



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2nd, 2020

Government of Canada's Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) Extension

The federal government has extended the Canada Emergency Response Benefit from 16 weeks to 24 weeks.

OTTAWA – The Canadian Government has extended the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). Below are some of the details on this extension and how to continue to receive this benefit.

The CERB has been extended by 8 weeks and is now available for 24 weeks in total – this means that there is a maximum of six eligibility periods. The maximum amount a claimant can receive through CERB now, with the 8 week extension, is \$12,000.

Starting the week of June 8th, some people will have received their full \$8,000 initial CERB entitlement and will not receive their regular payment for the month of June. This is due to an advance payment when Canadians first applied to CERB through Service Canada. Claimants will receive money again at the beginning of July through the extension of the 8-weeks recently added onto the program. Claimants should continue to complete bi-weekly reports to demonstrate their continued eligibility for the CERB and to keep their file active through the CERB extension.

CERB gives financial support to employed and self-employed Canadians who are directly affected by COVID-19. This benefit is available for people who stopped working due to COVID-19, are eligible for Employment Insurance regular or sickness benefits, or have exhausted their Employment Insurance regular or fishing benefits between December 29, 2019 and October 3, 2020. Eligible workers must reside in Canada, be at least 15 years of age, had employment income of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or the 12-month period before their application, and have not quit their job voluntarily.

Those eligible will receive \$2,000 for a 4-week period, equating to \$500 a week. For each subsequent 4-week period, you will need to re-apply for the benefit. You can either apply through Service Canada or the Canada Revenue Agency. To determine the best platform to apply, visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>

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

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, e-mail or on social media.