

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES REGARDING COVID-19

Federal Supports and Subsidies:

All information regarding Federal Supports and Subsidies is taken from
Canada's Covid-19 Economic Response Plan.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

2019 Tax Returns for Individuals

- Deadline is deferred to June 1, 2020
- If you are receiving Canada Child Benefit or GSTC, you should not delay in filing your return to ensure their entitlements for the 2020-21 benefit year are properly determined.
- The Canada Revenue Agency will allow all taxpayers to defer the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after today and before September 2020.

Options For Filing:

- **NETFILE:** If you can access a computer or a mobile device, you can file online using CRA certified tax-filing software. These include: H&R Block Online, TurboTax, CloudTax, TaxTron, and Simple Tax. For a full list, visit the www.canada.ca.
- **Paper filing:** You can view, download and order forms at canada.ca/taxes-general-package or call the CRA at 1-855-330-3305 to order a copy.
- **File my Return:** Eligible people with low income or a fixed income whose situations remain unchanged from year to year, have received an invitation letter in the mail or in their T1 income tax and benefit

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Mortgage Support:

- Payment deferral
- Loan re-amortization
- Capitalization of outstanding interest arrears
- Other eligible expenses
- Special payment arrangements
- 6-month payment deferral for mortgages, and the opportunity for relief on other credit products.

Contact your bank for more information

Canada Child Benefit

- Increasing payment amounts for 2019/20 benefit year by \$300 per child. This will be part of their May payment.

Improved Access to Employment Insurance

- The Government is waiving the one-week waiting period and the requirement to provide a medical certificate for those individuals in quarantine who are:
 - without paid sick leave
 - quarantined or need to stay home to care for children.

This temporary measure will be in effect as of March 15, 2020.

To apply for Employment Insurance, visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/>



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Emergency Care Benefit

- \$900 bi-weekly, for up to 15 weeks.
- Available through the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and provide income support to:
 - Workers, including the self-employed, who are quarantined or sick with COVID-19 but do not qualify for EI sickness benefits.
 - Workers, including the self-employed, who are taking care of a family member who is sick with COVID-19, such as an elderly parent, but do not qualify for EI sickness benefits.
 - Parents with children who require care or supervision due to school or daycare closures, and are unable to earn employment income.
- Applications will be available in April 2020, and require Canadians to attest that they meet the eligibility requirements. Canadians will select one of three channels to apply for the Benefit:
 - by accessing it on their CRA MyAccount secure portal;
 - by accessing it from their secure My Service Canada Account; or
 - by calling a toll free number equipped with an automated application process.



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Increased Goods and Services Tax Credit

- The Government is proposing to double the maximum annual GST Credit payment amounts for the 2019-20 benefit year. The average boost to income for those benefitting from this measure will be close to \$400 for single individuals and close to \$600 for couples.

Eased the Rules for Registered Retirement Income Funds

- The Government of Canada is reducing required minimum withdrawals from Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) by 25% for 2020. This will provide flexibility to seniors that are concerned that they may be required to liquidate their RRIF assets to meet minimum withdrawal requirements.

A Moratorium on the Repayment of Canada Student Loans

- The Government of Canada is placing a six-month interest-free moratorium on the repayment of Canada Student Loans for all individuals currently in the process of repaying these loans.



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Supports for Albertans

<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-supports-for-albertans.aspx>

Emergency Isolation Support

- A temporary program for working adults who must self-isolate because they meet the Government of Alberta's published criteria for self-isolation, including persons who are the sole caregiver for a dependent who must self-isolate because they meet the public health criteria, and who will not have another source of pay or compensation while they are self-isolated.
- A one-time payment of \$1,146 will be distributed to bridge the gap until the federal emergency payments begin in April.
- This program is NOT for you if you:
 - were not working immediately before you were advised to self-isolate
 - are not experiencing a significant loss of income as a result of self-isolation or caring for a dependent due to COVID-19
 - can work from home
 - are currently collecting other forms of income support or employer benefits while self-isolating
 - are staying home to care for a dependent who is home for a reason other than self-isolation as advised by the Government of Alberta
 - reside outside of Alberta.

To register and apply for MyAlberta Emergency Isolation Supports:

<https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-isolation-support.aspx>

For further supports see:

<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-supports-for-albertans.aspx>



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Utility Payment Deferral

- This program is available to Albertans who are experiencing financial hardship as a direct result of COVID-19.
- For example, those who have lost their employment or had to leave work to take care of an ill family member.
- Call your utility provider directly to arrange for a 90-day deferral on all payments.

All deferred bill payments must still be paid within the 90-day limit.

Student Loans Repayment Deferral

- 6-month, interest free, moratorium on Alberta student loan payments for all Albertans in the process of repaying these loans.
- Alberta Student Loan repayments will be paused for 6 months, beginning March 30, 2020.
- Interest will not accrue during this period.
- Students do not need to apply for the repayment pause.



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ATB Financial

- Personal banking customers can apply for a deferral on their ATB loans, lines of credit and mortgages for up to 6 months.

Alberta Credit Unions

- Credit union members will have access to a variety of programs and solutions designed to ease difficulties with loan payments and short-term cash flow.
- Contact your credit union to work out a plan for your personal situation

If your bank is not listed, contact the banks customer service or visit their web page for more information.



Local Supports and Subsidies:

All information regarding each organization was collected from their website or Facebook page. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the organization directly.

Vegreville Food Bank Society

- The Food Bank will not be delivering hampers to homes.
- An appointment must be made to allow for pre-screening.
- Food Bank Hampers:
 1. Appointments and pre-screening: 780-632-6002. Messages checked up to 24 hours before our next open hour.
 2. Appointment times: 10 am - 11:50 am Friday.
- Clients must book an appointment by phone 780- 632-6002. Leave a message and a bookkeeper will contact you.
- On Good Friday, April 10, 2020, the Vegreville Food Bank will be closed.
- Food donations:
 - By appointment Tuesdays and Wednesdays by phoning 587-280-1499 (please give 24 hours notice for appointments).

Online donations:

<https://atbcares.benevity.org/communi.../.../124-892843848RR0001>



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No Frills Vegreville

- Hours are now 9:00 am-8:00 pm
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 am-9:00 am are for seniors and people living with disabilities.

Walmart Supercenter

- Hours are now 8:00am-8:00pm
- Seniors and people living with disabilities hours:
Monday-Friday, 7:00-8:00 am

Co-op Vegreville

- Open 9:00am-9:00pm, 7 days a week
- Home delivery available for anyone that needs it
- Cash, cheque, or electronic transfers accepted

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Skyline Greenhouse

- Full list of items can be found on their website:
www.Skylinegreenhouse.com
- Accepting credit card payment over the phone.
- Free delivery for Vegreville and Lavoy
- Vegreville Location: 780-632-0009
- Lavoy Location: 780-658-3330

The Veg AI-Drug Society

(Contract Provider of Alberta Health Services)

- Still operating
- If you need to talk to someone you can call 780-632-6617.
- The hours of operation are 8:15am to 4:30pm, Monday - Friday.
- After hours/weekends you can call the 24 hour Addictions helpline 1-866-332-2322 or
Mental Health helpline 1-877-303-2642.

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The Society of St. Vince de Paul

- Catholic organization ministering emergency assistance on a case by case basis
- Call 780-603-2270

Come2Life

- COME2LIFE engages youth in emotional health conversations, inviting them to experience help, hope & healing
- Visit Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/pg/ResilientHopeful/about/?ref=page_internal

Canadian Mental Health Association Alberta East Central

- Effective immediately, CMHA Camrose main office is completely closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All non-critical programming is suspended until further notice. Check our website or social media channels for further updates. To our valued staff and consumers, please note that CMHA East Central Region has closed its doors to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Staff will continue to be available via text/email/facetime/phone during the next few weeks from the hours of 8:30am - 4:30 pm. General Inquiries can be directed to 780-672-2570.
- <https://www.cmhacamrose.ca/>

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FCSS Canadian Income Tax Volunteer Program

- Get your taxes done by FCSS staff and CRA-trained volunteers
- Income Requirements:
 - o Single Person: Under \$35,000
 - o Couple: Under \$45,000
- Here's How:
 - o Pick up a form on the steps of the Town Administrative Building during business hours.
 - o Complete the form.
 - o Put it in the mail slot beside the main doors of the Town Administrative Building.
 - o FCSS volunteer or staff will call you to complete your tax return.