



9140 Leslie Street, Suite 110, Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4B 0A9  
Email: [service@impactcpas.ca](mailto:service@impactcpas.ca) • Website: [www.impactcpas.ca](http://www.impactcpas.ca)  
Tel: 905-597-5773 • Fax: 905-513-7775

---

*IMPACT CPAs LLP/ChimSeto CPAs LLP, Ontario limited liability partnerships.*

---

Dear Clients,

This has become a daily update now... Here is today's announcement from the Prime Minister and Finance Minister... As with Canada's tax system, it is still not as simple as it sounds! 中文简短翻译在最后。

Stay safe and practice social distancing!

Cheers

## Government introduces Canada Emergency Response Benefit to help workers and businesses

**March 25, 2020 - Ottawa, Ontario - Department of Finance Canada**

The Government of Canada is taking strong, immediate and effective action to protect Canadians and the economy from the impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic. No Canadian should have to choose between protecting their health, putting food on the table, paying for their medication or caring for a family member.

To support workers and help businesses keep their employees, the government has proposed legislation to establish the **Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)**. **This taxable benefit would provide \$2,000 a month for up to four months for workers who lose their income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.** The CERB would be a simpler and more accessible combination of the previously announced Emergency Care Benefit and Emergency Support Benefit.

**The CERB would cover Canadians who have lost their job, are sick, quarantined, or taking care of someone who is sick with COVID-19, as well as working parents who must stay home without pay to care for children who are sick or at home because of school and daycare closures. The CERB would apply to wage earners, as well as contract workers and self-employed individuals who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI).**

Additionally, workers who are still employed, but are not receiving income because of disruptions to their work situation due to COVID-19, would also qualify for the CERB. This would help businesses keep their employees as they navigate these difficult times, while ensuring they preserve the ability to quickly resume operations as soon as it becomes possible.

The EI system was not designed to process the unprecedented high volume of applications received in the past week. **Given this situation, all Canadians who have ceased working due to COVID-19, whether they are EI-eligible or not, would be able to receive the CERB to ensure they have timely access to the income support they need.**

Canadians who are already receiving EI regular and sickness benefits as of today would continue to receive their benefits and should not apply to the CERB. If their EI benefits end before October 3, 2020, they could apply for the CERB once their EI benefits cease, if they are unable to return to work due to COVID-19. Canadians who have already applied for EI and whose application has not yet been processed would not need to reapply. Canadians who are eligible for EI regular and sickness benefits would still be able to access their normal EI benefits, if still unemployed, after the 16-week period covered by the CERB.

The government is working to get money into the pockets of Canadians as quickly as possible. The portal for accessing the CERB would be available in early April. EI eligible Canadians who have lost their job can continue to apply for EI [here](#), as can Canadians applying for other EI benefits.

Canadians would begin to receive their CERB payments within 10 days of application. The CERB would be paid every four weeks and be available from March 15, 2020 until October 3, 2020.

This benefit would be one part of the government's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, to support Canadian workers and businesses and help stabilize the economy by helping Canadians pay for essentials like housing and groceries, and helping businesses pay their employees and bills during this unprecedented time of global uncertainty.

加拿大联邦政府今天公布了新的疫情补贴政策 - 加拿大紧急应变福利 ( CERB ) , 这跟EI一样是应纳税收入, 受COVID-19疫情影响而在2020年3月15日至2020年10月3日期间失去收入的所有加拿大人都能享受每月2000元的福利。此CERB福利取代了3月18日公布的两项应急福利, 适合于所有原本在职或自雇及合同工人士。福利一共有4个月, 每4周发, 四月初可以申请。具体细节请看四月出台的申请平台。

疫情扩散期间大家请保重 !

**Ben Seto and Wei Hua**  
**Partners**