

Canadian Business Resilience Network Small Business Relief Fund

The Canadian Business Resilience Network Small Business Relief Fund will help 62 small Canadian businesses recover and support their resilience, for a total of \$620,000 in funds. A national initiative to provide small Canadian businesses with \$10,000 grants (62 total) to help in their COVID-19 recovery efforts. These grants are made possible by Salesforce.

Businesses can use the \$10,000 grants to support their recovery efforts, including paying salaries, acquiring safety and personal protective equipment for staff, replenishing materials or paying for the measures required to adapt business models to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Applications for this grant opportunity will open June 1, 2020 and close June 12, 2020.

Any business considering applying must hold a valid membership with a chamber of commerce, board of trade or any other business association that is a member of the CBRN.

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Canadian Chamber and the Government of Canada team up with accounting profession to provide free advice to small to medium-sized business, not-for-profits and charities to navigate uncertainty

Small to medium-sized businesses, not-for-profit organizations and charities are among those most impacted by the current pandemic and will now have direct access to a network of qualified business advisors to help guide them courtesy of a new, government-funded program from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

The program, called the <u>Business Resilience Service</u> (BRS), is run through the Canadian Chamber's <u>Canadian Business Resilience Network</u> in collaboration with <u>EY</u> and with support from <u>Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada)</u> and <u>Imagine Canada</u>. The BRS will provide options for any vulnerable small to medium-sized business, not-for-profit or charity to immediately connect with experienced accounting and tax professionals across the country from professional services firms. The program, delivered to organizations free of charge, will:

- o Provide guidance on program options and eligibility
- Rapidly direct businesses including enterprises involving Indigenous peoples, women and diverse groups to the most appropriate support organizations
- Help organizations make decisions to support recovery plans
- Provide real time insights and feedback to policymakers

The BRS program, coordinated by EY, will be provided for four weeks from Monday, May 25, and will involve support from approximately 125 business advisors from across the accounting profession. Organizations can access the BRS seven days a week by calling **1-866-989-1080**.

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