



## ADVOCACY UPDATE

### COVID-19 - The Dimmer Switch Turning Lights On in Saskatchewan

#### UPDATES FOR BUSINESS FROM GOVERNMENT

Today, April 23rd, 2020 Premier Scott Moe, together with the Saskatchewan Chief Medical Officer unveiled a plan to re-open the economy and life for residents of Saskatchewan. He noted it would be a cautious, methodical and gradual re-opening of the economy. The **PLAN** is available here.

- It is a 5 phase plan;
- 1st phase commences on Monday, May 4th, 2020 and includes medical services and a series of allowable outdoor recreational opportunities. (Boating and fishing, etc.) In this phase it lays out dates for Golf - May 15th, and Parks and Campgrounds as June 1st, with restrictions.
- Phase 2 will commence on Tuesday, May 19th, 2020 after the May long weekend. It includes opening retail stores, including clothing, shoes, flower shops, and more. As well, specific Personal Services (hairstylists, etc.) can be re-opened in this phase.
- Phase 3, 4 and 5 are laid out in the plan, but have no dates for consideration.
  - Phase 3 - Remaining Personal Services, Restaurants and Bars, Gyms and Fitness facilities, Childcare facilities, and increased public gatherings to 15 people.
  - Phase 4 - public gathering sizes to 30 people, Indoor and Outdoor recreation and Entertainment Facilities (casinos, swimming pools, etc.)
  - Phase 5 - Consideration for lifting some Long Term Care Restrictions.

Key to the plan is continued social distancing, cleaning and disinfection, wearing of protective equipment as needed, and increased testing for the virus.

#### Other Announcements:

Provincial:

- The **PLAN** has been released. The dimmer switch is moving to the on position.

Federal:

- The federal government announced supports for students and recent graduates. Information can be found **HERE**.
- The federal government also announced new plans to invest in development of a vaccine, clinical trials and immunity research, totaling an investment of \$1.1B.

Local:

- Be sure to add your business to the growing list of Battlefords businesses who are using the website **thebattlefords.thingsthatareopen.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.**

Today's national Chamber network conference call was all about the CRA and had a series of Q&A's related to CEWS. Advocacy work still goes on related to specific issues and corporate structures that are not included initially in the intent of the policy or the legislation.

Today we are also having ZOOM calls with Minister Jeremy Harrison of the government of Saskatchewan, and tomorrow we will be involved in a call with the official opposition NDP leader Ryan Meili. News to follow in the next edition of this Advocacy Update.

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.

CRA website has (or will have) new Q&A section for CEWS (the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy) It is a fairly complex program, so please be sure to read all you can to determine qualification and eligibility. **CRA site 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 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**

**Government of Canada:**  
Department of Finance website:  
Finance Dept. Here

CRA Website [HERE](#)

For information on the **State of  
Emergency in Saskatchewan.**  
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. Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance - **rebates** are being prepared for all plan holders - 50% of Dental Premiums and 10% of Extended Health Premiums. Watch for that change / reduction on your next 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.



**Email us today!**

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



**Battlefords Chamber of Commerce**  
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