



COVID-19 : Important Updates

Dear BIA Members,

As we continue to watch the impacts and developments surrounding Covid-19 across the globe and recognize the future challenges ahead, ensuring the health and safety of our BIA Businesses, Employees, families and communities remains top priority. Staying informed and having access to current information and recommendations from the Federal and Provincial Governments, City of Toronto and Toronto Public Health is essential in obtaining the support, resources and guidelines needed during this difficult time.

The following links provide important information for businesses, employers and employees:

- The Government of Canada, Department of Finance announced \$27 Billion in funding on March 18, 2020 to support Canadian workers and businesses as part of their COVID-19 Economic Response Plan. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html>
- The Toronto Public Health Fact Sheet for Guidance in the Workplace, Businesses and Employers provides an outline of how businesses and employers can protect themselves and their customers in the workplace. Additional information can be found at: https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/9538-Fact-Sheet-for-Workplaces-Non-Healthcare_final.pdf
- The Mayor of Toronto implemented an Economic Support and Recovery Task Force to assist with the economic impact businesses are facing due to Covid-19. Focusses include a 30 day grace period beginning March 16, 2020, for Property and Utility payments, a contingency fund to support businesses and assistance with Employment Insurance for

We will continue to monitor and keep you updated on the latest information through our social media channels and our website www.dukeheights.ca. During this time of uncertainty, we must continue to work together and support one another. Stay safe and be well.

Sincerely,
Duke Heights BIA

HOW COVID-19 CAN AFFECT YOUR BUSINESS AND WHERE TO FIND HELP

The impact of the Covid-19 virus, and the needed measures taken to control the outbreak are having and will continue to have an impact on many businesses in Canada. Not only do businesses have to contend with challenges in their supply chain and business travel, they now also have to contend with the impact that social distancing will have on their business.

This impact will be felt in two main ways. The first is being a responsible employer who needs to keep the welfare of all their staff top of mind and support the option of working from home if at all possible.

Businesses particularly in manufacturing and in those providing technical services cannot produce or deliver their products and services without their employees, which makes these businesses particularly susceptible to changes in the availability of labour. Traditional service-based businesses may also be impacted due to the lack of planning and the infrastructure required for employees to work remotely.

The second main impact felt by all businesses will be the inevitable slowdown in demand for their goods and services, as consumers, both individual and businesses refrain from nonessential purchases due to climate of uncertainty.

The minister of Finance Bill Morneau, Governor of the Bank of Canada Stephen Poloz, and

sector partners to support the functioning of markets and continued access to financing for Canadian businesses.

Some of the measures are aimed at ensuring that our financial institutions have ample liquidity to support lending activities to consumers and businesses. These liquidity measures will also provide financial institutions flexibility in how they deal with mortgage and loan repayments.

The most important measure for business is the Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP). The program aims to further support financing to the private sector to the tune of \$10 billion, through the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC), and Export Development Canada (EDC). Under the program, BDC and EDC will enhance their cooperation with private sector lenders to coordinate financing and credit insurance solutions for Canadian businesses.

The Business BDC will aim to support businesses through three main programs:

The small business loan, which can be applied to online, and is up to \$100,000, will assist businesses in assisting businesses with more traditional business growth funding.

Working capital loan, which as the name implies, is aimed at providing businesses with access to additional funds to support the need for working capital. This facility is often paired with, or in support to a traditional line of credit.

Purchase order financing, which assists in managing cash flow on the back of any client Purchase Order (PO). This means that you can use any spare cashflow for other functions in this time of business stress.

The EDC will provide further support to our exporters by facilitating access to capital. They will work in collaboration with federal and traditional financial institutions to find the best solution for the needs of Canadian exporters.

It is important to keep up to date with developments, and new policy responses. Here are some links that we recommend for further information.

- BDC Support for entrepreneurs impacted by the COVID-19 coronavirus : <https://www.bdc.ca/en/pages/special-support.aspx?special-initiative=covid19>
- EDC COVID-19 : <https://www.edc.ca/en/campaign/coronavirus-covid-19.html>

Additional Resources

Useful Links:

World Health Organization: [Latest updates](#)

Centres for Disease Control and Prevention: [Hand washing techniques](#)

Government of Canada: [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#)

Bing COVID Tracker: [COVID-19 Tracker](#)

Anxiety Canada: [Anxiety management](#)

City of Toronto COVID-19 Economic Support and Recovery: [Economic Support and Recovery](#)

City of Toronto COVID-19 Health Advice: [Health Advice](#)

BDC: [Support for entrepreneurs impacted by the COVID-19 coronavirus](#)

Business Development Bank of Canada: [Business continuity plan and templates](#)

EDC: [COVID-19](#)

Additional Updates and resources:

Tax Filing Deadline has been extended by at least 1 month: [Click Here](#)

Uber has waived all its delivery fees and will allow same day payouts to for Local Restaurants everywhere: [Click Here](#)

Latest news releases from the Prime Minister of Canada: [Click Here](#)

Facebook is offering cash grants and ad credits: [Click Here](#)

The major banks have announced mitigation measures to help small businesses: [Click Here](#)

Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Canadians and Businesses: [Click Here](#)

Canadian Chamber of Commerce - Business preparedness guide: [Click Here](#)

Introducing Best Guard Security



We are delighted to introduce BEST GUARD SECURITY, hired by DUKE Heights BIA to provide mobile patrol services in marked "BIA SECURITY" vehicles and uniformed security services to all our BIA members, day and night shifts, 7 days/week from March 15, 2020.

Our aim is to enhance safety for all the BIA business members and their employees, eliminate illegal activities, and make our area more inviting to customers, visitors and future investors.

Existing subscribers and interested BIA members, who are interested in signing up, will receive the following free security services:

- Patrol dispatch
- Patrols of your property
- Alarm response
- Safe walk program
- By-law infraction notification
- Parking enforcement

For any inquiries, or if you would like to sign up for the free security service, call our BIA office at 416-739-1621, Mon-Fri, 9 AM - 5 PM, or fill out the form at the following link:

<https://dukeheights.ca/members/security-services/>



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