

In today's address to the nation, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stated that all non-essential travel across the Canada-U.S. border will be temporarily restricted. Essential travel will continue, to ensure that food, fuel and medicines reach people on both sides of the border.

The Prime Minister understands that working from home is not possible for all. He has introduced a variety of new measures to support Canadians during the COVID-19 crisis.

Some of the measures introduced by the Prime Minister include:

- An **Emergency Care Benefit** for those who don't qualify for EI and who don't have access to paid sick leave. The benefit will provide money to individuals every two weeks over a 14-week period. The amount will be comparable to the amount provided through EI and will specifically help those who are ill, in quarantine and/or those who are self-isolating. It will also apply to family members who are helping sick individuals.
- A **COVID-19 Emergency Support Benefit** will be introduced to support self-employed individuals.
- Employers will be provided with a **temporary wage subsidy equal to 10%** of their salaries for paid employees for a three-month period to encourage businesses to keep their employees on payroll during this crisis.
- For those who have already filed their taxes, residents will now have until **August 2020 to pay any taxes** they owe to the government.
- The government will be temporarily **boosting the pre-existing Child Care Benefit** to support parents taking care of young children.
- To help lower income individuals, the government will **supplement the GST Credit** to offset the consumer tax that they are paying. Every adult will receive up to \$300 through this credit and up to \$150 for every child.
- To assist students and young adults, the government will put in place a **six-month interest free moratorium on all student loans**.
- The government's existing **Reaching Home Program will be doubled** to help communities trying to support homeless individuals.
- To support those facing domestic abuse and violence, the government will **boost funding for shelters providing sanctuary** to vulnerable individuals.
- To support First Nations, the government will set up a **distinction-based community support fund**.

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