



Alberta Economic Recovery Summit Report



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Introduction and Background

By the end of 2020, it became clear the COVID-19 pandemic was a catalyst of systemic disruption in Alberta and beyond. The pandemic has compounded many of Alberta's pre-existing economic challenges, leaving Albertans unsure what the future holds for the province and its economy across many sectors.

As a firm with deep local roots, MNP partnered with the following organizations to host a summit exploring the multiple pathways to economic recovery in Alberta. These partner organizations are:

- Alberta Chambers of Commerce
- ATB Financial
- Calgary Economic Development
- Edmonton Chamber of Commerce
- Invest Alberta
- Alberta Ministry of Jobs, Economy, and Innovation

Together the organizations leading the Alberta Economic Recovery Summit have considerable knowledge, expertise, and connection to a large and highly diverse group of stakeholders across key Alberta economic sectors including:

1. **Agriculture** - Including primary agricultural production (i.e. farms, ranches, and feedlots), pulse production, canola and oilseed milling, vegetable processing, meat and specialty manufacturing, snack foods, and natural health products and beverages.
2. **Aviation and Logistics** - Including sub-sectors such as remotely piloted and autonomous systems, space sciences, shipping and handling, trucking, warehousing, developments to a logistics hub, transportation, and defense electronics.
3. **Energy and Clean Tech** - Including the entire value chain, from upstream production to downstream end use in conventional and unconventional oil and natural gas extraction and processing, and renewable energy, bio-energy, innovative hydrocarbon uses, technology innovation, carbon capture and storage, as well as electricity transmission and distribution.
4. **Financial Services** - Including major banks and credit unions with capabilities for research, sales, trading, investment banking, and corporate banking etc.
5. **Petrochemicals** - Including ethane, propane, methane, butane, natural gas, and specialty chemical development and production.
6. **Technology and Data** - Including the development of technological products and services that use big data analysis, artificial intelligence, and machine learning algorithms to improve various market sectors such as digital marketing, business analysis, application design and development, geomatics, augmented and virtual reality, and data analytics.
7. **Tourism** - Including businesses/services that primarily target the tourism segment, such as iconic attractions, unique events, diverse destinations, and hotels.

The Alberta Economic Recovery Summit convened and leveraged the expertise and experience of stakeholders across the province with a vision of developing home-grown solutions to Alberta-specific challenges.

To complement this vision, MNP and the partner organizations pursued three key goals for the Summit as follows:

1. To gather top thought leaders, policy makers and industry leaders from across Alberta;
2. To construct a comprehensive and interactive approach for collaboration; and
3. To share insights and build a shared understanding of obstacles and opportunities.

MNP, with the support of the partner organizations, was able to do this through the first four key stages, with the fifth in progress:



The results of the first four stages are summarized in the next section of this report.

Step 1: Economic Research and Jurisdictional Scan

To gain a better understanding of the current economic conditions across the province and several of its key sectors, MNP conducted comprehensive economic and jurisdictional research to gather the facts on what has been happening and what the province needs to focus on. This activity led to the initial identification of the main challenges in each of the seven sectors and this provided the foundation for the development of the subsequent online survey and conversations at the virtual summit.

The survey was created to get an idea of how each sector was managing the COVID-19 pandemic and the general state of their business and industry. It was distributed to businesses in the seven sectors by the partner organizations in November 2020.

Key Findings

MNP conducted economic research and a jurisdictional scan of Alberta's current economic situation. The research found Alberta's current economic state has been shaped not only by the COVID-19 pandemic but also through previously existing economic challenges. These challenges are in key provincial industries, including the oil and gas sector and other goods-producing industries, as well as slow adaptation to global energy transition and digital transformation.

The COVID-19 pandemic is contributing dramatically to ongoing business disruptions and changing business models and is creating a significant impact on the labour market and workforce due to public health regulations. The province has seen an acceleration in the global adoption of digital technology, resulting in a higher priority on changes around digital transformation and the economy, global structure, and federal priorities.

Partly in response to the challenges above, the Government of Alberta developed an Economic Strategy along with Budget 2020, “to eliminate barriers for job creators, by supporting a vibrant private sector that provides jobs and expands the province’s economy”¹ Within this strategy, the province has outlined the following three priorities:

1. Supporting job creation

Alberta is now the most tax-competitive business jurisdiction in Canada and is among the most attractive investment destinations in North America. We remain focused on identifying and eliminating unnecessary red tape that stifles economic growth.

2. Making life better for Albertans

Making life better for Albertans means modernizing government services and undertaking the transformational change necessary to ensure the quality and effectiveness of vital public services that Albertans rely on, such as healthcare and education. It also means ensuring that the necessary supports are provided to both those who need them now and into the future. This includes identifying and eliminating red tape burdens and implementing initiatives that streamline government services, making it easier for businesses and Albertans to thrive.

3. Standing up for Alberta

This government remains committed to securing a fair deal for Alberta. Ensuring a fair price for our natural resources will create thousands of new jobs and increased prosperity that will benefit the entire country. Ensuring Alberta gets a fair deal is a key priority for this government. Albertans are being consulted on reforms that would strengthen our economic positions, give Alberta a larger voice within confederation and give the province more authority in areas of provincial jurisdiction. This means that more job-creating investment and new businesses will choose our province and that means more jobs for Albertans².

To view a comprehensive analysis of the current economic state of Alberta please [click here](#).

These three priorities outlined in the Economic Strategy were used to guide the development of the survey questions and Summit discussion topics. In each sector analysis, these three topics were brought forward as key initiatives to be built upon across sectors.



¹ <https://www.alberta.ca/rebuilding-alberta.aspx>

² <https://www.alberta.ca/rebuilding-alberta.aspx>

Step 2: Online Survey

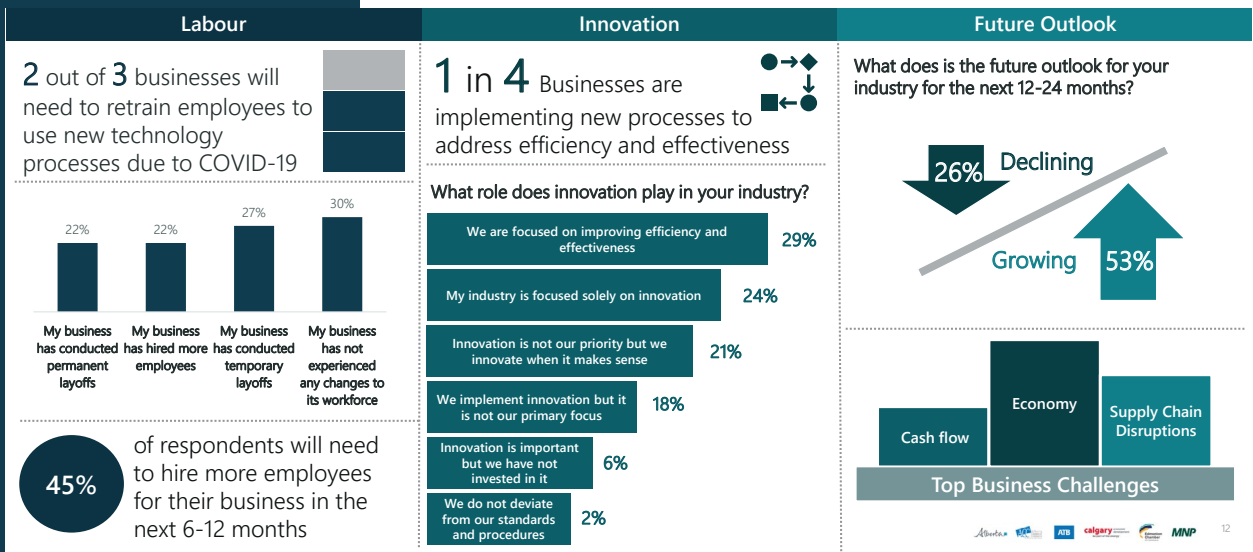
MNP worked with our partner organizations to develop a short quantitative survey that was distributed to identified stakeholder's across Alberta, through mailing lists from our partner organizations and MNP. This survey measured experiences across the seven key focus sectors by engaging stakeholders within on multiple fronts such as economic conditions, labour considerations, and access to capital challenges. The survey was key in building the foundation for the conversations that took place in the breakout sessions in Summits 1A and 1B, and in pointing towards a shared understanding between sector stakeholders.

Findings

Survey respondents represented businesses from:

- The seven target sectors;
- All stages of the business lifecycle;
- A variety of business sizes (1-500 employees); and
- All regions of the province (Calgary, Edmonton, Central, North, South).

The survey focused on three main aspects of Alberta businesses: labour, innovation, and future outlook. The infographic below outlines key themes and findings across these areas.



Step 3: Virtual Summits

To accommodate active participation by attendees, the Alberta Economic Recovery Summit was divided into three virtual events, (Summits 1A, 1B, and 2) that aimed to address the looming question: "What should we do?"

Summits 1A and 1B focused on sharing information from the economic research, jurisdictional scan, and online survey, followed by an exploration of various perspectives across the seven key sectors. These events helped build a shared understanding of obstacles faced by participants in those sectors in Alberta.

Summit 2 built upon the results of Summits 1A and 1B to identify emerging opportunities for economic recovery. It provided stakeholders with a unique opportunity to engage in action-focused discussion with other thought leaders, policy makers, and industry leaders to challenge and validate the research, the survey, and any concerns the stakeholders may hold.

Summits 1A and 1B

Summits 1A and 1B of the Alberta Economic Recovery Summit focused on engaging stakeholders on two fronts, through the State of the Provincial Economy Panel and through targeted sector breakout sessions. Invitees were invited to either Summit 1A or 1B based on their sector:

Summit 1A	Summit 1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture • Energy and Clean Tech • Financial Services • Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aviation and Logistics • Petrochemicals • Technology and Data

Both Summits 1A and 1B began with the panel discussion on the state of the provincial economy. This panel was headed by three economists:

- Kate White, the Deputy Minister of Jobs, Economy, and Innovation
- Todd Hirsch, Chief Economist of ATB Financial (Summit 1B)
- Susan Mowbray, National Leader for Economics and Research of MNP

[Click here](#) for findings report presentation.

During this panel, the economists discussed survey results and explored key themes of Alberta's economic situation, including emerging trends and opportunities. The panel discussion arrived at a general consensus around the three main steps the province needs to achieve to effectively foster economic recovery:

Create and Promote Opportunities

Alberta's labour force is a key asset and the panellists believe that promoting Alberta as a destination with strong employment opportunities would attract investment and support labour force retention. Increasing investment would also increase the supply of skilled and qualified employees by attracting more external talent to the province.

Economic Diversification

Economists have been encouraging less reliance on oil and gas for Alberta's economy for many years. The oil and gas sector remains the backbone of the economy; however, expanding into value-added production and supporting emerging sectors will support economic recovery and improve economic resiliency.

Increase in Education and Training

Technological innovation requires the ongoing evolution of the labour market's skills and expertise.

Sector Breakout Group Discussions

Following the panel discussions at both Summit 1A and 1B, participants were divided into breakout groups based on their sector. Facilitators and thought leaders engaged the breakout groups with a series of questions based on identified themes and trends from the online survey feedback.

Participants were genuinely engaged and excited to be involved in the conversation, appreciating the opportunity to be heard. They were passionate about the future of the sector and how they can help Alberta's economy recover.

Below is a summary of the key findings from each of the sector breakout discussions. [Click here](#) to view more detailed findings for each sector.

Agriculture

Key Issues

- There is a history of contentiousness between processors and producers; more cooperation would benefit the sector.
- Labour supply is a growing concern for the sector. Finding skilled workers in rural areas is an ongoing challenge.

Opportunities

- Albertan and Canadian agriculture need to be more aggressively and effectively promoted in global markets.
- There is opportunity for agriculture to be more innovative and take advantage of new and developing technologies, which will make Alberta's agriculture sector more competitive.

Aviation and Logistics

Key Issues

- Rail and shipping systems are outdated. We are not using the newer technologies and practices that exist.
- Technological revolution is underway in this sector. Industry operations and means of transportation are constantly shifting.
- The labour supply within the sector is an ongoing challenge due to the aging population of employees and lack of skilled/trained employees.

Opportunities

- Alberta (and Canada as a whole) needs economic infrastructure to be more competitive. An example is improved economic zoning around airports and transportation hubs.
- Regulations need to include segment-specific considerations rather than trying to encompass the sector broadly.

Energy and Clean Tech

Key Issues

- Shortage of both foreign and local investment is a challenge to the sector.

Opportunities

- Provincial and federal policies need to be more aligned; both levels of government need to show stability and commitment to external investors.
- Alberta's energy sector needs to be promoted as a responsible home for both investment and labour.
- Technology should be shared more between traditional oil and gas and clean tech, so that oil and gas can take advantage of clean tech's innovations.

Financial Services

Key Issues

- The sector is seeing an increase in digital banking practices and open banking (i.e., banks securely sharing customer data with third-party applications). The process started prior to COVID-19 but been expedited due to the pandemic.
- Availability of labour is not a pressing issue in this sector, as there is a surplus of skilled labour applying for existing positions.

Opportunities

- Financial regulations, taxation rates, and how these dictate how businesses can operate in Alberta are continuously creating challenges for the sector. The perception is that regulations are continually put in place, which make it more difficult to conduct business. The sector feels that Alberta has more challenging regulations to navigate than other jurisdictions.

Petrochemicals

Key Issues

- Bringing product to market is difficult due to regulations. Red tape makes it difficult to build infrastructure.
- Tension between federal and provincial governments is noticed internationally, which affects foreign trade and investment.

Opportunities

- Need to develop the infrastructure necessary for production.
- Labour is a challenge. Education systems and industry need to align to retrain and provide additional skills training to people in Alberta.

Technology and Data

Key Issues

- The technology sector, while often categorized as a single and distinct entity, is actually better defined as a multifaceted, and multidimensional sector with a wide variety of intersects and challenges that are not necessarily common to all in the sector.

Opportunities

- Alberta's current economic ecosystem is not especially conducive to investment in technology and data. Alberta needs to foster an ecosystem for investment.
- Obtaining qualified and skilled labour is one of technology and data's biggest issues. To attract and retain employees, Alberta needs to position itself as a more vibrant and sustainable place to do business.
- Education is important to gaining and growing skilled labour in Alberta. This can be addressed through investments in education and promoting tech careers to younger generations.

Tourism

Key Issues

- Tourism is one of the sectors affected the most by COVID-19. The constant changes to public health regulations are overwhelming to tourism operations.
- Cash flow is a key issue for tourism because of their fixed costs and low revenues due to restrictions.
- Companies are struggling to retain skilled employees past temporary layoff periods, creating an issue of lack of skilled labour in the tourism sector.

Opportunities

- A few bad actors in the sector are creating a bad reputation for the majority of businesses that are following proper COVID-19 protocols. Monitoring businesses and enforcing restrictions would ensure all businesses follow the rules.

Degree of Consensus in Breakout Groups

Further to the summary above, it was evident that some sectors had a higher degree of consensus, compared to others which had had a greater diversity of opinions.

Degree of consensus was captured using polling software. Any sector with more than two topics with agreement below 75 percent are categorized as having a lower degree of consensus.

Higher Degree of Consensus

- Financial Services
- Petrochemicals
- Tourism

Lower Degree of Consensus

- Agriculture
- Aviation and Logistics
- Energy and Clean Tech
- Technology and Data

The below table outlines the percent of participants in each industry group who agreed with the key points discussed for each topic area.

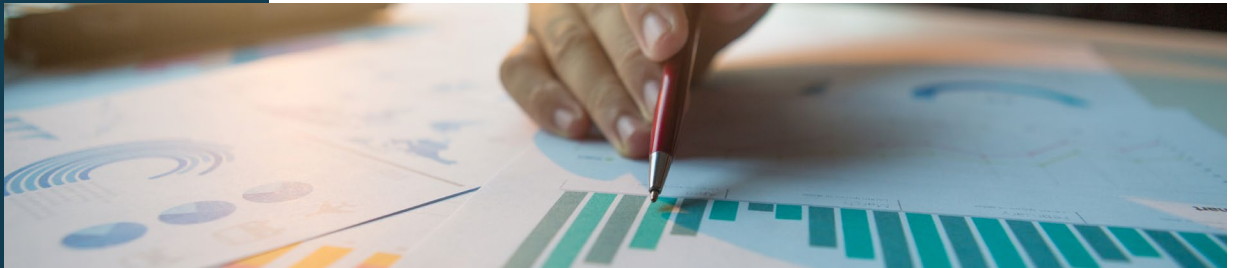
Industry	Biggest Challenges for Your Sector	Labour Challenges for Your Sector	Access to Capital Challenges for your sector	Supply Chain Challenges for Your Sector	What Industry can do	What can Government do
Agriculture	100%	60%	47%	62%	77%	86%
Financial Services	63%	90%	100%	100%	83%	100%
Energy and Clean tech	79%	91%	90%	100%	63%	67%
Tourism	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Aviation and Logistics	56%	75%	50%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Technology and Data	67%	91%	91%	70%	N/A	N/A
Petrochemicals	100%	100%	100%	100%	N/A	N/A

Analysis of Results

As a result of the discussions held during Summits 1A and 1B, the following key themes emerged as common challenges across all seven sectors.

- 1. Investment Attraction:** Alberta's industries need to be promoted within Canada and internationally to attract trade and investment.
- 2. Attracting Labour:** Alberta needs to be promoted as a great place to live and work to attract skilled workers to meet labour needs.
- 3. Broadband:** Inequitable access to high speed internet services across the province, particularly in rural areas, is a barrier to industry growth.
- 4. Economy:** The pandemic has exacerbated economic challenges preceding COVID-19, which has created a difficult environment for industry operation, growth, and promotion both provincially and federally.
- 5. Cash flow:** Issues maintaining consistent cash flow and obtaining access to capital stunts businesses abilities to operate and grow.
- 6. Government:** Lack of alignment and cooperation between federal and provincial government creates challenges for sectors when navigating policies and guidelines, as well as when attracting both local and foreign investment.
- 7. Red Tape:** Sectors are continuously hampered by excessive rules, regulations, and processes, slowing investment and growth.
- 8. COVID-19 Measures:** Ongoing and changing public health measures inhibit business' ability to operate and creates additional challenges such as managing safety protocols and labour supply.

[View the panel discussion here](#)



Summit 2

Summit 2 was open for all attendees from Summits 1A and 1B, other sector participants from across Alberta, and the general public. MNP presented the results of Summits 1A and 1B and then facilitated a panel discussion with three Alberta thought leaders:

- Curtis Stange, President and CEO of ATB Financial
- Laura Jo Gunter, President and CEO of Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
- Steven Kwasny, Director of Partnerships and Engagement at Invest Alberta

These panelists responded to the findings presented and provided their perspectives on how the province can achieve economic recovery:

Technology is Essential

Major technology trends continue to influence economies and businesses around the world. Innovation and the further digitization of the economy will lead to new opportunities.

Alignment Between Education and Industries

Collaboration between post-secondary institutions with industries in Alberta needs to improve. These institutions have the ability to re-train and re-skill the labor market to meet the changing industry demand. Post-secondary institutions also need to examine how they can provide talent to the market faster and how they can better work with industries to train current employees.

Attract Investment to Alberta

Alberta needs to be fully ready for investment opportunities. Due to the current international shift towards cleaner and environmentally friendly energy sources, Alberta has an opportunity to leverage the expertise of its current energy sector and apply it to more innovative and environmentally friendly energy sources. This includes demonstrating the high environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance of Alberta’s energy companies and government’s efforts to regulate the energy sector without sacrificing safety and sustainable, responsible resource development.

Promotion and Marketing of Alberta

Alberta’s story isn’t being effectively communicated. Alberta has many attractive features, like our communities and resources, that can be leveraged into new opportunities in both existing and emerging sectors. Alberta, however, has a track record of underemphasizing its strengths and opportunities, often allowing others to write the narrative rather than taking full and concerted control of the way it is portrayed to national and international markets as well as potential investors. Alberta must take a proactive approach to the promotion of the province to ensure that the story we want to tell, is the one that is told.

Following this panel conversation, David Knight Legg, CEO of Invest Alberta, brought Summit 2 to a close with a keynote presentation on current and future provincial economic recovery efforts and the role Invest Alberta can play in supporting them. Centrally, Knight Legg addressed three hurdles to economic prosperity in Alberta: [Click here to watch keynote](#)

1. Competitive Attitude

A major hurdle in Alberta is the tradition to be competitors intra-provincially, like the Calgary versus Edmonton debate. Alberta has to reframe the pervasive focus on provincial competition and prioritize being competitive internationally. We must look at the economic actions competitors are taking internationally to attract new economic opportunities and work to meet, or surpass, their actions so Alberta can attract the same economic opportunities internationally. Rather than have Calgary and Edmonton compete for economic opportunities, Alberta should be competing with cities with similar economic sectors, like Houston, Texas.

2. Attracting Investment

Access to capital within the province is a challenge for businesses and industries alike. Alberta must find ways to attract foreign investment to our industries and set the conditions for businesses to thrive through more competitive taxation rates and regulations.

3. Prioritizing Best Practices

It is critical to examine ways that Alberta can improve business operations internally and relative to national and international competitors. Leveraging existing best practices within industries should be a high priority for Alberta industries as we work towards economic recovery.

Recovery Strategy

MNP, along with our partner organizations, are working closely with stakeholders to pursue opportunities towards economic recovery. Each sector requires a tailored approach to address their own specific concerns and challenges. The partner organizations are the Alberta Ministry of Jobs, Economy and Innovation (JEI), Calgary Economic Development (CED), ATB Financial (ATB), Edmonton Chamber of Commerce (Edmonton CoC), Alberta Chambers of Commerce (Alberta CoC), and Invest Alberta. They have identified which sector they can most appropriately support in the steps toward provincial economic recovery. These are outlined in the below graphic.

Sector	Role		
	Leadership (deep and direct connections in the sector through client base / members)	Consultative (strong connectivity to stakeholders in the sector)	Peripheral (not a primary sector of their clients or members)
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNP • JEI • CED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATB • Alberta CoC • Edmonton CoC • Invest Alberta 	
Aviation and Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JEI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest Alberta • Edmonton CoC • MNP • CED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATB • Alberta CoC
Energy and Clean Tech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JEI • Invest Alberta • CED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATB • MNP • Alberta CoC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edmonton CoC
Financial Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JEI • Invest Alberta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATB • MNP • Edmonton CoC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta CoC • CED
Petrochemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JEI • Invest Alberta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNP • Edmonton CoC • CED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta CoC • ATB
Technology and Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JEI • CED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNP • Invest Alberta • Edmonton CoC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta CoC • ATB
Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JEI • CED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNP • Invest Alberta • Edmonton CoC • Alberta CoC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATB

These groups will work together to identify key action steps required for their respective sectors in efforts to build a path to economic recovery.

The next step is to identify leaders from the Alberta business community. The Government of Alberta department of Jobs, Economy and Innovation will be leading the recovery strategy development efforts on behalf of the provincial government. Other organizations as listed above (and more) will work closely together to support recovery strategy development efforts.

Government Supports

As Canada and Alberta continue to respond to COVID-19, governments have announced supports to assist businesses in recovery.

Below is a listing of supports announced by both Alberta and Canada, starting with general business supports, and then moving into sector-specific supports.

Businesses are encouraged to ensure they are accessing all supports that are available to them.

General

- **Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant:** Financial assistance of up to \$20,000 for businesses, cooperatives, and non-profits with fewer than 500 employees that faced restrictions or closures from public health orders and a revenue loss of at least 30 percent. (January 14, 2021). [Click here](#) for more information (provincial).
- **Education Property Tax Deferral:** Collection of non-residential property tax for businesses was deferred for six months to September, or a deferral of both municipal and education property tax for a shorter time that is of equivalent benefit. [Click here](#) for more information (provincial).
- **Workers' Compensation Board Premium Payment Deferrals:** Small, medium, and large private sector employers can defer WCB premium payments until 2021. For small and medium businesses, the government will cover 50 percent of the 2020 premium when it is due. [Click here](#) for more information (provincial).
- **Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS):** Federal government is covering up to 75 percent of an employee's wages for eligible employers who have seen a decrease in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Extending the Work-Sharing Program:** The federal government has extended the maximum duration of the Work-Sharing program to 76 weeks to provide income support for employees eligible for Employment Insurance who agree to reduce their normal working hours because of developments beyond the control of their employers. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Canada Summer Jobs Program:** Participating employers will be eligible to receive a wage subsidy reimbursement of up to 75 percent of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Canadian Emergency Business Account (CEBA) Interest-Free Loans:** CEBA provides interest-free, partially forgivable, loans of up to \$60,000 to small businesses and non-profits that have experienced diminished revenues due to COVID-19 but face ongoing non-deferrable costs. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS):** CERS provides direct and easy-to-access rent and mortgage subsidy of up to 65 percent of eligible expenses to qualifying businesses, charities, and non-profits. Qualifying organizations significantly restricted by mandatory public health orders can receive an additional 25 percent of rent support through the Lockdown Support. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Loan Guarantee for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises:** Through the Business Credit Availability Program, Export Development Canada (EDC) is working with financial institutions to guarantee 80 percent of new operating credit and cash flow term loans of up to \$6.25 million to small and medium-sized enterprises. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Co-Lending Program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises:** Through the Business Credit Availability Program, Business Development Canada (BDC) is working with financial institutions to co-lend term loans of up to \$6.25 million to small and medium-sized enterprises for their operational cash flow requirements. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).

- **Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF):** The RRRF will provide over \$1.5 billion to help more businesses and organizations in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism, and others that are key to the regions and to local economies. This fund is specifically targeted to those who may require additional help to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic but have been unable to access other support measures. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Black Entrepreneurship Loan Fund:** Supporting Black business owners and entrepreneurs by providing loans of between \$25,000 to \$250,000. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Mid-Market Financing Program:** The Business Development Canada's (BDC) 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. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Mid-Market Guarantee and Financing Program:** This brings liquidity to companies who tend to have revenues of between \$50 million to \$300 million. EDC will continue to work with Canadian financial institutions to guarantee 75 percent of new operating credit and cash-flow loans — ranging in size from \$16.75 million to a maximum of \$80 million. Expanded guarantees are available to exporters, international investors, and businesses that sell their products or services within Canada. [Click here](#) for more information. (federal).
- **Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF):** This program provides 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. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Indigenous Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Relief Measures:** \$206.8 million in funding is available to help small and medium-sized businesses, and to support Aboriginal Financial Institutions that offer financing to these businesses. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Indigenous Community Business Fund:** This program provides \$117 million in non-repayable financial contributions to help support First Nations, Inuit, and Métis community- or collectively-owned businesses and microbusinesses whose revenues have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).

Agriculture

- **Mandatory Isolation Support for Temporary Foreign Workers Program (MISTFWP):** This program provides support of \$1,500 for each temporary foreign worker, to employers or those working with them to ensure requirements are fully met. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Increasing Credit Availability:** Farm Credit Canada is providing an additional \$5 billion in lending to producers, agribusinesses, and food processors. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Emergency On-Farm Support Fund:** This program provides funding to support farmers for direct infrastructure improvements to living quarters and workstations, temporary or emergency housing, personal protective equipment, sanitary stations, and any other health and safety measures relating to COVID-19. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **AgriStability Program Increasing Interim Payments:** AgriStability is increasing interim payments from 50 percent to 75 percent to support producers facing significant revenue declines. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Expanding Agri-Insurance to Include Labour Shortage:** The federal government is working with provinces and territories to expand the program for the horticulture sector to insure against lost production due to an insufficient workforce. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund (CSSF):** Providing \$62.5 million of new assistance to the fish and seafood processing sector. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).

Aviation and Logistics

- **Investment to increase efficiency of rail logistics in Alberta's Industrial Heartland:** \$5 million for additional capacity to assemble trains, storage space, access to both Canadian National and Canadian Pacific rail networks (federal). [Click Here](#)

Energy and Clean Tech

- **Emissions Reduction Fund:** Providing up to \$750 million to create a new Emissions Reduction Fund to support workers and reduce emissions in Canada's oil and gas sector, with a focus on methane. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).

Technology and Data

- **Western Economic Diversification Canada:** Funding for development of new medical products and technologies. [Click here](#) for more information.

Tourism

- **Stabilize Program:** A one-time grant to support live experience presenting and performing arts, sport, and rodeo organizations. [Click here](#) for more information (provincial).
- **Tourism Levy Abatement:** Hotels/lodging providers are permitted to keep tourism levies collected between March 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. [Click here](#) for more information (provincial).
- **Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP):** This program provides businesses heavily impacted by COVID-19 access to guaranteed, low-interest loans of \$25,000 to \$1 million to cover operational cash flow needs. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).
- **Additional Support for Tourism:** Organizations in Calgary, Edmonton, Banff, Jasper, Canmore promoting tourism will receive combined total of \$8 million in support. [Click here](#) for more information (provincial).
- **Short-Term Compensation Fund:** Compensates independent production companies for the lack of insurance coverage for COVID-19-related filming interruptions and production shutdowns in the sector. [Click here](#) for more information (federal).

Resource Pages:

MNP Business Advice Centre: [Click Here](#)

Government of Canada Programs: [Click Here](#)

Government of Alberta Programs: [Click Here](#)

