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Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association

**COVID-19
Update**

March 18, 2020 update

Your Health

During this difficult and uncertain time, your health – both physical and mental - is of utmost priority. The World Health Organization (WHO) released [mental health and psychosocial considerations](#) during the COVID-19 outbreak, including information for the general population, health-care workers, care providers for children, people in isolation, and more. You may find this information helpful as you navigate this outbreak both professionally and personally.

Canadian Government announcements

In a press conference today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an \$82 billion economic package to assist Canadians as the nation navigates the COVID-19 global crisis.

Prime Minister Trudeau announced an Emergency Care Benefit that will provide funds to individuals who do not qualify for EI or paid sick leave. The benefit will be provided every two weeks for 14 weeks, comparable to EI amounts.

Important to independent dental hygienists, the Prime Minister additionally announced a COVID-19 Support Benefit to assist self-employed and part-time workers who do not qualify for EI. We anticipate more details about accessing this new benefit will become available in the coming days.

Press conference details provided by the media:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/economic-aid-package-coronavirus-1.5501037>

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-trudeau-unveils-82-billion-in-aid-tax-deferrals-for-coronavirus/>

To increase accessibility, COVID-19 email communications will be posted on the [COVID-19 update page](#) on the ODHA website.