Canada’s Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) are the front line for economic development in Canada and help to address key economic challenges by providing regionally tailored programs, services, knowledge and expertise.

RDAs are closely monitoring the COVID-19 global challenge and the potential impact it could have on your business and your workers, as well as the broader economy.

If you are a tourism operator, a small- or medium-sized business or organization, and have received RDA funding and COVID-19 is affecting your operations, you are encouraged to contact your local RDA office. Your local RDA can review your situation and provide guidance.

- You may be eligible to receive additional funding and/or flexible arrangements.
- Further support will be determined on a case-by-case basis as the situation evolves.

If you are a tourism operator or a small- or medium-sized business or organization impacted by the sudden shifts in the economy and need pressing assistance, the RDAs could assist you with:

- Access to federal funding to help you stay in business.
- Advice and pathfinding services to other federal programs and services available.

We are taking action
The Government of Canada is taking action to support tourism and other businesses and workers affected by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. You can take advantage of new investments and actions such as:

- Enhancements to the Work-Sharing program to help support employers and their workers who are experiencing a downturn in business due to COVID-19.
- Waiving the mandatory one-week waiting period for Employment Insurance sickness benefits.
- You may be eligible for the new Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), designed to help people who cannot work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the benefit of your business and workers, you are encouraged to contact Service Canada at 1-800-OCanada (1-800-622-6232) for more information on additional government support available to you.

Visit Canada.ca/coronavirus for the latest information.