

Business Owners in Claresholm and Area,

Business and service restrictions

The province of Alberta announced new public health measures to slow the spread of COVID-19. You can find out how this affects your business by visiting this website, under the heading Business and service restrictions: <https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>

Support for Claresholm and Area Businesses

Biz Connect

Workplace guidance and supports to help businesses and non-profit affected by COVID-19 reopen and resume operations safely. This site includes has a lot, you can find help on all of these topics below:

<https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>

- Keeping people at your business safe
- Workplace Rules & [Workplace Guidance Documents](#)
- Financial Supports from the Province and Federal Government
 - o wage subsidy, rent subsidy, tourism levy abatement, relaunch funding, and others
- Restricted Businesses and Services
- **Have a Question?** Contact the BIZ Connect Team here: <https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=50675>

Small and Medium Enterprise Grant (NEW APPLICATION AVAILABLE IN THE COMING DAYS)

The SME Grant has been boosted to \$20,000 and made retroactive to March 2020. The government has made it easier to qualify, (revenue loss of 30%) so if you didn't qualify before, it is worth trying again. Right now the website still says 40% revenue loss, but the new application will be available in the coming days. Alberta businesses affected by the public health orders in effect from November 6, 2020 and later will also be eligible to apply for a second payment through the program. Job creators that meet the program's eligibility criteria will be able to apply for 15% of their pre-COVID-19 monthly revenue up to a maximum of \$5,000 for first payment and \$15,000 for second payment.

<https://www.alberta.ca/sme-relaunch-grant.aspx>

What does that mean?

- a) If you already applied for \$5,000, you will be able to apply for \$15,000 more
- b) If you have not applied for the SME Grant yet, you will be eligible to apply for up to \$20,000
- c) You may apply for the first \$5,000 today by showing a 40% revenue loss, but if you wait for the new application it will only be 30% revenue loss to qualify

EDO Tip: Look at the existing application and start preparing what you will need now so you're ready when the new application is released. Jason Kenney has added 30 staff to assure that this new funding is available and released quickly.

Government of Canada Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (Community Futures Attachment)

Small and medium-sized businesses can apply for loans of up to \$40,000 with terms that include:

- No interest accrual or principal payments throughout December 21, 2022

- If 75% of the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022, the remainder of the loan is forgiven
- Blended principal and interest payments beginning January 1, 2023 and loans must be repaid by December 31, 2025
- No prepayment penalties
- See the attachment and for more information you can visit, <http://lethbridgeregion.albertacf.com/rrrf-lethbridge-region>

*Small and medium-sized businesses, located outside of Calgary and Edmonton, can apply through their local Community Futures office by calling **1-877-482-3672**

EDO Tip: Contact Tony directly at Community Futures Alberta Southwest Offices, located at 436 24 street Fort MacLeod, Open M-F 8:30am – 4:30pm, call: (403) 553-0264, ext. 222

Federal Programs; support for individuals, business, sectors, and organizations

The Government of Canada is taking immediate, significant and decisive action to support Canadians and businesses facing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#businesses>

EDO Tip: Questions about Federal programs? Contact John Barlow's Office directly 109 – 4th avenue south west, High River. Email: John.Barlow@parl.gc.ca Phone: (403) 603-3665,

If you are denied, don't qualify, or if you don't have the revenue history

If you are denied a support, loan, or grant, or if you feel that your business does not check the right application parameters to even apply for the help, then please contact the Town of Claresholm Economic Development Officer right away. The EDO has contacts in the Ministries of Jobs, Economy and Innovation, as well as Labour and Immigration that are aware of these short-falls and can help you get the support you need faster! I am here to help, email me at: edo@claresholm.ca Call me at 403-625-3381

EDO Tip: Share this email with your colleagues, partners, and neighbours in the Claresholm area, we need to work together.

*You may receive this email twice depending what mailing lists I have included you on in the past. If you would like to unsubscribe from emails from Claresholm Economic Development simply reply, **unsubscribe***