Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo

Sent: June 4, 2020 9:11 AM
To: Ken McCormack

Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update - June 04

Importance: High

CLR Members,

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

- The PM briefly commented at the start of his address that Canada has participated in the GAVI vaccine alliance discussions hosted virtually by the UK this morning and has committed \$600 million over 5 years towards international efforts to find a vaccine for COVID-19. UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson is urging nations to pledge funding for vaccines against infectious diseases to help the poorest countries tackle the coronavirus. According to media reports, the goal of the alliance is to raise \$10 billion towards this effort.
 - o https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/british-pm-johnson-hosts-global-vaccine-summit-calls-for-funding
 - The GAVI Alliance (formerly the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation) is a global health partnership of public and private sector organizations dedicated to "immunisation for all".
- The PM announced that a new federal model will be released later today with projections on expectations of COVID-19 cases going forward. The government cautions that the model includes projections that can change, especially with the provincial economies opening. Obviously, health officials want to see the number of cases steadily decline but caution that we will find more cases as more testing is implemented. While not necessarily a signal that the number of cases is getting worse, it is very concerning.
 - The PM said that the data we will see in the new model shows that we continue to make progress in controlling the virus. The number of new cases are lowering and we can trace where they came from.
 - He cautions though that we are not out of the woods. People are still very much at risk, especially as
 economies re-open and people return to work. The PM says that we need to strengthen testing and
 contact tracing.
 - As Canadians start to return to work and venture out more, the PM says it is more important than ever to isolate when we can and to maintain physical distancing when we are in public. When unable to distance from others, use appropriate face masks and take other protective measures.
- The PM previously announced funding to support Canadian seniors impacted by the pandemic but to date, the latest promised support has not been released.
 - The PM said that over time this pandemic has made things more expensive for all, and seniors have been hit harder than many. What makes this harder, is this is the new normal for a while at least. As economies re-open, seniors will need to spend most of their time in isolation and protect themselves from potential exposure.
 - In terms of funding, back in April the federal government provided seniors with support from GST credits that amounted to \$375 for single seniors and \$510 for senior couples.
 - In May, The PM promised additional support which included \$300 for all seniors who are eligible for Old Age Security (OAS) and an additional \$200 for low income seniors eligible under the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).
 - o Today, the PM announced that these additional funds will be sent to seniors during the week of July 6.

- o Apparently it is more challenging to get payments out under the system used to pay seniors than other support programs announced by the federal government which is why it is taking so long.
- o https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/06/04/canadian-seniors-receive-special-payment-early-july
- The PM said that later tonight, he will be talking with the Premiers and will continue their conversation on reopening economies and providing support for municipalities. He offered no further details.
 - o https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/06/01/prime-minister-announces-support-help-communities-create-jobs-and

Stay safe and well,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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