

#### AGA KHAN ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD FOR CANADA (AKEPBC) COVID-19 RESPONSE

### **GENERAL RESOURCES**

#### PLEASE NOTE

The Aga Khan Economic Planning Board aims to capture information related to the economic impacts of COVID-19, as it applies to small businesses and employees, as well as to individuals and families. Best efforts are being made to ensure that timely and relevant information is made available on a daily basis.

The information below is provided as general information only and is not meant as legal or other professional advice. If you require specific legal advice on any issue, please consult a lawyer or an appropriate professional. The timelines or accuracy of the information contained in linked websites is not guaranteed. The Council for Canada accepts no responsibility for the accuracy and reliability of this content. Any opinions and views expressed are those of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or views of the Council for Canada.

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  - a. Small Business
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#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT**

From an economic standpoint, the COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in a period of significant uncertainty and volatility, with equity markets recently experiencing one of the sharpest declines since 2008. In light of this, we offer the following perspectives:

- Canada will experience a technical recession in 2020, as economic activity contracts in the second and third quarters of the year. The slowdown will limit growth for all of 2020 to 0.2%, a sharp decline from growth of 1.6% last year. Forecasts for the U.S., Europe and the U.K. are also weaker.
- Central banks will take further aggressive action to support financial conditions. Government will also take action, though the magnitude and timing are as yet unclear.
- Job losses in Canada, particularly in highly exposed sectors, will occur but will prove temporary. Falling oil prices will hit the energy sector harder.
- Low interest rates constitute favorable news for those carrying debt on lines of credit, mortgages and floating rate loans. It will help ease interest burden. The Canadian government is reviewing a range of potential measures to help the public

#### **INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT**

Phone: 1-888-536-3599 Email: access@iicanada.net



#### **UPCOMING WEBINARS**

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	DATE	WEBPAGE
Finance	<b>Economic Planning Board</b> Taking Charge of Your Investments during COVID-19	March 26, 8:00 pm (EST)	Link
Small Business	JLL COVID-19 Leasing Impacts to Office, Industrial, and Retail	April 2, 12:00 pm (EST)	Link



#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

RESOURCES	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Canada's COVID-19	On March 18, the	
Economic Response Plan	Government of Canada	Summary Link
	announced their COVID-19	Further Details
	Economic Response Plan,	<u>Further Details</u>
	which will provide up to \$27	
	billion in direct support to	
	Canadian workers and	
	businesses	
Government of Canada –	Virtual Chat assistant to help	<u>Link</u>
Virtual Assistant	you personalize your search	
	for resources	

#### **ECONOMIC UPDATES**

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
National	Bank of Canada	
	Rate Reduction	<u>Link</u>
	Government of Canada	
	Economic Measures	<u>Link</u>
	Canada Emergency Response Benefit	Link
	Royal Bank of Canada	
	Provincial Economic Forecasts	<u>Link</u>
	Bank of Montreal	
	Ottawa's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan	<u>Link</u>
	National Economic Outlook: COVID-19 & Oil	<u>Link</u>
	Toronto-Dominion Bank	
	COVID-19 Impacts on the National Economy Outlook	<u>Link</u>
	Scotiabank	
	National Outlook	<u>Link</u>
	Economic Forecast	<u>Link</u>
	RSM Canada	
	Tax Updates in Canada in response to COVID 19	<u>Link</u>
	Dentons	
	Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan	Link
	CBC	
	Consumers Impacts from Mortgage Deferrals	Link
British Columbia	Business Council of British Columbia	
	Business Alert	Link
	Government of British Columbia	



	COVID-19 Action Plan - \$5B Stimulus Package	Link	
Manitoba	Budget Update	Link	
Alberta	Alberta Government Press Release	Link	
Saskatchewan	Regina Leadership Post	Link	
	COVID-19: Additional Measures to protect	Link	
	Saskatchewan residents		
Quebec	Government of Quebec - Information and services	<u>Link</u>	
	Government of Quebec - Measures to be taken	<u>Link</u>	
New Brunswick	Unavailable at this time		
Nova Scotia	Unavailable at this time		
Prince Edward Island	Unavailable at this time		
Ontario	Government of Ontario – Economic Update	<u>Link</u>	
	Government of Ontario – List of Essential Services	<u>Link</u>	
	Government of Ontario – Statement from Ministers	<u>Link</u>	
ECONOMIC UPDATE WEBINARS			
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE	
Financial Impact	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce		
	CIO Market Update	<u>Link</u>	
	Bank of Montreal		
	Market Update and Highlights		
	To access the recorded call,		
	Dial 1-800-408-3053 Passcode: 1354574#		
	Economic Planning Board for U.S.A.		
	Financial Impact of COVID-19	<u>Link</u>	
Economic Impact and	Economic Planning Board		
Labour/Employment	General economic update on the impact of COVID-19,	<u>Link</u>	
Law	including important labour-related information for		
	business owners and employees		
Personal Income,	Economic Planning Board		
Mortgages,	The impact of COVID-19 on your personal income,	<u>Link</u>	
Employment	Employment Insurance (EI), and your mortgage and		
Insurance	rental payments	1	



#### **SMALL BUSINESS**

NATIONAL			
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE	
General	Canadian Chamber of Commerce		
	Pandemic Preparedness for Business	<u>Link</u>	
	COVID-19 – Business Resilience	<u>Link</u>	
	COVID 10 Francis Massures for SME's	Link	
	COVID-19 Economic Measures for SME's	Link	
	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters COVID-19 Resources	Link	
		Link	
	Business Development Bank of Canada		
	Welcome page and general index	<u>Link</u>	
	E tine te minimine vevu hveineen viele	Linds	
	5 tips to minimize your business risk	<u>Link</u>	
	Support for entrepreneurs impacted by COVID-19	Link	
	Government of Canada		
	Employer Contact Centre	Link	
	Information Sheet - Canada's Regional Development	Link	
	Agencies		
	Agencies		
	Resources for Canadian Businesses (COVID-19)		
		<u>Link</u>	
	Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for	Link	
	Businesses		
	Work-Sharing Program – Temporary special measures for	Link	
	the downturn in business – COVID-19		
	Canada Business App – recommendations tailored to your	<u>Link</u>	
	business		
	Support for Businesses	Link	
	FAQ – Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers	<u>Link</u>	
	Understanding the Record of Employment Form	<u>Link</u>	
	McLennan Ross		
	Workplace Pandemic Planning – What	Link	
	Employers Should Do and Know Right Now		
	World Health Organization		



	Workplace readiness for COVID-19	Link
	Mathews Dinsdale	<u></u>
	COVID-19 and The Workplace	Link
	Control and The Workplace	
		Link
	Keeping your Workplace, School and Home Safe	<u>Link</u>
	Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers	<u>Link</u>
	Bennett Jones	
	An Employer's Guide to Responding to the COVID-19	<u>Link</u>
	Pandemic	
	Neuman Thompson	
	Frequently Asked Questions by Employers Relating to	Link
	COVID-19	
	Cassels	
	COVID-19: Emerging FAQs for Canadian Employers	Link
	McKinsey	1
	COVID-19: Implications for Business	Link
	McCarthy Tetrault	<u> </u>
	COVID-19: Latest Updates and Legal Considerations for your	Link
	Business	
	Dentons	
	COVID-19 Hub	Link
	Grant Thornton	
	COVID-19 and your business: Government and economic	Link
	resources	
	Strategies to help businesses respond to COVID-19	Link
		<u></u>
	Responding to COVID-19: 7 steps to manage cash flow and	Link
	financial headwinds	
	Marsh	
	Pandemic Risk Hub – COVID-19	Link
	Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters (CM&E)	
	COVID-19 Resources – Daily Update	Link
Business	Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety	
Continuity	Business Continuity Plan	Link
	Business Development Bank of Canada	
	Business Continuity Plan and Template for	Link
	Entrepreneurs	
	Support for entrepreneurs impacted by the coronavirus	Link
	5 tips to reduce the impact of a disaster on your business	Link
	McCarthy Tetrault	<u> </u>
	Niccarthy letrault	



	COVID-19 Response Planning: Is Your Business Prepared?	<u>Link</u>
	Canadian Federation of Independent Business	
	Coronavirus and Small Business: Keeping You and Your	<u>Link</u>
	Employees Safe	
	Lawson Lundell LLP	
	Commercial Tenancy Defaults and Rent Relief	Link
Financing	Business Development Bank of Canada	
Support	Support for entrepreneurs impacted by the coronavirus COVID-19	<u>Link</u>
	Business Development Bank of Canada	
	Small business loan	<u>Link</u>
	Business Development Bank of Canada	
	Working Capital Loan for Business	Link
	Business Development Bank of Canada	
	Purchase Order Financing	<u>Link</u>
Legal	OSLER	
	Managing COVID-19 for Employers – Legislation and	<u>Link</u>
	Regulation	
	Is coronavirus a force majeure event under your project contracts?	<u>Link</u>
Insurance	Risk Management Magazine	
	COVID-19 Business Interruption Coverage Concerns	<u>Link</u>
REGIONAL		
BRITISH COLUM	BIA	
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	BC Economic Development Association	
	COVID-19 Resources for BC Businesses	<u>Link</u>
ALBERTA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	Worker Compensation Board – Alberta	
	Premium Relief Measures for Employers	Link

SMALL BUSINESS WEBINARS			
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBAGE	
Business Continuity	McCarthy Tetrault		
	COVID-19 Preparedness for Business Leaders	<u>Link</u>	
	Gartner		
	Business Continuity Management Pandemic: Planning	<u>Link</u>	
	Briefing		
	Agility Recovery		
	Coronavirus and Pandemic Planning – Protect Your People	<u>Link</u>	
	and Operations		



	Norton Rose Fulbright	
	COVID-19: Legal implications Canadian employers need to	<u>Link</u>
	consider in a global pandemic	
	CBRE	
	COVID-19 Impact on Commercial Real Estate	<u>Link</u>
	Wealth Transfer	
	The Ismaili Business Professionals Association hosted a	Link
	panel discussion with prominent business leaders from our	
	community on the topic of Transferring of Wealth. Watch	
	the recorded session to gain insight in managing and	
	protecting your wealth.	
	Marsh & McLennan Companies	
	Managing COVID-19 Pandemic Risk in Real Estate and	Link
	Hospitality	
	Marsh	
	Managing COVID-19 Pandemic Risks Webcast Replay	Link
General	Business Development Bank of Canada	
	How to cope with the impacts of COVID-19 on your	<u>Link</u>
	business	
	Fasken	
	Coronavirus Planning for Canadian Employers	Link

#### INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	РІМСО	
	Benefits of Staying Invested	Link
	DYNAMIC	
	Finding Opportunity in Market Volatility	Link
Personal Finance	Globe and Mail	
	Personal Finance Tips Amidst COVID-19	Link



### **EMPLOYMENT**

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	<b>Government of Canada</b> Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Workers	<u>Link</u>
	Canada Emergency Response Benefit	<u>Link</u>
	Support for Employees	<u>Link</u>
	Globe and Mail Your COVID-19 and Employment Questions Answered	Link
Employment Insurance	National Post How EI benefits for COVID-19 quarantines will work under the new rules	<u>Link</u>
	Government of Canada COVID-19 Details of Employment Insurance sickness benefits	<u>Link</u>
	General Employment Insurance information	<u>Link</u>
	Employment Insurance – Working While on Claim	<u>Link</u>
	Employment Insurance Regular Benefits – Overview & FAQs	<u>Link</u>
	McCarthy Tetrault COVID-19 Update: EI Sickness Benefit and Work Sharing	Link
Work Sharing Program	Government of Canada Employee Guide	<u>Link</u>
	Mathews Dinsdale Updated: COVID-19 and the Workplace: Frequently Asked Questions	<u>Link</u>
Leave for Employees	Government of Canada Types of leaves offered to federally regulated employees	<u>Link</u>
Employee Rights	Government of Canada Right to Refuse Dangerous Work	<u>Link</u>

REGION SPECIFIC			
BRITISH COLUMBIA			
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE	
Compensation/	WorkSafeBC		
Workplace Protections	COVID-19 Related	<u>Link</u>	



	Includes information on:	
	- Circumstances where workers should not be at work	
	- Right to refuse work	
	- Workplace protections	
	- Compensation	
Government Legislation	Government of British Columbia	
Government Legislation	Taking Time Off	Link
		<u>Link</u>
	Quitting, Getting Fired, or Laid Off	Link
	Culturing, Getting Fired, of Laid Off	
	Employment Standards Act	Link
	Human Rights Tribunal of British Columbia	Link
ALBERTA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
FAQ	Workers Compensation Board	
	Information on submitting a COVID-19–related claim to	Link
	Workers Compensation Board – Alberta	
Government Legislation	Government of Alberta – Update on COVID-19 (including	Link
	employment rules)	
	Alberta Human Rights Commission	Link
MANITOBA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
<b>Government Legislation</b>	Employment Standards Act	Link
_	Manitoba Human Rights Commission	Link
	Manitoba Human Rights Code	Link
SASKATCHEWAN		<u>+</u>
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
<b>Government Legislation</b>	Employment Standards Act	Link
	Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission	Link
ONTARIO		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Workplace Safety &	Coronavirus updates from WSIB	Link
Insurance Board		1
<b>Government Legislation</b>		
	Ontario Human Rights Commission policy statements	Link
	Ontario Human Rights Commission policy statements relating to COVID-19 (March 13, 2020)	Link
		Link Link
	relating to COVID-19 (March 13, 2020)	
	relating to COVID-19 (March 13, 2020) Your guide to the Employment Standards Act	Link
	relating to COVID-19 (March 13, 2020) Your guide to the Employment Standards Act Description of different types of leaves and job losses, as	Link
	relating to COVID-19 (March 13, 2020) Your guide to the Employment Standards Act Description of different types of leaves and job losses, as well as various tools and information	Link Link
QUEBEC	relating to COVID-19 (March 13, 2020) Your guide to the Employment Standards Act Description of different types of leaves and job losses, as well as various tools and information Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario	Link Link Link



Labor Standards	Commission des normes, de l'équité,	<u>Link</u>
	de la santé et de la sécurité du travail	
Human Resources	COVID-19 Information and recommendations from the	
	order of Chartered Human Resources Advisors for	<u>Link</u>
	Employers and Employees. (IN FRENCH)	
<b>Government Legislation</b>	Quebec Human Rights Tribunal	<u>Link</u>
	Quebec Human Rights Commission	<u>Link</u>
NOVA SCOTIA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
<b>Government Legislation</b>	Nova Scotia Employment Rights	Link
	Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission	<u>Link</u>
NEW BRUNSWICK		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
<b>Government Legislation</b>	New Brunswick Employment Standards	<u>Link</u>
	New Brunswick Human Rights Commission	<u>Link</u>
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
<b>Government Legislation</b>	PEI Employment Standards	Link
	PEI Human Rights Commission	<u>Link</u>



#### **GENERAL**

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Support	Government of Canada	
	Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for	<u>Link</u>
	Canadians and Businesses (includes information on	
	temporary income support for workers and parents)	
	Canada Emergency Response Benefit	<u>Link</u>
	Registration of Canadians Abroad	Link
	Momentum	
	Financial Support for people impacted by COVID-19	Link
	KindWealth	
	Complimentary Personal Financial Consultancy	<u>Link</u>
Housing	Super Brokers	
Mortgage Rates	Current Housing Mortgage Rates	Link
Fraud	The Sudbury Star	
	COVID-19: Watch out for financial fraud! Events that	Link
	make the headlines, such as COVID-19, can be used by	
	fraudsters as a pretext for approaching you. Fraud can	
	take various forms.	
	How to recognize COVID-19 phishing	Link
	Government of Canada	
	COVID-19 Fraud	Link
Personal Budget	Government of Canada	
	A budget is the foundation of financial well-being. It's a	<u>Link</u>
	simple and highly effective way to make sure you live	
	within your means, and it allows you to have control over	
	your finances and to build up your savings. FCAC's online	
	budget planner can help you get started.	
Credit Counselling/Debt	KOFE	
-		Link
Management	KOFE is a web-based financial education center, set up exclusively for our Jamat through Consolidated Credit	<u>Link</u>
	Counselling services of Canada, a national accredited	
	-	
	non-profit organization. Register for free - only username and email required.	
	Ask a Financial Coach (English-French-Farsi-Dari-Arabic)	
	For tailored solutions to get out of debt	
	<ul> <li>Am I ready to purchase a home?</li> </ul>	
	Anni rieduy to purchase a nome:	



	How do I make a budget?	
	Get answers to your financial questions	
Upskilling/Education	Coursera	
-	Build skills with courses from top universities and	Link
	companies in the fields of artificial intelligence, machine	
	learning and many more!	
Emergency Loan to	CityNews	
Return Home	Canadian government is providing emergency loan of	Link
	\$5,000 to stranded Canadians abroad to help them get	
	home.	
Employment	BNN Bloomberg	
Opportunities	Walmart Canada to hire 10,000 to meet surging demand	Link
REGIONAL		
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	Global News	
	Coronavirus Financial Supports Available for British	<u>Link</u>
	Columbians	
BC Hydro	BC Hydro	
	Bill help for customers affected by COVID-19	Link
Travel Insurance	СТV	
	Coronavirus no longer covered by some travel insurance	Link
	companies	
ONTARIO		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Hydro Bill	Hydro One	
	Pandemic relief fund for those affected by COVID-19.	Link
	Customers will have to contact Hydro One directly	
Hydro Bill	Hydro Ottawa	
	Assistance and protections to customers affected by	Link
	COVID-19	
QUEBEC		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Investments	Autorité des marchés financiers	
	COVID-19: Travel Insurance and Investments	<u>Link</u>
Benefits	Government of Quebec	
	Temporary worker assistance program (PATT COVID-19)	<u>Link</u>



#### **CONSUMER OFFERINGS**

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Telecommunications	<b>Rogers</b> Waiving long distance charges for wireless and wireless home phone consumers and small businesses for calls to anywhere in Canada until April 30.	<u>Link</u>
	Ensuring services will not be suspended or disconnected for any customers experiencing financial difficulties. This includes small businesses with 1-9 wireless lines on a single account.	
	Waiving data overage fees for home internet usage until May 31.	
	Waiving long distance charges for Rogers home phone consumers for calls to anywhere in Canada until April 30.	
	Bell Canada No data overage charges for residential users.	<u>Link</u>
	Waived roaming fees temporarily.	
	<b>Telus</b> No data overage charges for residential users and committed to flexible payment options for customers facing financial challenges.	<u>Link</u>
	Waiving all Easy Roam <sup>®</sup> , Travel Passes and pay-per-use roaming charges for postpaid and small business customers until April 30.	
	<b>Shaw</b> Opened Shaw Go WiFi to everyone – Shaw customer or not. Does not have data caps on internet plans.	<u>Link</u>
Retail	Walmart Dedicating the opening hour of stores across the country exclusively for seniors (ages 65+), the disabled, and those with vulnerable health conditions. Opening hours will be from 7am to 8am on weekdays only. Please note, this change excludes Quebec.	<u>Link</u>



	Shoppers Drug Mart	
	Dedicating the first opening hour of shopping at our stores	Link
	to our customers who need assistance or consideration,	
	including seniors and people living with disabilities. During	
	this first hour, seniors will receive 20% off regular priced	
	merchandise.	
Physical Activity	YMCA	
	From boot camp to yoga, YMCA launches 60 free online	Link
	classes for people stuck at home.	
Reading	JSTOR	
C C	A digital library that normally requires a subscription, has	Link
	announced that 6,000 of its ebooks and more than 150	
	journals will be freely available to the public.	
Technology	Microsoft	
	Free 6-month Office 365 E1 Trial, including Microsoft	Link
	Teams, is now available. Microsoft is making this special E1	
	Trial license available in response to the increased need for	
	employees to work from home in response to the COVID-19	
	outbreak.	
	Support.com	
	Free tech support to anyone who needs it now.	<u>Link</u>
	Zoom	
	Free basic accounts.	<u>Link</u>