



## ADVOCACY UPDATE

### COVID-19 - Have We Turned the Corner?

#### UPDATES FOR BUSINESS FROM GOVERNMENT

Today, April 21st, 2020 the Prime Minister announced that the Canada Revenue Agency site was updated with a calculator and information on the **CEWS**, or Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy.

- The site for applications will go live April 27th, 2020
- **CRA** website has 4 main components for you.
  - Who is an eligible employer;
  - Determine your eligible employees;
  - Calculate your subsidy amount; and
  - How to apply.

Details on the **Wage Subsidy** can be viewed on the **CPA Canada** website as well.

#### **Indigenous Business Supports:**

The government has announced \$306.8 M to support small and medium sized Indigenous businesses and financial institutions. See the announcement **HERE**.

#### **Support for the Oil & Gas Sector:**

Friday, April 17th, the government announced support for the Oil & Gas sector, with money to support cleanup of orphaned oil well, \$1.7B, along with \$750M for the Emission Reduction Fund for methane reduction. They also have access to working with EDC and BDC to provide credit to medium-sized energy companies.

See the announcement **HERE**.

The sector in Saskatchewan is concerned they may not be in a position to maximize the contribution amount specific to the province, so are working with government to identify opportunities for authorized projects.

Charities and Non-Profits providing front line services during the COVID-19 pandemic got good news today, as \$350M is being invested and distributed to those groups. The **Emergency Community Support Fund** announcement can be seen on the link.

## Other Announcements:

Provincial:

- Regulations have been passed to allow remote witnessing of **Wills**.
- **Agri-Stability** enrollment deadline extended to July 3rd, 2020.

Federal:

- **US - Canada** Land border restrictions have been extended to May 20th, 2020.
- If you are in Health and Safety, you will be interested in visiting a new website created to assist with providing information and good practices in health and safety initiatives, as well as find material to create your own plan. View **HERE**.
- Government has announced \$675M will be provided to the Regional Development Agencies (including WD, Western Economic Diversification) to fill gaps and support small business and communities. An additional \$287M will be provided through the Community Futures network in rural Canada. See **HERE**.
- Global Affairs Canada announces agreement on **Critical Supply Chain** continuity.
- National Canada Day celebrations will be different than in previous years, with a scheduled virtual ceremony. Here **NEWS** here.

Local:

- Be sure to add your business to the growing list of Battlefords businesses who are using the website **thebattlefords.thingsthatreopen.com** Be sure to update the site regularly, should you change your hours, availability, etc. Let's be sure to let residents know how, where and when to reach you during this pandemic. Sign up today.

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

- The Chamber network has sent a letter to the provincial Premiers identifying their concern about 'essential services', as designated by each province, and how that is impacting flow of goods, etc. See the **LETTER** here.

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.

## Tips for Business Leaders (Blog Article)

Communication is key; Make health a priority; Collaborate with other leaders; and Embrace new opportunities and be compassionate!

**BLOG HERE**

## **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

### **Government of Saskatchewan:**

Visit [Saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus](https://www.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.**

CRA Website [HERE](#)

See Media Release here: Extended 2 additional weeks, April 15th, 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 **Containment Measures;** **Business Continuity;** **Support for Business;** **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](#)



1. [VIEW CHAMBER'S PLAN FAQ](#)
2. [COVID-19 INFO SHEET HERE](#)
3. [TAKING CARE OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH HERE](#)



## 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.



[Email us today!](#)

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



Don't forget to order in your lunch or supper today!

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