

Government Updates and Announcements

The Government of Canada is proposing changes to CEWS and the creation of the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy. We are waiting for these changes to be passed:

Updates to Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) Extension

- While the wage subsidy program is already extended until June 2021, the current proposed changes freeze the current subsidy rate until December 19, 2020
- Read further details in the [Backgrounder HERE](#)

[Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy](#) – CERS would provide up to 65% of a company's rent, property tax, property insurance, and/or mortgage interest payments per month.

- This program helps to provide relief to businesses, non-profits, and charities that continue to be negatively impacted by the pandemic. [Backgrounder HERE](#)

There is also additional [Lockdown Support](#) which would provide an extra 25% towards a company's rent, property tax, property insurance, and/or mortgage interest payment if the business is forced to close due to a mandatory lockdown order.

Other Government supports:

- The [new website for the Black Entrepreneurship Program](#) has been launched. The Black Entrepreneurship Program is about meaningful change and setting more Black entrepreneurs up for success.
- To help slow the spread of COVID-19 and safely reopen our economy, download the **COVID Alert App** [here](#)
- Revamped [CanExport SMEs program](#) – which helps entrepreneurs break into new international markets with grants. It will now also include dedicated support for Indigenous entrepreneurs, and women-owned small businesses. Apply [here](#)
- The [Creative Export Fund](#) is also taking applications until November 25th. The proposed export activities must have a minimum total cost of \$300,000 and, under COVID-19 realities, projects that only consist of travel are unlikely to be competitive in the application assessment process.

Highlights of the Speech from the Throne

Last month the federal government highlighted its priorities for Canada's economic recovery plan



Canadian Dance Assembly
L'Assemblée canadienne de la danse

Canadian Dance Assembly ~ L'Assemblée canadienne de la danse
476 Parliament St. , 2nd Floor
Toronto, ON, M4X 1P2
tel / tél : 416-515-8444 info@dancecanada.net
www.cda-acd.ca

through its Speech from the Throne earlier this fall. CDA was pleased to hear promises to support the performing arts, take new steps to support the artistic contributions of Black Canadians, invest in a national early learning and child care system and develop an Action Plan for Women in the Economy. [Click HERE to read learn more.](#)

COVID-19 Emergency Benefits Move into Recovery

The Government of Canada has moved forward on its promise to create or modify their [COVID-19 benefits](#).

As reported last month, there will be a new benefit to replace CERB (Canada Emergency Response Benefit). The new **Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)** will provide \$500 per week for up to 26 weeks, to workers who are self-employed or are not eligible for Employment Insurance (EI) and who still require income support. Of note, unlike the CERB program, the limits on allowable income have been changed. Recipients are allowed up to \$38,000 for 2020 or for 2021 after which recipients must repay 50 cents for every dollar of income earned in that year above \$38,000 up to the total amount of Canada recovery benefits received by them in the year.

The **Employment Insurance Program (EI)** has been simplified. Changes include lowering the qualifying hours of work to a minimum of 120 hours, a one-time insurable hours credit that can be made retroactive to March 15th for claimants who couldn't establish their EI claim due to insufficient hours, and a minimum benefit of \$500 before taxes.

For Canadians who cannot work because they need to provide care or support for a child, family member, or dependent, the **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit** will provide \$500 per week, for up to 26 weeks per household over 1 year.

A new **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit** will be available for those unable to work because they are sick or have to self-isolate for reasons related to COVID-19 in the amount of \$500 per week for up to two weeks, for one year.