

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor & Members of City Council
Chambers of Commerce
Media

Date: June 19, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 – Update

SUMMARY

This week, we made announcements on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, Canada Emergency Business Account, Food surplus program, the Canada-U.S. border, and a new COVID-19 app. We have also announced the re-opening of some of Canada's national parks and sites for camping. This year, we're going to be celebrating Canada Day, a little differently. We have many virtual activities and the CBC has a great line-up of Canada day entertainment.

UPDATES

Canada Emergency Response Benefit:

We have extended the Canada Emergency Response Benefit to allow Canadians to collect it for another 2 months. This will help Canadians who are still laid off, pay their bills and get by during these challenging times.

Canada Emergency Business Account:

Minister Ng announced that the Canada Emergency Business Account will open up to include sole-proprietors and those with less than \$20k of income, on Friday June 19th. This means that those who previously didn't qualify because of those restriction, will be able to apply as of June 19th.

Food Surplus Program:

The Prime Minister announced that the Food Surplus Program is now open to applications. With COVID-related changes to consumer behaviours, many farmers have too much product, and nowhere for it to go. Farmers shouldn't have to see the fruits of their labour go to waste. The Food Surplus Program will help get the products that farmers and fishers can't sell to those that need it the most, including northern communities.



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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Canada-U.S. Border:

The Prime Minister also announced that the US and Canada have mutually agreed to extend the current restriction on nonessential travel at the Canada-US border, until July 21. As has been the case since the initial implementation of these restrictions, essential and business travel, and commerce will continue unimpeded. We continue to work diligently to keep Canadians safe, and ensure a continued supply of the critical good that Canadians need, as we continue to move through these uncertain times.

National Parks and Sites:

On June 22nd, some national parks and sites will resume camping activities. To learn more, visit: www.pc.gc.ca.

COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations: Implementation of Phase 2:

Canadian Heritage has launched the first component of Phase 2 of the COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Heritage Organizations. This component provides \$53 million in support to organizations with heritage collections through the emergency component of the Museums Assistance Program.

Eligible not-for-profit organizations such as museums, archives, historic sites, Indigenous organizations, official-language minority communities, or municipal and university museums with separate budgets, will now be able to apply for funding. An online funding portal has been set up to further accelerate the processing of applications. Heritage organizations eligible for the Museums Assistance Program can now apply online through the portal found at the link below:

<https://pch-covid19.canada.ca/en-CA/>

More information about the next component of Phase 2 will be announced shortly.

\$25.7 million in new funding for National Museums and the National Battlefields Commission:

Canada's six national museums — the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, the Canadian Museum of History, the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, the Canadian Museum of Nature, the National Gallery of Canada, the Canada Science and Technology Museum, and the National Battlefields Commission — are important cultural and historical institutions. They play an essential role in preserving our heritage and educating Canadians, and are drivers of innovation. The Government of Canada is therefore announcing an emergency investment of \$25.7 million to help these organizations maintain essential services and be ready to reopen their doors to the public once precautionary measures are lifted. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the six national museums and the National Battlefields Commission closed their doors on March 14, 2020, to protect the health and safety of their staff, visitors, and all Canadians. This major investment will support these national institutions, which are essential to the preservation and presentation of our artistic, cultural and historical treasures. It will also protect jobs on which many Canadians depend.

Emergency Processing Fund (EPF)

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, recently launched the \$77.5 million Emergency Processing Fund (EPF) as part of the Government of Canada's action to support Canadians and businesses facing hardship as a result of COVID-19.

The program will prioritize projects based on two objectives:

Emergency COVID Response to assist companies to implement changes required by COVID-19 to ensure the health and safety of workers. This funding will assist with:

- ✓ plant retrofits or adjustments to existing operations to accommodate changes to processes and production; and
- ✓ increasing capacity for herd management.

Strategic Investments to assist companies to improve, automate, and modernize facilities needed to increase Canada's food supply capacity.

Eligible applicants include for-profit organizations, cooperatives and indigenous groups.

Activities can be retroactive to March 15, 2020 and must be completed by September 30, 2020. Information on the application process is available through the [Emergency Processing Fund](#) or to learn more, please contact aafe.epf-fut.aac@canada.ca or call: 1-877-246-4682.

Canada Day:

Minister Guilbeault unveiled the program for Canada Day. On July 1, Canadians from coast to coast to coast are invited to take part in an array of virtual celebrations to express our national pride. This year more than ever, Canada Day is an important national celebration bringing Canadians together, even if it is done virtually.

It's also time to commemorate some key events in our history, as this year marks the 40th anniversary of the official adoption of our national anthem, "O Canada," and the essential role the Métis Nation played in Manitoba joining Confederation 150 years ago. The roster of activities draws on what makes Canada strong: its diverse cultures, athletic and artistic excellence, Indigenous languages and cultures, and our spirit of innovation. Wherever you are, join in.

A virtual Celebration Kit is now available with interactive, creative and educational activities. A Q&A document is also attached which contains additional information on this year's celebration.

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.canada.ca%2Fen%2Fcanadian-heritage%2Fcampaigns%2Fcanada-day%2Fcelebration-kit.html&data=02%7C01%7C%7C224b85b283564a5fd21a08d813bdcd8d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637281053316934432&data=1kPY8lvewBfix5K7Cs5tf6J2yeajgYXtnWciCvHm%2BM%3D&reserved=0>

Many of the country's cities and communities have virtual celebrations. Canada's embassies, consulates and high commissions are also presenting activities worldwide. To find out more, check out the Canada Day website:

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.canada.ca%2Fen%2Fcanadian-heritage%2Fcampaigns%2Fcanada-day.html&data=02%7C01%7C%7C224b85b283564a5fd21a08d813bdcd8d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637281053316934432&sdata=rfQCagIETAVcWBzAPS14G0t2OuaUfhD94YcUAvqKobk%3D&reserved=0>

From 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. local time watch Canada Day Across the Country on CBC and Radio-Canada as well as on CPAC and Canadian Heritage's digital platforms at 1 p.m. (ET).

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.canada.ca%2Fen%2Fcanadian-heritage%2Fcampaigns%2Fcanada-day%2Fonline-celebrations%2Fdaytime-show.html&data=02%7C01%7C%7C224b85b283564a5fd21a08d813bdcd8d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637281053316934432&sdata=bUnp6IEmu%2FKLGNUCSdZf419W1XnyETCEE17FSEeP6jo%3D&reserved=0>

From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. local time, watch the evening show Canada Day Together on CBC and Radio-Canada as well as on Canadian Heritage's digital platforms at 8 p.m. (ET).

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.canada.ca%2Fen%2Fcanadian-heritage%2Fcampaigns%2Fcanada-day%2Fonline-celebrations%2Fevening-show.html&data=02%7C01%7C%7C224b85b283564a5fd21a08d813bdcd8d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637281053316934432&sdata=v3gq%2B%2Fw9EUdYnPrrib91sEZYbnt0%2BKYA4BEQ3ewzS6s%3D&reserved=0>

New COVID-19 Mobile App:

Canadians have been working hard and making sacrifices these past months to flatten the curve of COVID-19. As the provinces and territories begin to safely restart their economies, we are exploring ways to identify potential cases of COVID-19, while Canadians continue practicing physical distancing. We are developing a new, nation-wide mobile app that will let users know if they may have been exposed to COVID-19. We are working with the Privacy Commissioner to protect the confidentiality and privacy of Canadians. No personal information will be collected by the app, and it does not track the user's location. Downloading the app is voluntary, and we are working with the provinces and territories to make it available in their jurisdictions.

May I, once again, express my sincere appreciation to all residents, our front-line workers, essential service providers, government partners at all levels, businesses and students, for your ongoing efforts to help in this time of crisis. We are in this together! Your daily efforts are ensuring that we will get through this together. If you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Enjoy your weekend.

Stay safe.