



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

COVID-19 ISSUE



ADAM VAN KOEVERDEN

Member of Parliament
Milton



/AdamvanKoeverden



@vankayak



avankoeverden



AdamvanKoeverdenmp.ca

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

In these extraordinary times, no Canadian should have to worry about paying their bills, rent, or putting food on the table. Our Government is unwavering in our commitment to support Canadians, our healthcare system, and our economy. Please find some of the actions we have taken, through Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan to provide immediate help to those Canadians and businesses in need.

As businesses continue to open up, it is important to continue taking precautionary measures as COVID-19 has not yet been eradicated. If you are experiencing symptoms please **stay home** or seek medical assistance. If you need to go out please practice **physical distancing** by staying 2 meters apart. **Wash your hands** often for 20 seconds, and **avoid touching your face**. Please continue to have patience at this time and follow the guidelines set up by businesses in order to protect yourselves and others.

We will continue to support you and your family, our business sector and every Canadian from coast to coast to coast. Please be in touch with our office if you have questions, concerns or are experiencing any difficulty accessing them. We recognize it is a really difficult job market across the country, but here in Milton as well. If you are unemployed and in search of work, there are good, well-paying jobs available here in Halton, check them out at www.jobbank.gc.ca.

Adam van Koeverden, MP



Wash your hands frequently
for at least 20 seconds



Avoid touching your
eyes, nose, and mouth
with your hands



Monitor for symptoms, like
a fever and dry cough

WAYS TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE:



Stay up to date with all
the latest information
by visiting
canada.ca/coronavirus



Avoid shaking hands
and reduce physical
contact with others



Cough and sneeze into
the bend of your arm,
not into your hands

INFO

OTTAWA OFFICE

House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Tel. 613-996-7046

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

16 Hugh Lane
Milton ON L9T 2C6
Tel. 905-693-0166



Adam.vanKoeverden@parl.gc.ca



AdamvanKoeverdenmp.ca

CANADA EMERGENCY WAGE SUBSIDY

Canadians should be confident that their jobs are safe and that Canadian business owners are being supported as we fight COVID-19.

The CEWS will provide:

- a 75% wage subsidy to eligible employers for up to 12 weeks, retroactive to March 15, 2020, providing employers with up to \$847 per employee, per week.
- eligible employers a subsidy of up to 75% of salaries and wages paid to new employees.

Eligible employers include:

- Individuals,
- taxable corporations,
- partnerships consisting of eligible employers, non-profit organizations and registered charities,
- those that see a drop of at least 15% of their revenue in March 2020 and 30% for the following months.

Eligible employers can apply for the CEWS through the Canada Revenue Agency's My Business Account portal.

For more information on the CEWS visit www.canada.ca/coronavirus



SUPPORT FOR SENIORS

Canadians know that we must protect and support the most vulnerable people in our communities during this challenging time. That is why we have taken action to ensure that seniors have the financial support they need and the care they deserve, as we work to fight COVID-19 and protect the ones we love.

- One-time payment for those who receive OAS (top-up of \$300) and GIS (top-up of \$200), representing **up to \$500 tax-free to seniors** that receive both.
- Supporting community-based projects to improve the quality of life of seniors by mitigating social isolation through the New Horizons Program;
- Ensuring the most vulnerable seniors continue to receive benefits by temporarily **extending GIS and Allowance payments** if seniors' 2019 income information has not been assessed.
- Reduced minimum withdrawals from Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) by 25 per cent for



CANADA CHILD BENEFIT (CCB)

Since it was introduced four years ago, the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) has helped put more money in the pockets of 9 out of 10 Canadian families, and played a key role in reducing child poverty across the country. Now, more than ever, hard-working, middle-class families are counting on this benefit to help them keep up with the added expenses of raising children.

The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced that the **CCB will be increased once again in July**, to help families keep up with the costs of living and raising their children. This comes on top of the **extra payment of \$300** per child in the month of May.

The Canada Child benefit has helped 30,970 children in the riding of Milton. The increase will help a lot of families out, and is welcome at a time when many are facing financial troubles due to COVID-19

(Data from Statistics Canada, July 2018– June 2019)

2020.

- Contributed \$9 million through United Way Canada for local organizations to **support practical services to Canadian seniors**. These services could include the delivery of groceries, medications, or other needed items, or personal outreach to assess individuals' needs and connect them to community support.
- Provided flexibility for organizations under the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) to use funding previously received through the community-based stream to **provide immediate and essential services** to seniors impacted by COVID-19.
- Released the Public Health Agency of Canada's evidence-informed guidelines to help residents, seniors and health care workers in long-term care homes remain safe and healthy and provided recommendations that complement provincial and territorial public health efforts to prevent and control health care-associated infections.

CANADA EMERGENCY RESPONSE BENEFIT

To support eligible workers who have lost their income due to COVID-19, our federal government introduced the Canada Emergency Response Benefit; a taxable benefit of \$2,000 every 4 weeks.

The CERB is available to workers who meet all of the following conditions:

- Live in Canada and are at least 15 years old;
- Earning less than \$1,000 a month;
- stopped working because of COVID-19 or are eligible for EI regular or sickness benefits;
- Have not voluntarily quit their job; and
- Had an income of at least \$5,000 in 2019 or in the 12 months prior to the date of their application.

As many Canadians have begun to return to work, there are still some facing challenges as a result of COVID-19. That is why the government has **extended the CERB by 8 weeks**, to ensure Canadian have the support they need as they transition back to work.

For more information on applying for the CERB, Canadians can visit: www.canada.ca/coronavirus

While my office is still closed to the public, we are still available to assist you. Please feel free to call or email my office. Visit my website to submit requests, or view information regarding COVID-19.

AdamvanKoeverdenMP.ca

905-693-0166

Adam.vanKoeverden@parl.gc.ca



I had the opportunity to help box up grocery hampers for Food Banks

YOUTH, STUDENTS, AND POST-GRADUATES

We are taking action to ensure students have the support they need to continue their studies, gain the critical experience for their future careers, and contribute to Canada's resilient economy.

- The **Canada Emergency Student Benefit, provides \$1,250 per month** for eligible students not receiving the CERB, or \$1,750 per month for eligible students with dependents or disabilities.
- **Doubled the Canada Student Grants** for all eligible full-time and part-time students as well as for students with permanent disabilities or dependents.
- **Broadened eligibility for student financial assistance** by removing the expected student's and spouse's contributions in 2020-21.
- **Enhanced the Canada Student Loans Program** by raising the maximum weekly amount that can be provided to a student in 2020-21 from \$210 to \$350.
- To support students and postdoctoral fellows, the government has extended or supplemented certain research scholarships, fellowships and grants. Work opportunities have also been enhanced through the National Research Council of Canada.
- **Invested in Futurpreneur Canada** to continue to support young entrepreneurs.
- Expanded existing federal employment, skills development, and youth programming to create up to **116,000 jobs, placements, and other training opportunities** to help students find employment and develop valuable skills.

CANADA SUMMER JOBS (CSJ)

We made changes to CSJ that will help employers hire summer staff and provide young Canadians access to the jobs they need during this unprecedented time. This program will help create **up to 70,000 jobs for youth** between 15 and 30 years of age. To search for a job go to www.jobbank.gc.ca.

CANADA STUDENT SERVICE GRANTS (CSSG)

- Will help post secondary students and recent graduates gain valuable experience as they volunteer to serve in their communities' for the COVID-19 response. The program will provide these volunteers with a one-time payment of between **\$1,000 and \$5,000** based on the number of hours they serve.
- Organizations interested in posting volunteer opportunities will first need to create an account at Canada.ca/iwanttohelp. Once an account is created, organizations may then post volunteer opportunities, which will be validated before being posted on the platform. Organizations that experience any issues or have questions, can contact support@iwanttohelp.org or **1-833-521-0117**.

To find not-for-profit organizations looking for help during the pandemic, post-secondary students and recent graduates can use the new "I Want to Help" at www.jobbank.gc.ca/volunteer.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

Below is a list of **some** of the resources in our riding of Milton.

Town of Milton offers friendly, weekly calls from the Seniors' Activity Centre, providing companionship and social contact.

Call 905-878-7252 ext 2755 to register.

Halton Womens Place offers a 24 hour crisis line and shelter for abused women and their children. Emergency transportation to the shelter is available.

South Halton 905-332-7892

North Halton 905-878-8555

Salvation Army, Khi Community - Milton

located at 820 Nipissing Rd, Unit 4, distributes food through a Drive-Thru format

Call 905-875-1022 to book your next food appointment

For first time food appointments, call 905-749-4714 to register and book a food appointment

Provides referral to Infant Food Bank at Milton Community Resource Centre, contact through email info@khicomunity.com or call 905-875-1022

Halton Food for Life- For those who are isolating/quarantined for medical reasons, and seniors who have been told to stay at home call 905-635-1106 ext 7, or email goodfood@foodforlife.ca.

If you are looking for other community resources, please use <http://search.hipinfo.info/> for your search.

MENTAL HEALTH

During the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, it is important to take care of our mental health. Let's be honest with ourselves and not be afraid to ask for help.

- **Wellness Together Canada** (ca.portal.gc.ca) offers free online resources and connections to trained volunteers & mental health professionals 24/7

- **Kids Help Phone** for kids and youth: visit kidshelpphone.ca or call 1-800-668-6868

- **Additional federal resources:** bit.ly/gc-mentalhealth

- **Distress Centre Halton** offers free, confidential, anonymous services to people of all ages 24/7. Distress Lines: Burlington-905-681-1488, Oakville-905-849-4541, North Halton-905-877-1211

- **Centre for Addiction & Mental Health:** camh.ca

- **Canadian Mental Health Association Halton Region Branch** provides case management and peer support by phone 24/7 Crisis line available at 1-877-825-9011, Information and Referral 905-315-8664 Free walk-in counselling by phone, call 289-291-5396

FIGHTING HUNGER & FOOD INSECURITY IN MILTON: \$36,000 FOR TWO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS



COVID-19 has intensified the financial needs of individuals and families across Canada. I was proud to announce funding for **Country Heritage Agriculture Society** and **Community Living North Halton** through the Local Food Infrastructure Fund, a program under Food Policy for Canada.

These groups will help find local food solutions for our neighbours in need here in Milton by growing, buying and employing, locally.

STAYING CONNECTED

During this time, with so many policy changes, it can be difficult to know what supports are available, and whether or not you may qualify. My office has been responding to phone calls and emails, but I know there are many constituents who have not reached out.

The Prime Minister has been doing daily briefings which are covered by the media, but I have used a number of resources to try and echo this information; mass mailouts, mass emails, posting on social media, updates on my website, advertising, and even calling residents to do a check in to see if there is anything my office can do to help. There is not one means of outreach that is 100% effective, so I rely also on word of mouth.

If you would like to receive emails from my office, please email me at:

Adam.vanKoeverden@parl.gc.ca