



BCEDA
BC Economic Development Association



#COVID_19 Bulletin: March 17, 2020

[BCEDA #COVID19 Resources for BC Businesses Guide](#)

All of these updates are now located in one document. This shareable, live guide is being continually updated with the most relevant information, tools and resources for the BC business community. [Click here to view.](#)

[COVID-19 Business Impact Survey](#)

The BC Chamber of Commerce—in partnership with Small Business BC, Community Futures British Columbia, and British Columbia Economic Development Association - BCEDA—is urgently seeking your input around current and contemplated impacts to businesses due to the #COVID_19 pandemic.

Your feedback will be sent directly to the provincial and federal governments to inform how they can help businesses mitigate the damage of this global market disruption, and recover.

The survey will take under ~4 minutes to complete (follow the progress bar below). **Survey will close Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00 PST**

Please share this exact link with your business community (note: do not copy and paste from your browser or the link will break)

<https://www.bcmindreader.com/c/r/covid-impact-survey-2020-bceda>

Preliminary Survey Results from Over 4,000 Respondents Reveal:

- 86% of BC businesses indicated that their business is being impacted by COVID-19
 - 72% of BC businesses estimated a significant negative impact caused by COVID-19
 - 92% of BC businesses expect their business will be impacted by COVID-19 in the near future
-

Update from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a package of financial supports is on the way to help millions of Canadians and businesses get through the COVID-19 crisis — and he's urging people to stay home to limit spread of the virus.

During a news conference today outside his residence at Rideau Cottage, Trudeau urged Canadians to follow public health recommendations to stop the spread of the virus, saying steps taken now will help to save lives. He said the government is also looking at temporarily recalling Parliament to bring in emergency economic measures.

"Tomorrow we will be making another major announcement on economic actions to support Canadians as quickly as possible. By the end of the week, we will have more to say about changes for the upcoming tax season," he said.

"We're looking at giving more flexibility for people to be able to make payments and for businesses to have more liquidity during this time."

Destination Development Webinar by Roger Brooks

"Dealing With the Coronavirus: What to do immediately to help save your tourism industry, and downtown businesses."

Register for this special emergency presentation by Roger Brooks today!

Wednesday 18 March 2020

8:30am Pacific; 9:30am Mountain; 10:30am Central; 11:30am Eastern; 12:30pm Atlantic

This workshop is **FREE** to all, so spread the word — this is important for your economic future.

In this workshop we are offering ideas that can still encourage travel while implementing "social distancing" and "self-quarantine" procedures, ways to shift your tourism marketing to help you weather the storm, what downtowns (and downtown businesses) can do to survive, and programs coming online to help small businesses that make up the bulk of our tourism-industry providers and downtown businesses.

This is an excellent time to invite others in your community, from stakeholders, elected officials, local government staff, businesses, and other local organizations to tune in — which they can do from home, office or remote location to avoid large gatherings. Again, this is free for everyone.

[Click here to register.](#)

GIS Planning Webinar: Working from home? Strategies, tips & practical advice for economic developers

Wednesday, March 18th, 1:30 pm EDT, 10:30 am PDT

Actions to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus mean many people are now working remotely from home for the foreseeable future, often for the first time. If you are one of the many people trying to do your job from your spare room or kitchen, we're here to help you figure out your new normal for the next little while. The GIS Planning team has members who have been working remotely from across North America for many years, and we've got some tips to help you navigate this unfamiliar situation in uncertain times.

[Click here to register.](#)