

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: June 18, 2020 9:10 AM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update - June 18

Importance: High

CLR Members,

Provincial Update

BC Premier Horgan and Finance Minister James announced the launch of BC's stimulus and recovery plan.

- The launch included a survey which will be open until July 21 inviting citizens of BC to offer their input on the plan. The announcement and survey can be found here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0033-001082>
- According to provincial reports, 14% of construction related jobs have been lost as a result of the pandemic, accounting for roughly 11% of BC's total job loss during the pandemic (34,540 jobs).

Federal Update

In his daily address, the Prime Minister (PM) highlighted the following:

- Canada was unsuccessful in its bid to join the United Nations (UN) Security Council, an initiative the federal government had been pursuing for the past 4 years.
 - Despite not being selected, the PM cushioned the loss by saying the Canadian government will continue to do what they can to collaborate with other countries and advance important issues on the world stage.
- As the economies of provinces and territories start to open across the country, the PM announced the launch of a nationwide mobile contact tracing app that will notify people if they have contracted the virus.
 - The app will be available to everyone in the coming weeks after testing begins this week in Ontario.
 - Use of the app is completely voluntary, but all Canadians are asked to consider using it to make it most effective.
 - The app will assist an individual who is found to have contracted the virus in seeking help, and will notify others who have been in proximity to the infected individual and may have been exposed.
 - The PM said that at no time will personal information be shared and that the app is completely respectful of our privacy. At no time will any personal information be collected by the app, including a person's location.
 - BC is one of the provinces that is working with the federal government on investigating the potential value and use of the app.
 - Understandably, the media had a lot of questions for the PM around the app, the implication being that the app could be used to track people and could be abused for other purposes. The PM responded in a variety of different ways to ensure Canadians that the app's intended purpose is the only purpose it would be used for. The Canadian Privacy Commissioner has also been included in this process. No doubt this will continue to be an issue over the coming weeks.

The PM took questions from the media who again asked about the lack of data available on the use of the federal COVID subsidy programs. The PM continued to be vague on this issue responding as he has in the past, that the federal government is working with provincial and territorial governments to get better data.

Stay safe and well.

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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