

## COVID-19

### Updated Information/Programs/Supports For Businesses – as of Oct. 16, 2020

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT BUSINESS

##### **Rent Relief**

A new Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) has been proposed to replace the existing CECRA program. For businesses who qualify, funds from this program will go directly to the business owner without requiring the participation of a landlord and will cover up to 65% of eligible rent costs, depending on their losses, until December 19. If a business is ordered by public health officials to close, expenses could be covered up to 90%. Access to this program will be available until June 2021. (pending legislation approval)

##### **Emergency Loans**

The Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) will increase by \$20,000, and up to \$10,000 of these funds will be forgivable if the loan is repaid by the deadline. This funding is in addition to previously announced \$40,000 loans. This means the maximum funding from CEBA will be \$60,000, of which \$20,000 is forgivable. Applications will be accepted until December 31.

##### **Wages**

The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) will remain at its current level of 65% until December 19, instead of rapidly decreasing as expected. The program will be extended until June 2021. Check [here](#) to see if you qualify. [Learn more](#)

[Business Relief Resource Tool – For funding information specific to your sector and business](#)

#### ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT BUSINESSES

##### **Additional Support for Restaurants & Small Business during COVID-19**

Ontario will provide \$300 million to help offset fixed costs including property taxes, hydro and natural gas bills for restaurants and other businesses impacted by recent public health measures.

[Learn more](#)

##### **New Electricity Rates, Payment Options and Support for Residents, Small Business and Farmers**

As new electricity rates come into effect November 1, 2020, the Ontario government has expanded access to the one-time bill support under the COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program for Small Business (CEAP-SB) and added an option for customers to switch from time-of-use to tiered rate pricing. [Learn more](#)

### **Rebuilding Main Streets**

Ontario has proposed further measures (pending legislative approval) to support small Main Street Businesses, including \$60 Million in funding through a PPE grant. [Applications for this program](#) are expected to open later this fall and help eligible small businesses with 2-9 employees pay for PPE. [Learn More](#)

### **Ontario Together Fund**

A \$50M Ontario Together Fund has been established to help businesses retool their operations to produce PPE and develop technology-driven solutions and services for businesses to reopen safely. [Learn more](#)