



## Update from Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket-Aurora

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Updates**

We have recently reached an important milestone in our fight against COVID-19. Our federal government has delivered over 10 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to the provinces and territories. As of April 6, we have delivered 4,022,875 vaccines to the Province of Ontario, and in turn the province has vaccinated 2,621,839 people.

Last weekend, I received the first dose of the vaccine at the Ray Twinney Recreation Complex Vaccine Clinic, and I am thankful to all involved in getting these in the arms of Canadians and working to keep us safe. When you are eligible to do so, I encourage you to book your appointment to receive your vaccine.

As vaccine deliveries ramp up with more doses arriving every week, more and more Canadians will be able to get vaccinated. From Pfizer alone, we can expect 6 million doses by April 19, and more than 9.6 million by June.

Our government also knows that testing, screening and contact tracing play a critical role in the fight against the pandemic and in curbing transmission, particularly in shared spaces. This week, our Prime Minister announced the final instalment of the \$19 billion Safe Restart Agreement, to help provinces and territories provide continued support to Canadians. The latest \$700 million installment will help further increase testing capacity across the country. This funding has been critical in supporting the capacity of our health care systems, securing PPE for essential workers, and assisting in the operating needs of municipalities and public transit.

We will continue to do what it takes to support the provinces, territories, municipalities and Indigenous communities to keep Canadians safe and healthy. Until every Canadian is fully vaccinated, we must continue to follow local public health guidelines, stay home as much as possible, wear a mask, avoid non-essential travel and use the COVID Alert app. All of us have a role to play in stopping the chain of infection and beating this virus.

More information:

[Vaccine distributions](#)

[Vaccine administration](#)

## **Budget 2021 Date Announcement**

On March 23, during Question Period, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Finance announced that Budget 2021 will be released on Monday, April 19.

As part of the process leading to Budget 2021, our government consulted with thousands of Canadians from across the country, and it was an honour to host a Pre-Budget Consultation with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and hear directly from local businesses what they would like to see on Budget 2021. We look forward to presenting Canada's plan to support job creation and economic growth in the coming weeks.

## **Canada Emergency Business Account extended to help small business**

We announced a new deadline for new applications for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loans of \$60,000 or new applications for the additional \$20,000 for businesses that have received the \$40,000 loan. The application period is being extended from March 31 to June 30, 2021.

CEBA provides interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 to small businesses, to help cover operating costs such as rent, utilities and insurance. As of March 18, more than 850,000 CEBA loans have been approved, representing nearly \$45 billion in credit disbursed.

For more information, please see the [news release](#).

To apply, please visit the [CEBA website](#).

## **Seeking views on labour protection for gig workers and the right to disconnect**

The Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister of Labour, announced our federal government is seeking the feedback of Canadians on labour protections and their impacts on workers and employers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the vulnerability of gig workers – those who enter into short-term contracts to complete specific and often one-off tasks – and Canada's dependence on them to provide essential services. Furthermore, with more Canadians working from home the line between what it means to be “at work” and “not at work” is blurring.

Labour protections must continue to evolve to ensure safe and decent working conditions in Canada. The government wants to better understand:

- The experiences of gig workers in federally regulated sectors, including those who work through digital platforms like delivery or freelance applications; and
- How federally regulated workers could benefit from a “right to disconnect” policy.

You are invited to share your feedback by completing the online [Engagement Platform](#) by April 30, 2021.

## **Canada-United Kingdom Trade Negotiations Public Consultations**

The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and Trade, is seeking the input from Canadians to help shape Canada's priorities for future negotiations on a Canada-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement.

These consultations will help define Canada's interests and priorities throughout negotiations. You are invited to share your feedback to [consultations@international.gc.ca](mailto:consultations@international.gc.ca) by April 27, 2021.

For more information, please visit the [consultation page](#).

### **Filing your taxes for the 2020 year**

As a result of COVID-19, this tax season is like no other, but we are working hard to assist taxpayers experiencing tax-related concerns or financial hardships due to the pandemic. Filing online is the fastest way to do taxes, but the CRA will continue to support those who chose to file on paper or by phone. The deadline for most individuals to file their 2020 taxes and pay any amount owing is April 30th, 2021.

Filing before the deadline, and including all tax slips, will ensure that the CRA is using the most accurate information for calculating your benefit and credit amounts. This will also ensure you continue to receive benefit and credit payments such as the various COVID recovery benefits, the Canada Child Benefit, the Old Age Security Pension Payments, and the goods and services tax (GST)/ harmonized sales tax (HST) credit.

Here are some key services that could assist you this filing season:

The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program is a service run by volunteers to help eligible Canadians file returns for free! Volunteers are able to do your taxes virtually, by videoconference, or by phone or through a document drop-off arrangement. Find a [tax clinic](#) in your area.

The CRA Benefits Outreach Program has delivered over 85 sessions since the start of filing season to community organizations looking for information on taxes, credits and benefits. Organizations are encouraged to [set up a meeting](#) with a CRA outreach officer if they are passionate about helping residents in Newmarket-Aurora with taxes and benefits.

In need of a quick answer to a question regarding your taxes? Try Charlie the Chatbox! Charlie makes it easier for taxpayers to get the information they need to file their income tax and benefit return, and can be found on the [CRA homepage](#).

Additional information:

[Business or professional income](#)

[Home office expenses for employees](#)

[Emergency and recovery benefit income](#)

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*My offices are open for inquiries and assistance via e-mail at [Tony.VanBynen@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Tony.VanBynen@parl.gc.ca) or by phone at 905-953-7515. To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, we are not accepting in person appointments.*

*You can also sign up to receive bi-weekly e-mail updates on [vanbynen.ca/get-updates](http://vanbynen.ca/get-updates).*