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Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association



**COVID-19
Update**

March 27, 2020 update

Federal government update

In a press conference today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, announced additional new measures to support small businesses dealing with the economic impacts of the pandemic.

- A 75 per cent wage subsidy was announced for qualifying businesses, for up to three months, retroactive to March 15, 2020. This will help businesses to keep and return workers to the payroll. More details on eligibility criteria will be shared before the end of the month.
- Businesses, including self-employed individuals, are allowed to defer all Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) payments until June.
- The Canada Emergency Business Account program was launched and will provide up to \$25 billion to eligible financial institutions so they can provide interest-free loans to small businesses.
- The new Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Loan and Guarantee program was launched and will enable up to \$40 billion in lending. This is intended for small and medium-sized companies that require greater help to meet their operational cash flow requirements.

Wellness resources

ODHA has created a wellness resource, linked from the [COVID-19 update page](#), to share helpful resources that may assist members in maintaining overall wellness during these challenging times. The wellness resource will be updated with new links as information becomes available.

Health products alert

Health Canada is warning Canadians about the risks of buying health products—including drugs, natural health products, homeopathic products, and medical devices—that make false or misleading claims to prevent, treat or cure COVID-19.

Health Canada has received reports and is taking action to address them. Read the full statement [here](#).

ODHA on The RDH View

ODHA had the opportunity to participate on The RDH View on March 26th and was able to provide an update on employment issues in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. ODHA thanks Kathleen Bokrossy, RDH, and [rdhu](#) for the opportunity to share this valuable information. [View the webcast here.](#)

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