



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18th, 2020

Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Support Programs for Families

The federal government has implemented programs for families in need of financial support.

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

Canada Child Benefit (CCB)

- The government is providing up to an extra \$300 per child through the CCB for 2019-20. This will mean approximately \$550 more for the average family. This benefit will be delivered as part of the scheduled CCB payment in May.
- You can apply to the Canada Child Benefit through birth registration, online through your Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) 'My Account' (<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency.html>) or by mail.
- Those who already receive the CCB do not need to re-apply.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

- The government is providing a taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month for up to 4 months to eligible workers who have lost their income due to COVID-19.
- An online questionnaire will help the government direct you to the service option that best fits your situation (i.e. eligibility for Employment Insurance benefits or not).
- Do not apply for the CERB if you have already applied for EI.
- There are two ways to apply:
 - Online by visiting <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>;
 - By calling (800) 959 2019 or (800) 959 2041.
- The government plans on extending the CERB for two more months. More information will come later this week.

Special Goods and Services Tax credit payment

- The government is providing a one-time special payment starting April 9th through the Goods and Services Tax credit for low- and modest-income families. The average additional benefit will be close to \$400 for single individuals and \$600 for couples.
- There is no need to apply for this payment. If you are eligible, you will get it automatically.
- To learn more about the Goods and Services Tax credit, visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/goods-services-tax-harmonized-sales-tax-gst-hst-credit.html>

Extra time to file income tax returns

- The filing due date for 2019 income tax returns for individuals has been deferred until June 1st, 2020. Any new income tax balances due, or instalments, are also being deferred until August 31st, 2020 without incurring interest or penalties.

Contact Michael Chong:

Email: michael.chong@parl.gc.ca
Office Toll Free: 1 866 878 5556



- You will not be charged late-filing penalties or interest if your 2019 individual income tax returns are filed and payments are made prior to September 1, 2020.
- If you expect to receive benefits under the GST credit or Canada Child Benefit, it is encouraged that you do not delay filing your 2019 income tax return to ensure that your entitlements are properly determined.
- For more information on tax deferrals and for all payment dates, visit:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/covid-19-filing-payment-dates.html>

Mortgage payment deferral

- Homeowners facing financial hardship may be eligible for a mortgage payment deferral of up to six months.
- The deferral is an agreement between you and your lender. Typically, the agreement indicates that you and your lender have agreed to pause or suspend your mortgage payments for a certain amount of time. After the agreement ends, your mortgage payments return to normal and the deferred payments — including principal and accumulated interest — are added to the outstanding principal balance and subsequently repaid throughout the life of the mortgage.
- To know if you are eligible for a mortgage payment deferral or to learn what options are available, contact your lender — your bank or your mortgage professional.

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

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

For Government of Ontario resources, including information on schools and healthcare, visit: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>

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.