

The below table is to present a summary of available information on **COVID 19 Financial Supports** in one single place. While we will continue to ensure the correctness of the information, please contact Tristan Johnson at [tjohnson@newwestcity.ca](mailto:tjohnson@newwestcity.ca) should you find any inaccuracies.



Ctrl +Clicking on the agency logos and text highlighted in **blue** will take you to the appropriate online resource.



For more information on the Provincial Government of British Columbia's economic response to COVID-19, please visit [British Columbia's Response to COVID-19 website](#).



For more information on the Federal Government of Canada's economic response to COVID-19, please visit [Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan website](#).

For interactive online assistance in finding which benefits you and your family are eligible for, please visit the following Federal Government websites: [Benefit Finder](#) and [Find Financial Help During COVID-19](#).



For free assistance by phone and email in navigating benefits, as well as free financial coaching, please contact the [Family Services of Greater Vancouver](#) by phone at **1-800-609-3202** or by email at [moneynavigator@fsgv.ca](mailto:moneynavigator@fsgv.ca).

## HOUSING

Support	Description	How to Access
 <b>New Westminster Electrical Utility</b>	Flexible repayment plans available for residential and business customers in arrears due to COVID-19 pandemic.	Call 604-527-4555 for more information
 <b>Freeze on rental rates</b>	From the BC Government Housing and Tenancy website: "The rent increase freeze has been extended to December 31, 2021. Annual rent increase notices with an effective date after March 30, 2020 and before January 1, 2022 are canceled. Do not pay the increased amount. This rent increase freeze does not include commercial tenancies, non-profit housing tenancies where rent is geared to income, co-operative housing and some assisted living facilities."	No action needed. <b>Contact Residential Tenancy Branch</b> with questions.
 <b>Mortgages (CMHC-insured)</b>	Mortgage payment deferrals available for CMHC-insured loans.	Check with your lender.
 <b>Mortgages (non-CMHC)</b>	Check with your lender about payment deferral options.	Check with your lender.
 <b>Emergency Housing</b>	Existing shelters are still active and additional emergency options may be available.	Call 2-1-1 or <b>search online</b> .
 <b>New Westminster Rent Bank</b>	Offers low-fee, no interest, short-term loans to individuals and families in New Westminster who are at risk of eviction or utility disconnection due to a temporary and unexpected financial crisis.	Contact Purpose Society at 604-526-2522 or <a href="mailto:newwestminsterrentbank@purposesociety.org">newwestminsterrentbank@purposesociety.org</a>
 <b>Seniors Services Society Seniors Loan Program</b>	The Seniors Loan Program can offer funding up to \$1,000 to seniors aged 60 and older who are at risk of eviction due to a temporary shortage of funds, or financial crisis. Funding may also be available for a utility payment or damage deposit, if the person is homeless or their current housing is unsafe or unsuitable. Funding is provided in the form of short-term interest free loans.	For more information, please visit the <b>Seniors Services Society Seniors Loan Program website</b> or phone the Seniors Services Society at 604-520-6621.
 <b>Fortis- Covid-19 Customer Recovery Fund</b>	Fortis's Customer Recovery Fund Program supported residential customers who were unable to work or lost their livelihood, and small businesses that experienced income loss or were forced to close as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Customers were able to defer their FortisBC energy bills for the period of April 1 to June 30, 2020. Customers who took part in the program have been automatically enrolled in an interest-free repayment program, with payments spread over one year from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021. Those customers can begin repayments as part of their regular bills. Up until February 28, 2021, Fortis will waive all late payment fees for natural gas and propane bills as well as suspended disconnections due to financial hardship, regardless of the amount owing. As of March 1, 2021, late payment fees will be charged on overdue balances unless the client has a customized payment plan and are up to date on payments or have participated in the Customer Recovery Program and are up to date on payments.	Customers can go to <b>Fortis Covid-19 Customer Recovery Fund website</b> for more information or phone 1-888-292-4104.
<b>YEAH! Program Housing Subsidy for youth</b>	This program is offered by WATARI. The YEAH! Program offers support with housing searches, viewing places to rent, communicating with landlords, outreach support, individualized wellness planning, learning life-skills, group sessions focusing on psychoeducational and life-skills topics, connecting with education and employment support and opportunities, access to Food Bank, start-up supplies, and a rental supplement of up to \$450 per month." Youth 16-24 years old who are homeless or at risk of homelessness are eligible for this program.	
<b>Moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent</b>	The Government of British Columbia is continuing the moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent, but this moratorium was lifted on August 18, 2020. A landlord must not issue a Notice to	

	End Tenancy for unpaid rent or utilities that came due during the specified period of March 18, 2020 to August 17, 2020 unless the landlord has given the tenant a repayment plan for the unpaid amount and the tenant has defaulted on the repayment plan.	
<b>Rent Repayment Plan</b>	The Government of British Columbia has introduced a repayment framework for tenants to enter into repayment plans with landlords for unpaid rent and/or utility during the COVID-19 pandemic.	<b>The Rental Repayment Plan template</b> is now available on the BC Government website.
<b>No late fees for renters</b>	As per The Government of British Columbia law, a landlord cannot charge a late fee for any unpaid rent during the emergency period of March 18, 2020 to August 17, 2020.	
<b>CleanBC - Better Homes and Home Renovation Rebate Program</b>	The rebates are for customers switching from natural gas, propane or oil to an electric heat pump or heat pump water heater. Rebate amounts available on the <b>Clean BC Double the Rebate website</b> . CleanBC also has many other rebates available for various projects (heating, electrical systems windows, appliances, home energy etc.): these rebates can be found using either the “Find rebates for renovating a home” tool or the “Find rebates for building a home” tool on the <b>Clean BC rebate website</b> .	Application details are available on the <b>CleanBC Double the Rebate website</b> . The upgrades for the Double the Rebate Program must be completed and invoiced by June 30, 2021 and you must have registered for a promo code for the Double the Rebate Program by March 31, 2021. Deadlines for the many other rebate programs vary.
<b>New Westminster - Fortis BC - Rental Apartment Efficiency Program</b>	As per the City of New Westminster’s <b>Energy Save New West</b> website: “The City of New Westminster is collaborating with FortisBC to support local rental apartment buildings with improving their energy performance and lowering greenhouse gas emissions to reduce costs. Launched earlier this year, FortisBC’s Rental Apartment Efficiency Program is designed to improve energy efficiency and reduce costs in rental apartment buildings. The Rental Apartment Efficiency Program has three (3) components: Installation of water efficient showerheads and faucet aerators at no cost (valued at approximately \$50 per unit); Energy assessments at no cost (valued at \$1,300 to \$2,000); Professional support with implementing additional efficiency upgrades (e.g. boilers) at no cost (valued at several thousands of dollars).”	
<b>Changes to protect tenants from evictions due to renovations (renovictions)</b>	As per <b>Provincial Government of British Columbia’s March 1, 2021 news release</b> : “Effective July 1, 2021, landlords will be required to apply to the Residential Tenancy Branch (RTB) before they can terminate a tenancy agreement for the purpose of renovating. In addition, landlords will not be able to end tenancies for renovations that are not substantial or do not require the rental unit to be vacant.” <b>This Provincial bill for renovictions was passed (received royal asset) on March 22, 2021 (i.e., Tenancy Statues Amendment Act, 2021)</b> . In addition to this new provincial law, the <b>City of New Westminster also has regulations protecting tenants from renovictions</b> .	
<b>Canada Housing Benefit</b>	From the BC Housing website: “This program helps make rent more affordable for select households that do not qualify for our other rental assistance programs. It is not a benefit that households can apply directly for. The benefit will be distributed to identified priority groups either by non-profit housing providers who will identify and select eligible applicants, or in some cases by BC Housing who will select eligible households from The Housing Registry database. In the coming months there will be a proposal process to identify non-profit providers interested in administering the benefit to identified priority groups.”	
<b>BC Rebate for Accessible Home Adaptations (BC RAHA)</b>	From the BC Housing website: “The BC Rebate for Accessible Home Adaptations (BC RAHA) program provides financial help in the form of rebates to eligible low-income households to complete home adaptations for independent living. As a homeowner, you may be eligible for BC Rebate for Accessible Home Adaptations (BC RAHA) help if you or someone in your household	

has permanent disability or loss of physical abilities and you meet all the application requirements. Tenants and landlords may also apply to the BC Rebate for Accessible Home Adaptations program if the tenant has a disability or permanent loss of physical ability and all other requirements are met.” Eligibility and other information are available on the RAHA website.

<b>Affordable Housing Funding</b>	Various affordable housing funding programs are available through <a href="#">BC Housing</a> and <a href="#">CMHC</a> .	
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**PERSONAL INCOME – WORKFORCE**

<b>Support</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>How to Access</b>
<p><b>6 Employment Insurance (EI)</b></p>	<p>Existing EI benefits continues to be available, including regular benefits, sickness benefits, maternity and paternity benefits and caregiving benefits. There are also three new EI benefits (note: these three new EI benefits are set to expire on September 25, 2021), including the <a href="#">Canada Recovery Benefit</a>, the <a href="#">Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit</a>, and the <a href="#">Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit</a>. The Canada Recovery Benefit “gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are directly affected by COVID-19 and are not entitled to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits.” The Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit “The Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are unable to work because they are sick or need to self-isolate due to COVID-19, or have an underlying health condition that puts them at greater risk of getting COVID-19.” The Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit “gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are unable to work because they must care for their child under 12 years old or a family member who needs supervised care.” As per the <a href="#">January 29, 2021 News Release from the Federal Government of Canada</a>, “EI regulations will be amended to temporarily waive the waiting period for EI claimants who establish a new claim between January 31, 2021 and September 25, 2021. This includes claimants of regular, fishing and special benefits. This temporary change will allow people who are applying for benefits to be paid for their first week of unemployment.”</p>	<p><a href="#">Apply online</a> (for existing benefits). To apply for the new EI Benefits, please go to their websites: <a href="#">Canada Recovery Benefit</a>, the <a href="#">Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit</a>, and the <a href="#">Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit</a>.</p>
<p><b>Changes to workers' compensation</b></p>	<p>As per July 14, 2020 news release from the Provincial Government of British Columbia: changes have been proposed to the Workers Compensation Act including raising the maximum annual salary amount on which workers' compensation benefits are based and simplifying the process for workers who make a workers' compensation claim if they contract viruses on the job. <a href="#">These proposed changes and other changes came into effect on August 14, 2020.</a></p>	
<p><b>Job Protected Leave</b></p>	<p>The Province of British Columbia Government has regulations for various job-protected leaves (i.e., leaves which you are allowed to take with no threat of loss of employment), including COVID-19 leave, personal illness or injury leave and family responsibility leave. As per this <a href="#">April 1, 2021 BC Government Ministry of Labour press release</a>, workers in British Columbia can now take a job-protected leave in order to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.</p>	

**INCOME SUPPLEMENTS FOR PEOPLE**

<b>Support</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>How to Access</b>
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## Youth in Care

From the BC Government COVID-19 support for youth and young adult website: “For youth in foster care, out-of-care placements and contracted residential agencies, you can keep staying where you’re living past your 19th birthday until March 31, 2022. For youth on Independent Living Agreements and Youth Agreements, you will receive monthly living expenses past your 19th birthday until March 31, 2022.” [The Youth Futures Education Fund](#) provides additional financial support with expenses beyond tuition (e.g., rent, utilities, groceries) for youth who have aged out of government care and are going to attend post-secondary education.

For more information on Youth Futures, including how to apply for financial support, please visit the [Youth Futures Education Fund website](#)

## Income Assistance

Existing [Income Assistance](#) program continues to be available for those in need with no other resources. Starting with payments issued in April 2021, individuals on income assistance will automatically receive a permanent \$175 per month increase: for more details, please read the [BC Government Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction news release from March 16, 2021](#).

Apply [online](#), by phone at 1-866-866-0800, or visit [your local office](#).

## People with Disabilities

Existing [Disability Assistance](#) program continues to be available. [See also full list of additional supports here](#). Starting with payments issued in April 2021, individuals on disability assistance will automatically receive a permanent \$175 per month increase: for more details, please read the [BC Government Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction news release from March 16, 2021](#).

Apply [online](#), by phone at 1-866-866-0800, or visit [your local office](#).

## Seniors

Existing programs continue to be available, including:  
-[Old Age Security \(OAS\)](#)  
-[Guaranteed Income Supplement \(GIS\)](#)  
-[Canada Pension Plan \(CPP\)](#)  
-[Allowance/Allowance for Survivor](#)  
-[BC Senior's Supplement](#): as per the [BC Government Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction news release from March 16, 2021](#), there will be a \$50 per month increase in the seniors supplements starting in April 2021.

## Canada Child Benefit

“The Canada child benefit (CCB) is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). It is a tax-free monthly payment made to eligible families to help with the cost of raising children under 18 years of age.

## GST HST Credit

“The goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit is a tax-free quarterly payment that helps individuals and families with low and modest incomes offset all or part of the GST or HST that they pay”.

## Special Care Facility Comforts Allowance

A special care facility is [defined](#) by the BC Government as “an adult community care facility licenced under the Community Care and Assistance Living Act (CCALA)” or “certain specialized adult residential care settings that are not licenced under the CCALA but are approved by the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction”. As per the [BC Government Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction news release from March 16, 2021](#), there will be a \$20 per month increase in comfort allowances for people living in special care facilities starting in April 2021.

## Hardship Assistance

Existing [Hardship Assistance](#) program continues to be available for those in need who are currently not eligible for income or disability assistance – criteria is available on the [Hardship Assistance website](#). All hardship assistance is provided on a temporary basis for one month at a time, and eligibility must be re-established for each month it is requested.

### BC Recovery Benefit

From the BC Government BC Recovery Benefit website: “The BC Recovery Benefit (the benefit) is a one-time direct deposit payment for eligible families, single parents or individuals. Benefit eligibility is based on net income from your 2019 tax return. You must apply to receive the benefit. \$1,000 for eligible families and single parents with a net income of up to \$125,000. Reduced benefit amount for eligible families and single parents with a net income of up to \$175,000. \$500 for eligible individuals with a net income of up to \$62,500. Reduced benefit amount for eligible individuals with a net income of up to \$87,500.”

**For people who were not on income assistance, disability assistance, hardship assistance or receiving the seniors supplement in December 2020 or January 2021:** Applications can be done via telephone, on-line or in person at a Service BC Location. Application eligibility and other information is available on the [BC Recovery Benefit website](#). Application deadline is by June 30, 2021.

**For people who were on income assistance, disability assistance, hardship assistance or receiving the seniors supplement in December 2020 or January 2021:** as per information from the BC Government Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR) (\*not yet available on BC Recovery Benefit website): “as of February 2021, the BC Recovery Benefit will be automatically paid to people on income, disability or hardship assistance and people receiving the senior’s supplement who were receiving assistance in December 2020 or January 2021. If a SDPR client in these categories has NOT already applied on their own for BC Recovery Benefit then they will receive the full amount of \$500 for a single person or \$1,000 for single-parent families and two parent families. The funds will be sent to the client in the same form that they receive their funding from the Ministry (EFT, Mail, Pickup). NO action is needed if a client has not applied for the BC Recovery Benefit and the funds will automatically be sent to them. Payments are expected to arrive by the end of March 2021.” If the payment has not been received, please follow up with the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

### BC Child Opportunity Benefit

The B.C. Child Opportunity Benefit, which replaced the B.C. Early Childhood Tax Benefit effective October 1, 2020, provides a tax-free monthly payment to families with children under the age of 18. For more information on eligibility and benefit calculation, please visit the [BC Child Opportunity Benefit website](#).

If your child is registered for the Canada Child Benefit, they're automatically registered for the B.C. Child Opportunity Benefit. If your child is not registered for the Canada Child Benefit, you'll need to apply for the [Canada Child Benefit](#).

## OTHER SUPPORTS FOR PEOPLE

Support	Description	How to Access
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<p><b>Hospital Parking</b></p>	<p>Parking is free of charge at all health authority owned/operated health care sites and is for the use of hospital patients, hospital workers, and hospital visitors.</p>	
<p> <b>ICBC</b></p>	<p>Monthly payment deferral for up to 90 days with no penalty. ICBC is also <b>waiving cancellation and re-plating fees for people who choose to cancel their insurance during the COVID-19 pandemic</b>. As per the <b>February 2, 2021 news release</b> from ICBC, ICBC customers will receive one-time rebates averaging \$190 in Spring 2021 – eligibility and rebate amount details are available in the news releases – rebates will be sent as cheques by mail.</p>	<p>For payment deferral: Call 1-800-665-6442 or 604-661-2723 or <b>apply online</b>.</p>
<p> <b>Emergency Travel Loan</b></p>	<p>Emergency loan of \$5000 available to Canadians travelling abroad who are trying to return to Canada.</p>	<p>Phone +1 613-996-8885 or email at <a href="mailto:CAN.finances.CV19@international.gc.ca">CAN.finances.CV19@international.gc.ca</a></p>
<p> <b>Resources in other languages</b></p>	<p>Information on resources and COVID-19 are available on the <b>BC Centre for Disease Control website</b> in Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Punjabi, Farsi, Spanish, French and English, as well as videos on COVID-19 resources in American Sign Language.</p> <p>The <b>IRCC Federal Government website - COVID-19: financial assistance for newcomers, temporary residents and refugees</b> has information on the Canada Child Benefit, Canada Emergency Response Benefit, and other updates and links, including information in English, Punjabi, Chinese (both traditional and simplified), Korean, Arabic, Vietnamese, <b>French</b>, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian.</p>	
<p>Internet for low income households from  <b>Telus</b> and  <b>Shaw</b></p>	<p>Low-cost internet and other technology products for low-income households through TELUS (Internet for Good) and Shaw (Connecting Families). Telus has <b>programs</b> specific to low-income families, low-income seniors, people with disabilities, and youth aging out of care.</p>	<p>For more information on the Internet for Good program through TELUS, please contact TELUS at 1-866-835-8744 or <a href="mailto:community.affairs@telus.com">community.affairs@telus.com</a> For more on the Connecting Families program through Shaw, please contact <b>Shaw</b>.</p>
<p><b>Canada Student Grant</b></p>	<p>In response to increased need for the 2020 to 2021 school year, the maximum amount of Canada Student Grants will be doubled. The Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students will increase up to a maximum of \$6,000 and the grant for part-time studies to \$3,600. The Canada Student Grants for Students with Permanent Disabilities and Students with Dependents will also be doubled. The doubling of this grant will be for the period from August 1, 2020 to August 1, 2021.</p>	<p>For more information on the Canada Student Grant and to apply for the Canada Student Grant, please visit the <b>Canada Aid website</b>.</p>
<p><b>Indigenous Emergency Assistance Fund</b></p>	<p>The BC Provincial “Government is providing an additional \$1.5 million to supplement the Indigenous Emergency Assistance Fund, which assists Indigenous students who are experiencing an unexpected financial emergency that may affect their ability to finish their studies. Support is available through all 25 public post-secondary institutions in B.C., as well as Native Education College (NEC).”</p>	<p>Please contact the Indigenous student services at post-secondary institutions for more information. A list of contacts at post-secondary institutions is available <b>here</b>.</p>
<p><b>VanCity Credit Union COVID-19 response</b></p>	<p>VanCity Credit Union is offering various financial supports to their members, including a loan payment deferral program.</p>	

<p><b>BC Access Grant</b></p>	<p>The BC Access Grant is available to low and middle income students in full and part-time undergraduate degree, diploma and certificate programs at BC public post-secondary institutions who are eligible for and receiving a student loan. The Grant does not need to be repaid.</p>	<p>Students applying for student aid programs at BC public post-secondary institutions will be automatically assessed for the BC Access Grant.</p>
<p><b>Free mental health supports</b></p>	<p>The BC Provincial Government and various partners are offering various free mental health programs during the COVID-19 pandemic, including virtual counselling, peer supports, mental health supports for healthcare workers, mental health supports for students, educators, youth, children, seniors and parents.</p>	
<p><b>Health Career Access Program</b></p>	<p>This program is sponsored by the British Columbia Provincial Government, which describes the program as follows; "COVID-19 has increased the need for health care assistants in long-term care and assisted living services. Normally, to become a health care assistant, you must complete six to eight months of post-secondary education at your own expense before you can apply for a position. Through the Health Career Access Program, the Province will pay for your post-secondary education."</p>	
<p><b>Canada Student Loans Medical and Parental Leave</b></p>	<p>From the Federal Government of Canada website: "Medical Leave and Parental Leave is for borrowers taking a break from studies for medical or mental health reasons, or after welcoming a child. During the leave, no interest is added to your loan, and you do not have to make payments. The leave applies to federal student loans, and provincial student loans from New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia."</p>	<p>To apply, please visit the <a href="#">Government of Canada. Medical and Parental Leave – Apply page.</a></p>
<p><b>Low-cost and free income tax assistance list</b></p>	<p>The New Westminster Public Library has published a list of low-cost and free income tax clinics in New Westminster, providing help for people who need assistance with their taxes. There is a mix of virtual (videoconference), phone call, drop-off/pick-up and in-person options for the tax clinics.</p>	
<p><b>Emergency funding for students</b></p>	<p>As per the <a href="#">BC Government's April 9, 2021 press release</a>: "Since March 2020, post-secondary institutions in Metro Vancouver have received a combined total of \$2,793,500 to assist students, including Indigenous students, who are experiencing an unexpected financial emergency that may affect their ability to complete their studies and handle expenses, especially those related to COVID-19. The non-repayable emergency assistance can be used to help with a broad range of costs, including living expenses, food, travel, portable computers and other supports for students who are returning to campuses for 2021-22. Students who attend one of B.C.'s 25 public post-secondary institutions, as well as the Native Education College and students enrolled in post-secondary programs at Indigenous institutes, may apply to access these funds by contacting their school's financial aid office or Indigenous student service centre." As part of this funding, Douglas College received \$286,000.</p>	

**FUNDING BOOSTS TO CHARITIES FOR PROGRAM DELIVERY**

Support	Description	How to Access
<p><b>Local Food Infrastructure Fund</b></p>	<p>From the Federal Government of Canada website: "The Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF) is a five-year, \$50 million initiative ending March 31, 2024. Applicants under this program will be eligible to receive a minimum of \$5,000 and up to \$250,000 in non-repayable funding. Applications will be accepted until December 31, 2023 (or an earlier date) based on funding</p>	<p>Eligible activities and how to apply are listed on <a href="#">the Local Food Infrastructure Fund website</a>. Due to the high volume of applications received in the second phase of the Local Food Infrastructure Fund, the application intake has now been</p>

	availability.” Eligible applicants consist of community or charitable organizations, indigenous groups, not-for-profit co-operatives and schools and school boards.	temporarily closed – future updates on the program will be provided on the Local Food Infrastructure Fund website.
<b>Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID Resilience Stream</b>	The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has been modified to address the impacts of COVID-19. Maximum total costs are up to \$10 million eligible costs per project. For projects under the COVID-19 Resilience stream, the maximum federal contribution from all sources will be up to 80% for provinces, and municipalities and not-for-profit organizations. Types of eligible projects (including building improvements, physical distancing infrastructure, active transportation and disaster mitigation and adaptation) and timelines are listed on the <a href="#">Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program website</a> .	
<b>Essential Services Contingency Reserve</b>	“Organizations that provide essential services may request access to the Government of Canada’s Essential Services Contingency Reserve (ESCR). Through the ESCR, eligible essential service business or organizations may apply to receive personal protective equipment (PPE), non-medical masks and disinfection products to address urgent, short-term (45 days) needs.”	
<b>Grant for hosting free tax clinics</b>	The CVITP (Community Volunteer Income Tax Program) Grant helps off-set costs incurred by community organizations that host free tax clinics and provides funding for income tax returns filed. Funding maximum depends on the number of returns per organization: for example, \$500 funding maximum for organizations doing 10 to 200 returns and \$10,000 funding maximum for organizations doing over 4,000 returns.	The CVITP Grant is being piloted over the next three years. This grant is administered by the CRA. The grant applications can be submitted for funding from May 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021.
<b>Supported Employment Recovery Fund</b>	From the <a href="#">Inclusion BC website</a> : “The \$9.7 million investment from the Province of BC will provide funding to approximately 100 CLBC contracted employment service providers who deliver specialized employment services to the people CLBC serves. Funding amounts will be based on the number of people they are working with who require assistance to reconnect to employment. Inclusion BC is administering the grant over two years on behalf of the Province of BC and Community Living BC.”	Eligible organizations will receive an email invitation to apply on January 25, 2021. Inclusion BC is currently reaching out to eligible service providers to confirm contact information for application invitations.
<b>Charity Village</b>	The Charity Village website has information on <a href="#">Canadian Foundations</a> that can help fund different programs, as well as links to <a href="#">government funding</a> .	
<b>Grants and funding from the Government of Canada</b>	The Government of Canada has an interactive website with information on federal government funding opportunities for various sectors and groups.	
<b>Government of British Columbia - Funding Opportunities</b>	The Government of British Columbia has an interactive website with information on provincial government funding opportunities for various sectors and groups.	
<b>Home Depot Community Impact Grant Program</b>	As per the Home Depot website: “as part of our commitment to continue supporting our partners through COVID-19 in their missions to prevent and end youth homelessness, The Home Depot Canada Foundation has established a Community Impact Grant Program. This funding will provide support to Canadian registered charities that continue to offer services to youth across Canada during these challenging times. The Community Impact Grant Program provides grants for affordable housing, community-based improvement projects and/or emergency response because of COVID-19 that benefit Canadians in need. Preference will be given to repair, renovation and/or improvement projects to housing and/or other support facilities such as employment services for homeless youth.”	There is an application page on the <a href="#">Home Depot Canada Foundation website</a> .

## Healthy Communities Initiative

The Healthy Communities Initiative will provide funding to a broad range of organizations, including local governments, charities, Indigenous communities and nonprofits, for projects, programming and services that help communities : create safe and vibrant public spaces, improve mobility options and provide innovative digital solutions to connect people and improve health.

The application portal will reopen on May 14, 2021, at 5:00 AM Pacific Time for Round 2 and applications must be submitted by June 25, 2021, at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.

## United Way Better at Home Funding

As per the [BC Provincial Government's April 16, 2021 news release](#): "Better at Home is a program that helps seniors and Elders with simple non-medical tasks such as grocery shopping, minor home repairs, yard work, transportation to appointments and light housekeeping. The Province is funding an expansion to this program". For more information on the Better at Home Program, please visit the [United Way Better at Home website](#).

## Moms Stop the Harm Funding from Federal Government

As per the [April 15, 2021 news release from Health Canada](#): "MSTH (Moms Stop the Harm) is receiving \$344,935 over 26 months to establish a network of volunteer and paid peer facilitators with lived and living experience of addiction. Support services will provide families with information on evidence-based services and resources. They will also offer harm reduction education to families on how to help keep their loved ones safe, as well as grief support to families that have lost loved ones to overdoses." For more information on MSTH, please visit the [Moms Stop the Harm website](#).

## BUSINESS (GENERAL)

Support	Description	How to Access
 <b>New Westminster Electrical Utility</b>	Flexible repayment plans available for residential and business customers in arrears due to COVID-19 pandemic.	Call 604-527-4555 for more information
 <b>Fortis- Covid-19 Customer Recovery Fund</b>	Fortis's Customer Recovery Fund Program supported residential customers who were unable to work or lost their livelihood, and small businesses that experienced income loss or were forced to close as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Customers were able to defer their FortisBC energy bills for the period of April 1 to June 30, 2020. Customers who took part in the program have been automatically enrolled in an interest-free repayment program, with payments spread over one year from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021. Those customers can begin repayments as part of their regular bills. Up until February 28, 2021, Fortis will waive all late payment fees (for small businesses) for natural gas and propane bills as well as suspended disconnections due to financial hardship, regardless of the amount owing. As of March 1, 2021, late payment fees will be charged on overdue balances unless the client has a customized payment plan and are up to date on payments or have participated in the Customer Recovery Program and are up to date on payments.	Customers can go to <a href="#">Fortis Covid-19 Customer Recovery Fund website</a> for more information or phone 1-888-292-4104.
 <b>Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy</b>	The <a href="#">Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy website</a> has information on the eligibility criteria, calculating the subsidy amount, how to apply and other details for this subsidy. The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy assists Canadian employers who have seen revenue drops due to COVID-19 with re-hiring workers, helping to prevent further job losses and easing them back into normal operations. <b>The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy will be available until June 2021.</b>	Please go to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy website to <a href="#">apply online</a> .
<b>Work-Sharing program</b>	Work-Sharing (WS) is a program that helps employers and employees avoid layoffs when there is a temporary decrease in business activity beyond the control of the employer. The program provides Employment Insurance (EI) benefits to eligible employees who agree to reduce their	

normal working hours and share the available work while their employer recovers. The Work-Sharing program has been extended from 38 weeks to 76 weeks for employers affected by COVID-19, this change and other temporary special measures will be in place until September 26, 2021.

Financing support for small and medium-sized businesses:

**Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA):** The CEBA program has been extended to June 30, 2021. **As per the Federal Government of Canada news release (October 9, 2020):** “there is expanded Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA), which would enable businesses, and not-for-profits eligible for CEBA loans—and that continue to be seriously impacted by the pandemic—to access an interest-free loan of up to \$20,000, in addition to the original CEBA loan of \$40,000.” **As of October 26, 2020, the CEBA is now available to businesses that have been operating out of a non-business banking account.**

**Loan Guarantee:** Operating credit and cash flow term loans of up to \$6.25 million to small and medium sized enterprises. This support is available until **June 2021**.

**Co-Lending Program:** Co-lend term loans to small and medium sized enterprises for their operational cash flow requirements. Eligible businesses may obtain incremental credit amounts of up to \$6.25 million through the program. Available until or before June 2021.

**EDC Mid-Market Guarantee and Financing Program:** EDC’s Mid-Market Guarantee and Financing Program will bring liquidity to companies who tend to have revenues of between \$50 million to \$300 million, to sustain operations during this uncertain period. EDC will continue to work with Canadian financial institutions to guarantee 75 per cent of new operating credit and cash-flow loans – ranging in size from \$16.75 million to a maximum of \$80 million. These expanded guarantees are available to exporters, international investors and businesses that sell their products or services within Canada. Loans are available until or before June 2021.

**Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP) Guarantee:** “Businesses heavily impacted by COVID-19 can access guaranteed, low-interest loans of \$25,000 to \$1 million to cover operational cash flow needs.” Eligibility and loan details are available on the HASCAP website. This HASCAP program is available until June 30, 2021.

The following student and youth work programs are available:

- **Student Work Placement Program:** “ESDC (Employment and Social Development Canada) works with Employer Delivery Partners. Employer Delivery Partners are a group of recognized associations and organizations that represent the interests of employers in industries. They work with businesses and post-secondary education institutions to: provide wage subsidies to employers that offer quality student work placements; and create partnerships with colleges, universities, polytechnics and CEGEPs to recruit students for these placements.”
- **MITACS:** “Mitacs powers research & development by connecting industry with the best post-secondary institutions to solve business challenges — in Canada and internationally. For 20 years, Mitacs has funded cutting-edge research, created job opportunities for

### Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP)

Speak with your financial institution. [Learn more.](#)

### Student and youth work programs

	<p>graduate students and helped companies reach their business goals, achieving results that have bolstered the Canadian economy.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business/Higher Education Roundtable:</b> The Business+Higher Education Roundtable brings together businesses and post-secondary leaders to help solve various challenges and provide work-integrated learning opportunities for students.</li> <li>• <b>StrongerBC Future Leaders:</b> As per the Provincial Government of BC website: “The StrongerBC Future Leaders Program is creating career development and work experience opportunities in natural resource management and technology sectors targeted for young people aged 18 to 29.”</li> </ul> <p>There are also a variety of funding programs available on <a href="#">Service Canada’s Youth Employment and Skills Strategy – Funding programs website</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Indigenous business funding</b></p>	<p>Aboriginal Financial Institutions and NACCA (National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association) can provide loans (including non-repayable contributions up to \$10,000 and an interest-free loan of up to \$30,000, for a total of up to \$40,000 in funding per business). For more information, please visit NACCA’s <a href="#">FAQs</a>. <b>Loans are also available to Metis entrepreneurs through the MFCBC (Metis Financial Corporation of BC).</b></p>	<p>Please contact an Aboriginal Financial Institution in your area from this <a href="#">map</a>.</p>
<p><b>Worksafe BC</b></p>	<p>Worksafe BC is waiving premiums for employers who are approved to receive the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) for furloughed workers (employees on leave with full or partial pay).</p>	
<p><b>Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility</b></p>	<p>The Federal Government is establishing the Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility. “The LEEFF program will be open to large for-profit businesses – with the exception of those in the financial sector – as well as certain not-for-profit businesses, such as airports, with annual revenues generally in the order of \$300 million or higher. To qualify, eligible businesses must be seeking financing of about \$60 million or more, have significant operations or workforce in Canada, and not be involved in active insolvency proceedings.”</p>	
<p><b>VanCity Credit Union COVID-19 response for businesses</b></p>	<p>VanCity Credit Union is offering various financial supports to their members, including a loan payment deferral program. There are also loans available for self-employed individuals and businesses such as the Unity Pivot Loan. VanCity has also launched the <b>Unity Women Entrepreneurs Program</b> to help women entrepreneurs navigate their businesses through COVID-19 and beyond.</p>	
<p><b>Black Entrepreneurship Program</b></p>	<p>From the Industry Canada Black Entrepreneurship Website:          “The Black Entrepreneurship Program (BEP) is a partnership between the Government of Canada, Black-led business organizations, and financial institutions. With an investment of up to \$221 million over four years, it will help Black Canadian business owners and entrepreneurs grow their businesses and succeed now and into the future.</p> <p>The Black Entrepreneurship Loan Fund is a partnership between the Government, Black-led business organizations, and several financial institutions. It will provide loans up to \$250,000 to Black business owners and entrepreneurs across the country. The Federation of African-Canadian Economics (F.A.C.E.), a coalition of prominent Black-led business and community organizations, will manage the Government’s investment in the Loan Fund.</p>	<p>The Black Entrepreneurship Loan Fund will open in May 2021</p>

<p><b>BC Increased Employment Incentive</b></p>	<p>From the Provincial Government website: “As part of B.C.’s Economic Recovery Plan, the B.C. Increased Employment Incentive is a refundable tax credit for employers which encourages the creation of new jobs for B.C. workers or increases in payroll for existing low- or medium-income employees.”</p>	<p>Businesses can apply through the <a href="#">BC Increased Employment Incentive website</a>. Businesses have up until December 31, 2021 to apply.</p>
<p><b>BC PST Rebate on Select Machinery and Equipment</b></p>	<p>From the Provincial Government website: “The B.C. PST Rebate on Select Machinery and Equipment is a temporary provincial sales tax (PST) program to help corporations recover from the financial impacts of COVID-19. The program acts like a refund but is separate from the existing PST Refund process. Under this temporary program, corporations can apply to receive an amount equal to the PST they paid between September 17, 2020 and September 30, 2021 on qualifying machinery and equipment. “</p>	<p>Businesses can apply on the <a href="#">BC PST Rebate on Select Machinery and Equipment website</a> . The application deadline for the rebate is March 31, 2022.</p>
<p><b>Small and Medium-Sized Business Recovery Grant</b></p>	<p>From the Provincial Government website: “The Small and Medium-Sized Business Recovery Grant program will invest up to \$300 million in targeted financial support for some of the hardest hit businesses in B.C. that employ between two and 149 B.C. residents and have experienced declines in revenue since March 10, 2020. Grants of \$10,000 to \$30,000 are available. An additional \$5,000 to \$10,000 grant is available to eligible tourism-related businesses that have been hit especially hard by COVID-19. As per the <a href="#">December 21, 2020 news release</a> from the BC Provincial Government Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, changes have been made to eligibility requirements to make it easier to apply for this grant. <b>Changes made as of March 4, 2021 have been announced by the British Columbia Provincial Government:</b> “The program has been extended to August 31, 2021 or until funds are fully expended, whichever comes first; Businesses only need to show a 30% revenue loss from March 2020 to now when compared to the same one-month period in 2019; Help preparing a complete application package is now available from a registered Small Business BC service provider.”</p>	<p>Apply on the <a href="#">Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant application page</a>.</p>
<p><b>CanExport SMEs</b></p>	<p>From the Trade Commissioner of Canada website: “Small and medium sized companies may access up to \$75,000 in funding to assist with international market development activities. We cover up to 75% of costs for export marketing of your products and services in international markets where you have little or no sales.”</p>	<p><b>For more information on how to apply, please review <a href="#">CanExport SMES - Applicant’s Guide</a></b></p>
<p><b>Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy</b></p>	<p>From the Canada Revenue Agency Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy Website: “Canadian businesses, non-profit organizations, or charities who have seen a drop in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for a subsidy to cover part of their commercial rent or property expenses, starting on September 27, 2020, until June 2021. This subsidy will provide payments directly to qualifying renters and property owners, without requiring the participation of landlords.” More program details, including how to calculate subsidy amounts, who can apply, expenses you can claim for, etc., are also available on this website. In addition, there is a Lockdown Support through the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy, as per the <a href="#">Government of Canada’s November 19, 2020 news release</a>: The new Lockdown Support will provide an additional 25 per cent through the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy for qualifying organizations that are subject to a lockdown and must shut their doors or significantly restrict their activities under a public health order issued under the laws of Canada, a province or territory (including orders made by a municipality or regional health authority under one of those laws). Combined, this will mean that hard-hit businesses subject to a lockdown could receive rent support of up to 90 per cent.” <b>The Lockdown Support Program will be available until June 2021.</b></p>	<p>To learn how to apply, please go to the <a href="#">Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy – How to apply website</a>.</p>
<p><b>50-30 Challenge</b></p>	<p>From the Innovation, Science and Economic Development of Canada <a href="#">December 10, 2020 news release</a>: “At the heart of the 50 – 30 Challenge are two goals for the board(s) and senior</p>	

management of each organization: gender parity (50%) and significant representation (30%) of under-represented groups. To address the unique needs of various sectors in Canada, the Challenge offers three streams for participation: large corporations; small and medium-sized enterprises; and post-secondary institutions, not-for-profit organizations and charities. Organizations in all three streams will commit to working toward the 50 – 30 objectives in ways that show meaningful progress toward creating a workplace that reflects the diversity of the communities in which they operate across Canada. 50 – 30 Challenge funding of \$33 million will include support for participating organizations through the development of an online toolkit; programs to assist SMEs, including through mentorship and training; and other incentives that will be linked to government programs.” For more information on the program, please visit the [50-30 Challenge website](#).

### CleanBC Commercial Vehicle Pilot Program

As per the BC Provincial Government Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's [January 13, 2021 news release](#): “The SUVU program is receiving \$31 million in funding through StrongerBC, the Province’s economic recovery plan, to double the maximum rebates for medium and heavy-duty vehicles available for B.C. businesses, local and regional governments, public sector organizations and non-profit organizations in their adoption of specialty-use zero-emission vehicles. Those purchasing eligible vehicles will have access to 33% of the cost, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per vehicle, up from \$50,000 maximum. “

There is an [application website on the CleanBC website](#).

### Launch Online Grant Program

As per the Provincial Government of British Columbia's “Launch Online” website: “The Launch Online Grant program provides funding to B.C.-based business to create an online shop and/or improve their e-commerce experience to attract new local customers and expand to new markets. The grant will pay for up to 75% of eligible expenses, up to a maximum of \$7,500 per business. Program application intake is open until September 30, 2021 or until the funds have been fully subscribed. Funding will be awarded on a first-come first-serve basis to small- and medium-sized B.C. businesses.” Eligibility information and other information is available on the [Launch Online Grant Program website](#). [On March 17, 2021, the Office of the Premier](#) announced an additional \$30 million in funding for this program, as well as new eligibility enhancements: “30% of the grant funds will now be reserved for Black, Indigenous and people of colour-owned (BIPOC) businesses”.

There is an [application portal](#) on the Launch Online website. Launch Online BC can be contacted by phone at 1-844-487-1266 or by email at [info@launchonline.ca](mailto:info@launchonline.ca) .

### Digital Marketing Bootcamp

As per [Alacrity Canada's Digital Marketing Bootcamp website](#): “The Alacrity Canada Digital Marketing Bootcamp is a virtual skills-training program that aims to prepare your business for the digital marketplace. This intensive learning program involves daily experiential learning as well as mentorship sessions with marketing experts to help equip you with the knowledge, tools, and resources you need to thrive as a marketer. By the end of this Bootcamp, you will be ready to grow your business with a real understanding of how your work can contribute to and shape the marketing process.” Eligibility criteria is available on the Bootcamp website.

Interested businesses can apply through the [Bootcamp website](#).

### Strategic Innovation Fund

As per the [Industry Canada website on the Strategic Innovation Fund](#): “The Strategic Innovation Fund's (SIF) objective is to spur innovation for a better Canada by providing funding for large projects (over \$10 million in requested contribution). Business Innovation and Growth (Stream 1- 3): Funding helps support R&D and commercialization, the growth and expansion of firms and the attraction and retention of large scale investments in Canada. Collaborations and Networks (Stream 4-5): Funding helps support industrial research, development and technology demonstration through collaboration between academia, non-profit organizations and the private sector.”

The [Strategic Innovation Fund – About the Program website](#) has more information on how to apply for this Fund.

## Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant

As per the [Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant website](#): “Grants of \$1,000 to \$10,000 are available to hospitality and fitness businesses impacted by the March 30, 2021 PHO orders on gatherings and events and liquor and food serving premises. Grants are available until June 4, 2021 or until funds are fully expended, whichever comes first.” As per the [April 26, 2021 news release from the BC Provincial Government](#): “The B.C. government is adding more than \$75 million to the Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant, bringing the amount available for hard-hit B.C. businesses to more than \$125 million. The grant remains open to the 14,000 restaurants, bars, breweries, wineries, gyms and fitness facilities impacted by the March 31, 2021, provincial health officer’s orders. The orders remain in place until May 25. The grant is now also open to the more than 5,300 hotels, motels and other short-term accommodations impacted by the April 23 emergency order to restrict travel between B.C.’s regional zones.”

Applications can be made the [Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant application website](#).

 [Click here: BC Government Small Business Support List](#)

 [Small Business BC is a one-stop resource for helping businesses navigate available supports](#)

## BUSINESS (By SECTOR)

Support	Description	How to Access
 Arts & Culture sector	<p>The Provincial Government has also started a \$2 million <a href="#">Domestic Motion Picture Fund</a> that will be administered by Creative BC to “support both development and production stage activity within the province’s domestic industry.” <a href="#">The Federal Government of Canada has also made \$100 million available for the filming industry to compensate for a lack of insurance coverage for COVID-19 related filming interruptions and production shutdowns in the sector</a>. The BC Arts Council has a <a href="#">website</a> with information on grants available. The Canadian Council for the Arts also has a <a href="#">website</a> with information on grants available. The Government of Canada also has a <a href="#">funding – culture, history and sport website</a>. On March 2, 2021, the Federal Government of Canada made the <a href="#">following funding announcements</a>: “The Department of Canadian Heritage is receiving \$40 million in new funding to stimulate short-term contracting of workers in the live events sector through three Canadian Heritage programs: Building Communities through Arts and Heritage, the Canada Arts Presentation Fund and the Canada Music Fund. In addition, to help stabilize the overall environment for the arts and music sectors, the Government is extending a one-year renewal of funding of \$25 million for these three Canadian Heritage originally provided in Budget 2019. For its part, the Canada Council for the Arts will invest \$116.5 million. Through a new digital innovation initiative (Digital Now), \$50.5 million will enable arts groups, collectives and organizations to adapt or create works to be shared with virtual audiences; and \$66 million of new funding will be used to stimulate increased research, creation and production of new work through the Explore and Create program.” As per the <a href="#">Amplify BC website</a>: “On April 13, 2021, the B.C. government announced a renewed investment for Amplify BC to support the recovery and growth of B.C.’s music industry. People and companies in B.C.’s music industry can plan for the future with \$22.5 million dedicated to the sector over the next three years. Creative BC will continue to adapt Amplify BC’s programs each year to meet the changing needs of the music industry as part of B.C.’s economic recovery. Amplify BC 2021-22 programs and funding deadlines will be announced in summer 2021.”</p>	

 <b>Broadcasting sector</b>	<p>As per the <a href="#">December 15, 2020 news release</a> from Canadian Heritage: “the Government of Canada will provide additional relief to eligible television and radio stations by waiving Part II broadcasting licence fees in 2020-21, which are collected annually by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Waiving these fees will provide as much as \$50 million in relief for these companies, helping them maintain their broadcasting productions for Canadians. The measure announced today does not include cable, satellite and IPTV providers (also known as broadcasting distribution undertakings) as their revenues are not as dependent on advertising.”</p>	
<b>Tourism</b>	<p>The BC Government has provided access to program experts in finance, human resources, business strategy, marketing, digital information and webinars for tourism organizations through the <a href="#">BC Tourism Resiliency Network</a>.</p>	<p>For more information on the BC Tourism Resiliency Network, please visit <a href="#">BC Tourism Resiliency Network</a></p>
 <b>Seafood sector</b>	<p>Seafood growers, shellfish farmers, and processors, will have access to the \$5 billion Farm Credit Canada loan program. <a href="#">EI Fishing benefits</a> are also available.</p>	<p>Farm Credit Canada program information is available <a href="#">Via FCC</a>.</p>
 <b>Farmers and Agri-Food sector</b>	<p>Access to the \$5 billion Farm Credit Canada loan program. For agricultural businesses that require temporary foreign workers for seasonal farm work, the Government of British Columbia is providing <a href="#">financial support</a> including funding hotel, food-service and worker support costs during the 14-day self-isolation period for the arriving workers. The BC Provincial Government is also offering free <a href="#">COVID-19 Business Recovery Planning Services</a> to agriculture and seafood producers, agricultural, food and beverage and seafood processors who have lost at least 30% of revenue due to COVID-19 (applications will re-open for this Business Recovery Planning Services in April 2021). There is also funding available through the Federal Government of Canada’s <a href="#">Agricultural Climate Solutions Program</a>, “a \$185 million, 10-year program that will help develop and implement farming practices to tackle climate change.” <a href="#">Greenhouse Carbon Tax Relief Grants</a> are now available from the BC Government for commercial nurseries (for plants and crops). There are also <a href="#">two funding programs</a> from the Canadian Government for poultry producers: the Poultry and Egg On-Farm Investment Program and the Market Development Program for Turkey and Chicken.</p>	<p>Contribution funding will open in Fall 2021 for the Agriculture Climate Solutions Program is available on the <a href="#">Agricultural Climate Solutions Program website</a>. Application information for the Greenhouse Carbon Tax Relief Grants (deadline: May 10, 2021) is available on the <a href="#">Greenhouse Carbon Tax Relief Grant website</a>. Farm Credit Canada program information is available <a href="#">Via FCC</a>.</p>
<b>Funding for young entrepreneurs</b>	<p><a href="#">Futurpreneur Canada</a> is a “non-profit organization that provides financing, mentoring and support tools to aspiring business owners aged 18-39.”</p>	
<b>Animal Care Facility Funding</b>	<p>“The Ministry of Agriculture will work with B.C. animal care facility operators to identify instances where emergency funding may be applicable. Funding will be available for animal hygiene, habitat upkeep, veterinarian care, limited transportation and repairs to equipment required to ensure the welfare of the animals in care.”</p>	
<b>Liquor Businesses</b>	<p>Changes to allow restaurants, bars and tourism operators with liquor licences to purchase beer, wine and spirits at the wholesale price set by the BC Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) are now in place permanently. As per the <a href="#">March 12, 2021 news release from the BC Provincial Government Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General</a>: “ the temporary authorization allowing liquor-primary and food-primary licensees to sell and deliver sealed, packaged liquor products alongside the purchase of a meal for off-site consumption is now permanent.”</p>	
<b>Medical Goods</b>	<p>On May 6, 2020, the Federal Government of Canada waived tariffs on the importing of certain medical goods, including personal protection equipment such as masks and gloves.</p>	
<b>Outdoor recreation</b>	<p>As per the Provincial Government of British Columbia’s <a href="#">March 30, 2021 news release</a>: “The B.C. government is providing an additional \$1.87 million to assist more businesses that hold</p>	

	<p>eligible tenures for fishing and hunting lodges, guest ranches, ecotourism lodges, seasonal campgrounds and other commercial recreation operators during the COVID-19 pandemic. Commercial recreation operators that hold Land Act tenures or Park Act permits may be eligible to have the annual base rent that they pay to the Province waived for one year. This is on top of the \$1.36 million allocated for rent forgiveness in September 2020, which benefited 592 Land Act tenure holders and 443 Park Act permit holders. Many commercial recreation businesses operating on Crown land continue to be impacted by travel restrictions during the current pandemic. This rent forgiveness will assist another 398 Land Act tenure holders (\$1.84 million in rent forgiveness) and 40 Park Act permit holders (\$31,525 in rent forgiveness).”</p>	
<p><b>Long-term care and assisted living homes</b></p>	<p>As per the <a href="#">Equipcare Website</a>: EquipCare BC is a program that will bring vital infection control and infrastructure enhancements to long-term care and assisted living operators. “</p>	<p>The third and final funding phase for the EquipCare program opened on April 1, 2021: applications can be completed on the <a href="#">EquipCare BC application website</a>.</p>
<p><b>Sports Sector</b></p>	<p>There are also a variety of grant opportunities that will be available in 2021 through <a href="#">ViaSport BC. The Local Sport Relief Fund through ViaSport BC</a> (from BC Government and Canadian Government funding) for community level sport organizations is now open to applications until 11:59 pm Pacific Time on April 30, 2021.</p>	<p>Applications for the Local Sport Relief Fund can be made through the <a href="#">Local Sport Relief Fund website</a>.</p>
<p><b>Restaurants</b></p>	<p>As per the BC Provincial Government of Public Safety and Solicitor General’s December 22, 2020 news release: An Emergency Program Act (EPA) order has been created to place a temporary cap on fees charged to restaurants from food delivery companies to 15%. An additional cap of 5% is also included for other related fees associated with use of the service, such as online ordering and processing fees. This will ensure that companies cannot shift their delivery costs to other fees.”</p>	
<p><b>Manufacturing</b></p>	<p>As per the <a href="#">Provincial Government of British Columbia’s Acceleration Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program</a>: “The \$10 million Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program provides up to \$250,000 in grants to eligible small and medium sized manufacturing businesses to: Pivot, retool or scale-up production to adjust to shifts in the economy, Commercialize products close to being market-ready more quickly, and Increase transparency and secure supply chains for critical goods where B.C. businesses are competitive.”</p>	<p>The <a href="#">Acceleration Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program application process</a> started on April 15, 2021.</p>
<p><b>Books and publishing</b></p>	<p>As per the <a href="#">March 10, 2021 news release</a> from BC Provincial Government’s Ministry of Finance, the BC Government is extending the book publishing tax credit to the end of March 2026. For more information on this book publishing tax credit program, please visit the <a href="#">Book Publishing Tax Credit website</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Industrial</b></p>	<p>“The CleanBC Industry Fund invests a portion of carbon tax revenues into businesses working on emission reduction projects.” Eligibility and other information is available on the <a href="#">CleanBC Industry Fund website</a>.</p>	<p>Application information and deadlines are available on the <a href="#">CleanBC Industry Fund website</a>: deadline for the Emissions Performance Request for Proposals is May 14, 2021 and deadline for the Innovation Accelerator request for proposals is May 24, 2021.</p>