The Employee Gift Card Program is a temporary program put in place to offer a \$100 Sobeys gift card to any employee, living and working on Prince Edward Island, who has received a lay-off notice as a direct result of the impacts associated with COVID-19. The application form is to be completed by the employer, who will then distribute the cards to affected employees. The eligibility for the program has been expanded to include any Islander laid off between March 13 -31 regardless of their hourly wage as of 27/03/2020.</p> <p><b>To date, the programs that have been established from the \$25 million COVID-19 Emergency Contingency Fund to support Island workers, the self-employed and small business now include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Income Relief Fund for the self-employed,</li> <li>• Emergency Working Capital Financing for small business, and</li> <li>• Emergency Relief Worker Assistance Program for employers to provide temporary financial support to their employees who have experienced a significant reduction in their hours of work.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-additional-supports-for-individuals-and-families">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-additional-supports-for-individuals-and-families</a></p>
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	27/03/2020	<p>Apply for any/all of these programs at:  <a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/for-business">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/for-business</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/provincial-update-covid-19-initiatives">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/provincial-update-covid-19-initiatives</a></p>
	30/03/2020	<p>Minister of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture Matthew MacKay announced the expansion of the <a href="#">PEI Broadband Fund</a> to support equipment and installation of Mi-Fi units and Wi-Fi Signal Boosters for businesses and the self-employed.</p> <p>Premier announced two key initiatives to engage Islanders and the business community in identifying opportunities to address economic and supply challenges due to COVID-19 and support Islanders who need help now.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Established Premier's Economic Recovery Council, a strategic business working group made up of individuals from across business sectors to advise the Premier on the issues being faced by the business community in PEI, and potential opportunities.</li> <li>2. Launched the PEI Sourced Solutions, an online portal to help Island residents and businesses meet the challenges of the pandemic, including the need for medical supplies, virtual care services, or to share ideas on how the province can help businesses and industries weather the impacts of COVID-19.</li> </ol>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/premier-announces-initiatives-to-support-covid-19-specific-needs">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/premier-announces-initiatives-to-support-covid-19-specific-needs</a></p>
	01/04/2020	<p>Province announced more financial support for Islanders whose income has been impacted as a direct result of the public health state of emergency. The COVID-19 Income Support Program will help Islanders bridge the gap between their loss of income and Employment Insurance benefits or the Canada Emergency Response Benefit. This fund provides a one-time, taxable payment of \$750.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-additional-income-relief-stricter-screening-measures-travelers">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-additional-income-relief-stricter-screening-measures-travelers</a></p>

	02/04/2020	<p>Islanders who, as of March 13, 2020, have lost their job or have been laid off, have had their Employment Insurance benefits expire and do not yet have a job to return to, or are self-employed and have lost all revenues through self-employment may be eligible.</p> <p>To qualify, Islanders must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be 18 years of age or older;</li> <li>• be a resident of Prince Edward Island as of December 31, 2019;</li> <li>• have earned a minimum of \$5,000 gross earnings in the last 12 months;</li> <li>• lost their primary source of income because of COVID-19 and have no other income; and</li> <li>• have applied for federal benefits (e.g. Employment Insurance or the Canada Emergency Response Benefit).</li> </ul> <p>Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy, Steven Myers announced a \$1,000,000 fund for Islanders who may not qualify for existing support programs. The <i>COVID-19 Special Situations Fund</i> will provide up to \$1,000 to Islanders who have experienced urgent income loss as a result of COVID-19 and are not eligible for other federal and provincial funding support. Islanders are to review the various programs available and if they do not qualify they may be eligible for support.</p> <p>Islanders can call 1-833-533-9333 to apply for support under the fund, which will be available until June 16, 2020.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-covid-19-special-situations-fund">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-announces-covid-19-special-situations-fund</a></p>
	03/04/2020	<p>To help address the non-health related impacts of COVID-19 on Islanders, the Province of Prince Edward Island announced an initial \$25 million Emergency Contingency Fund to support new provincial programs and the expansion of current programs. These investments were made in conversation with the federal</p>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-provides-covid-19-economic-update-confirms-property-tax-relief">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-provides-covid-19-economic-update-confirms-property-tax-relief</a></p>

	04/13/2020	<p>government to ensure that provincial supports to Islanders would not be clawed back, would address gaps and that no Islander would be left behind.</p> <p>Today, Finance Minister Darlene Compton announced a \$15 million increase to the Emergency Contingency Fund in anticipation of the evolving critical needs of Island families, workers and businesses.</p> <p>Minister Compton also outlined additional financial measures to help Islanders with property tax relief through amendments to the Real Property Tax Act regulations, including the option to defer property tax payment.</p> <p>The measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deferring provincial property tax and fee payments until December 31, 2020;</li> <li>• Extending property assessment appeal deadlines for assessment year 2020 to December 31, 2020;</li> <li>• Providing interest relief for tax year 2020, including all past due amounts;</li> <li>• Suspending tax sale processes for the remainder of 2020; and</li> <li>• Delaying mailing of provincial tax bills for 2020 until June.</li> </ul> <p>Minister Thompson announced a new \$750,000 <i>COVID-19 Strategic Fund for Agriculture</i> under the Canada Agriculture Partnership to help commodities and small processors adapt to the pandemic. Eligible projects could include changing a workplace environment to accommodate physical distancing, doing more business on-line, or adjusting quickly to changing markets. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year, \$37 million investment in strategic initiatives for Prince Edward</p>	<p><a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-supports-agriculture-and-trucking-industries">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/province-supports-agriculture-and-trucking-industries</a></p>
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		Island agriculture by the federal and provincial governments.	
<b>New Brunswick</b>	16/03/2020	The New Brunswick Government has announced that all non-essential public sector employees will be ask to stay at home with pay. The province is also working with provincial unions to develop workers' mobility agreements to facilitate workers' mobility into jobs.	<a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0128.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0128.html</a>
	20/03/2020	The department of Education and Early Childhood Development has committed to covering the fees of anyone who has lost their income due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. It will also continue to provide parent subsidies as scheduled. Parents are encouraged to visit the department's website for more information and to determine if they qualify for assistance.	<a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0143.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0143.html</a>
	24/03/2020	The Government of New Brunswick will provide a one-time \$900 income benefit to either workers or self-employed people in New Brunswick who have lost their job due to the pandemic. The benefit will be administered through the Red Cross and is meant to bridge the time between the when people lose their employment and when they receive their federal benefits.	<a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0152.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0152.html</a>
	26/03/2020	New Brunswick Government website published a comprehensive list of all financial supports now available for workers impacted by COVID-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Income support for workers:</b> outlined above on 24/03/2020, this will be a \$4.5 million investment for workers who have recently become unemployed. The benefit will help to bridge the gap between when a person lost their job or closed their business after March 15, to when the national benefit</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0157.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.03.0157.html</a>

takes effect. The objective will be to provide access to the benefit before the end of March. The benefit will end on April 30.

- **Job protection for workers:** Introduced legislation that will allow an unpaid leave of up to 15 weeks to New Brunswickers who have COVID-19 or are caring for someone with the virus.
- **Elimination of interest on WorkSafeNB assessment premiums:** WorkSafeNB is deferring the collection of assessment premiums for three months. The current interest rate is prime plus three per cent. The rate will be reduced to zero per cent to align with the three-month deferral.
- **Deferring interest and principal payments on existing Government of New Brunswick loans:** On a case-by-case basis, the provincial government will defer loan and interest repayments for existing business loans with government departments for up to six months. Businesses can request deferrals by contacting the department that issued the loan.
- **Up to \$25 million in working capital for New Brunswick small business owners:** Small business owners will be eligible for loans up to \$200,000. They will not be required to pay principal on their loan for up to 12 months.
- **Up to \$25 million in working capital for medium-sized to large employers:** The province will provide working capital of more than \$200,000 to help medium-sized to large employers manage the effects of COVID-19 on their operations. Businesses can apply directly to Opportunities NB for this support.



	04/06/2020	<p>A pandemic task force has been established by the provincial government to help combat COVID-19, the novel coronavirus.</p> <p>The task force will be vested with decision-making authority about the pandemic response for all aspects of the health-care system, including the regional health authorities, Extra-Mural and Ambulance New Brunswick, primary care, and the long-term care system.</p>	<a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.04.0184.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2020.04.0184.html</a>
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	14/03/2020	<p>To compensate for the requirement that anyone returning after travelling outside the country is required to self-isolate for a period of 14 days upon their return to Canada, the Newfoundland and Labrador Government will provide compensation to private sector employers to ensure continuation of pay for employees affected by this decision.</p> <p>Details on the required documentation and processes for reimbursement to private sector employers will be released in the coming days. Employees should retain documents regarding their travel (such as boarding passes) to facilitate reimbursement.</p> <p>Provincial public sector employees affected by this decision will continue to be paid as usual.</p> <p>Only those individuals who are scheduled to return to work within this period will be compensated. Anyone travelling outside of the country after March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 will do so against public health advice, and will not be eligible for this compensation. Any public service employee who enters self-isolation who has the ability to work from home is expected to do so.</p>	<a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0314n02/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0314n02/</a>
	16/03/2020		<a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0316n05/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0316n05/</a>

	<p>22/03/2020</p>	<p>The Newfoundland and Labrador Government announced Business Continuity Plans for public service employees. Programs and service delivery will transition from normal operations to a focus on maintaining critical services. As a result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees already deemed critical to their organization's operations are expected to report to work as normal;</li> <li>• Any other employees required to report to work in-person or at-home on Tuesday, March 17 will be contacted by 9:00 p.m. tonight (Monday, March 16) by their senior management;</li> <li>• Employees required to work from home but who need to visit their office for computers or equipment will be advised by their senior management when it is appropriate to do so, as long as they are not self-isolating due to recent international travel or presenting symptoms;</li> <li>• All other employees should stay at home until advised otherwise. However, they should remain available for possible deployment if required; and,</li> <li>• Out of necessity this direction does not apply to employees in the health care sector. Direction for these employees will come from the regional health authorities.</li> </ul> <p>To ensure families do not have to pay child care fees and that early childhood educators can continue to be paid while centres are closed due to COVID-19, the Provincial Government will provide funding to regulated child care centres and family child care homes at the child care subsidy program rates for all licensed spaces. This assistance will be in place until April 30 and will be reassessed if closures are still in place at that time.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/eecd/0322n02/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/eecd/0322n02/</a></p>
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	<p>24/03/2020</p> <p>26/03/2020</p>	<p>Announced that more than \$120 million in core funding is being allocated for community-based organizations to continue their important work in supporting families and communities. This investment will be for the 2020-21 fiscal year and help community groups respond to the pressures being experienced in communities in the wake of the COVID-19 global pandemic.</p> <p>Announced an urgent sitting of the House of Assembly to respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic. The legislative amendments are in addition to the other initiatives that have been actioned to support employees and businesses outlined above. Amendments introduced today include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide employees with protections from losing their job if they must take time away from work as a result of COVID-19. Additional information is outlined in the backgrounder below.</li> <li>• Ensure tenants of rental properties cannot be evicted if they have lost income resulting from COVID-19 and not able to pay rent.</li> <li>• Extend interim supply to September 30, 2020, in the event that the House of Assembly is disrupted into June 2020. This ensures that existing government services such as health care can continue.</li> <li>• Introduce \$200 million in contingency funding to address the impacts of COVID-19 and reduced oil prices.</li> <li>• Provide long-term borrowing authority of \$2 billion. This will allow for ongoing government operations, as well as the ability to respond to current revenue volatility.</li> <li>• Authorize the temporary variation of deadlines and time periods which an activity</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0324n04/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0324n04/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0326n03/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/exec/0326n03/</a></p>
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	30/03/2020	<p>needs to be done such as annual reports and audit reviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include changes to the Hydro Corporation Act, 2007 to authorize additional borrowing capacity to protect against a potential reduction in revenues as a result of COVID-19.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/fin/0330n03/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/fin/0330n03/</a>
	04/07/2020	<p>Deadline extended for Fuel Tax Exemption Permits until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020. Extension of the exemption will ensure permit holders (primarily fishers), are not negatively impacted by any inability to apply for a permit extension or processing delays resulting from COVID-19.</p> <p>Businesses allowed to remain open during Good Friday.</p> <p>Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Provincial Government is asking all individuals and businesses that receive payments from the Provincial Government via cheque to transition to electronic payments as soon as possible. Given the impacts that COVID-19 has had on delivery services in the province, the Provincial Government cannot guarantee individuals and businesses will receive cheque payments in a timely manner.</p>	<a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/aesl/0406n03/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/aesl/0406n03/</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/fin/0403n04/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2020/fin/0403n04/</a>
<b>Yukon</b>	16/03/2020	<p>Premier of Yukon, Sandy Silver, has announced an economic stimulus package to support local workers and businesses impacted by COVID-19. This money is being made available to help offset the negative impacts of the evolving global situation. The stimulus package will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Yukon workers through a COVID-19 related 14-day isolation with paid sick leave;</li> </ul>	<a href="https://yukon.ca/en/news/premier-silver-announces-stimulus-package-support-businesses-and-workers">https://yukon.ca/en/news/premier-silver-announces-stimulus-package-support-businesses-and-workers</a>

	<p>25/03/2020</p> <p>26/03/2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the negative impact of COVID-19 by establishing a grant program to address certain expenses related to cancelled events;</li> <li>• Stimulate business and the tourism industry by waiving, reimbursing or delaying government fee collection, such as airport landing fees;</li> <li>• Relieve financial pressures by deferring Workers' Compensation Health and Safety premium payments and reimburse those paid up-front, waive penalties and interest (with approval by the Board);</li> <li>• Support the tourism industry with enhanced local advertising efforts;</li> <li>• Support the cultural industry by honouring transfer payment agreements considering COVID-19 related impacts; and</li> <li>• continue to monitor the economic impacts of COVID-19 by establishing a Business Advisory Council to gather information and share with government.</li> </ul> <p>The Government of Yukon will continue to work closely with the Government of Canada to access all available federal funding, and to maximize existing funds to keep Yukoners working and Yukon projects going ahead.</p> <p>The Government of Yukon has established a COVID-19 Business Advisory Council to address concerns for the province's businesses.</p> <p>A new rebate program for Yukon employers to benefit workers and self-employed individuals in response to the economic impacts of COVID-19 was announced by Minister Pillai.</p> <p><b>The Paid Sick Leave Program</b> allows Yukon workers or those self-employed who are without sick leave to stay at home if they are sick and required to</p>	<p><a href="https://yukon.ca/en/news/government-yukon-establishes-covid-19-business-advisory-council">https://yukon.ca/en/news/government-yukon-establishes-covid-19-business-advisory-council</a></p> <p><a href="https://yukon.ca/en/news/new-financial-support-yukon-businesses-and-workers">https://yukon.ca/en/news/new-financial-support-yukon-businesses-and-workers</a></p>
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	<p>01/04/2020</p> <p>04/06/2020</p>	<p>self-isolate for 14 days and still meet their basic financial needs. All eligible Yukon employers and self-employed individuals may apply.</p> <p>Minister Pillai also announced temporary changes to the Yukon Nominee Program during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Yukon nominees who experience lay offs or reduced work hours will not be issued the standard 90-day notice to find new employment.</p> <p>Announced the Temporary Support for Events Funding Program, which will help businesses recover certain costs from the cancellation of major events due to COVID-19. These costs relate specifically to perishable goods and the cancellation of accommodation and services.</p> <p>Yukon’s licensed child care centres and family day homes will receive additional funding to provide care to children during the COVID-19 response and beyond it. The Government of Yukon will cover staff wages as well as eligible building expenses, including rent, utilities and cleaning costs. The funding will support child care operators and enable them to avoid charging parent fees as Yukon responds to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>If a child care centre remains open, the Direct Operating Grant will provide 100 per cent of eligible building costs for March, April, May and June 2020, as well as wages for all working staff, including the employer’s contribution for Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan and the Yukon Workers’ Compensation Health and Safety Board.</p>	<p><a href="https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-businesses-benefit-funding-cancelled-events">https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-businesses-benefit-funding-cancelled-events</a></p> <p><a href="https://yukon.ca/en/news/child-care-operators-receive-additional-funding">https://yukon.ca/en/news/child-care-operators-receive-additional-funding</a></p>
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	04/13/2020	<p>If a child care centre is closed, the grant will cover 100 per cent of eligible building costs</p> <p>Yukon businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic will receive funding from the Government of Yukon to cover fixed business costs, including rent, utilities and business insurance.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Yukon Business Relief Program</a> will help Yukon businesses that have experienced a 30 per cent reduction in revenue and require immediate relief. Eligible businesses can apply for a grant of up to \$30,000 per month to cover fixed costs from March 23 to May 22, 2020.</p>	<p><a href="https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-businesses-receive-relief-funding">https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-businesses-receive-relief-funding</a></p>
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	17/03/2020	<p>As of March 19<sup>th</sup> 2020, the majority of GNWT employees will be asked to work from home until further notice.</p> <p>Employees who have been deemed to be providing critical services requiring on site presence will be expected to report to work in person as normal. Any employee who has been deemed critical and requiring onsite presence will be contacted by 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 18 by management.</p> <p>All other employees will be asked to work from home as of Thursday, March 19. All employees regardless of the particular circumstance will continue to be paid through regular time, or through a form of paid leave (Special leave if caring for an ill dependent, providing childcare or self-isolating, or Sick Leave if ill).</p>	<p><a href="https://my.hr.gov.nt.ca/node/5577">https://my.hr.gov.nt.ca/node/5577</a></p>

	20/03/2020	<p>Going forward and until further notice, the GNWT will not require employees to obtain a sick note to access sick leave.</p> <p>The NWT Government have put together an initial economic relief package valued at \$13.2 Million dollars that will take effect immediately. This package is intended to work in concert with federal incentives under Canada's \$27 billion COVID-19 Economic Response Plan announced earlier this week. Measures included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offering low interest loans to businesses to help offset up to one month of COVID-19 impacts. This will also be available to new BDIC clients.</li> <li>• Begin work to establish an Advisory Council to help identify the economic impacts of the pandemic; represent the business community; and ensure that the items most critical to local economies and jobs are targeted for medium and long term government support.</li> <li>• Extension of the due date for Employer Assessment Payments from April 1 to May 1, 2020.</li> <li>• Increase funding available for the Income Assistance program.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/northwest-territories-covid-19-economic-relief">https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/northwest-territories-covid-19-economic-relief</a></p>
	31/03/2020	<p>NWT Government has announced additional support for people, businesses, and communities in response to COVID-19. This new relief package complements the first wave of measures announced earlier this month (20/03/2020) creating a total of value of \$21.459 million in GNWT COVID-19 support announced to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income Assistance increases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introducing a one-time emergency allowance for income assistance recipients that will provide \$500 to</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/caroline-wawzonek-supporting-people-businesses-and-communities-response-covid-19">https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/caroline-wawzonek-supporting-people-businesses-and-communities-response-covid-19</a></p>



	04/06/2020	<p>single recipients, and \$1000 to households with two or more people to ensure that they have appropriate cleaning supplies, and are prepared for a 14 day period of self-isolation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Providing additional benefits to Income Assistance clients by excluding 'gifts and unearned income' from the calculation of earned income until June 30, 2020. This change will ensure that income assistance clients are able to keep whatever money they are given or earn over the next several months.</li> <li>• \$1 million in GNWT financial relief will also be provided to help support critical aviation businesses that our communities and economy rely upon.</li> </ul> <p>The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) recently made the announcement on the second wave of financial relief measures being put in place in response to COVID-19.</p> <p>If you or a loved one has been affected by employment changes or need extra help during this rapidly changing time; the department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) has made changes to the Income Assistance and Seniors Benefits programs to help residents and their families.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/income-assistance-and-seniors-benefits-changes">https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/income-assistance-and-seniors-benefits-changes</a></p>
<b>Nunavut</b>	18/03/2020	<p>Premier Joe Savikataaq announced that the Government of Nunavut (GN) will begin transition to have non-essential public servants work from home. These measures will fully come into effect by end of day, Friday, March 20. Essential service positions will continue to work in-office, as much as possible.</p>	<p><a href="https://gov.nu.ca/executive-and-intergovernmental-affairs/news/government-nunavut-transitioning-work-home-procedures">https://gov.nu.ca/executive-and-intergovernmental-affairs/news/government-nunavut-transitioning-work-home-procedures</a></p>
	19/03/2020	<p>Nunavut Government approved \$531,000 to cover potential lost fees for Nunavut's child care workers in</p>	<p><a href="https://gov.nu.ca/executive-and-intergovernmental-affairs/news/covid-19-gn-update-march-19-2020">https://gov.nu.ca/executive-and-intergovernmental-affairs/news/covid-19-gn-update-march-19-2020</a></p>

	23/03/2020	<p>licensed facilities, so that they do not have to worry about lost wages.</p> <p>Nunavut's Department of Finance announced that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All GN employees will continue to be paid as scheduled. Non-standard pay such as overtime and acting pay and any recoveries (including AWOL and LWOP) will be processed at a later date.</li> <li>• Indeterminate employees will receive regular salary.</li> <li>• All casual employees have been extended to May 15 and do not need to submit timesheets.</li> <li>• Relief employees who have worked from March 21 to April 3 need to submit timesheets to <a href="mailto:igaluitpayoffice@gov.nu.ca">igaluitpayoffice@gov.nu.ca</a> by 5 p.m. on April 3.</li> <li>• Employees who receive cheques will continue to receive them as usual. For those who receive direct deposit, paystubs will be issued at a later date.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nu.ca/finance/news/covid-19-department-finance-services-update">https://www.gov.nu.ca/finance/news/covid-19-department-finance-services-update</a></p>
	27/03/2020	<p>The Department of Economic Development and Transportation will provide immediate short-term relief to Nunavut businesses through its Small Business Support Program. Eligible businesses can apply for up to \$5,000 in support in the form of a non-repayable contribution.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.nu.ca/economic-development-and-transportation/news/covid-19-department-economic-development-and">https://www.gov.nu.ca/economic-development-and-transportation/news/covid-19-department-economic-development-and</a></p>

***If you are an independent contractor or run your own business***

To support businesses and individuals during this challenging time, the Government of Canada and the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) have enacted various measures to help mitigate financial obstacles. This includes offering [small business loans](#) Up to \$100,000 that can be obtained online, a necessary and accessible option during this period of self-isolation and social-distancing. Additionally, offering [working capital loans](#) which allow extra funds to bridge cash flow gaps and support everyday operations. BDC is also offering [purchase order financing](#), in order to increase cash flow to fulfill domestic or international orders with very flexible terms. Advisory Services experts at BDC are also available for tools and support to review businesses [financial management](#) and [operations](#).

