



Business News

August 2020



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**Chambers of Commerce
Group Insurance Plan®**

**PLAN
NEWS**

Simple

Looking for an employee benefits plan that's simple to manage? Spend less time administering your benefits program with:

- Chambers Plan's exclusive advisor support
- Quick set-up
- Easy-to-use forms
- 48-hour claim processing
- Simple administration

Stable

Concerned about rising group insurance premiums? Then you need a pooled program from the Chambers Plan. Rates are based on the average of claims from thousands of similar firms, keeping premiums manageable and predictable and providing stability year after year.

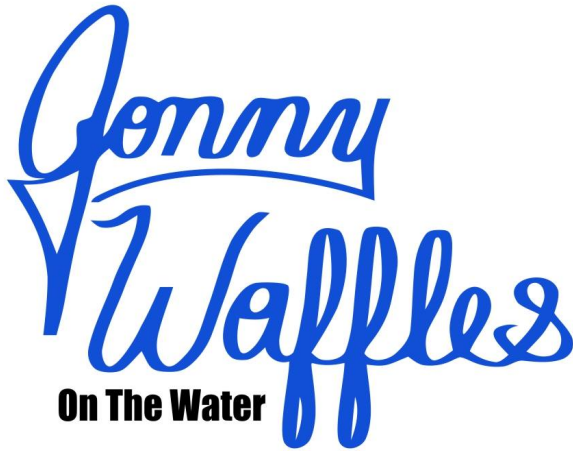
Smart

Don't add to someone else's profit. The Chambers Plan is a not-for-profit program—all surpluses stay in the Plan and help lower premiums.

Give your employees more for less. Health and Dental premiums are a deductible business expense and a TAX FREE benefit for your employees.

WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

In July, we've had some brand new members join, as well there have been some members who have taken the opportunity to renew their membership.



NEW MEMBERS



WELCOME BACK

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Business News

How does the

INNOVATION EMPLOYMENT GRANT

work?



Rewards increased spending on research & development



With more investment, **incentives grow**



Works with the Job Creation Tax Cut, to help small & medium-sized firms



alberta.ca/RecoveryPlan

CREATING JOBS • BUILDING • DIVERSIFYING

Effective Jan. 1, 2021, Alberta's government is introducing the Innovation Employment Grant (IEG). This program will promote economic growth and job creation by supporting small and medium-sized businesses that invest in research and development (R&D).

Read the full details [here](#).

Latest Economic News

- Investments in the natural gas sector expected to create 750 jobs. [Read more](#)
- Real estate optimism sparks new life into Canadian consumers [Read more](#)
- After initial economic rebound, brace for a 'stall-out' phase that could last six to 18 months [Read more](#)

Lakeland Infrastructure Projects Receive Government Funding

Some infrastructure projects in the Lakeland received some funding from the provincial

government. In the City of Cold Lake, funding is going towards the wastewater treatment facility.

[Click here for further details](#)



Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Proposed Changes

The Federal Finance Minister has announced proposed changes to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy that would expand the reach of this program.

Some of the draft legislation proposals include:

- Extension of the CEWS until December 19, 2020
- Make the subsidy accessible to a broader range of employers
- Introduce a top-up subsidy for employers most adversely effected by the pandemic.



Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant

The Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant application process is still open. This grant provides up to \$5,000 to eligible organizations to help with the costs of relaunch. View complete program details [here](#).

THANK YOU!



**THE
BIG
SPEND**
JULY 25TH 2020

Thank you to those who participated in The Big Spend on July 25th. Your spending efforts helped restart the local economy and ensure prosperity for businesses.

The Alberta business community is pessimistic about the province's long-term future, with recent Alberta Chambers of Commerce (ACC) data showing a 26 per cent drop in confidence over the past year.



"With the twin challenges of low oil prices and the COVID-19 pandemic, it's not surprising to see business confidence drop in our province," says ACC President and CEO Ken Kobly. "However, the degree of this drop—more than 25 per cent in a single year—really underscores the fact that our business community needs our continued support as the province reopens. This crisis is far from over."

Business confidence declined 20 per cent between July 2019 and March 2020. Since March, confidence has dropped a further 6 per cent—likely due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Read more of the full media release and statistics [here.](#)



ONLINE MARKETPLACE MARCHÉ EN LIGNE

The Community Futures and the Conseil de développement économique de l'Alberta (economic development council for francophones - CDÉA) are collaborating on a preliminary survey to set up initiatives that can help digitize small businesses impacted by COVID-19 based in the rural regions and in some urban centres.

[TAKE THE SURVEY HERE](#)

Thank you for taking a few minutes of your time to complete this survey.

- [Economic Snapshot: Canadian Chamber cautions government to save fiscal room for economic recovery](#)
- [Strengthening Canadian Supply Chain Resiliency](#)
- [The Canadian Chamber announces \\$10K lifeline for 62 small businesses across Canada](#)

What has made YOUR Chamber of Commerce valuable as of late?

- **Advocacy**-Chambers have access to politicians at all levels of government and bring the challenges faced by our members to their attention. This has been especially evident in recent times with advocating to ensure the needs of business are communicated to those making decisions.

Business Tip

If you have had to change your hours in recent months, don't forget to update your website and/or Facebook page to reflect the changes.

Chamber Exclusive Member-to-Member Deals



10% Discount on reg. priced appliances & electronics
15% discount on reg. priced furniture & mattresses for Chamber members



**Cold Lake
CHRYSLER**
DODGE | JEEP | RAM

Employee pricing on new in stock vehicles
"You pay what we pay"
Chamber members



**BLACK BEAR
CUSTODIAL SERVICES**

5% off any cleaning contract
10% off move out clean
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Nothing's cooler than a KIA

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15% off RV trailer winterizations for Chamber members



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