

**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 as it becomes available related to the economic impacts of COVID-19 to Small Business, Employees and to individuals and families. Best efforts are being taken to ensure timely and relevant information is made available on daily basis.

The information on this website is provided for general information purposes 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 information contained in linked websites, is not guaranteed as to accuracy or timeliness and is provided for convenience only. 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 of the Council for Canada.

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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
- It is expected that the impact of the coronavirus will fade after the end of the third quarter, though low oil prices will constrain Canada's recovery for the rest of the year.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

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UPCOMING WEBINARS

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	DATE	WEBPAGE
Small Business	PwC Longer-term impacts of COVID-19 on business continuity	March 19 th 2020, 9am (EST)	Link
	Mathews Dinsdale COVID-19 and the Workplace: What Employers Need to Know Now	March 19 th 2020, 12pm (EST)	Link
	Norton Rose Fulbright Part II - COVID-19: Canadian Legal Implications for Business Leaders	March 19 th 2020, 12pm (EST)	Link
Jamat	The Conference Board of Canada Canada's Economy to Navigate Rough Seas: Update with the Chief Economist	March 23 rd 2020, 2pm (EST)	Link

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

RESOURCES	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan	On March 18, 2020, the Government of Canada announced their COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, which will provide up to \$27 billion in direct support to Canadian workers and businesses	Summary Link Further Details

ECONOMIC UPDATES

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
National	Bank of Canada Rate Reduction	Link
	Government of Canada Economic Measures	Link
	Royal Bank of Canada Provincial Economic Forecasts	Link
	Bank of Montreal Ottawa's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan National Economic Outlook: COVID-19 & Oil	Link Link
	Toronto-Dominion Bank COVID-19 Impacts on the National Economy Outlook	Link
	Scotiabank National Outlook	Link
British Columbia	Business Council of British Columbia Business Alert	Link
Manitoba	Budget Update	Link
Alberta	Alberta Government Press Release	Link
Saskatchewan	Regina Leadership Post	Link
Quebec	Government of Quebec - Information and services	Link
	Government of Quebec - Measures to be taken by businesses	Link
New Brunswick	Unavailable at this time	
Nova Scotia	The Chronicle Herald	Link
Prince Edward Island	Unavailable at this time	
Ontario	Government of Ontario – Economic Update	Link
	Government of Ontario – Statement from Ministers	Link

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ECONOMIC UPDATE WEBINARS		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Financial Impact	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce CIO Market Update	Link
	Bank of Montreal Market Update and Highlights To access the recorded call, Dial 1-800-408-3053 Passcode: 1354574#	

SMALL BUSINESS

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	Canadian Chamber of Commerce Pandemic Preparedness for Business	Link
	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters COVID-19 Resources	Link
	Business Development Bank of Canada Welcome page and general index	Link
	5 tips to minimize your business risk	Link
	Government of Canada Employer Contact Centre	Link
	Information Sheet - Canada's Regional Development Agencies	Link
	Resources for Canadian Businesses (COVID – 19)	Link
	Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Businesses	Link
	McLennan Ross Workplace Pandemic Planning – What Employers Should Do and Know Right Now	Link
	World Health Organization Workplace readiness for COVID-19	Link
	Mathews Dinsdale COVID-19 & The Workplace	Link
	Centre for Disease Control and Prevention Keeping your Workplace, School and Home Safe	Link
	Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers	Link
	Bennett Jones An Employer's Guide to Responding to the COVID – 19 Pandemic	Link
	Neuman Thompson Frequently Asked Questions by Employers Relating to COVID-19	Link
Cassels COVID-19: Emerging FAQs for Canadian Employers	Link	
McKinsey COVID-19: Implications for Business	Link	

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	<p>McCarthy Tetrault COVID-19: Latest Updates and Legal Considerations for your Business Link</p>
	<p>Dentons COVID-19 Hub Link</p>
	<p>Grant Thornton COVID-19 and your business: Government and economic resources Link</p> <p>Strategies to help businesses respond to COVID-19 Link</p> <p>Responding to COVID-19: 7 steps to manage cash flow and financial headwinds Link</p>
Business Continuity	<p>Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Business Continuity Plan Link</p>
	<p>Business Development Bank of Canada Business Continuity Plan and Template for Entrepreneurs Link</p> <p>BDC Support for entrepreneurs impacted by the coronavirus Link</p> <p>5 tips to reduce the impact of a disaster on your business Link</p>
	<p>Mccarthy Tetrault COVID-19 Response Planning: Is Your Business Prepared? Link</p>
	<p>Canadian Federation of Independent Business Coronavirus and Small Business: Keeping you and Your Employees Safe Link</p>
Financing Support	<p>Business Development Bank of Canada Support for entrepreneurs impacted by the coronavirus COVID-19 Link</p>
	<p>Business Development Bank of Canada Low Interest Loan Link</p>
	<p>Business Development Bank of Canada Working Capital Loan for Business Link</p>
	<p>Business Development Bank of Canada Purchase Order Financing Link</p>
Legal	<p>OSLER Managing Covid-19 for Employers – Legislation & Regulation Link</p> <p>Is coronavirus a force majeure event under your project contracts? Link</p>
Insurance	<p>Risk Management Magazine COVID-19 Business Interruption Coverage Concerns Link</p>

REGIONAL		
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	BC Economic Development Association COVID-19 Resources for BC Businesses	Link

SMALL BUSINESS WEBINARS		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Business Continuity	Mccarthy Tetrault Covid-19 Preparedness for Business Leaders	Link
	Gartner Business Continuity Management Pandemic Planning Briefing	Link
	Agility Recovery Coronavirus and Pandemic Planning – Protect Your People and Operations	Link
	Norton Rose Fulbright Canadian Business Implications for Business leaders regarding COVID-19	Link
	Wealth Transfer The Ismaili Business Professionals Association hosted a panel discussion with prominent business leaders from our community on the topic of Transferring of Wealth. The panel included Adil Ahmed, Dr. Azim Jamal, Muneer Gilani, and Farouq Manji. Watch the recorded session to gain insight in managing and protecting your wealth.	Link

EMPLOYMENT

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
General	Government of Canada Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Workers	Link
Employment Insurance	National Post How EI benefits for COVID-19 quarantines will work under the new rules	Link
	Government of Canada COVID-19 Details of Employment Insurance sickness benefits	Link
	General Employment Insurance information	Link
Work Sharing Program	Government of Canada Employee Guide	Link
	Mathews Dinsdale Updated: COVID-19 and the Workplace: Frequently Asked Questions	Link
Leave for Employees	Government of Canada Types of leaves offered to federally regulated employees	Link
Employee Rights	Government of Canada Right to Refuse Dangerous Work	Link

REGION SPECIFIC		
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Compensation/ Workplace Protections	WorkSafeBC COVID Related Includes information on: - circumstances where workers should not be at work - right to refuse work - workplace protections - compensation	Link
Government Legislation	Government of British Columbia Taking Time Off	Link
	Quitting, Getting Fired, or Laid Off	Link
	Employment Standards Act	Link
Human Rights Tribunal	Human Rights Tribunal of British Columbia	Link
ALBERTA		

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CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
FAQ	Workers Compensation Board Information on submitting a COVID-19 –related claim to Workers Compensation Board - Alberta	Link
Employment Rules	Government of Alberta – Employment Rules	Link
Human Rights Commission	Alberta Human Rights Commission	Link
MANITOBA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Government Legislation	Employment Standards Act	Link
Human Rights Commission	Manitoba Human Rights Commission	Link
	Manitoba Human Rights Code	Link
SASKATCHEWAN		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Government Legislation	Employment Standards Act	Link
Human Rights Commission	Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission	Link
ONTARIO		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Workplace Safety & Insurance Board	Coronavirus updates from WSIB	Link
Government Legislation	Ontario Human Rights Commission policy statements relating to COVID 19 (March 13, 2020)	Link
	Your guide to the Employment Standards Act	Link
	Description of different types of leaves and job losses	Link
Human Rights Tribunal	Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario	Link
Human Rights Commission	Ontario Human Rights Commission	Link
QUEBEC		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Labor Standards	Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail	Link
Human Resources	Covid-19 Information and recommendations from the order of Chartered Human Resources Advisors for Employers and Employees. (IN FRENCH)	Link
Government Legislation	Quebec Human Rights Tribunal	Link
	Quebec Human Rights Commission	Link
NOVA SCOTIA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Government Legislation	Nova Scotia Employment Rights	Link
Human Rights Commission	Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission	Link
NEW BRUNSWICK		

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CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Government Legislation	New Brunswick Employment Standards	Link
	New Brunswick Human Rights Commission	Link
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Government Legislation	PEI Employment Standards	Link
	PEI Human Rights Commission	Link

GENERAL

NATIONAL		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Support	Government of Canada Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Canadians	Link
Housing Mortgage Rates	Super Brokers Current Housing Mortgage Rates	Link
Fraud	CTV COVID-19 Watch out for financial fraud! - Events that 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 Link
Personal Budget	A budget is the foundation of financial well-being. It's a 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.	Link
Credit Counselling/Debt Management	KOFE KOFE is a web-based financial education center, set up exclusively for our Jamat through Consolidated Credit 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) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For tailored solutions to get out of debt • Am I ready to purchase a home? • How do I make a budget? • Get answers to your financial questions • Private & Confidential 	Link
Upskilling/Education	Coursera Build skills with courses from top universities and companies in the fields of artificial intelligence, machine learning and many more!	Link
Emergency Loan to Return Home	CityNews Canadian government is providing emergency loan of \$5,000 to stranded Canadians abroad to help them get home.	Link
REGIONAL		
BRITISH COLUMBIA		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE

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BC Hydro	BC Hydro Bill help for customers affected by COVID-19	Link
Travel Insurance	CTV Coronavirus no longer covered by some travel insurance companies	Link
ONTARIO		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Hydro Bill	Hydro One Pandemic relief fund for those affected by COVID-19. Customer will have to contact Hydro one directly	Link
Hydro Bill	Hydro Ottawa Assistance and protections to customers affected by COVID-19	Link
QUEBEC		
CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	WEBPAGE
Investments	Autorité des marchés financiers > Covid-19: Travel Insurance and Investments	Link
Benefits	Government of Quebec Temporary worker assistance program (PATT COVID-19)	Link