



HWG, Chartered Professional Accountants

An update to our clients about COVID-19 (#14) – April 24, 2020

Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced this morning that emergency commercial rent assistance for small business will be available soon.

For qualifying businesses, rents will be reduced by 75% for April, May & June. More details will be made available soon.

Source: <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/24/prime-minister-announces-partnerships-provinces-and-territories>

Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

Please refer to our email of April 21, 2020, COVID-19 (#13) for details on applying for the CEWS. You can apply online starting **April 27, 2020**.

If you are unable to register for My Business Account, make sure you have an [online web access code](#) so you are prepared to use the alternative application. Click on the following link for full details on CEWS:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html>

B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers

The B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers will provide a tax-free, one-time \$1,000 payment for B.C. residents whose ability to work has been affected due to COVID-19. You can apply online starting **May 1, 2020**.

To be eligible for the emergency benefit, you must:

- Have been a resident of British Columbia on March 15, 2020
- Meet the eligibility requirements for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)
- Have been approved for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, even if you haven't received a federal benefit payment yet
- Be at least 15 years old on the date you apply
- Have filed, or agree to file, a 2019 B.C. income tax return
- Not be receiving provincial income assistance or disability assistance

A Partnership of Incorporated Professionals

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Source: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/covid-19-financial-supports/emergency-benefit-workers>

Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)

On April 22, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) will provide support to students and new graduates who are not eligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) or Employment Insurance and are unable to find work due to COVID-19.

This benefit would provide \$1,250 per month for eligible students or \$1,750 per month for eligible students with dependents or disabilities.

This benefit would be available from May to August 2020. More details will be made available soon.

In addition, increases have been made to the Canada Student Grant program.

Source: <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/22/support-students-and-new-grads-affected-covid-19>

Please contact us if you have any questions about any of the above. As our staff will be working remotely, there may be a slight delay in responding to you, but we will respond as quickly as possible.

HWG