



## ADVOCACY UPDATE

### COVID-19 - Phase 3 Set to Open on Monday

#### UPDATES FOR BUSINESS FROM GOVERNMENT

##### **Federal Government:**

##### **Transportation - Face Coverings:**

- Transport Minister Marc Garneau introduced measures for public means of travel in Canada.
- Masks are to be worn when using airlines, rail, transit, for transport trucks and marine modes of transportation. This will include in many cases, both staff and passengers.
- Announced as a measure to help stop the transmission of COVID-19. In some modes of transport masks will be mandatory, while others will be preferred.
- See the **RELEASE HERE**.

##### **Commercial Rent Assistance Program for Business Tenants in National Parks:**

- The government has announced that as part of their effort to support National Parks, they will provide rent relief for businesses in National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Marine Conservation Areas.
- The relief package will be much the same as the CECRA (Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance) announced earlier.

##### **Government Announces Support for Communities:**

- The PM announced support for small communities and big cities as they roll out the Federal Gas Tax monies in one lump sum to municipalities in June, 2020.
- The \$2.2B program will get much needed cash into the hands of the local governments, who can utilize funding for: access to high-speed broadband, improvements to water and road systems, and the building of cycling and walking paths.
- These projects create jobs, and improve how Canadians live, work, and play.

##### **Government Announces Supports for Indigenous Peoples and Communities:**

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced May 29th, 2020, additional funding for health, economic and social supports adding to the \$305M Indigenous Community Support Fund.
- \$281.5M to support the ongoing public health response to COVID-19 in Indigenous communities;
- \$270M to supplement On Reserve Income Assistance programs;

- \$44.8M over 5 years to build new shelters to support Indigenous women and girls experiencing and fleeing from violence.
- See [NEWS RELEASE HERE](#)

### **Investments to Bolster Support for Tourism in Western Canada:**

- Government has announced \$3.45M in funding for several projects in Western Canada to support the recovery and growth of the tourism sector in the west.

### **Saskatchewan Business Champion on Federal Strategy Council:**

- Minister Navdeep Bains introduced an Industry Strategy Council to assist the federal government in understanding the scope of challenges businesses across the country face.
- A well known Saskatchewan business person - Murad Al-Katib has been named to the council representing the Agri-Food Sector. Congratulations Murad!

### **Seniors to Receive Support Payments in Early July:**

- See the [RELEASE HERE](#). These payments had already been announced, but now a date has been set for their release and payment.

### **Provincial Government:**

#### **Phase 3 - June 8th Start Date:**

- Phase 3 of Saskatchewan's Re-Open Plan is set to commence on Monday, June 8th, 2020.
- In this phase, set to open are:
  - Gyms and Fitness Centres
  - Child Care Facilities
  - Restaurants and Licensed Establishments
  - Personal Services (remainder)
  - Places of Worship
- In Phase 3 size of public gatherings is also updated to 15 persons indoors, and outdoor gatherings can be up to 30 people.
- Many restrictions and guidelines are still in place for PPE, distancing, etc.
- See the [PHASE 3 BRIEF HERE](#).

### **Visits to Long Term and Acute Care Updated:**

- The Saskatchewan Health Authority has announced small changes to the visitation programs for persons in long term and critical care in Saskatchewan. While this may not be a business issue it is indeed impacting many people in the province, and another sign the government has heard and worked with the people to ease the restrictions for many in long term and acute care settings.
- See the [RELEASE HERE](#).

### **Other Announcements and Supports:**

#### Canadian Business Resilience Network (CBRN):

- Canadian Chamber launches an ambitious [Road Map to Recovery](#). See a more detailed note below!
  - The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has partnered (as noted above) to provide entrepreneurs and small business owners with guidance and assistance with financial supports. The [Business Resilience Service](#) is being offered 7 days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET.
  - Largest 6 business organizations in Canada send an open letter to the Prime Minister. See the [TEXT HERE](#).
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Advocacy work at the national, provincial and local level for businesses continues.

**The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has announced an ambitious recovery plan, and urges government to focus on economic fundamentals and bold solutions.**

The **Roadmap to Recovery** examines nine key challenges and identifies 51 specific recommendations governments should adopt to overcome them. Key to the plan are:

- Getting Canadians back to work
- Keeping supply chains and people moving
- Managing debt and deficits
- Navigating global fragmentation
- Adopting technology and innovation
- Ensuring a resilient resource sector
- Planning for SME business continuity
- Strengthening our public health infrastructure
- Rethinking government's role and priorities

See the **RELEASE HERE**, and find the **FULL DOCUMENT TEXT HERE**.

Under each of the headings in the document, there are recommendations from business to consider in setting a path to resilience and recovery from the pandemic of 2020.

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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.

**The Canadian Chamber of Commerce together with Salesforce are offering \$10,000 grants to 62 companies from across Canada. Will you be one of them? See INFO HERE. Application Deadline is June 12th, 2020 - 8:00 p.m. E.T.**

***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](http://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 28th, 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."**



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**Aaron Cadrin | 306.446.8080**

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



### 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!



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