

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: July 3, 2020 7:11 AM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update: July 3

Importance: High

CLR Members,

Through our partnership with the Council of Construction Associations (COCA) as well as the Employer's Forum, WorkSafeBC has asked us to circulate correspondence regarding the resumption of business operations in a safe and healthy manner. Please refer to the following link on the COCA website.

<http://cocabc.ca/resuming-business-operations-in-b-c-in-a-healthy-and-safe-manner/>

Provincial Update

Starting this week, more than 80% of families and individuals in British Columbia will automatically receive an enhanced climate action tax credit. The link to the news story is here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FIN0040-001214>

BC's Minister of Finance has released the following statement on the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program and commercial eviction restrictions in British Columbia. The link to the news release is here:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FIN0039-001206>

Federal Update

The Government of Canada is taking action to protect Canadians and businesses from the impacts of the global pandemic through its COVID-19 Economic Response Plan. The Plan helps ensure that Canadians can pay for essentials like mortgages, rent and groceries, and to help businesses continue to pay their employees and their bills during this time of uncertainty. The link to the news release is here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/06/government-announces-extension-of-rent-relief-program-for-small-businesses.html>

The Government of Canada has taken measures throughout Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan to support Canadians and businesses facing difficult challenges as a result of the global COVID-19 outbreak. On March 27, the government announced that it would allow businesses, including self-employed individuals, to defer all Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) payments, as well as customs duty payments owed for imports, until the end of June. The money this left in the pockets of business owners – the equivalent of providing up to \$30 billion in interest-free loans – helped them continue to pay their employees and their bills, and helped ease cash-flow challenges across the country. This week, with a broad range of measures and support programs now in place to help and provide assistance to those businesses and individuals most affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic through the COVID -19 Economic Response Plan, the GST/HST and customs duty payment deferral is ending as planned on June 30. Businesses that continue to experience difficulty in remitting GST/HST and customs duty amounts owing can contact the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to make a request for the cancellation of penalties and interest, and/or for a flexible payment arrangement with the CRA. The Government of Canada continues to assess and respond to the impacts of COVID-19. It stands ready to take additional actions as needed to stabilize the economy and mitigate the impacts of the pandemic. The link to the news release is here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/06/government-provides-update-on-sales-tax-and-duty-payment-deferral.html>

Have a great... and safe weekend.

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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