

**We are here to help job seekers and employers. During this unprecedented time, our services continue to be provided by telephone, email and video conferencing.**

**Our employer services help companies:**

- Access government funding
- Training incentives
- Programs to help hire and train employees for your business

**We hope you find this referral sheet of available government services helpful, if you have any questions please contact us for clarification or assistance. Thank you.**

## **Support for Local Businesses affected by COVID-19**

### Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy

We are proposing a new Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) to support employers that are hardest hit by the pandemic, and protect the jobs Canadians depend on.

The subsidy would cover 75 per cent of an employee's wages – up to \$847 per week - for employers of all sizes and across all sectors who have suffered a drop in gross revenues of at least 15 per cent in March, and 30 per cent in April and May.

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

We are also proposing that employers eligible for the CEWS be entitled to receive a 100-per-cent refund for certain employer contributions to Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, the Quebec Pension Plan, and the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan paid in respect of employees who are on leave with pay.

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

### Work Sharing Program

We are extending the maximum duration of the Work-Sharing program from 38 weeks to 76 weeks for employers affected by COVID-19. This measure will provide income support to employees eligible for Employment Insurance who agree to reduce their normal working hours because of developments beyond the control of their employers.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/coronavirus.html#h4.04>

### Changes to Canada Summer Jobs

The Canada Summer Jobs program provides opportunities for youth to develop and improve their skills within the not-for-profit, small business, and public sectors, and supports the delivery of key community services.

We are making temporary changes to the Canada Summer Jobs program to allow employers to receive an increased wage subsidy, so that private and public sector employers can also receive up to 100 per cent of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage for each employee, extend the end date for employment to February 28, 2021, adapt their projects and job activities, hire staff on a part-time basis.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>

## **Reduced and deferred payments**

### More time to pay income tax

We are allowing all businesses to defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after March 18 and before September 2020. This relief would apply to tax balances due, as

well as instalments, under Part I of the *Income Tax Act*. No interest or penalties will accumulate on these amounts during this period.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-filing-payment-dates.html>

### **Deferral of Sales Tax Remittance and Customs Duty Payments until June**

We are allowing businesses, including self-employed individuals, to defer until June 30, 2020 payments of the GST/HST, as well as customs duty owing on their imports.

Any GST/HST payment that becomes owing from March 27 until the end of May can be deferred until the end of June. For GST and customs duty payments for imported goods, deferral will include amounts owing for March, April and May.

These amounts were normally due to be submitted to the Canada Revenue Agency and the Canada Border Services Agency as early as the end of March 2020.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-filing-payment-dates.html>

### **Support for Self Employed/Contracted Employees**

We will provide a taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month for up to 4 months to eligible workers who have lost their income due to COVID-19.

A portal with a simple questions will help us direct you to the service option that best fits your situation (i.e. eligibility for Employment Insurance benefits or not).

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>

### **Support for Industries**

Agriculture - We have enabled Farm Credit Canada to provide an additional \$5 billion in lending to producers, agribusinesses, and food processors. This will offer increased flexibility to farmers who face cashflow issues and to processors who are impacted by lost sales, helping them remain financially sound during this difficult time.

<https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/covid-19/program-details.html>

### **List of Essential and Non-Essential Businesses**

As a temporary measure the Ontario government revised the list of essential businesses. The updated list will direct additional businesses to close, and directs specified businesses to provide services by alternate methods such as curb side pick up and delivery, except in exceptional circumstances. This includes stores that sell hardware products, vehicle parts and supplies, pet and animal supplies, office supplies and computer products and repairs and safety supplies.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/stopping-spread-covid-19#section-1>

### **Ontario Together Fund**

We have \$50 million to support submissions that we can action quickly. The Ontario Together Fund will help companies retool, build capacity or adopt the technological changes needed to produce supplies and equipment for hospitals, long-term care homes and other critical public service

[https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-your-organization-can-help-fight-coronavirus?\\_ga=2.142204018.1391765495.1586433579-1778464964.1536585454s](https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-your-organization-can-help-fight-coronavirus?_ga=2.142204018.1391765495.1586433579-1778464964.1536585454s).

### **City of Barrie – Business Information & Support during COVID-19**

The City is doing everything possible, in cooperation with the provincial and federal governments, to minimize impact and see economic recovery take place as soon as possible. This page enables the City to better respond to the evolving challenges with partners in government, business and non-profits.

The City of Barrie is working with our industry partners including Barrie Chamber of Commerce, Sandbox, Tourism Barrie, Barrie Construction Association, the Small Business Centre, the BIA, and the Henry Bernick

Entrepreneurship Centre, with updating this page regularly to be able to identify actions to support businesses in responding to the economic impact of COVID-19.

<https://www.barrie.ca/Doing%20Business/Business-Development/Pages/support-for-business.aspx>

### **Barrie Chamber of Commerce**

The Chamber is your trusted resource for all things related to leading your business through the impacts of Covid-19. We are working to ensure that the information we have on our site and social media platforms is relevant, accurate and as timely as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, or topics you would like to learn more about, please [email email\\_webinar@barriechamber.com](mailto:email_webinar@barriechamber.com) to let us know.

<http://barriechamber.com/covid-19>

### **Sandbox**

We work with entrepreneurs and innovators at any stage of business. We are here to support you on your journey to success by reducing barriers. We can connect and introduce you to the resources you need (and may not know exist) through our Partner Network and Programming. Online resources and workshops to support local business during COVID-19.

<https://sandboxcentre.com/covid-19-useful-resources-and-readings/>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US:**

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