

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
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To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update: April 29

Importance: High

CLR Members,

In his daily address, the Prime Minister (PM) focused mostly on the Canadian Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) Subsidy which as we have already reported, is a \$9 billion subsidy to assist students who will be struggling to find work this summer when they leave school. Some details of the program include:

- Payment of \$1,250/month over the summer with more for those who are handicapped or are supporting a dependent (\$1,750/month).
- Added 76,000 additional jobs in areas that need help fighting the pandemic and relaunching their economy.
- Under the Canada Student Service Grant, students who help in the fight on the pandemic will receive an additional grant of \$1,000-\$5,000
- Graduate students will get scholarships, fellowships and grants extended so their work can continue.
- Doubling student grants for students from low and middle income families for 2020 and 2021.

The PM stressed that his government has been working with the opposition and that he will introduce a Bill today in Parliament to put the CESB in place.

Additional supports the PM highlighted included:

- Improvements to the Canadian Child Benefit for the month of May to help parents taking care of kids who would otherwise be in school but are isolated at home as protection from the virus.
- Low income households will get an increase in the GST credit.
- Income tax payment is extended to August.

The PM reported that the curve is flattening and stressed the need to maintain social distancing and for people to continue to isolate as much as possible.

The PM was asked about salaries for essential workers. He had committed 2 weeks ago that he would work with provinces to make improvements but that has not happened yet. The PM's response was that this is a complicated issue that will require provinces to deliver the program differently and complexities across provinces is creating delays but it is a priority they are working on.

During questioning, the PM also stressed that the federal and provincial governments continue to work together to ensure the safety of Canada's food system and those working in the agriculture and food sector.

Support Programs

CLR's legal counsel (Harris & Company) have developed a Q&A to help answer some questions around eligibility for the various government subsidy and support programs. Here is the link:

<http://harrisco.com/covid-19-and-available-government-programs/>

Please stay safe and well!

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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