



# COVID-19

MAY 11, 2020

## CPA working hard for you

To assist retailers with their retail operations as provinces across Canada begin to open up, the CPA has created a new section in the [CPA Guide - Best Practices recommended during COVID-19](#) (V.3, May 4, 2020). **Measures for Reopening your Retail Operations**, located on page 10 of the guide, provides a number of appropriate public health measures that businesses can implement in their operations to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 amongst employees and customers. The guide is also available on the [CPA website](#) under CPA Resources.

The CPA is regularly updating documents on the website. As such, it is recommended that you clear your cache before downloading any of the documents. To do so, please follow these steps:

1. Access your usual browser
2. Press simultaneously the “CTL”, “SHIFT” and “DELETE” keys
3. Select “Images and caches” then choose “Erase the data”

## Federal

### ESSENTIAL SERVICES

## Additional financial support announced for businesses but oil and gas sector skeptical

Today, the [Prime Minister announced additional support](#) through a Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF) that would provide bridge financing to Canada’s largest employers whose needs are not being met through conventional financing to keep their operations going.

The objective of this support is to help Canadian businesses weather the current economic downturn, and avoid bankruptcies of otherwise viable firms where possible. The government says the additional liquidity provided through LEEFF will allow Canada’s largest businesses and their suppliers to remain active and position them for rapid economic recovery.

One of the criteria for program eligibility is that recipients “must commit to publishing annual climate-related disclosure reports consistent with the Financial Stability Board’s Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, including how their future operations will support environmental sustainability and national climate goals.” However, of concern to key leaders in the oil and gas sector is the lack of clarity on how the government plans to process applications regarding this requirement. For example, who would be determining eligibility and what metrics

would be used to decide if a company's climate change/environmental strategy is adequate/inadequate?

The government also announced additional financial support through the expansion of the Business Credit Availability Program to mid-sized companies with larger financing needs. Support for mid-market businesses will include loans of up to \$60 million per company and guarantees of up to \$80 million. It will also continue to provide financing to businesses through Farm Credit Canada, the BDC, and EDC, including through the Canada Account.

But what is clearly missing from the government's announcement today is direct financial support for the energy industry. More action is urgently needed to ensure Canada's oil and gas sector remains viable, including future capital investment of the industry.

## Ontario

### ESSENTIAL SERVICES

#### Ontario premier requesting state of emergency extension to June 2

The Ontario government previously provided an incorrect date for the proposed state of emergency extension. The government has since revised the date to June 2. The legislature will resume for its fourth emergency session on Tuesday, allowing the MPPs to approve another extension of the state of emergency declaration.

## New Brunswick

### ESSENTIAL SERVICES

#### New Brunswick government moving to phase two of recovery plan

New Brunswick's COVID-19 recovery plan has transitioned to the next phase. Under Phase 2 (also designated as Orange level), several activities and openings are permitted, subject to maintaining physical distancing measures, [general guidelines from Public Health](#) and the [Guidelines for New Brunswick Workplaces](#) issued by WorkSafe NB.

Businesses do not need to be inspected before re-opening, but they must prepare an [operational plan](#) that can be provided to officials, if requested. Businesses may open immediately, but it is up to each business operator to decide if they are ready and if all guidelines have been met.

Re-openings and activities include:

- Elective surgeries and other non-emergency health services, including dental, physiotherapy, optometry and massage therapy.
- Outdoor public gatherings, with physical distancing, of 10 or fewer people.
- Indoor public gatherings, with physical distancing, of 10 or fewer people for in-person religious services, weddings and funerals.

- All in-person programs at post-secondary institutions, subject to the COVID-19 directives from Public Health. Virtual education options should be continued wherever possible.
- Cultural venues such as museums, galleries and libraries.
- Offices not deemed essential during the initial phase.
- Retail establishments, including malls.
- Restaurants.
- Campgrounds and outdoor recreational activities, such as zoos and outfitters.
- Early learning and childcare centres regulated by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will be permitted to reopen as of **May 19**. The department will contact operators to provide further information in the coming days.
- Non-regulated childcare providers may open as of today but must adhere to Public Health guidelines, including having an operational plan.
- Day camps, if the organization can adhere to Public Health measures set out in the document called *COVID-19 Recovery Phase: Guidance to Early Learning and Childcare Facilities and Day Camps*.
- ATV trails across the province.

In addition, face masks will be required to be worn in public if physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Information on public health recovery phases, measures and guidelines is [available online](#). Business owners who have questions can contact Opportunities NB Business Navigators by emailing [nav@navnb.ca](mailto:nav@navnb.ca) or by calling 1-833-799-7966.

#### **Personal protective equipment**

The government is developing a website, which will be available next week, that will have a list of suppliers that provide personal protective equipment to private industry.

**Keep informed with up-to-date information by visiting our [COVID-19 website](#).**