

## **Supports in Response to COVID-19**

- ***Government of Canada Resources*** – find all sorts of information on the Government of Canada website here <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

- ***Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy*** See <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/the-canada-emergency-wage-subsidy.html>

The program will be in place for a 12-week period, from March 15 to June 6, 2020.

- Eligible employers would be able to access the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy by applying through the CRA online portal. Employers have to reapply monthly.
  - Timeline expectations are that employers will receive the wage subsidy six weeks after applying.
  - Here is a great resource article <https://www.torontonews.online/2020/04/03/applications-for-canada-emergency-response-benefit-starts-on-monday-what-you-need-to-know/>
  - Other Resources for Canadian Businesses <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/maintaingrowimprovebusiness/resources-for-canadian-businesses.html>
  - Frequently Asked Questions – Temporary Wage Subsidy <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/frequently-asked-questions-wage-subsidy-small-businesses.html#h1>
- **The [Canada Emergency Response Benefit](#)** - This needs to be applied for separately and will be delivered through the Canada Revenue Agency, not the EI program.
    - **Important information for workers who have lost their jobs or are unable to work:**
      - Workers should continue to apply for [Employment Insurance](#) benefits.
      - Individuals who have already applied for Employment Insurance will be automatically enrolled for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.
      - For further info on EI versus CERB, see this article provided by *Sara at Lakeland HR Solutions* - <https://www.lakelandhr.ca/post/selecting-between-ei-and-cerb-while-off-work-due-to-covid-19?fbclid=IwAR3lBrvvpzdM9eNh6FOKvbOCpx7Y7Cemi9ewf3HhTuB2K5solJN9igJ2BI>
  - ***Government of Alberta Essential Services Listing*** - Businesses currently permitted to provide services at locations accessible to the public see <https://www.alberta.ca/essential-services.aspx>
  - **BDC announces additional measures to provide relief for Canadian entrepreneurs** see [https://www.bdc.ca/en/about/mediaroom/news\\_releases/pages/bdc-announces-additional-measures-provide-relief-canadian-entrepreneurs.aspx](https://www.bdc.ca/en/about/mediaroom/news_releases/pages/bdc-announces-additional-measures-provide-relief-canadian-entrepreneurs.aspx)
  - ***COVID-19 Supports for business and individuals*** - For more information on the variety of supports available for individuals and business see <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-supports-for-albertans.aspx>

- ***Looking at the layoffs?*** Here is some helpful info to support you and your employees [Thinking about Layoffs](#) (this publication is dated however, general content is still relevant). For further information and supports see [Alberta Employment Standards](#)
  - *Temporary changes have been made to Employment Standards and there are a number of other resources and information on deferral programs in Alberta at <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-support-for-employers.aspx>*
- ***Check out the Federal Work-share program*** - The Work-Sharing program is implementing temporary special measures to support employers and employees affected by the downturn in business caused by COVID-19. The new temporary special measures are available to employers impacted directly or indirectly by COVID-19. The measures allows for eligible employers to retain skilled employees and workers to remain employed during the temporary downturn in business due to COVID-19. The temporary special measures will:
  - extend the Work-Sharing agreements by an additional 38 weeks
  - waive the mandatory waiting period between agreements
  - ease the recovery plan requirements
 For more info see [Workshare program information](#) and the [Temporary Special Measures](#)

**COVID-19 Business and Procurement Opportunities:** *If you are a Canadian manufacturer or business that can assist Canada/Alberta in meeting the need for supplies and/or services, the government is requesting your help.*

- On April 3, Premier Jason Kenney announced **the Bits and Pieces program**, encouraging **individuals, private companies and non-profit organizations to offer products and services**, including personal protective equipment, towards Alberta's fight against COVID-19. **April 8, (Tomorrow!)** a Zoom conference will outline some of the province's most immediate priorities. This event is targeting Alberta's manufacturing sector and innovators coming up with creative solutions to produce personal protective equipment and other goods and materials that are needed now and in the future.
  - **Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2020**
  - **Time: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM MST**
  - Link: <https://zoom.us/j/767110949?pwd=cG1zZmNMMHc4ZjFRQ1Vpait4aFhwQT09>
  - Password: 61802
  - Other options include:
    - Or iPhone one-tap :
    - Canada: +15873281099,,767110949# or +16473744685,,767110949#
    - Or Telephone:
    - Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
    - Canada: +1 587 328 1099 or +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588 or +1 778 907 2071 or +1 438 809 7799 or 855 703 8985 (Toll Free)
    - Webinar ID: 767 110 949
- ***Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is requesting companies to let the Government of Canada know what products or services they have to support Canada's***

**response to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. The Government of Canada is looking to hear from businesses that:**

- Manufacture in Canada and/or has ready access to necessary inputs through their supply chain
- Has equipment or facilities that can be re-tooled to meet medical needs, including for personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, masks and surgical gowns, hand sanitizer, wipes, ventilators, and other medical equipment/supplies
- It also includes different services, such as security, nursing, and food services
- Has skilled workers who are able to respond and who could be available for work in the current circumstances

**\*If you can help, you are encouraged to send a short summary of your offer to: [ic.mid-dim.ic@canada.ca](mailto:ic.mid-dim.ic@canada.ca)**

For further details see:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/maintaingrowimprovebusiness/manufacturers-needed.html>

- ***Calling all Suppliers*** – Help Canada combat Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Check out the Government of Canada buy and sell to see if you can offer services/supports see <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19>

### **Other Resources/Information and Webinars sessions of interest:**

- **Check out the Economic Developers of Alberta (EDA) website** for a variety of webinars and recovery resources including tip sheets, videos, and toolkits for economic resilience and recovery see more [Here](#)
- Community Futures Lakeland is hosting a webinars to support employers in working on their business during this time. Get more information on what's coming up here <https://www.facebook.com/CFLakeland/>
- The Calgary Chamber has a **variety of webinars and information sessions** available for business, check them out at <https://www.calgarychamber.com/webinar-series/>
- **VIDEO: Business Development Bank of Canada, "How to cope with the impacts of COVID-19 on your business":** <https://www.bdc.ca/en/articles-tools/entrepreneur-toolkit/webinars/pages/how-cope-impacts-covid-19-on-your-business.aspx>
- **St. Paul and Area Businesses – SAVE THE DATE for a Virtual Business Support Network Meeting - APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. Join Us Here - Zoom Meeting**  
<https://zoom.us/j/569300344?pwd=YTBpOGZc2lQbXBGVXUxZzMrdzlHZz09>  
Meeting ID: 569 300 344  
Password: 185830

I hope this is helpful information! 😊

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