# TERRY BEECH YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR BURNABY NORTH-SEYMOUR Our Government's Response to COVID-19 Overview and Prevention Travel First Wave, Initial Response and Investments Second Wave, and our Ongoing and New Supports The Importance of Safe Vaccines Making Changes to Fix Challenges with Long-Term Care

#### Introduction

COVID-19 is an unprecedented global challenge. It has affected the way we do business, the way we interact with members of our community, and the way we spend time with our friends and family. In Canada, particularly in British Columbia, we have shown authentic leadership in taking the necessary steps to combat this virus. We knew early on that the length and severity of this pandemic would depend upon the daily choices we make. That being said, COVID-19 is a challenge and an opportunity to show Canadians how much we care about one another. Whether it's our heroic essential workers fighting for our health and access to services, volunteers delivering groceries and supplies to vulnerable people, or regular families practicing social distancing, Canadians in communities across the country have set a shining example of what it means to take care of each other.

Throughout this crisis, our Government has been listening to you and working hard to develop policies that support Canadians during this difficult time. We have launched programs to support nearly every sector of Canadian society, from families to seniors, to businesses, to students. These programs are detailed in this report. As the COVID-19 situation evolves and as we continue to hear feedback from Canadians, these programs may change.

#### PANDEMIC SUPPORT BY THE NUMBERS

**CANADA EMERGENCY** WAGE SUBSIDY

**CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT** 

CANADA EMERGENCY RESPONSE BENEFIT



JOBS SUPPORTED

765,000

CANADA EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL RENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM





MALL BUSINESSES SUPPORTED

#### Overview and Prevention

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2. It has quickly grown global in scale, affecting people on all continents across the world. Our Government has been hard at work to address these unprecedented challenges. The most common symptoms in reported cases are cough, headaches, and dizziness. Our Government has set up an online self-assessment tool: <a href="https://ca.thrive.health/covid19/en">https://ca.thrive.health/covid19/en</a>. If you are experiencing symptoms, the best thing to do is self-isolate and wear a mask. Call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room if your symptoms become severe.

#### First Wave, Initial Response and Investments

Our economy was strong prior to the COVID-19 crisis. Since 2015, over a million jobs have been created, we experienced the lowest unemployment rate in over 40 years, and over a million people, including more than 400,000 children, were lifted out of poverty. We ensured Canadians would not be left out in the cold during the COVID-19 crisis. We acted boldly and decisively by creating an Economic Response Plan to help every Canadian weather the storm. Our government has begun to reduce the amount of support we are giving and adapt some programs into permanent support for Canadians.

For informational purposes and posterity, the whole-of-government approach we rolled out as the pandemic hit is listed here. It is important to reiterate that the situation is still changing, and the latest news and information can be found at canada.ca/covid19. Many of the programs have run their course and are indicated as such with dates, but some are not. If you are unsure if any program is still available, please do not hesitate to contact our office. Families and Individuals are our number one priority during this public health crisis to support Canadians. Public health is paramount, but with so many public restrictions and so many people out of work, many more Canadians would have struggled to make ends meet without the necessary support.

# Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

CERB provided many Canadians with temporary income support. This included \$2000/month for up to 4 months for eligible workers who have lost their income due to COVID-19, now including freelancers, seasonal workers, and the self-employed. This money was a taxable benefit, not tax-free, but our government has created a one-time repayment plan to help those who need help with their repayment. Through CERB, we were able to support 8.16 million individual Canadians through an investment of \$53.53 billion. If you or a loved one have questions about the program or other COVID-19 benefits, please visit: https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/apply-for-cerb-with-cra/return-payment.html.



We have been working closely with our parliamentary colleagues to ensure that Canada's economic recovery continues to be the strongest in the G7.

#### **Travel**

As of October 2022, our government has removed all COVID-19-related restrictions on domestic and international travel. During the height of the pandemic, we used vaccine verification and other travel restrictions to ensure that the spread of COVID-19 was slowed and to minimize any negative impacts on our healthcare system. We strongly encourage continued caution when travelling, including masking on planes or enclosed spaces and having your vaccines up to date before leaving for your holiday.

#### The Quarantine Act

The Government of Canada has placed an emergency order under the Quarantine Act. It applies to all travellers arriving in Canada, and failure to comply is an offence. There are many different rules and regulations for travellers travelling within Canada, leaving Canada, or returning to Canada at this time. We've included the most pertinent here, but if you need more information, you can find it online at canada.ca or contact our office.

Only Canadian citizens, permanent residents, persons registered under the Indian Act, protected persons, refugee claimants, and resettled refugees may enter Canada with symptoms or a current positive test result. However, you may face a fine of up to \$5000 plus applicable surcharges.

You must isolate for ten days starting on the day you enter Canada if you:

- Know that you have COVID-19.
- Show signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- If you had received a positive result for any COVID-19 test taken less than ten days before the day on which you entered Canada.
- Have any other reasonable grounds to suspect you may have COVID-19.
- Isolation ends after the 10th day from the day on which you entered Canada.



Visiting a local childcare centre with Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland. Due to our investments, children aged 6 months+ can now be vaccinated against COVID-19 and return to the classroom safely.

Slowing the rate of infection reduces the load on our hospitals, our doctors, and nurses to ensure they are not overwhelmed. Less overwhelmed hospitals mean far fewer preventable deaths, not just for people who have COVID-19. Quarantining measures for people who may have come in contact with the virus reduces the rate of infection and the number of people who may fall ill. Taken together, we can see that the graphed curve of new infections flattens. The actions each individual takes directly impact the progression and severity of this pandemic.



## Support for Families and Seniors

Our government continues to increase support for families and those in need. That is why we have indexed essential supports to inflation so that when the cost of living goes up, the support people receive increases. In the 2022-23 financial year, we have seen additional increases in the Canada Child Benefit, Old Age Security, and the Guaranteed Income Supplement. Under the increased Canada Child Benefit, families can receive up to \$6,997 per child under the age of six and \$5,903 per child aged six through seventeen. 9 out of 10 families in our community are receiving this benefit which has lifted 435,000 children living in poverty since 2015.

During the pandemic, our government introduced measures to:

- Provide a temporary wage top-up for low-income essential workers.
- The federal government provided up to \$3 billion to support provincial and territorial governments.
- Special, one-time Goods and Services Tax Credit payment for low and modest-income families and individuals.
- The 2019 income tax returns filing date was deferred to June 1, 2020. Any new income tax balances due, or
  installments, were deferred until after August 31, 2020, without penalty or interest.
- \$100 million for national, regional, and local organizations across Canada, including, but not limited to: Food Banks Canada, Salvation Army, Second Harvest, Community Food Centres Canada, and Breakfast Club of Canada. This improved food security and prevented many Canadians from going hungry.
- An extra \$157.5 million for the Reaching Home initiative to combat homelessness and ensure those experiencing homelessness are not subject to the additional risk of COVID-19.
- \$50 million to women's shelters and sexual assault centres across Canada, including facilities in Indigenous communities.

We have made a \$350 million investment in charities and non-profits across Canada to support a variety of activities, such as:

- Increasing volunteer-based home deliveries of groceries and medication.
- Providing transportation services, like accompanying or driving seniors or persons with disabilities to appointments.
- Scaling up help lines that provide information and support.
- Providing training, supplies, and other required support to volunteers so they can continue to make their contributions to the COVID-19 response.

#### Meeting the Needs of Seniors

Seniors are one of the most at-risk groups for COVID-19. Additionally, the economic situation can be harder to handle on a fixed income. During the height of the pandemic we:

- Provided a one-time tax-free payment of \$300 for seniors eligible for Old Age Security (OAS) pension and an additional \$200 for seniors eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).
- Temporarily extended the Guaranteed Income Supplement and Allowance payments if seniors' 2019 income information has not been assessed.
- Reduced minimum withdrawals for Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) by 25% for 2020.
- Contributed \$9 million through United Way Canada to help local organizations support you by delivering necessities and personal outreach.

- Invested an additional \$20 million in the New Horizons for Seniors Program, supporting local organizations
  across the country that reduce isolation, improve the quality of life of seniors, and help them maintain a social
  support network.
- This year alone, we have increased payments of OAS and GIS by an additional 10 percent to help seniors with the price increases caused by the pandemic and global inflation.

#### Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

The COVID-19 crisis has impacted employers across the country. Many have lost their jobs, but we are committed to helping our business community survive. With many people working from home, and many businesses experiencing a sharp decline in revenue, these supports were designed to ensure people could stay employed and businesses could stay open. We focused on ensuring businesses have the tools and resources they need to be in a strong position when the COVID-19 crisis is over. This included a temporary 10% wage subsidy, a three-month measure that allowed eligible employers to reduce the amount of payroll deduction required to be remitted to the CRA. This program targeted employers who are:

- An individual (excluding trusts).
- Partnerships.
- A non-profit organization, a registered charity.
- A Canadian-controlled private corporation (including a cooperative corporation) eligible for the small business deduction.

Employers suffering significant revenue losses due to COVID-19 were eligible for a 75% subsidy of employee wages through the CEWS. Employers eligible for the CEWS were entitled to receive a 100% refund for specific employer contributions to Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, the Quebec Pension Plan, and the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan paid in respect of employees on leave with pay. This program was intended to run from March 15 to August 29, 2020, but in June 2021, it was officially extended to September 25, 2021.

With a \$100.70 billion investment, we were able to protect 5,338,450 jobs at the peak of the pandemic. Because of the need for continuing support, the Wage Subsidy has been replaced by the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program (THRP) and the Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program (HHBRP). This is helping businesses that have lost more than 50 percent of their revenue.

## Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)

We provided relief for small businesses experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. Over the course of the program, property owners reduced rent by at least 75% for April and May (retroactive) and June for their small business tenants. CECRA covered 50% of the rent, with the tenant paying up to 25% and the property owner forgiving at least 25%. Applications for CECRA closed on October 30, 2020.



In 2022 we passed a \$500 dollar support for lower-income renters to help them through the lingering effects of the pandemic.

## **Business Credit Availability Program**

Our government established this program to provide additional support through the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and Export Development Canada (EDC). They worked with private sector lenders to coordinate credit solutions for businesses in many different sectors, and the program included many different sub-programs, including:

- Loan Guarantee for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.
- Co-Lending Program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.
- BDC's Mid-Market Financing Program.
- EDC's Mid-Market Guarantee and Financing Program.

#### Regional Relief and Recovery Fund

Provided over \$2 billion to help more businesses and organizations in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism, and others that are key to regional and local economies.

Specifically targeted those who required additional help to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic but could not access other support measures. This was provided through our Regional Development Agencies. Ours is Western Economic Diversification Canada.

#### **Supporting Students**

Part of what makes Canada's economy strong is our highly skilled, highly educated workforce. In fact, Canada has the highest per-capita percentage of post-secondary educated individuals of any country in the OECD. Many students work during the summers to pay for tuition, but because of COVID-19, summer job opportunities for students were greatly diminished. Moreover, the time after which students graduate is also one of transition. We know from personal experience how challenging it can be to find a good-paying job and start saving money, all while paying off student loans. We need to support the next generation of our workforce and our leaders of tomorrow. Our government has implemented a plan to help students navigate the challenges posed by COVID-19. We have plans to build on Canada's investments in youth with over \$5.7 billion over the next five years. These investments will help young Canadians—including those from low-income households—pursue and complete their education, provide additional relief from student loan debt for young graduates, and create 220,000 new job skills development and work opportunities. Additionally, our government has permanently eliminated interest on student loans while ensuring that students don't have to start making payments until they earn \$40,000 annually.

## Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)

The CESB provided income support for post-secondary students or recent graduates unable to find work due to COVID-19. This benefit ran from May to August 2020. Students were eligible for up to \$1250/month (\$2000 for students with disabilities or dependents), helping 708,440 students with over \$ 2.94 billion in payments.



Meeting with students at Simon Fraser University.

#### An Affordable Education

There have been many changes to Federal Student Loans due to COVID-19. All student loan borrowers automatically had their loan repayments and interest suspended until March 2023. Students did not need to apply for the repayment pause, which was automatic. It applies to both the federal and provincial portions of your student loans. Additional measures we have taken to help students include:

- Doubling the Canada Student Grant for all eligible full-time students to up to \$6000 and up to \$3600 for part-time students.
- Doubling the Canada Student Grants for students with permanent disabilities and or with a dependent.
- Broadened eligibility for student financial assistance by removing the expected student's and spouse's contributions for 2020-2021.
- Raising the maximum weekly amount that can be provided to a student in 2020-2021 from \$210 to \$350.
- As of November 2022, you won't have to start repaying your federal student loans until you're earning at least \$40,000 per year.

#### Additional Investments in Students

- Providing an extra \$291.6 million to support student researchers and post-doctoral fellows through the federal granting councils.
- An extra \$7.5 million for Kids Help Phone.
- Temporarily removed the restriction (until August 31, 2020) that allowed International students to work a maximum of 20 hours per week while classes are in session, provided they are working in an essential service.

## Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)

To help businesses, our government provided Interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits to help during the crisis. This included businesses with sole proprietors, those that rely on contractors, and family-owned businesses that pay employees through dividends rather than payroll. Repaying the balance of the loan on or before December 31, 2022, will result in loan forgiveness of 25%, up to \$10,000.

To qualify, organizations needed to demonstrate they paid between \$20,000 to \$1.5 million in total payroll in 2019. Through this program, we provided 49.2 billion dollars worth of aid to help 1,470,122 businesses.



As we recover from the pandemic, we are making long-term plans to prepare Canada for the future. Greg Fergus, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, and I recently met with community, business, and educational leaders to learn more about what they think Canada will look like in ten years and how we can address emerging challenges.

#### **Indigenous Communities**

The relationship most important to the government continues to be the nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous Peoples. First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities all across Canada are varied and diverse, and as part of our continued work on reconciliation, we are committed to working closely with communities to solve problems as partners. COVID-19 has presented unique challenges to each community, and we have developed these unique solutions accordingly to work in tandem with the existing benefits available to Indigenous peoples.

To address immediate needs in Indigenous communities, we created a new distinctions-based Indigenous Community Support Fund (ISCF), and invested \$305 million to support this initiative. These funds can be used by communities to access:

- Support for Elders and vulnerable community members.
- Measures to combat food insecurity.
- Educational and other supports for children.
- Mental health assistance and emergency response services.
- COVID-19 preparedness measures.

Because of the success of the fund, Budget 2021 committed an additional \$760.8 million for the ICSF, and Budget 2022 committed an additional \$190.5 million for the ICSF. This included:

- Approximately \$400 million in direct allocations to First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities.
- A further \$360 million in needs-based COVID-19 support for Indigenous communities and organizations, including \$150 million to support Indigenous peoples living in urban centres and members of First Nations living off reserve.
- The remaining \$800,000 was set aside for administration to ensure the swift delivery of funds.

In Summer 2022, our government transferred an additional \$50 million to the ICSF from COVID-19 public health funding. Additionally, our government has supported a range of federal health measures, including preparedness support, with a range of measures. For areas of federal responsibility, we have provided \$100 million to help:

- Respond to identified needs to update and/or activate pandemic plans.
- Support an effective allocation of limited public health and primary health care capacity.
- Align response efforts with scientific evidence as determined by a medical officer of health.
- Helped Nutrition North Canada increase subsidies so families can afford much-needed personal hygiene products and nutritious food with a \$25 million investment.
- Provided \$75.2 million of additional distinctions-based support to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis post-secondary students.



The Prime Minister and I recently met with Chief Jen Thomas and members of Tsleil-Waututh Community.

To fund community-led responses to the pandemic and provide targeted increases in primary healthcare resources for First Nations communities, we provided \$285.1 million. In case of outbreaks, this funding could be used to provide surge capacity and additional support for community-based services in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities.

We provided up to \$133 million to support Indigenous businesses that form the backbone of communities across the country. This funding includes:

- \$117 million for First Nation, Inuit, and Métis businesses, including micro businesses, to provide revenue for important services and to create meaningful jobs.
- \$16 million to support the Indigenous tourism industry with a new stimulus development fund to be administered by the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada. This funding went towards funding businesses across the country that have lost revenue due to COVID-19.

To supplement the On-Reserve Income Assistance Program and to address the increased demand for the program, which helps individuals and families meet their essential living expenses, we provided \$270 million. This helped hire additional staff to better serve First Nations communities and connect individuals to other government programs.

First Nations administer the On-Reserve Income Assistance Program. Program staff members play an important role in helping individuals with other needs, including providing referrals to mental health and addictions counselling and helping families find and apply for appropriate government benefits, such as Employment Insurance, the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, and the Canada Child Benefit.

We are helping to build 12 new shelters over five years, which will help protect and support Indigenous women and girls experiencing and fleeing violence. This is being funded with a \$44.8 million investment. This funding will help build 10 shelters in First Nations communities on reserve across the country (funded through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Shelter Enhancement Program) and two in the territories (funded through National Housing Co-Investment Fund) to support Indigenous women and children. We will also provide \$40.8 million to support operational costs for these new shelters over the first five years and \$10.2 million annually ongoing.

We are also investing \$1 million a year ongoing, which started in 2020, to support engagement with Métis leaders and service providers on shelter provision and community-led violence prevention projects for Métis women, girls, and LGBTQ2+ members. The process to access the funding for the shelters will be through an Expression of Interest. First Nations on reserve across the country and Indigenous governments and/or organizations in the territories are eligible to submit proposals.

We are ensuring that Nutrition North Canada's (NNC) budget grows by 5% each year in an attempt to keep pace with population growth, inflation, and the high costs of operating in isolated northern communities. Part of this effort is the Harvesters Support Grant, which provides \$40 million over 5 years, and \$8 million per year ongoing, to Indigenous governments and organizations representing eligible NNC communities.

Indigenous Services Canada will work with Indigenous communities and the provinces and territories to support the continued public health response to COVID-19. A total of \$1.67 billion has been invested in the public health response since the start of the pandemic, including \$268 million in additional support announced in Budget 2022 on April 7, 2022.

#### **Our Ongoing Efforts**

When the pandemic first hit, our Government had to act like an entrepreneur and move quickly to implement a wide range of programs to protect as many Canadians as possible. Because of this, these programs were rolled out quickly and with short-term protection as the overriding goal rather than long-term viability. We recognized that some of these programs were not viable long-term. Moreover, this pandemic has exposed some cracks and inequities in our system, and we are taking the opportunity to rectify these with our changes and new programs. As part of our efforts to build resiliency against future pandemics, we are working with COVID-19 vaccine developer Moderna to build a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Quebec to deliver made-in-Canada vaccines. When completed, this new facility will be able to produce up to 100 million mRNA vaccine doses annually. It will also create hundreds of good-paying jobs. The facility is expected to be operational in 2024 at the earliest, subject to planning and regulatory approvals. In addition to COVID-19 vaccines, the facility is expected to be able to produce vaccines for other respiratory diseases, such as influenza.

## Changes to Employment Insurance

While the CERB was active, it was acting in place of our traditional El program. For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, we have:

- Increased the Maximum Insurable Earnings (MIE) from \$56,300 to \$60,300. This means that an insured worker will pay EI premiums in 2022 on insured earnings up to \$60,300.
- Adjusted the Employee EI Premium Rate which will be \$1.58 per \$100. This premium rate and the MIE increase mean that insured workers will pay a maximum annual EI premium in 2022 of \$952.74 compared with \$889.54 in 2021.
- The Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount has increased from \$595 to \$638 per week (minus taxes).
- These changes also impact El Sickness Benefits for employees unable to work due to medical reasons. All Federal
  employees will now get 10 paid sick days so that they do not have to choose between going to work and taking
  care of their health.

## Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy

CERS provided simple and easy-to-access rent and mortgage support until June 2021 for qualifying organizations affected by COVID-19 by subsidizing their rent. Within the first four days, 23,957 organizations applied for this program, claiming \$102.2 million in subsidies. It fulfilled the same need for support as CECRA but had changed after extensive consultations with our business community all over the country. Once more, you spoke, and we listened.

The subsidy was provided directly to tenants while also providing support to property owners. The rent subsidy supported businesses, charities, and non-profits that have suffered a revenue drop by subsidizing a percentage of their expenses, on a sliding scale, up to a maximum of 65% of eligible expenses until December 19, 2020.

A top-up Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy of 25% was provided for organizations temporarily shut down by a mandatory public health order issued by a qualifying public health authority, in addition to the 65% subsidy. Providing direct financial support to businesses temporarily shut down as a result of a local public health decision was one of our top priorities.

#### Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)

We will provide funding of \$3.0 billion over five years, starting in 2021-22, and \$966.9 million per year ongoing to enhance sickness benefits from 15 to 26 weeks. This extension, which will take effect in Summer 2022, will provide approximately 169,000 Canadians every year with additional time and flexibility to recover and return to work.

#### Canada Recovery Hiring Program

We introduced the new Canada Recovery Hiring Program for eligible employers with declines in revenues relative to before the pandemic. The subsidy offset a portion of employers' extra costs as they reopen, either by increasing wages, the number of hours worked, or by hiring more staff. Due in part to this investment, we have recovered more than 100% of the jobs lost to the pandemic and reached the highest employment rate in Canadian history.

#### The Importance of Vaccines

It is imperative that Canadians get immunized. Our government has approved multiple vaccines that are safe and effective in protecting you against the worst effects of COVID-19 and help reduce its community spread. The Moderna Spikevax and the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines have been approved for all Canadians ages 6 months +. It is safe and effective, and my daughters, Nova and Solar, have been vaccinated. This helps protect our public spaces, including schools, daycares, and playgrounds, while also preventing an increase in hospitalizations.

#### Making Changes to Fix Challenges with Long-Term Care

There is no question that we need to protect those living and working in long-term care in Canada. We're working with the provinces and territories to help them deliver quality care to those in long-term care facilities, including by working towards national standards for the sector. We're also exploring Criminal Code amendments to penalize those who endanger and neglect seniors in care. The Prime Minister and Minister of Health have both held discussions with their counterparts in the provinces and territories on the importance of national standards, and that work is ongoing. Developing strong and coherent national standards takes time, but we are committed to doing the important work needed to get it right. To address current needs in the healthcare sector, we provided \$740 million to provinces and territories through the Safe Restart Agreement to bring in infection prevention and control measures to protect vulnerable populations–including seniors living in long-term care and those receiving home or palliative care. More recently, in the 2021 Fall Economic Statement, we announced an additional \$1 billion to create the Safe Long-Term Care Fund. This fund will go towards providing funding to provinces and territories to enhance protections in the long-term care sector, including measures such as hiring additional staff, improving ventilation infrastructure, and carrying out infection prevention and control.



A roundtable conversation with seniors at Seton Villa in Burnaby in 2018. We invited then Minister of Seniors, Filomena Tassi, to join us and hear from our community.

#### Our investments include:

- \$740 million in the Safe Restart Agreement, providing funding to provinces and territories to support vulnerable populations, including addressing the immediate needs of LTC.
- \$3 billion in federal funding to increase the wages of low-income essential workers, including workers in hospitals and LTC homes.
- An additional \$10.7 million to Healthcare Excellence Canada to support LTC homes across the country through the LTC+ initiative. More than 1,500 facilities are participating in the program.
- \$3 billion investment over five years to support provinces and territories in applying LTC standards and making permanent changes.

#### **Conclusion**

COVID-19 has upended our normal lives. We have all been affected by it in one way or another. Many have lost loved ones, their jobs, and we have all had to adapt to a new way of life. If you need any help navigating the various supports our government has put forward, have any questions about anything contained in this report, or want to give your feedback on our government's work, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office. Our physical office has reopened, though we continue to closely follow public health guidelines. Stay safe and stay healthy, and we will all get through this together.



Our office provided free masks at local bus stops in our community so that everyone could be safe during their commute.