



Measures to Keep Workers Employed

The Government of Canada announced additional measures today to help employers keep workers employed. As we find more information, we will update wardanduptigrove.com/covid-19

Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy

Status: Parliament is being recalled and new legislation must be passed. The application will be through a CRA online portal and funds will be available in approximately 6 weeks.

Benefit: 75% wage subsidy on first \$58,700 a worker earned with a maximum amount of \$847 per week for a 12 week period from March 15, 2020 to June 6, 2020. Businesses attest that they are doing everything they can to cover the remaining 25% of the worker's salary.

Eligibility: Businesses, with the exception of public sector entities, that show gross revenue decreased by at least 30% in comparison with the same month in 2019. This will be available for March, April and May. Employers will have to reapply each month.

Organizations that do not qualify for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy may continue to qualify for the previously announced Temporary Business Wage Subsidy of 10% from March 18 to before June 20, up to a maximum subsidy of \$1,375 per employee and \$25,000 per employer.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit

Status: Legislation passed, application portal expected to open April 6, 2020 with payments 3-5 days (direct deposit) or 10 days (mail) later. Applicants may set up a CRA My Account and register for Direct Deposit to expedite the process.

Benefit: \$500 per week, paid in \$2000 blocks, for up to 16 weeks for the period between March 15, 2020 to October 3, 2020.

Eligibility: Anyone who has stopped working due to COVID-19, whether be it due to illness, lost employment or reasons beyond their control (i.e. they must not voluntarily quit). This includes job loss, sickness, quarantine, caring for someone who is sick or working parents who must stay home to care for children due to school and daycare closures. They must also

- Have earned at least \$5,000 in 2019 or the last 12 months through employment, self-employment income and maternity /paternity Employment Insurance.
- Have or expect to have a consecutive 14 days without income in the initial 4 week period of application, subsequent periods will have no expected employment income.
- Reside in Canada and be at least 15 years old at the time of application.
- Not be currently receiving or have applied for EI regular or sickness benefits.

All claims after March 15, 2020 will be automatically processed through CERB.

Work Sharing Program

Status: Temporary measure in place from March 15, 2020 to March 14, 2021, the application process is streamlined.

Benefit: The program provides EI benefits to eligible year-round, permanent full time employees who have seen a reduction in work and agree to reduce their hours by between 10% and 60%. A Work Sharing agreement must be a least 6 consecutive weeks and can be extended for a total of 76 weeks.

Eligibility: Private businesses, publicly held businesses or not-for profit organizations that are year-round business, with at least 2 employees in the Work Share unit and have been established for at least 1 year; must apply 10 days prior to the start of the plan.

Supplementary Unemployment Benefit Plan (SUBP)

Status: Service Canada has streamlined the registration process. SUBs will be considered Registered upon receipt by Service Canada. Once registered, employers can begin topping up employees on EI.

Benefit: A plan established by an employer or group of participating employers to top up employees' employment insurance (EI) benefits up to a maximum of 95% during a period of unemployment due to a temporary or indefinite layoff.

Eligibility: The unemployment must be due to temporary stoppage of work, training, illness, injury, quarantine as otherwise defined in the registered SUB.

We will continue to monitor the situation and we thank you for your patience and understanding.

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