

August 6, 2020

An update on financial support available through the Government of Canada programs

During the COVID-19 pandemic, ELCIC National and Synod Treasures have been meeting regularly to review information on financial support available through the Government of Canada. Recently there have been a few updates to programs that may be of interest to ELCIC congregations.

Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Plan

In July 2020, the Government of Canada announced further details for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS). The following highlights some of the updates to this program:

- CEWS has been extended until December 19, 2020 and the application deadline extended to January 31, 2021.
- A tiered support system is being introduced to assist organizations impacted by the COVID-19 crisis but have not seen a full 30 percent reduction in revenue.
- The subsidy will be gradually reduced over the next several months as the program is wound down.
- A new top-up subsidy of up to an additional 25 percent is being introduced for employers that have been most adversely affected by the COVID-19 crisis.

The proposed details have been highlighted here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/07/adapting-the-canada-emergency-wage-subsidy-to-protect-jobs-and-promote-growth.html>

Final details on these updates have not been released yet on the Government of Canada's website but is expected to be posted here when available: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/wage-subsidy.html>

Canada Emergency Business Account

In June 2020, new guidelines for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) were released which may allow for some congregations not previously able to access this loan program to now be eligible.

Prior to this latest update, in order to be eligible for the CEBA loan, non-profits and charities needed to prove that they earned a revenue from the regular supply of goods and services. This portion of the eligibility criteria has now been expanded to include revenue from the regular supply of property.

Full details and information for how to apply for CEBA are available on the Government of Canada website here: <https://ceba-cuec.ca/>

Questions?

As further information becomes available, it is our commitment to you that we will continue to keep in communication with new updates as they become available.

Please contact your Synod Office and the ELCIC National Office with any specific questions.