



Hon. Michael Chong, P.C., M.P.

Wellington-Halton Hills

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Support for Charities

The federal government has implemented programs for charities and non-profits in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OTTAWA – There are several supports in place for charities and non-profits in response to the economic impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Information on some of these programs are outlined below.

Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF)

- The government invested \$350 million to support vulnerable Canadians through charities and non-profit organizations that deliver essential services to those in need.
- The investment will flow through national organizations that have the ability to get funds quickly to local organizations that serve vulnerable populations. It will support a variety of activities, such as:
 - Increasing volunteer-based home deliveries of groceries and medications;
 - Providing transportation services, like accompanying or driving seniors or persons with disabilities to appointments;
 - Scaling up help lines that provide information and support;
 - Helping vulnerable Canadians access government benefits;
 - Providing training, supplies, and other supports to volunteers so they can continue to make their invaluable contributions to the COVID-19 response; and
 - Replacing in-person, one-on-one contact and social gatherings with virtual contact through phone calls, texts, teleconferences, or the Internet.
- Learn more about the Emergency Community Support Fund:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/emergency-community-support-fund.html>

Supporting communities experiencing food insecurity

- Under the Food Policy for Canada's Local Food Infrastructure Fund, the Government of Canada is making up to \$100 million available to Canadian food banks and other national food rescue organizations to help improve access to food for people experiencing food insecurity in Canada due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Funds will be used to: purchase food and other basic necessities; buy or rent equipment and materials; transport and distribute food; access new distribution centres; hire temporary help to fill volunteer shortages; and, implement biosecurity measures.
- Local organizations seeking funding should contact one of these organizations directly:
 - Food Banks Canada: support@foodbankscanada.ca or 1-800-986-5280
 - Second Harvest: Food Rescue or emergencyfund@secondharvest.ca
 - Community Food Centres Canada: grants@cfccanada.ca
 - Breakfast Club of Canada: programs@breakfastclubcanada.org
 - Salvation Army: 1-800-SAL-ARMY

Contact Michael Chong:

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Assistance finding support programs

- Each charity and non-profit is experiencing different challenges in regards to the services they provide. The Government of Canada has an online service to help you find exactly which programs you can access during this time.
- To get assistance in determining what programs are best for you, visit: <https://innovation.ised-isde.ca/s/?language=en>

To learn more about the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, visit: www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html

Information on COVID-19 from the Government of Canada can be found here:
www.canada.ca/coronavirus

Our offices remain open and staffed to assist constituents during this coronavirus pandemic, but are closed to public access. To obtain assistance, please contact us by phone, email or on social media.

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