



## Economic Support and Recovery for Businesses

The City of Greater Sudbury Economic Development division understands that the situation around COVID-19 continues to change on a daily basis. We are working with our community partners, stakeholders and leaders to provide you with the most current information from trusted resources regarding COVID-19 to support our local business community.

If you have questions, businesses are encouraged to contact the Economic Development office through its designated hotline 705-690-9937 or by email at [invest@greatersudbury.ca](mailto:invest@greatersudbury.ca).

**Last updated:** January 14, 2020 2:28 pm

Program	Overview	Date added	Status
<b>AVOID LAYOFFS</b>			
<a href="#"><u>WSIB Financial Relief Package</u></a>	<p>To help reduce the financial burden of the COVID-19 pandemic on Ontario businesses, we provided the opportunity to defer premiums due between March to August 2020.</p> <p>All businesses that chose to participate in the financial relief package will have until June 30, 2021 to repay deferred amounts, interest-free. Deferred amount payments can be made in one or multiple installments between January and June 30, 2021</p> <p>Manage accounts through online services, <a href="mailto:employeraccounts@wsib.on.ca">employeraccounts@wsib.on.ca</a> 1-800-387-0750 - Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p>	January 15, 2021	Active

<p><i>Deferral of Sales Tax Remittance and Customs Duty Payments</i> <a href="#"><u>(CRA/CBSA)</u></a></p>	<p>On March 27, the government announced that it would allow businesses, including self-employed individuals, to defer all Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) payments, as well as customs duty payments owed for imports, until the end of June. The money this left in the pockets of business owners – the equivalent of providing up to \$30 billion in interest-free loans – helped them continue to pay their employees and their bills, and helped ease cash-flow challenges across the country.</p> <p>Today, with a broad range of measures and support programs now in place to help and provide assistance to those businesses and individuals most affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic through the <a href="#"><u>COVID -19 Economic Response Plan</u></a>, the GST/HST and customs duty payment deferral is ending as planned on June 30.</p> <p>Businesses that continue to experience difficulty in remitting GST/HST and customs duty amounts owing can contact the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to make a request for the cancellation of penalties and interest, and/or for a flexible payment arrangement with the CRA.</p>	<p>January 15, 2021</p>	
<p><a href="#"><u>Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)</u></a></p>	<p>The Canada Recovery Benefit will provide eligible workers with \$500 per week (taxable, tax deducted at source) for up to 26 weeks for those who are not employed or self-employed due to COVID-19 and who are not eligible for EI, or had their employment/self-employment income reduced by at least 50% due to COVID-19. This benefit will be paid in two-week periods.</p>	<p>January 14, 2021</p>	<p><i>Active</i></p>
<p><a href="#"><u>Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)</u></a></p>	<p>The Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) will provide \$500 per week (taxable, tax deducted at source) for up to 26 weeks per household for workers unable to work for at least 50% of the week because they must care for a child under the age of 12 or family member because schools, day-cares or care facilities are closed due to COVID-19, or because the child or family member is sick and/or required to quarantine or is at high risk of serious health implications because of COVID-19. This benefit will be paid in one-week periods.</p>	<p>January 14, 2021</p>	
<p><a href="#"><u>Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)</u></a></p>	<p>The Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) will provide \$500 per week (taxable, tax deducted at source) for up to a maximum of two weeks, for workers who are unable to work for at least 50% of the week because they contracted COVID-19, self-isolated for reasons related to COVID-19, or have underlying conditions, are undergoing treatments or have contracted other sicknesses that, in the opinion of a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner, person in authority, government or public health authority, would make them more susceptible to</p>	<p>January 14, 2021</p>	

	COVID-19. This benefit will be paid in one-week periods.		
<a href="#"><u>Work-Sharing Program</u></a>	<p>Effective March 15, 2020 to March 14, 2021</p> <p>Work-Sharing (WS) is an adjustment program designed to help employers and employees avoid layoffs when there is a temporary reduction in the normal level of business activity that is beyond the control of the employer. The measure provides income support to employees eligible for Employment Insurance benefits who work a temporarily reduced work week while their employer recovers.</p> <p>Extends duration by 38 weeks, total of 76 weeks. The mandatory waiting period has also been waived</p> <p>Special measures for the forestry, steel and aluminum sector:  <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing/temporary-measures-forestry-sector.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing/temporary-measures-forestry-sector.html</a></p>	January 15, 2021	Active
<a href="#"><u>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)</u></a>	<p>We are covering up to 75% of an employee's wages for qualifying eligible employers, with this subsidy rate in effect until March 13, 2021. The wage subsidy supports you to keep and re-hire your employees and avoid layoffs.</p> <p><b>The CEWS is available until June 2021.</b></p>	January 15, 2021	
<a href="#"><u>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Calculator</u></a>	<p>The page includes detailed information and instructions about who can apply for the subsidy, how eligibility is assessed, and how the subsidy is calculated. The calculator includes a printable statement feature that employers can use to view their claim, as of <b>APRIL 27</b>, enter required information into the CEWS application form quickly and easily. The CRA also encourages employers to sign up for <a href="#"><u>My Business Account</u></a> or <a href="#"><u>Represent a Client</u></a>, as employers will be able to apply through these portals. CEWS claims will be subject to verification by the CRA.</p>	April 22, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)</u></a>	<p>This program will seek to provide loans, including forgivable loans, to commercial property owners who in turn will lower or forgo the rent of small businesses for the months of April (retroactive), May, and June.</p> <p>To receive the loan, property owners will be required to reduce the rental costs of small business tenants by at least 75% and commit to a moratorium on evictions for three months. The forgivable loans would be disbursed directly to the mortgage lender of the commercial property in question.</p>	April 27, 2020	

	<p>The program has been developed to share the cost between small business tenants and landlords. Small business tenants and landlords would each be asked to pay 25% of the before profit costs and the government will share the remaining 50%.</p> <p>The program will be administered by the CMHC and available until September 30, 2020.</p> <p><b>Eligibility Requirements for small business tenants:</b> Monthly rent not exceeding \$50,000 in gross payments and a non essential small business that has temporarily closed or is experiencing 70% drop in pre-COVID revenues</p> <p><b>Eligibility Requirements for Commercial property owners:</b> Commercial properties with small business tenants Commercial properties with a residential component, and residential mixed-use properties with a 30% commercial component would be equally eligible If the property owner does not have a mortgage secured by a commercial rental property, the property owner should contact CMHC to discuss program options.</p>		
<a href="#"><u>Relief for Federally regulated pension plan sponsors</u></a>	The Government will provide immediate, temporary relief to sponsors of federally regulated, defined benefit pension plans. This relief will be in the form of a moratorium, through the remainder of 2020, on solvency payment requirements for defined benefit plans. Sponsors of the federally regulated pension plans with funding deficiencies to make solvency special payments to eliminate these deficiencies over a period of five years.	April 15, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Futurpreneur Canada</u></a>	Provides financing, mentoring and support tools to entrepreneurs aged 18-39. The funding will allow Futurpreneur Canada to provide payment relief for its clients up to 12 months with funding of \$60,000 available.	January 15, 2021	
<a href="#"><u>Creating New Job Opportunities for Youth</u></a>	<p>We are creating up to 120,000 job opportunities for students through the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program.</p> <p>We also made temporary changes to the CSJ program to allow employers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a wage subsidy, so that private and public-sector employers can receive up to 75 percent of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage for each employee (not-for-profit organizations will continue to receive 100 percent);</li> </ul>	January 15, 2021	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an extension to the end date for employment to February 26, 2022; and</li> <li>• allowing employers to hire staff on a part-time basis.</li> </ul>		
<b>ACCESS TO CREDIT / CREDIT RELIEF</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Canada Emergency Business Account (for small store front businesses)</u></a>	<p>Starting on Friday, December 4, 2020, eligible businesses facing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are able to access a second CEBA loan of up to \$20,000 – on top of the initial \$40,000 that was available to small businesses.</p> <p>Half of this additional financing, up to \$10,000, will be forgivable if the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022.</p> <p>This means the additional loan effectively increases CEBA loans from the existing \$40,000 to \$60,000 for eligible businesses, of which a total of \$20,000 will be forgiven if the balance of the loan is repaid on time.</p>	January 14, 2021	
<a href="#"><u>Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS)</u></a>	<p>The Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) provides a direct and easy-to-access rent and mortgage subsidy of up to 65% of eligible expenses to qualifying businesses, charities and non-profits. The subsidy rates are in effect until December 19, 2020. This support is available directly to tenants.</p> <p><b>Lockdown Support</b></p> <p>Qualifying organizations that have been significantly restricted by a mandatory public health order issued by a qualifying public health authority can receive an additional 25% of rent support through the Lockdown Support.</p> <p>The combined effect of the rent subsidy and the Lockdown Support is that hard-hit businesses, non-profits and charities subject to a lockdown can receive rent support of up to 90%.</p> <p>The rent subsidy and the Lockdown Support are available until June 2021.</p>	January 15, 2021	
<a href="#"><u>Ontario Small Business Support Grant</u></a>	<p>The new Ontario Small Business Support Grant, which will help small businesses that are required to close or significantly restrict services under the new Provincewide Shutdown</p>	January 14, 2021	

<a href="#"><u>Main Street Relief Grant from Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</u></a>	Providing up to \$1,000 for PPE costs to eligible small businesses across Ontario with 2 to 9 employees	January 14, 2021	
<a href="#"><u>Property Tax &amp; Energy Cost Rebate Grants</u></a>	For businesses that were required to shut down or significantly restrict services due to provincial public health measures ( <a href="#"><u>modified Stage 2 restrictions</u></a> or, going forward, in <a href="#"><u>areas categorized as control, Lockdown or Provincewide Shutdown</u></a> ). This provincial application-based grant provides a rebate to eligible businesses in respect of property taxes and energy bills.	January 14, 2021	
<a href="#"><u>Nickel Basin Federal Development Corporation</u></a>	Effective April 1, 2020, to July 31, 2020, Nickel Basin will suspend the accrual of interest and postpone payments on loans. For clients that wish to continue their regularly scheduled payments, they will apply the full amount of the payment to principal during this period. In addition, for clients needing additional financial assistance, the same terms and conditions will apply to newly disbursed funds. They will also consider financing for new clients. It would be subject to their normal due diligence. Terms for the first 4 months would be no interest accrual and no principal payments.		
<a href="#"><u>Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)</u></a>	BDC and EDC will enhance cooperation with private sector lenders to coordinate financing and credit insurance solutions.  BDC Terms: working capital loan up to \$2MM, with 12 months interest only payment; 36-month term to a 60% balloon; pricing floating only approx. 3.30%		
<a href="#"><u>Co-Lending Program</u></a>	Small and medium-sized businesses can receive support through this Co-Lending Program that will bring the BDC together with financial institutions to co-lend term loans to these businesses for operational cash flow requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to \$312,500 to businesses with revenues of less than \$1M</li> <li>• Up to \$3.125M for businesses with revenues between \$1M &amp; \$50M</li> <li>• Up to \$6.25M for businesses with revenues in excess of \$50M</li> <li>• Loans are interest-only for the first 12 months</li> <li>• Commercial interest rate</li> <li>• 10-year repayment period</li> <li>• Available through primary financial institution</li> </ul>	April 20 ,2020	Active

<a href="#"><u>Small &amp; Medium Size Enterprise Loan</u></a>	Export Development Canada will provide up to 80% guaranteed to financial institutions so that they can issue new operating credit and cash flow term loans to businesses in all sectors. This program is for businesses that were otherwise financially viable and revenue generating prior to the COVID-19 outbreak are eligible to apply.	April 20, 2020	Active
Lowering the <a href="#"><u>Domestic Stability Buffer</u></a>	Interest rate reduction to 0.75%, Allows Canada's large banks to inject an additional \$300 billion lending capacity into the economy.		
<a href="#"><u>FedNor</u></a>	<p>As a business or organization that has received FedNor funding and where COVID-91 may now be affecting your operations, you may wish to explore the following flexibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The opportunity to receive an advance against your 2020-21 funding allocation; and</li> <li>• Flexibility to adjust project milestones and outcomes; revise the scope of project activities; and/or realign expenditures between cost categories within your contribution agreement.</li> </ul>	April 1, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Lending Loop</u></a>	Must be in business for 1 year, with 100k in revenue and personal credit score of 600+ to qualify for this peer lending platform with no early repayment penalties. Borrowing amounts are accessible from \$1000-\$500,000 with lowest rate guarantee.	March 31, 2020	
BDC Capital Bridge Financing Program	<p>BDC may match, with a convertible note, a current financing round being raised through qualified existing and/or new investors made into eligible Canadian start-ups. This program is ideal for high potential companies who have venture capital investor syndicates that are willing to support them. BDC will invest alongside these groups. All companies that meet the criteria are eligible to apply.</p> <p>Eligibility:</p> <p>Be Canadian, backed by a qualified venture capital firm        Have raised at least \$500,000 in external capital before applying for the program.        Be specifically impacted by COVID        Any matching investment by BDC Capital will be further subject to notable, to satisfactory due diligence review by BDC, agreement on terms of the investment and approval by a BDC investment committee.</p> <p>Contact your lead investor for details or at <a href="mailto:VCReliefProgram@bdc.ca"><u>VCReliefProgram@bdc.ca</u></a></p>	April 29, 2020	

<a href="#"><u>Waiving Tariffs on Certain Medical Goods</u></a>	<p>We are waiving tariffs on certain medical goods, including PPE such as masks and gloves.</p> <p>This will reduce the cost of imported PPE for Canadians, help protect workers, and ensure our supply chains can keep functioning well.</p>	January 15, 2021	
<b>SUPPORTING FINANCIAL MARKET LIQUIDITY</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Insure Mortgage Purchase Program</u></a>	The government will purchase up to \$50 billion of insured mortgage pools through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).		
<a href="#"><u>Industrial &amp; Commercial Electricity Support</u></a>	The Ontario Government is proposing a deferral of a portion of Global Adjustment (GA) charges for industrial and commercial electricity consumers that do not participate in the Regulated Price Plan beginning April 2020. This initiative is intended to provide companies with temporary immediate relief on their monthly electricity bills in April, May & June, 2020.	May 4, 2020	Active
<b>ADDITIONAL SUPPORT</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Municipal Relief</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratepayers requiring any other sort of special/flexible arrangement should contact the Tax Department at <u>705-674-4455 ext. 2601</u> or by email at <u>taxdepartment@greatersudbury.ca</u>.</li> <li>• They will have to specify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Roll Number or Civic Address of the property;</li> <li>◦ Confirmation that they are the owner of the property;</li> <li>◦ Specify what sort of arrangement they would like to make (zero out their April payment; make an additional payment at a later date this year; pro-rate their remaining monthly payments, etc.)</li> <li>◦ This is by no means a waiver of property taxes owed. They will still have to be paid, but the City can come up with a flexible arrangement based on the ratepayers' needs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<a href="#"><u>Provincial Relief</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cutting taxes by \$355 million through a proposed temporary increase to the Employer Health Tax exemption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Proposal to retroactively raise the EHT exemption to \$1 million for 2020. The exemption would return to its current level of \$490,000 on January 1, 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>• \$6 billion in support 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>	March 30, 2020	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Beginning April 1, 2020, penalties and interest will not apply to Ontario's businesses that miss filing or remittance deadlines under select provincially administered taxes. Until August 31, 2020, under the following provincially administered tax programs:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Employer Health Tax</li> <li>■ Tobacco Tax</li> <li>■ Fuel Tax</li> <li>■ Gas Tax</li> <li>■ Beer, Wine, and Spirits Tax</li> <li>■ Mining Tax</li> <li>■ Insurance Premium Tax</li> <li>■ International Fuel Tax Agreement</li> <li>■ Retail Sales Tax on Insurance Contracts and Benefit Plans</li> <li>■ Race Tracks Tax</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Regional opportunities Investment Tax Credit           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 10% refundable Corporate Income Tax credit for capital investments</li> <li>○ The tax credit would be available for expenditures in excess of \$50,000 and up to a limit of \$500,000 for qualifying investments</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <a href="#">Commercial Vehicles - Extension</a> of validation Periods for Driver, Vehicle and Carrier Products           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New regulations include extensions for driver licenses, license plate validation, Ontario Photo Cards, and Commercial Vehicle Operator Registration Certificates.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Province Investing \$10M to Mobilize Businesses and Volunteers to Support Seniors           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The investment to help community organizations with the coordination of subsidized deliveries of meals, medicines and other necessities to seniors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<a href="#">Construction</a>	Ontario has extended construction hours to 24 hours a day for essential projects during COVID. This will allow for expedited construction on key facilities, such as new hospital builds, expansions, temporary COVID response units or structure and COVID assessment centres. This will also provide worksite managers more flexibility to stagger shifts, limit the number of people in one place, and take reasonable precautions to keep workers safe and healthy.	April 11, 2020	<i>Active</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ontario is extending construction hours for essential construction projects to 24 hours a day.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This will allow expedited construction on key facilities.</li> <li>○ Ontario will temporarily limit local noise bylaws from applying to these types of essential construction activities beginning April 7.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Supporting construction workers and businesses with emergency action to improve cash flow           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The new emergency action will lift the suspension of limitation periods and procedural time periods under the Construction Act and allow the release of holdback payments to contractors and subcontractors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<a href="#"><u>Income Tax Deferral</u></a>	The Canada Revenue Agency will allow all businesses to defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after today and before September 2020.	March 30, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Hydro Rate Relief</u></a>	Starting March 25 at midnight, rates will be lowered to the current off-peak rate of 10.1 cents per kilowatt-hour. At least for 45 days to offset higher consumption.	March 24, 2020	<i>Active</i>
<a href="#"><u>Financial Relief</u></a>	Banks are offering flexible case-by-case solutions for personal and small business banking clients. Clients are encouraged to contact their financial institution directly for additional support in addition to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Six month mortgage deferral and relief on other credit products</li> </ul>	March 18, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Supply Chain Management Act</u></a>	The Government of Ontario has proclaimed the Supply Chain Management Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● These regulations will enable the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services and the Ministry of Health to centrally manage public sector supply chains</li> <li>● The objective is to ensure front line healthcare workers have the essential goods and services to fight against COVID-19.</li> <li>● It will allow the collection of key data on inventories, orders and supply constraints and the development of a virtual inventory tool so that demand for crucial supplies are visible and trackable</li> <li>● The government can now prioritize buying what is needed most, deploying them, and allocating them on a priority basis to support the delivery of essential services to Ontarians</li> </ul>	March 30th	
CRA form RC4288	The CRA always offers a taxpayer relief program for interest on Federal taxes. Taxpayers can apply based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Financial hardship/inability to pay</li> </ul>	April 8, 2020	<i>Active</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural disaster</li> <li>• Civil disturbance or disruptions in services</li> <li>• Death/serious illness</li> </ul>		
<b>SUPPLIER PROGRAMS TO HELP FIGHT COVID-19</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Ontario Together</u></a>	<p>If you are a supplier of goods/services to assist in efforts to combat COVID-19 (e.g. N95 masks, surgical masks, nitrile and vinyl gloves, gowns, bottles of hand sanitizer, guard/security services, nursing, food, laundry, accommodation, personal, IT support services).</p> <p>*Likely to be delivered by MEDJCT and require registration with TPOntario (Transfer Payments Ontario)  <a href="https://www.app.grants.gov.on.ca/gr/tpcr/#/externalLogin">https://www.app.grants.gov.on.ca/gr/tpcr/#/externalLogin</a></p> <p>To assist federal efforts, please visit:  <a href="https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19">https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19</a></p>	April 1, 2020	Active
<a href="#"><u>OCE Covid-19 Collaboration Platform</u></a>	<p>An online portal that allows experts, agencies and companies who have a piece of the puzzle – whether it is an asset, a technology or a product – bring their solution to market.</p> <p><b>Collaboration Platform -</b>  <a href="https://oce-ontario.org/programs/covid-19-collaboration-platform">https://oce-ontario.org/programs/covid-19-collaboration-platform</a></p>		
<a href="#"><u>National Research Council Canada</u></a>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. COVID-19 Challenges Procurement Program - Industrial Research Assistance Program and Innovative Solutions Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This program will post challenges seeking near-to-market solutions from SMEs that need NRC support to refine their solution to get it market ready</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Pandemic Response Challenge Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This program will build teams to address challenges requiring further R&amp;D for solutions to meet COVID-19 related needs around three main research areas (Rapid detection &amp; diagnosis; Therapeutics &amp; vaccine development; and, digital health)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Biomanufacturing capacity at Royamount: NRC Human Health Therapeutics Research Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This initiative will result in a Good Manufacturing Practices platform to develop and scale up COVID-19 vaccine and therapy candidates.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>		
<b>HOT LINES AVAILABLE</b>			

<a href="#"><u>Stop the Spread Information Line</u></a>	<p>The Ontario government has launched a hotline for businesses who have questions about the emergency order to close non-essential workplaces, or who want more information on how these emergency measures may directly impact their business.</p> <p>The line will be active 7 days a week, 8:30am-5:00pm and can be reached at: <b>1-888-444-3659</b></p>	March 25, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>City of Greater Sudbury Hot Line for Businesses</u></a>	<p>The Hot Line is for businesses with the challenges associated with the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. Staff will be on hand to assist you navigate information and programs as they emerge.</p> <p>The number to call is <b>705-690-9937</b> and is open Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.</p>	March 25, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Pandemic Info Share</u></a>	<p>The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) has provided an online space to enable businesses and organizations to share their pandemic-related good practices and resources in hopes that workplaces develop their own plans that could accelerate development and uptake processes and resources that may help workplaces operate safely. Users can search by industry/sector, resource type and topics.</p>	April 20, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Tackling the Barriers</u></a>	<p>Businesses working to retool their operations to produce health-related products, or those that want to continue operations in this new environment or physical distancing, can submit any roadblocks to the website. The province is prepared to allow temporary changes to provincial rules and regulations in order to remove barriers that are hindering business and negatively impacting Ontario's supply chain.</p>	April 29, 2020	Active

## AGRICULTURE

<a href="#"><u>Farm Credit Canada</u></a>	<p>Received a \$5B enhancement to capital lending capacity and will also be offering loan payment and interest deferrals up to 6 months or a deferral of principal payments for 12 months..</p>	April 1, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Provincial Food Supply Chain Opportunities</u></a>	<p>In order to ensure grocery store shelves remain full and families have food on the table during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government of Ontario is launching a new web portal connecting workers with employers looking to fill positions in the agri-food sector. The website provides access to information on job opportunities and training resources in all parts of Ontario's food supply chain.</p> <p>The partnership is a five-year agreement with applications commencing April 17, 2020. For more information contact <a href="mailto:agpartnership@ontario.ca">agpartnership@ontario.ca</a> or call 1-877-424-1300</p>	April 20, 2020	Active

<a href="#"><u>Agri-Food open for E-Business</u></a>	<p>This initiative will help food producers, farmers markets, retailers, garden centres, greenhouses, nurseries, and agriculture associations develop online business, providing consumers with greater access to a wide variety of food and agriculture products. Two funding streams:</p> <p>Bring your Business Online - grant up to \$5000 to establish an online e-business and marketing presence. Funding will be quick and responsive for those needing immediate solutions.</p> <p>Develop Online Business Opportunities - includes collaborations in applying for cost-share funding up to \$75,000 to implement high-impact projects.</p> <p>OMAFRA will immediately accept applications and expedited approvals.</p>	April 27, 2020	Active
<b>EXPORTING</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Canada Account Limit</u></a>	Administered by Export Development Canada to support Canadian companies through loans, guarantees or insurance policies	April 2, 2020	
<b>PROGRAMS</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Next Generation Manufacturing Supercluster</u></a>	<p>\$50 million has been made available in funding for members of the Supercluster to develop and scale-up new, in-demand technologies, equipment, and medical products.</p> <p>COVID Response Project Guide :  <a href="https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/5005023/Documents/Archive/NGenCOVID-19ResponseProjectGuide_EN_V1.1.pdf">https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/5005023/Documents/Archive/NGenCOVID-19ResponseProjectGuide_EN_V1.1.pdf</a></p>	January 19, 2021	Inactive
<a href="#"><u>COVID-19 Challenge Program</u></a>	This program will post challenges seeking near-to-market solutions from small and medium-sized businesses (fewer than 50 staff) that need financial support from the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) to refine and sell their product or solution to meet a COVID-19 related need.	March 20, 2020	Active

<a href="#"><u>NRC IRAP</u></a>	<p>Has been tasked by the Government of Canada to work with Canadian Industry to address a range of medium-term Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada needs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PPE</li> <li>● Sanitization</li> <li>● Diagnostic &amp; Testing</li> <li>● Therapeutics</li> <li>● Disease Tracking Technology</li> </ul>	March 20, 2020	Active
<a href="#"><u>Canada Summer Jobs</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● An increase to the <b>wage subsidy</b>, so that private and public sector employers can also receive up to 100% of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage for each employee.</li> <li>● An extension to the end date for employment to February 28, 2021</li> <li>● Allowing employers to adapt their project and job activities to support essential services</li> <li>● Allowing employers to hire staff on a part-time basis</li> </ul>	April 9, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Digital Technology Supercluster</u></a>	<p>Investment in projects that support the development, deployment, scale-up and adoption of products, services or technologies that help governments, communities, employers and individual Canadians address the exceptional needs created by, and effects of COVID-19 such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health Systems</li> <li>● Community Health</li> <li>● Safe Living</li> <li>● Diagnostics and Therapeutics</li> <li>● Emergency Response</li> </ul> <p>Eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Projects that deliver digital technology solutions to improve the health &amp; safety of Canadians and Canada's ability to address the COVID-19 outbreak, as well as future health crises.</li> <li>● Any Member or Associate of the Supercluster may submit an idea for consideration.</li> <li>● A Project Proposal for the COVID-19 Program must be led by a Supercluster Member or Associate who will become a member upon selection of the project. Projects must have experienced and capable project management.</li> <li>● Collaboration is core to the Program. However, in exceptional situations, the Supercluster may invest in single company initiatives. Potential partners and/or subcontractors who will be involved in the execution of the project should be identified. The Supercluster will help organizations identify potential partners.</li> </ul>	January 19, 2021	<i>Inactive</i>

INDIGENOUS BUSINESSES			
<a href="#"><u>Support for Indigenous Businesses</u></a>	Funding will allow for interest-free loans, as well as non-repayable contributions, to help Indigenous businesses unable to access the government's existing COVID-19 support measures. These supports will be granted through Aboriginal Financial Institutions and cover operational expenses.	April 18, 2020	<i>Inactive</i>
REOPENING RESOURCES			
<a href="#"><u>Reopening Ontario after COVID</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>A Framework for Reopening our Province</u></a> includes three stages. Through all stages, public health and safety will be the number one concern, while balancing the needs of people and businesses.	May 6, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety</u></a>	<p>For operators looking for information on how to prepare to safely reopen their operations in the coming weeks, the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety has a series of bilingual guidelines available to businesses regarding COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Retail</li> <li>● Mining</li> <li>● Transportation</li> <li>● Construction</li> <li>● Daycares</li> <li>● Home deliveries and couriers</li> <li>● Food Processing</li> <li>● Manufacturing</li> <li>● Restaurants &amp; Food services</li> </ul>	May 6, 2020	
Ontario Restaurant Hotel & Motel Association (ORHMA)	<p>HOSPITALITY COVID-19 RESOURCE CENTRE</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Cancellation Policies</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Hotel Operating Procedures - Self Isolation (HAC)</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Taking Care of Employees &amp; Guests (HAC)</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>COVID-19 Guidance for Food Premises</u></a> +++</p>	May 6, 2020	
<a href="#"><u>Retail Council of Canada</u></a>	<p><a href="#"><u>Retail Recovery Playbook</u></a></p> <p>To assist retailers in their reopening planning, Retail Council of Canada, in partnership with the Boston Consulting Group and retailers from across Canada, are leveraging global best practices for a diverse range of retail formats with the fundamental aim of ensuring a safe environment for employees and customers.</p>		

[\*\*Retail Recovery Checklists\*\*](#)

Returning to work team checklist and action plan  
Employee temperature screening  
Working from home considerations  
Occupational health & safety considerations  
Social distancing and sanitation for retail stores  
Sample cleaning checklists for stores and other facilities  
Preparing the store for opening checklists

RCC has summarized the latest regulations on curbside pickup in this [quick reference guide](#) for what is allowed in each province.