Canada Activities

Federal Activities
On June 10, the Government introduced Bill C-17, An Act respecting additional COVID-19 measures, which aims to implement a range of recently announced measures, including:

- Broadening the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS);
- Implementing supports for Canadians with disabilities;
- Enabling penalties for those who fraudulently collect the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), and others.

The Government was unable to reach an agreement with Opposition parties and, despite last minute negotiations, the legislation was tabled until next week as discussions continue between the parties.

On June 9, the government launched a new web hub to bring together available resources for organizations buying and selling personal protective equipment (PPE). The Supply Hub connects Canadian organizations with federal, provincial, territorial and other resources and information about PPE. Buyers will find PPE supplier lists, in addition to guidance to help plan their PPE purchases.

Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced the launch of the second call for proposals under the Local Food Infrastructure Fund, valued at $43.4 million. The Fund aims to strengthen food support organizations and to help improve access to safe and nutritious food for Canadians at risk.

On June 5, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stated that the federal government is negotiating with the provinces and territories concerning their offer of $14 billion for measures to keep COVID-19 at bay as the economy restarts. Provinces such as Ontario have stated that the support offered is too low, with that province suggesting it alone requires over $20 billion in federal support.

Statistics Canada released the labour force survey for May, which showed the economy added 289,600 jobs in May. Despite this increase the unemployment rate rose to 13.7 per cent, the highest level in more than four decades of comparable data.

Alberta
On June 11, the province highlighted that Bill 22 would move Alberta from two provincially funded emissions reduction agencies to one. Most remaining programs and services that have been led by Energy Efficiency Alberta (EEA) will transition to Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA).
On June 9, the province announced stage two of the relaunch strategy can safely begin on June 12, a week sooner than expected.

The province has also announced it has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) to assess the feasibility of a new passenger rail service between Calgary and Banff.

On June 5, the province announced up to $1 million to help beekeepers offset the costs of increased colony replacements due to COVID-19. The program, available this summer, will be retroactive to cover issues faced in spring 2020.

The province also announced additional supports to help small- and medium-sized businesses during economic relaunch.

**British Colombia**

On June 11, the province announced that changes to the Manufactured Forest Products Regulation (MFPR) and the Coast-wide implementation of the variable fee-in-lieu of manufacture on log exports that were scheduled to come into force on July 1, are now postponed until September and December, respectively.

**Manitoba**

On June 11, the province announced it is seeking feedback from the public on the draft plan for Phase Three of reopening the Manitoba economy.

On June 10, the province announced which projects will be funded through the $500-million Manitoba Restart Program. The economic stimulus package adds an additional $500 million above the $3-billion infrastructure investment in Budget 2020.

**New Brunswick**

AEM continues to follow developments in the province closely.

**Newfoundland and Labrador**

On June 8, the province announced measures to assist the mining, mineral exploration and quarry industries, including deferring rental and fee payments and waiving mineral expenditure requirements for 2020.

**Nova Scotia**

AEM continues to follow developments in the province closely.

**Ontario**

On June 12, the province announced it is significantly expanding the Agri-food Workplace Protection Program and committing up to $15 million to enhance health and safety measures on farms and in food processing facilities.
The province has also announced that people are being encouraged to establish a social "circle" of no more than 10 people who can interact and come into close contact with one another without physical distancing.

On June 10, the province announced it has developed a plan for the gradual and safe resumption of in-person instruction at postsecondary institutions across the province for the summer term. In September, all students will have the opportunity to attend postsecondary education through virtual learning, in-class instruction, or hybrid formats.

On June 9, the province announced its plan to reopen child care centres across the province to support the next stage of the province's reopening framework.

On June 8, the province announced that it is moving forward with a regional approach to Stage 2 of reopening the province. Effective Friday, June 12, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., the province will increase the limit on social gatherings from five to 10 people across the province, regardless of whether a region has moved to Stage 2.

On June 6, the province announced it has extended all emergency orders currently in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act until June 19, 2020.

**Prince Edward Island**
AEM continues to follow developments in the province closely.

**Quebec**
On June 8, the province announced that it intends to compensate landlords who subscribe to the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for 50% of their losses.

**Saskatchewan**
On June 11, the province announced it is preparing for Phase 4 of the Re-Open Saskatchewan plan and that a target date for the first part of Phase 4 will be announced early next week.

On June 5, the province announced amendments to The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations that grant relief to the mining sector in response to impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. These amendments will provide mining exploration companies more time to raise necessary capital and access mine sites to carry out exploration activities, work programs and engage with local and First Nations communities.

The province also announced temporary commercial eviction protection for small business tenants during the COVID-19 emergency. The moratorium on evictions applies to landlords that are eligible to apply for the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program but choose not to.