



MAY 25, 2020

CPA Annual General Meeting – June 10, 2020

Due to COVID-19, the **Canadian Propane Association is holding its AGM on June 10 at 1:15 pm EST via teleconference call**. If you have not received an invite to the AGM and are a member in good standing with the CPA and wish to attend, please contact Sherri Clair at sherriclair@propane.ca or 613-513-5800.

Federal

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

TRAINERS – can you finally host training sessions?

Consult the gathering limitations across the provinces

All provinces across Canada have set up restrictions limiting the size of groups for indoor and outdoor public and private gatherings. To assist you in determining if you are able to host a training session, and under what conditions, please consult the links below.

Note that some of these measures may not reflect specific guidelines related to training in classrooms. The CPA is continuing to look into more specific information as it relates to classroom training for our industry.

In all cases, a distance of two metres must be maintained at any type of gathering. In most provinces, face masks are recommended where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Please refer to the CPA's *Best practices recommended during COVID-19 - Measures for Reopening your Retail Operations*, produced to assist you in hosting a training session during COVID-19.

[BC](#)
Indoor and outdoor – 6 people

[Alberta](#)
Indoor – less than 15

[Newfoundland & Labrador](#)
Gatherings – 10 people
Gatherings apply to essential or official events/ceremonies and include essential workplace activities such as certification or training

Outdoor – less than 50

[Saskatchewan](#)

Indoor and outdoor – 10

[Manitoba](#)

Indoor – 25

Outdoor – 50

[Ontario](#)

Social gatherings – 5

[Québec](#)

Outdoor – 10

[New Brunswick](#)

Indoor and Outdoor – 10 – will expand to 50 this Friday, May 29 (see below)

[Prince Edward Island](#)

Indoor – Members of the same household may gather with up to 5 other individuals

Outdoor – Members of the same household may gather with up to 10 other individuals

[Nova Scotia](#)

Indoor and outdoor – 5 people, [unless your group has an exemption](#).

FINANCIAL AID

Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance now open for applications

[The federal government announced today](#) that applications are now being accepted for Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses.

Over the course of the program, property owners should be able to reduce their rent by at least 75 per cent for the months of April and May (retroactive), and June, for their small business tenants. CECRA will cover 50 per cent of the rent, with the tenant paying up to 25 per cent and the property owner forgiving at least 25 per cent.

The government says that applying for CECRA makes financial sense for property owners, as their success depends on the success of their tenants. If a tenant declares bankruptcy and is evicted, the property owner receives zero rental income and faces additional costs while they search for new tenants. With this program, the government says property owners can continue to receive income, and small business tenants will receive the help they need to recover and come back after the pandemic.

As of today, applications will be accepted through the [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation \(CMHC\)](#) website.

The CMHC expects a large number of applications. To manage this volume, the intake of applications will be staggered based on the size and location of the commercial property.

Property owners can submit their applications according to the following timetable:

- Monday, May 25: Property owners who are located in Atlantic Canada, British Columbia, Alberta, and Québec, with up to 10 tenants who are eligible for the program.

- Tuesday, May 26: Property owners who are located in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and the Territories, with up to 10 tenants who are eligible for the program.
- Wednesday, May 27: All other property owners in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and the Territories.
- Thursday, May 28: All other property owners in Atlantic Canada, British Columbia, Alberta, and Québec.
- Friday, May 29: All property owners across Canada.

This program is for small business tenants that are paying less than \$50,000 per month in gross rent, with annual consolidated revenues of less than \$2 million, and that have experienced at least a 70 per cent drop in pre-COVID-19 revenues. It will also be available to non-profit and charitable organizations.

Free business advice for small- to medium-sized business, not-for-profits and charities to navigate uncertainty

Small- to medium-sized businesses, not-for-profit organizations and charities can now access a network of qualified business advisors to help guide them courtesy of a new government-funded program from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

The program, called the [Business Resilience Service](#) (BRS), is run through the Canadian Chamber's [Canadian Business Resilience Network](#) in collaboration with [EY](#) and with support from [Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada](#) and [Imagine Canada](#). The BRS will provide options for any vulnerable small- to medium-sized business, not-for-profit or charity to immediately connect with experienced accounting and tax professionals across the country from professional services firms. The program, delivered to organizations free of charge, will:

- Provide guidance on program options and eligibility
- Rapidly direct businesses – including enterprises involving Indigenous peoples, women and diverse groups – to the most appropriate support organizations
- Help organizations make decisions to support recovery plans
- Provide real time insights and feedback to policymakers

The BRS program, coordinated by EY, will be provided for four weeks from Monday, May 25, and will involve support from approximately 125 business advisors from across the accounting profession. Organizations can access the BRS seven days a week by calling 1-866-989-1080.

New Brunswick

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Province takes next step in COVID-19 recovery; no new cases reported

[The provincial government's COVID-19 recovery plan is moving gradually to the next level](#) and is reopening more businesses and activities while working to prevent a resurgence of the virus.

Under the yellow level, more restrictions are being eased, subject to maintaining physical distancing measures, [general guidelines from Public Health](#) and the [Guidelines for New Brunswick Workplaces](#) issued by WorkSafeNB.

Businesses that choose to reopen during this phase must prepare an [operational plan](#) that can be provided to officials, if requested.

Effective May 22:

- Your two-household bubble can be extended to close friends and family. It is recommended that gatherings indoors be limited to 10 or fewer people. Continue to keep gatherings as small as possible, especially if you have a vulnerable person in your family or a child who attends daycare.
- Non-regulated health professionals and businesses may open, including acupuncturists and naturopaths.
- Personal services and businesses may open, including barbers, hairstylists, spas, estheticians, manicurists, pedicurists and tattoo artists.

On Friday, May 29:

- Outdoor public gatherings of 50 people or fewer will be permitted with physical distancing.
- Religious services, including wedding and funerals, of 50 people or fewer may take place indoors or outdoors with physical distancing.
- Elective surgeries and other non-emergency health-care services will increase.
- Low-contact team sports will be permitted.
- The following will be permitted to open:
 - swimming pools, saunas and waterparks
 - gyms, yoga and dance studios
 - rinks and indoor recreational facilities
 - pool halls and bowling alleys

On June 19, overnight camps will be allowed to open.

Opening of other sectors to be determined

The reopening of casinos, amusement centres, bingo halls, arcades, cinemas, bars (without seating), large live performance venues and large public gatherings will be determined once additional evidence is available on the province's success in managing a resurgence of the virus. Information on public health recovery phases, measures and guidelines [is available online](#).

Temporary foreign workers to be permitted

Starting May 29, temporary foreign workers may enter New Brunswick under strict public health guidance, including isolating for 14 days before beginning work.

Post-secondary education institutions

Registered students can move to the province to resume or start studies at New Brunswick post-secondary institutions for the fall semester. This includes students from other provinces and from outside of the country. They will be required to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival. Students are not permitted to commute daily from outside New Brunswick to attend classes.

Playgrounds

Early learning and childcare facilities will now be permitted to resume using outdoor playgrounds and equipment, provided they continue to follow the required stringent cleaning protocols. More information on which school facilities are open to the public, such as playgrounds and sports fields, is available through each respective school district.

Local governments can open their parks and playgrounds if they can ensure they meet the requirements outlined by Public Health.

State of emergency remains in effect

The latest version of New Brunswick's State of Emergency mandatory order [is available online](#).

Trainers

Interactive Training Summary Sheet updated

The CPA's [PTI 965-10 Interactive Training Summary Sheet](#) has been updated to V3.3. All fields are now interactive.

We recommend that you clear your cache before downloading any of the updated documents. To do so, please follow these steps:

Clear your cache:

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

For all training enquiries, please contact the Propane Training Institute at toll-free (877) 784-4636 or email: training@propane.ca.

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