



Summary of Programs Available for Businesses and Business Owners As of July 8, 2020

Programs that are **highlighted** reflect the fact that they have been added or changed since our last update on May 21st, 2020

Nova Scotia Supports for Businesses

<u>Program</u>	<u>Link</u>	<u>Deadlines</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Agriculture Response Program	https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/agriculture-response-program/	May 15 - December 31, 2020	<p>This program is for farms, agri-businesses, agricultural industry associations, and Mi'kmaq First Nations and other indigenous organizations involved in agriculture business.</p> <p>There are 4 streams for funding under the COVID-19 Response and Mitigation Program. The funding doesn't need to be repaid.</p> <p>Stream 1: COVID-19 Mitigation and Adaptation for Health Protocol Applicants are eligible for 75% funding assistance on total eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000 per program year, to help applicants comply with recommended health protocols.</p> <p>Stream 2: COVID-19 Marketing, Product Movement and Distribution Agriculture companies and registered Nova Scotia farms as applicants are eligible for 50% funding assistance on total eligible project costs to a maximum of \$20,000 per project.</p> <p>Stream 3: COVID-19 Strategic Projects Initiatives at a sector or industry level will be reviewed for funding on an</p>

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			<p>individual basis. If they're deemed to meet the objectives of the Program, they will be assessed on an individual merit, impact and reach basis.</p> <p>Stream 4: COVID-19 Abattoir Efficiency and Development Applicants are eligible for 75% funding assistance on total eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000 per program year.</p>
Small Business Reopening and Support Grant	https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/small-business-reopening-support-grant/	July 17, 2020	<p>This grant provides funding for small businesses, non-profits, charities and social enterprises that were ordered to close or greatly reduce operations because of the Public Health Order or were greatly impacted by orders to stay home. Funding includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one-time grant of up to \$5,000 to help your business safely reopen • business continuity voucher of up to \$1,500 for advice and services to help your business adapt to and become more resilient in a COVID-19 world <p>Groups of eligible businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses and organizations approved for the Small Business Impact Grant or that were eligible but didn't apply for the Small Business Impact Grant and plan to reopen • Small retail businesses and social enterprises with permanent leased or owned retail premises, total annual sales of more than \$25,000 and less than \$300,000. Stores and retailers without a physical shop are not eligible. • Small, independent retail gasoline dealers, with 3 or fewer retail outlets, paying the small business tax rate and operating in Nova Scotia between 16 March 2020 and 1 June 2020. • Dental offices planning to restart service to patients in June 2020 are eligible for a one-time grant of \$5,000 to assist with safely reopening.
Co-op Education Incentive	https://novascotia.ca/programs/co-op-education-incentive/	Apply between Aug 16 – Sept 16, 2020 for the	<p>This program helps employers hire post-secondary co-operative education students for work placements across Nova Scotia. The program allows organizations to hire a student for a work term of 12-16 weeks, and receive a subsidy of \$7.50 an hour (\$9.00 if the student is a member of designated</p>

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		<p>Winter 2021 co-op term.</p>	<p>diversity group). Due to COVID-19, this program has also implemented some positive changes to support employers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash Advance: Employers may be eligible for an advance of 60% of the Co-op Education Incentive (CEI) subsidy at the beginning of the term, when the student starts work. • Timing Flexibility: More flexible in terms of work placement duration, start and end dates. <p>Incentive “Stacking”: Due to the current COVID 19 crisis, the CEI currently allows the combining of CEI funds with other wage subsidy programs such as the Student Work Placement Project. The full list of those SWPP partners are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BioTalent • Canadian Council for Aviation & Aerospace (CCAA) • Magnet • Environment Careers Organization Canada (ECO Canada) • Electricity Human Resources Canada (EHRC) • Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC) • Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC) • Mining Industry Human Resources Council (MiHR) • Venture for Canada
<p>(Existing Program modified due to COVID-19) Graduate to Opportunity (GTO)</p>	<p>https://novascotia.ca/programs/graduate-to-opportunity/</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>Graduate to Opportunity (GTO) is helping to build a stronger workforce and retain young people in Nova Scotia with a salary incentive that makes it easier to hire recent graduates.</p> <p>Employers receive 25% of the first year’s salary – 35% if the new graduate is a member of designated diversity group – and 12.5% of the second year’s salary.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The position must be new, permanent, full-time and pay at least \$30,000 a year. • The graduate you hire must have successfully completed a post-secondary program within one year from the day you submit your application. • A business may now “stack” this funding agreement with the federal Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. The subsidy combination cannot exceed 100% of the wage that is paid.
(Existing Program modified due to COVID-19 Innovate to Opportunity (ITO))	https://novascotia.ca/programs/innovate-to-opportunity/	ongoing	<p>Innovate to Opportunity (ITO) is helping well-educated graduates start their careers in Nova Scotia while helping businesses become more innovative and export-oriented. The program provides an incentive to hire recent masters and PhD grads for jobs that are focused on research and innovation that will help businesses begin, prepare for, or expand exports.</p> <p>Innovation Stream.</p> <p>Employers receive 35% of the graduate’s annual salary in Year 1, 20% in Year 2, and 12.5% in Year 3, up to an annual salary of \$100,000.</p> <p>The work should be expected to help the company prepare for, begin or expand exports. At least 25% of the new graduate's time must be spent on any combination of activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applied research • product and service development • market analysis for new complex products or activity • improvement of product quality, customer services and business efficiencies • process development or improvement • technical feasibility studies and pilots for product launches or market entry <p>Advanced Innovation Stream.</p>

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			<p>Employers receive: 50% of the graduate’s annual salary in Year 1, 25% in Year 2, and 12.5% in Year 3, up to an annual salary of \$100,000.</p> <p>At least 75% of the new graduate’s time must be spent on any combination of the activities required of the Innovation Stream. The work must also have an explicit connection to export development or growth.</p> <p>A diversity bonus of an additional 10% can be provided in the 1st and 2nd years of both streams, if the graduate is a woman in an under-represented occupation, self-identifies as a racially visible minority, is Mi’kmaq or Indigenous, an international student or a person with a disability.</p> <p>A business may now “stack” this funding agreement with the federal Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. The subsidy combination cannot exceed 100% of the wage that is paid.</p>
Small Business Loan Guarantee Program	http://www.novascotia.coop/program/s/small-business-loan-guarantee-program/ for a list of participating Credit Unions	ongoing	<p>For businesses that have an existing loan through one of the existing Small Biz Loan Guarantee Programs (SBLGP), principal and interest payments are deferred until June 30th. A new COVID-19 SBLGP has been announced where the provincial government will guarantee 100% of the loan up to \$100,000. Loans can be approved up to \$500,000 partially guaranteed by the province.</p> <p>Note: Not all businesses who apply will be approved. For example, it would be unlikely that an established business that was consistently losing money prior to the COVID-19 Crisis would be approved.</p> <p>Note: Applications to this program are high so you may experience delays in having the applications processed</p>
Small Business Development Program	https://www.novascotiabusiness.com/export/programs-services/business-development-program	January 15, 2021	<p>Stream 1: This stream facilitates access to a private-sector consultant to provide professional expertise to overcome a certain pain point keeping your business from growing. The minimum project cost for Stream 1 is \$5,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding provided at 50% up to a maximum of \$15,000 per fiscal <p>NEW - Stream 2: Focused on senior executives, this stream will help you and your company identify and develop the leadership skills needed to grow. Work with business experts to understand and address how to overcome barriers to successfully scale your company and increase sales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companies must have a minimum of \$500,000 in revenue to be eligible for this stream

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minimum project cost for Stream 2 is \$10,000 • Funding is provided at 75% up to a maximum of \$30,000 per fiscal • Companies are allowed one project per fiscal
Small Business Virtual Training	https://www.novascotiabusiness.com/events	ongoing	NSBI is providing digital content to support businesses by allowing them to access programming at times that work for them. The virtual workshops and training courses provide companies with vital strategies and hands-on tips on how to deal with the current crisis.
Funding Tool Search	https://www.novascotiabusiness.com/export/online-tools/funding-search-tool	ongoing	Funding portal is a snapshot of potentially available government support programs and services.
Productivity and Innovation Program	https://www.novascotiabusiness.com/export/programs-services/productivity-and-innovation-voucher-program	October 15, 2020	<p>This program allows small and medium sized businesses to access direct assistance from Nova Scotia's Universities and the Nova Scotia Community College to help make their business more productive and innovative. Small businesses can request a voucher up to \$15,000 or \$25,000 to pay for the expertise to assist them. This includes work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve productivity ▪ Develop a new product, service, or process ▪ Create growth
Tourism Nova Scotia Webinar Series	https://tourismns.ca/news/intouch-blog/tourism-nova-scotia-webinar-series-offers-tools-navigate-covid-19-and-strengthen	Commenced April 22, 2020	To help Nova Scotia's tourism industry navigate the situation with COVID-19, Tourism Nova Scotia has launched a weekly series of webinars that will provide technology tips to help you adapt your business and connect with potential customers, research and insights to help you develop products and services that will be compelling to customers in local markets, and advice to help you market your business.
Occupational Health and Safety Tips	https://www.ccohs.ca/products/publications/covid19/	Ongoing	The Canadian Centre for Health and Safety has developed a series of tip sheets to guide businesses when operating during pandemic, including COVID-19. Each document offers health and safety tips and good practices, for both employers and workers, specific to each industry or sector. Organizations and businesses can adopt this guidance to protect their workers and prevent the spread of infections. The tip sheets cover a range of occupations and industries from construction and trucking to healthcare and daycares.
Nova Scotia Business Navigators	https://novascotia.ca/regulatoryopportunity/business-navigators.asp	ongoing	If your business needs help dealing with matters of provincial concerns, including if your business is allowed to be open or not, please contact the Province of Nova Scotia's Business Navigators at 1-844-628-7347 from Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm.

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COVID-19 Employer Assessment Tool	https://covid19-employer-assessment.novascotia.ca/en	ongoing	To slow the spread of COVID-19 in Nova Scotia, some businesses and organizations are required to close. Others can stay open if they can meet certain public health requirements. Answering the questions on this employer self assessment clarifies which businesses can remain open, and what they need to do during this state of emergency.
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Government of Canada Supports for Businesses

<u>Program</u>	<u>Link</u>	<u>Deadlines</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)	https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/finance-and-investing/covid19-cecra-small-business	July 31, 2020	<p>The Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses. This program will lower rent by 75 per cent for small businesses that have been affected by COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program will provide forgivable loans to qualifying commercial property owners to cover 50% of three monthly rent payments that are payable by eligible small business tenants who are experiencing financial hardship during April, May, and June. The loans will be forgiven if the mortgaged property owner agrees to reduce the small business tenants' rent by at least 75% under a rent forgiveness agreement The small business tenant would cover the remainder, up to 25% of the rent. Impacted small business tenants are businesses paying less than \$50,000 per month in rent and who have temporarily ceased operations or have experienced at least a 70% drop in pre-COVID revenues. This support will also be available to non-profit and charitable organizations. <p>Note: this is not a mandatory program, it is voluntary. It requires a landlord to reduce his/her rent by 25% which some may not be able or willing to do.</p>
ACOA-led Regional Relief Recovery Fund (RRRF)	https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/acoa-apeca/documents/Application%20for%20RRRF.pdf	Open	<p>The Regional Relief Recovery Fund is a program to support Atlantic Canadian businesses and communities affected by COVID-19. The fund is intended to support business owners and organizations that have fallen through the cracks and have not qualified for other federal emergency support efforts such as the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA).</p> <p>The RRRF is complementary to other federal COVID-19 programs</p> <p>Businesses must first apply for other federal support measures such as the Canada Emergency Business Account benefit, the Wage Subsidy benefit and the Commercial Rent assistance for small businesses, among others. Applicants are required to attest that they applied for other federal benefits and were approved, rejected or deemed ineligible. If companies are eligible for other</p>

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			<p>programs they should apply for those programs and apply to the Regional Relief Recovery Fund for the operating costs that other federal programs do not cover.</p> <p>This program is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Profit businesses and Not-For-Profit organizations undertaking commercial activities • Not-For-Profit organizations providing technical support to businesses to help them mitigate COVID-19 impacts <p>Funds are to be used for working capital needs to help with operating costs for up to 6 months. It can be applied retroactively as far back as March 15, 2020. Eligible costs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent, property taxes, rent/lease of equipment and machinery • Salaries and benefits • Utilities, Insurance, professional fees • Safety measures, cleaning supplies • Bank interest charges, interest portion of loan payments • Vehicle operating expenses, office supplies • Other fixed overhead costs • One-time stabilization expenditures • Ineligible costs include refinancing of other debt or the purchase of land. <p>Note: Businesses in sectors that are critical to the resilience and survival of Atlantic Canada’s economy, such as advanced manufacturing, ocean industries, clean growth technology, and tourism, may be given priority.</p>
<p>CBDC-led Regional Relief Recovery Fund</p>	<p>www.cbdc.ca</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The Regional Relief Recovery Fund is a program to support Atlantic Canadian businesses and communities affected by COVID-19. The fund is intended to support business owners and organizations that have fallen through the cracks and have not qualified for other federal emergency support efforts such as the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA).</p> <p>Businesses must first apply for other federal support measures such as the Canada Emergency Business Account benefit, the Wage Subsidy benefit and the Commercial Rent assistance for small businesses, among others. Applicants are required to attest that they applied for other federal benefits and were approved, rejected or deemed ineligible. If companies are eligible for other programs they should apply for those programs and apply to the Regional Relief Recovery Fund for the operating costs that other federal programs do not cover.</p> <p>Regional Relief & Recovery Fund will provide a loan of up to \$40,000 to small and medium-sized businesses</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If 75% of the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022, 25% of the loan will be forgiven. <p>This program is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small- medium sized enterprises that may be a corporation, proprietorship, partnership or joint venture, social enterprise or cooperative conducting business on a year-round or seasonal basis undertaking commercial activities <p>Funds are to be used for working capital needs to help with operating costs for up to 6 months. It can be applied retroactively as far back as March 15, 2020. Eligible costs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent, property taxes, property and liability insurance • Maintenance and repair of premises • lease of equipment and machinery • Payroll and supplies • Utilities and communications, professional fees, marketing, training • Safety measures(PPE), cleaning supplies • Bank interest charges, interest portion of loan payments Equipment and vehicle lease payments • Pandemic technical aid for; compliance with public health legislation, orders, directives and guidelines. Developing and implementing protocols to mitigate risk inherent to business operations, premises or environment • Ineligible costs include refinancing of other debt or the purchase of land, purchase of assets for more than market value, goodwill, costs covered by other pandemic relief measures.
Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund	https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/corporate/contact-us.html	Ongoing – through ACOA	<p>This program will help businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access short-term financing to pay for maintenance and inventory costs; • add storage capacity for unsold product; • comply with new health and safety measures for workers; • support new manufacturing/automated technologies to improve productivity and quality of finished seafood products; and, • adapt products to respond to changing requirements and new market demands.
Emergency Processing Fund	https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/emergency-processing-fund/step-3-	July 31, 2020	The Emergency Processing Fund is to <u>help food producers</u> access more personal protective equipment (PPE), adapt to health protocols, automate or modernize their facilities, processes, and operations, and respond to emerging pressures from COVID-19 so they can better supply Canadians with food during this period.

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	how-to-apply/?id=1591389940557		
Fish Harvester Benefit	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#industry	Coming soon	<p>This program will provide income support for this year's fishing seasons to eligible self-employed fish harvesters and sharepersons crew who cannot access the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy.</p> <p>This support will be provided to those that experience fishing income declines of greater than 25% in the 2020 tax year, compared with a reference period to be identified.</p> <p>This measure covers 75% of fishing income losses beyond a 25% income decline threshold, up to a maximum individual entitlement equivalent to what is provided under the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (\$847 per week for up to 12 weeks).</p>
Fish Harvester Grant	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#industry	Coming soon	<p>This program will provide grants to fish harvesters impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and who are ineligible for the Canada Emergency Business Account or equivalent measures.</p> <p>This will provide more liquidity to address non-deferrable business costs. The program would provide non-repayable support of up to \$10,000 to self-employed fish harvesters with a valid fishing licence. Size of the non-repayable support will vary depending on the level of fish harvesters' historic revenue.</p> <p>More details will be available soon.</p>
Proposed Changes to EI for self-employed fish harvesters and sharepersons	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#industry	Coming Soon	<p>This proposal is to make changes to Employment Insurance (EI) that would allow self-employed fish harvesters and sharepersons to access EI benefits on the basis of insurable earnings from previous seasons (winter and summer claims). This will be of assistance to individuals who are dealing with shorter or cancelled fishing seasons.</p>
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#businesses	Available March 15 – August 29 th , 2020	<p>This program has been developed to encourage employers to keep employees on their payroll. It will allow employers to keep their work force intact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The program will be in place for a <u>24-week period</u>, retroactive to March 15 and ending August 29th, 2020. ▪ Businesses will receive a 75% rebate on wages paid up to \$847 per week, per employee. No cap on the number of employees. ▪ Employers who are eligible for the CEWS are entitled to receive a 100% refund for certain employer contributions to Employment Insurance, and the Canada Pension Plan paid in respect of employees who are on leave with pay.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employers are expected to make their “best effort” to maintain their employee’s pre-crisis employment earnings when utilizing this wage subsidy. However, the program will pay up to 75% of the pre-crisis remuneration even if the employer cannot pay the additional 25% in remuneration. ▪ Business Owners and their family’s wages will likely be covered if they received a salary and T4. However, if a family member was not employed in the business prior to the crisis, they will not be subsidized if they started working for the business after March 15, 2020. ▪ Eligible businesses can be small or large, and from any sector of the economy ▪ This program applies to existing employees hired prior to March 15th, 2020 as well as employees hired since March 15th, 2020, except for family / non-arm’s length employees hired since March 15th, 2020. ▪ For March 2020, businesses must demonstrate a 15% drop in revenue to qualify for the 75% wage subsidy. The reference point can either be March 2019 or the average of January and February 2020. If a business qualifies for March, it will automatically qualify for April. ▪ Businesses must have suffered a drop of at least 30% in gross revenues in April or May, when compared to the same month in 2019. Businesses can also use January and February 2020 as their reference period instead of the comparable month in 2019. If a business qualifies for April it will automatically qualify for May. ▪ Businesses must re-apply for this subsidy each month ▪ Companies must pay employees first and then CRA will reimburse them. Businesses must be able to cashflow the wages in the interim period. ▪ The 10% wage subsidy (below) must be deducted from the eligible portion of the 75% wage subsidy. ▪ This program is short term. It was intended to be in place for 3 months initially but is being extended to help businesses get back on their feet and retain or rehire their employees. <p>Note: Businesses should sign up for direct deposit as it will streamline and speed up the process of being reimbursed.</p>
Work Sharing (WS) Program	https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing/temporary-measures-forestry-sector.html	March 15, 2020 – March 14, 2021	<p>Work-Sharing (WS) is a program that helps employers and employees avoid layoffs when there is a temporary decrease in business activity beyond the control of the employer. The program provides Employment Insurance (EI) benefits to eligible employees who agree to reduce their normal working hours and share the available work while their employer recovers. Work-Sharing is an agreement between employers, employees and the Government of Canada.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows Employers to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -retain qualified and experienced workers, and -avoid recruiting and training new employees • Allows employees to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -keep their jobs, and -maintain their work skills

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			<p>Recent Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business must have experienced a recent decline in business activity of at least 10% • Work-sharing can be up to 76 weeks • The application process has been streamlined • The requirement to apply at least 30 days before the commencement of a work sharing program has been removed • Not limited to one specific sector or industry • Extension of the maximum possible duration of an agreement from 38 weeks to 76 weeks
Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)	https://ceba-cuec.ca/ Apply through Chartered Banks and Credit Unions	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Canada Emergency Business Account will provide interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 to small and medium-sized businesses and not-for-profits, who paid wages/salaries between \$20,000 and \$1.5 million in 2019, to help cover operating costs. • If the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022, 25% of the loan will be forgiven. <p>On May 19th, the government announced that this program will be made available to some businesses that were previously excluded. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ businesses with payroll less than \$20,000 ○ Sole proprietors who have 40,000 to 1.5 million in non-deferrable expenses ○ Businesses that employ contractors ○ Businesses that pay in dividends ○ It will take a few weeks for the government to finalize the details around some of these changes to the CEBA program. <p>The Government also (on May 19th) announced they are looking at ways to help business owners and entrepreneurs who don't have business bank accounts (preferring to use a personal bank account), and those who have not yet filed a tax return (ie. a new business). These were also businesses who had been excluded from previous drafts of the CEBA Program.</p> <p>Note: Applications must be made online through your Chartered Banks or Credit Union</p>
Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/programs/financial-sector-policy/business-credit-availability-program.html	Ongoing	<p>EDC Loan Guarantee for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This program provides credit and cash flow term loans to small and medium-sized enterprises. Canadian businesses in all sectors that were otherwise financially viable and revenue generating prior to the COVID-19 outbreak are eligible to apply. • It allows financial institutions to issue operating credit and cash flow term loans of up to \$6.25 million to existing clients, with 80 per cent guaranteed by EDC. • This money is to be used for operational expenses, not for dividend payouts, shareholder loans, bonuses, stock buyback, option issuance, increases to executive compensation or repayment/refinancing of other debt.

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	Apply through Chartered Banks and Credit Unions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This program is now available at various financial institutions and credit unions. <p>BDC Co-Lending Program for Small and Medium Enterprises This program provides term loans for operational and liquidity needs of businesses, which could include interest payments on existing debt. Similar to the EDC program, this program is available to businesses that were financially viable and revenue-generating prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.</p> <p>The program is designed in three segments to target support to different business sizes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loans of up to \$312,500 to businesses with revenues of less than \$1 million. • Up to \$3.125 million for businesses with revenues between \$1 million and \$50 million. • Up to \$6.25 million for businesses with revenues in excess of \$50 million. • Loans would be interest-only for the first 12 months, with a 10-year repayment period. • Available until September 30, 2020 <p>BDC's Mid-Market Financing Program</p> <p>BDC's Mid-Market Financing Program will provide commercial loans ranging between \$12.5 million and \$60 million to medium-sized businesses whose credit needs exceed what is already available through the Business Credit Availability Program and other measures.</p> <p>BDC anticipates that qualifying companies will have annual revenues in excess of approximately \$100 million. Details to follow.</p> <p>EDC's Mid-Market Guarantee and Financing Program</p> <p>EDC's Mid-Market Guarantee and Financing Program will bring liquidity to companies who tend to have revenues of between \$50 million to \$300 million, to sustain operations during this uncertain period. EDC will continue to work with Canadian financial institutions to guarantee 75 per cent of new operating credit and cash-flow loans – ranging in size from \$16.75 million to a maximum of \$80 million. These expanded guarantees are available to exporters, international investors and businesses that sell their products or services within Canada. Details to follow</p>
Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF)	https://www.cdev.gc.ca/home-ceefc/		<p>This program will provide bridge financing to Canada's largest employers, whose needs during the pandemic are not being met through conventional financing, in order to keep their operations going.</p> <p>This program is delivered by the Canada Development Investment Corporation, in cooperation with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and the Department of Finance.</p>

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Deferral of Loan Repayments	https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/campaigns/covid19.html	automatic	The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), will apply a deferral of three months on all payments due to the government, as of April 1, 2020.
Extended for an additional 8 weeks. Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)	https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra.html	March 15, 2020 – September 26, 2020	<p>The government established the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) to support workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This taxable benefit provides \$2,000 every four weeks for up to four months to workers who lose their income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The CERB covers 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 also applies to wage earners, as well as contract workers and self-employed individuals who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI) and are unable to work due to COVID-19.</p> <p>This Benefit is available to workers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residing in Canada, who are at least 15 years old; • Who have stopped working because of reasons related to COVID-19 or are eligible for Employment Insurance regular or sickness benefits or have exhausted their Employment Insurance regular benefits or Employment Insurance fishing benefits between December 29, 2019 and October 3, 2020; • Who had employment and/or self-employment income or other than eligible dividends from their company of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in the 12 months prior to the date of their application; and, • Who have not quit their job voluntarily. <p>Recent changes to CERB to help more Canadians benefit from the program will help many entrepreneurs who have experienced sharp declines in revenue but still have some revenue coming in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People can earn <u>up to \$1,000</u> in each 4-week period, while collecting the CERB. <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The changes are retroactive to March 15, 2020. • If a person’s earnings over any of these 4-week periods are greater than \$1,000 (i.e. \$1,010) you will not be able to claim the CERB for that 4-week period. However, you could reapply in a subsequent 4-week period.

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Other Supports for Businesses

Program	Link	Deadlines	Notes
Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency	1-800-494-5651 Or apprenticeship@novascotia.ca		As the COVID-19 public health emergency continues, the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency is committed to support apprentices and trades workers in their training and journey towards certification. We remain open for business and can be reached by phone or email.
Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre – COVID-19 support	https://smuec.ca/	Ongoing	Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre is offering free virtual one-on-one strategy sessions to Atlantic Canadian entrepreneurs. The sessions aim to provide support, insight, and additional resources to help entrepreneurs overcome current challenges.
Ignite Labs	https://igniteatlantic.com/covid19-industry/	Ongoing	<p>Industry Personal Protective Needs and/or Manufacturing Capability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are you in need of personal protective equipment to keep your operations running but you are unsure of where to source it? If so, tell Ignite Labs what and how much you need. We will work with you to find the right source. • Can you manufacture personal protective equipment? If so, sign up to join a list of local industries looking to supply others. We will connect with you and work to put resources behind you so that you can start or increase your production of PPE as soon as possible.
CBDC -Cumberland	https://www.cbdc.ca/en/find-my-cbdc/ns	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Business Development Corporations across Atlantic Canada postponed principal repayments on all small business loans for the Months of April – June 2020. In addition, the CBDC's have waived the interest on these loans for this 3-month period • The CBDCs continue to lend to existing and new businesses at this time
eBay (Retail Revival program)	https://www.ebayinc.com/impact/retail-revival-halifax/materials/	Ongoing	Over the past year, eBay has worked with a number of businesses in Nova Scotia on a program called Retail Revival. eBay has tools and information to help retailers get their products online to reach new domestic and export clients
Canadian Federation of Independent Business	https://www.cfib-fcei.ca/en/small-business-resources-dealing-covid-19		If you require general business assistance, the Canadian Federation of Independent Business has a help line for businesses to call. This help line is now open to both members and non-members of the CFIB
Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce	https://amherstchambers.ca/covid-19-information-page/		A good source of COVID related information for local businesses

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Business Resilience Service	Call 1-866-989-1080 to connect with a business advisor from the accounting profession. The service is available 7 days a week from 8am – 8pm ET		Having trouble figuring out what program is the best for your business? The Business Resilience Service is offering over the phone consultation with those in the accounting profession.
NSCC Virtual Hub	https://www.nsc.ca/sites/covid19-business-support/business@nsc.ca		This centralized online hub connects businesses with support programs available from post-secondary institutions and other regional organizations. Business support workers will help connect businesses with the programs they need.
Nova Scotia Reopening Online Resource	https://novascotia.ca/reopening-nova-scotia/		To support businesses that are currently open, and those planning to reopen or expand their services, the province has developed an online resource. The information will help businesses as they begin to develop plans and procedures to keep themselves, their staff and the public safe. Questions on protocols, re-opening plans, and current health guidelines? Email: NSEconomy@novascotia.ca.

The Cumberland Business Connector is working with our municipal partners, Chambers of Commerce, CBDC Cumberland and other local partners to assist the business community as much as possible. **If you would like to talk to one of us, please send us an email to: research@cumberlandbusinessconnector.ca** Please include your name and phone number and one of us will get back to you as quickly as possible. <https://www.cumberlandbusinessconnector.ca/covid-19.html>

Take care and stay safe,

**Jonathan McClelland, CEO
Cumberland Business Connector**

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