



# COVID-19: AVAILABLE RESOURCES

*We're here for you!*

## A WORD FROM YOUR M.P.

Hello,

The pandemic has created many challenges for our community, especially from a food perspective. Our agricultural producers do exceptional work and they are not the only ones.

Our community organizations are also showing determination and innovation in order to serve their clients while protecting everyone's health. I am thinking, amongst others, of Moisson Haut-Saint-François, the Cuisines collectives du Haut-Saint-François and the Maison des jeunes de Coaticook which will share \$ 62,500 from the Canadian Government's Local Food Infrastructure Fund. Thanks to this funding, they will be able to purchase new equipment to further improve their services to the population.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that last Tuesday I launched the second call for proposals for this program, which is part of Canada's Food Policy. The ultimate goal of the policy is to ensure that all Canadians have access to healthy, nutritious, diverse and affordable food. You will find all the details later in this newsletter.

Like every week, I wish to share with you the most recent information about the support offered to people and businesses affected by COVID-19. Also, I invite you to visit [CANADA.CA](http://CANADA.CA) for all the reliable information you need.

Please do not hesitate to contact my team and me if you have any questions and comments.

Take care of yourself and your loved ones!

**Marie-Claude Bibeau**



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# SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS

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## SUPPORTING CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES

This pandemic has had a profound impact on the lives and health of all Canadians, and has disproportionately affected people with disabilities.

To help them deal with the extra expenses they are facing during the crisis, the Government of Canada will provide a **special tax-free payment of \$ 600** to certificate holders of the Disability Tax Credit as of June 1, 2020.

For certificate holders under the age of 18, the special payment will be made to the person considered primarily responsible for the care and upbringing of the child for the purposes of the Canada Child Benefit.

Seniors eligible for Old Age Security (OAS) who hold the Disability Tax Credit certificate will receive a payment of \$300 in addition to the \$300 payment related to the OAS pension.

Seniors eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) who hold the Disability Tax Credit certificate will receive a payment of \$ 100, in addition to the combined \$ 500 linked to OAS and GIS.

The appropriate amount will be paid automatically to eligible individuals.

To help Canadians with disabilities find and keep good jobs, the Government of Canada is establishing the National Component for Accessibility in the Workplace (see page 6)

For more information on the Disability Tax Credit: <https://bit.ly/2YkGt1A>.

# SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS

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## **MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF CANADIAN CITIZENS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS**

To ensure the health and safety of Canadians, the Government of Canada has put in place temporary border measures. However, these measures have caused difficulties for families, some of whose members are abroad.

As of June 9, foreign nationals who are immediate family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents and who do not have COVID-19 nor any signs or symptoms will be able to enter Canada. Foreign nationals admitted to Canada must travel to be with an immediate family member for a period of at least 15 days and must be quarantined for the first 14 days.

An immediate family member refers to a person's:

- Spouse or common-law partner;
- Dependent child, as defined in section 2 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, or the dependent child of the person's spouse or common-law partner;
- Dependent child, as defined in section 2 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, of a dependent child referred to in paragraph b);
- Parent or step-parent or the parent or step-parent of the person's spouse or common-law partner;
- Guardian or tutor.

This change does not apply to immediate family members of temporary residents in Canada.

For more information: <https://bit.ly/3fbBw1G>.

# SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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## CANADA EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL RENT ASSISTANCE

The **Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)** provides support to small businesses as well as not-for-profit and charitable organizations that are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of COVID-19.

The CECRA offers support to building owners that covers 50% of the gross monthly rent payable by impacted small business and non-profit tenants for the period of April, May and June 2020.

In order to maximize the participation of commercial building owners in Quebec, the provincial government intends to compensate 50% of the landlord's loss. Building owners, who had to absorb a rental income loss of 25% by registering for this program, will now receive a sum equivalent to 12.5% of the total cost of rent thereby reducing their loss by half. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

Building owners have until August 31, 2020 to submit their request through the dedicated web portal (<https://bit.ly/2Uy9W77>).

For more information: <https://bit.ly/2MPsfjC>.

# SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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## BUSINESS RESILIENCE SERVICE

**The Business Resilience Service (BRS)** offers businesses, non-profits and charitable organizations direct and free access to a network of qualified business advisers.

The BRS can:

- Provide advice on options and eligibility for financial support programs;
- Quickly direct companies to the most appropriate support organizations;
- Help organizations make decisions to support recovery plans.

Small and medium-sized businesses, non-profit organizations and charities can access the BRS 7 days a week by calling **1-866-989-1080**.

For more information: <https://bit.ly/2Yla0rU>.

# SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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## ENABLING ACCESSIBILITY FUND

People with disabilities are more at risk of losing their jobs during economic downturns. To help them find and keep good jobs, the Government of Canada is establishing the **National Workplace Accessibility Stream**.

A project can now be submitted to the two components below of the Enabling Accessibility Fund so that people with disabilities can participate in activities, programs and services in their community and access job opportunities.

### Small-Scale Projects

Eligible organizations can apply for funding of up to \$ 100,000 for:

- The construction, renovation or small-scale redevelopment of existing premises to improve accessibility;
- Accessible information and communications technologies.

To receive funding, your organization must be:

- A non-profit;
- A company with a maximum of 99 full-time employees;
- A small municipality with less than 125,000 inhabitants.

The deadline to submit an application is **July 13, 2020**.

Visit the Enabling Accessibility Fund website for more information or to submit a request: <https://bit.ly/30tskBD>.

# SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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## Youth Innovation

The Enabling Accessibility Fund is looking for motivated young people who want to demonstrate their leadership and commitment to their community. It's an opportunity for young people to help break down barriers to accessibility in public places or workplaces.

To be eligible, you must:

- Be between 15 and 30 years old;
- Feel like making a difference in your community; and
- Want to acquire useful skills and experience.

Previously funded projects include:

- Mobile recording studio;
- Tandem bicycle for the visually impaired;
- Accessible cafeteria tables;
- Noise-cancelling headphones; and
- Wheelchairs suitable for the swimming pool.

The deadline to submit an application is **October 30, 2020**.

Visit the Youth Innovation website for more information: <https://bit.ly/3f8K9Kv>.

# SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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## LOCAL FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

The **Local Food Infrastructure Fund** aims to strengthen food systems so that they are resilient, integrated and sustainable, and that they facilitate access to nutritious food, especially for the less fortunate.

Eligible projects range from simple infrastructure requests, such as purchasing a refrigerator for a food bank, to more complex requests such as projects that integrate multiple sectors of the food chain through the creation of partnerships.

Applicants may receive from \$ 5,000 to \$ 250,000 in non-repayable funding.

Funding can take the form of a:

- Grant for projects requiring funding of \$ 50,000 and less;
- Non-refundable contribution for projects requesting funding of more than \$ 50,000 up to a maximum of \$ 250,000.

### Eligibility

To be eligible, the applicant must be a:

- Community or charitable organization;
- Aboriginal group;
- Non-profit cooperative.



# SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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## To submit a request

Before submitting an application, please consult the Applicant Guide (<https://bit.ly/2MPPb2c>).

You can submit your request by email to [aafc.foodprograms-programmesalimentaires.aac@canada.ca](mailto:aafc.foodprograms-programmesalimentaires.aac@canada.ca).

**Applications will be accepted until depletion of funds, so we encourage you to apply as soon as possible.**

For more information: <https://bit.ly/2MOfFBe>.

# BEST SANITARY PRACTICES

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To have up-to-date information concerning the coronavirus, we invite you to contact:

- The Canadian Government Website : <https://bit.ly/2QFBAwY>
- Phone **1-833-347-4397** (toll free).

If ever you are experiencing symptoms (fever, cough or difficulty breathing), contact **1-877-644-4545** (toll free).

For more information on ways to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the **workplace**, consult the following link: <https://bit.ly/3adWvz3>.



Public health experts recommend that we:

- Limit our contact with other people by practicing social distancing;
- Frequently wash our hands for a minimum of 20 seconds;
- Use an alcohol-based sanitizer if we don't have access to water and soap;
- Cough and sneeze in a tissue or in the crux of our arm
- Avoid touching our eyes, nose or mouth if we haven't previously washed our hands;
- Use approved sanitizers to clean hard surfaces;
- Clean surfaces that are frequently touched (telephones, door handles, etc...)

To learn more on risk prevention, consult the following link: <https://bit.ly/2Uv9d5M> or send an email to [phac.inof.aspc@canada.ca](mailto:phac.inof.aspc@canada.ca).