



ADVOCACY UPDATE

COVID-19 - New Options For Some

UPDATES FOR BUSINESS FROM GOVERNMENT

Federal Government:

Regional Relief and Recovery Fund:

- The announcements Wednesday, **SEE HERE**, was to breakdown the amount by region and announce the name of the new fund. Western Economic Diversification will receive \$304M of the approximate \$962M dollar pot.
- Business can apply for up to \$40,000 repayable loans (much the same rules as CEBA) with \$10,000 potentially forgivable if paid prior to the end of 2022.
- Businesses cannot already have accessed other government programs like CEBA. The objective here is to support those that do not qualify under the other program rules.
- Over \$40,000 repayable loans can also be applied for in the same fund, with a maximum of \$1M dollars. Business must demonstrate a meaningful contribution to the western Canadian economy and be experiencing liquidity issues. Business may or may not have accessed other government programs to qualify for this arm of the funding mechanisms. However, this contribution is fully repayable.
- This is monies that were announced as a total number several weeks ago.

SEE INFO HERE for program up to \$40,000

SEE INFO HERE for program over \$40,000 and up to \$1M.

If you have not been able to access or did not qualify for CEBA, or other announced programs (like the CEWS) to date, this Relief Fund may be an option for you.

Northwest Community Futures Development Corp. (Battlefords office) 306-446-3200

National Parks and Historic Sites to Re-Open in June:

- Government has announced that starting in June, National Parks and Historic Sites will potentially be re-opening to allow for access to green spaces, etc.
- Several measures will be in place to allow for social distancing and sanitation, etc.
- They will announce region by region which Parks will open and when depending on how each jurisdiction continues to be impacted by COVID-19.
- There will be no camping allowed.

Provincial Government:

Support for Livestock Producer's

- Minister Marit announced today an additional \$10M in supports for livestock producer's dealing with market fall out as a result of COVID 19. Info [HERE](#).

Other Announcements and Supports:

Canadian Business Resilience Network (CBRN):

- **Liquidity and Cost Deferrals Provide Easy Options for Government to Help the Energy Sector:** Canadian Chamber of Commerce. See Article [HERE](#).



AND, let's all have a wonderful May long weekend, healthy, happy, safe and together at a distance!

But before you head off..... here is some more additional information and and Back-to-Business assistance.

Advocacy work at the national, provincial and local level for businesses continues.

The Battlefords Chamber of Commerce has put together a **Back-to-Business Tool Kit** and released it to members yesterday via email. Please be sure to review the material. The **Back-to-Business Tool Kit** can be found at battlefordschamber.com, and click the link.

Also, the Saskatchewan Chamber has released its guidelines for re-opening office workplaces. See the **DOCUMENT HERE**.

We are working for you! If you require additional information or need support to connect, please call the Chamber office in North Battleford at (306)445-6226.

The Canadian, Saskatchewan and Battlefords Chambers of Commerce are in close contact with the federal, provincial and municipal governments on many issues. We will do our best to keep you informed and up-to-date. Stay tuned, and follow the Chamber network.

Here's Some Perspective!

(These are US numbers, but you'll get the point)

24.9% unemployment in 1933. 10.8% unemployment in 1982.

The highest national unemployment rate during the 2008 crisis was 7.2% and as of Friday, May 8th, 2020, the national unemployment rate is 14.7%. The great question right now is, how did business recover in the 1930's and 1980's when the unemployment numbers were double digit like today?

The hype says the unemployment rate was 25% (in the 1930's) but the math said **75%** of the population was employed. The smart ones focused on the employed population to grow their business which would then chip away at the unemployment lines.

RESOURCES YOU NEED

Canadian Chamber of Commerce:

CBRN micro-site has all the information, tools and resources businesses need to manage through COVID-19 pandemic.

Government of Canada:

Department of Finance website:
Finance Dept. Here

CRA Website HERE

Government of Saskatchewan:

Visit Saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus here!

The "**Business Response Team**". Contact them by phone or email. Phone # 1-844-800-8688
Website

For information on the **State of Emergency in Saskatchewan.**

See Media Release here: Order extended on May 13th, 2020.

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce:

Resources for Business
Website Here



Canadian Business Resilience Network - Resources You Need

Get the most up-to-date information on
Re-Opening the Economy;
Tips and Advice;
Financial Support;
Recovery

See the Chamber's new micro-website

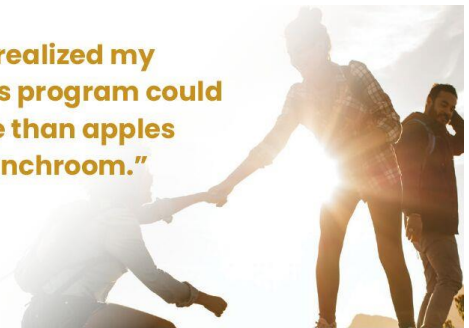


Monday Minute

Monday Minute provides up-to-the minute information on key Chamber of Commerce activities, advocacy and events. Recorded each Monday, it is distributed to Chamber members via email, and is available on the Chamber's website.

Visit our website! or Click [HERE](#)

"When I realized my wellness program could be more than apples in the lunchroom."



Real Benefits for your business

Talk to your local advisor:

Aaron Cadrin | 306.446.8080

visit
chamberplan.ca
Employee Benefits with a Difference. Simple. Stable. Smart.

Chambers Plan has announced an extension on the adjustments of premium for May as well! Great news for plan members. 50% of Dental, 10% of Ext. Health. See your June Statement.



Chamber Network Working for You!



As a valued member of the Battlefords Chamber of Commerce, you have access to the chamber network. The Canadian and Saskatchewan Chambers of Commerce and of course our local resources are here to support you. Stay up-to-date on COVID-19 and other key business issues.

We will be working reduced hours, but will still be available to members and organizations who require assistance.



Email us today!



[#shopthebattlefords](#)
[#supportthebattlefords](#)

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