

MEMORANDUM

April 9, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, Acting City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Maria Pontikis, Director, Civic Engagement and Communications
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
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Chris Robertson, Assistant Director, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability
Matthew Bourke, Senior Planner, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability
Marten Hansen, Planner, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

FROM: Theresa O'Donnell
Acting General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Economic Impact of COVID-19 – Bi-Monthly Labour Force Data: February 2021

RTS#: N/A

Highlights: Monthly Labour Force Survey Data, February 2021

- Employment in Vancouver increased from 1,443,300 to 1,459,200 for a gain of 15,900 (1.1%) jobs between December and February
- The unemployment rate increased by 1.5 percentage points to 7.9% in Vancouver between December and February as more people entered the labour force
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 percentage points, to 8.2%.
- Cumulatively, employment in the region has decreased by -29,200 (-2.0%) since February 2020

Purpose of this memo

This memo highlights Labour Force Survey (LFS) data published by Statistics Canada for the 2-month reference period from December to February. The LFS provides estimates for the unemployment rate and employment totals by industry and occupation on a monthly basis. The information presented in these memos illustrates the impact of COVID-19 on Vancouver's labour force and economy over a 2-month period since the Pandemic began. Staff in Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability will provide an updated bi-monthly memo as new data is released. This information is meant to be viewed in conjunction with other socio-economic and community statistics to form a cohesive picture of the City's current state and assist with recovery and resilience planning. This information will be posted to the City website and shared with the business community.

Important notes about the data

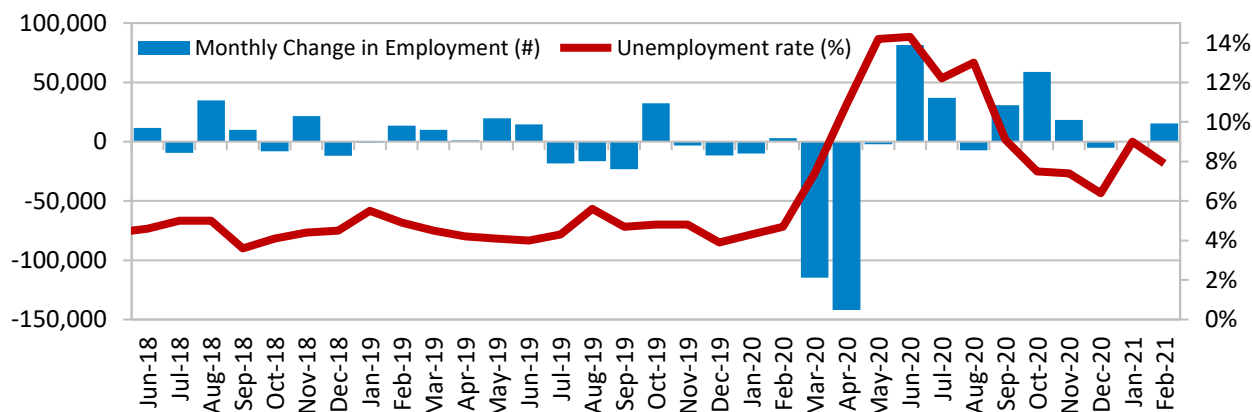
The statistics presented in this memo are for the Metro Vancouver region as the Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) is the smallest geography level available for LFS data tables published by Statistics Canada. Throughout this memo, the term “Vancouver” refers to the Vancouver CMA. The LFS data used to create the statistics presented in this report are not seasonally adjusted¹.

Changes in employment totals and unemployment rate

Employment in Vancouver increased from 1,443,300 in December to 1,459,200 in February for a gain of 15,900 (1.1%) jobs. Since December, the unemployment rate increased by 1.5 percentage points to 7.9% in Vancouver. In February 2021, the region had -29,200 (-2.0%) less employed workers than a year prior in February 2020. Despite this slight decrease, it is a significant improvement in employment, which peaked in April 2020 where a total loss of 251,200 (-17.2%) employed workers was recorded since February 2020. Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 percentage points between December 2020 and February 2021 and is now to 8.2%.

The fluctuations in employment levels from March 2020 to February 2021 reflects changes to public health restrictions and other measures, including allowing non-essential businesses to re-open. A number of major orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic issued by various levels of government were active during this reference week (February 14th to February 20th). Please see Figure 7 for a full list of announcements and orders made since the previous reference period. Appendix A shows all prior announcements and orders starting on March 12, 2020. The next bi-monthly labour force survey memo will be distributed in May, which will include new data for March and April.

Figure 1 – Unemployment rate and monthly employment change in Metro Vancouver



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0295-01 Labour force characteristics by census metropolitan areas, unadjusted for seasonality.

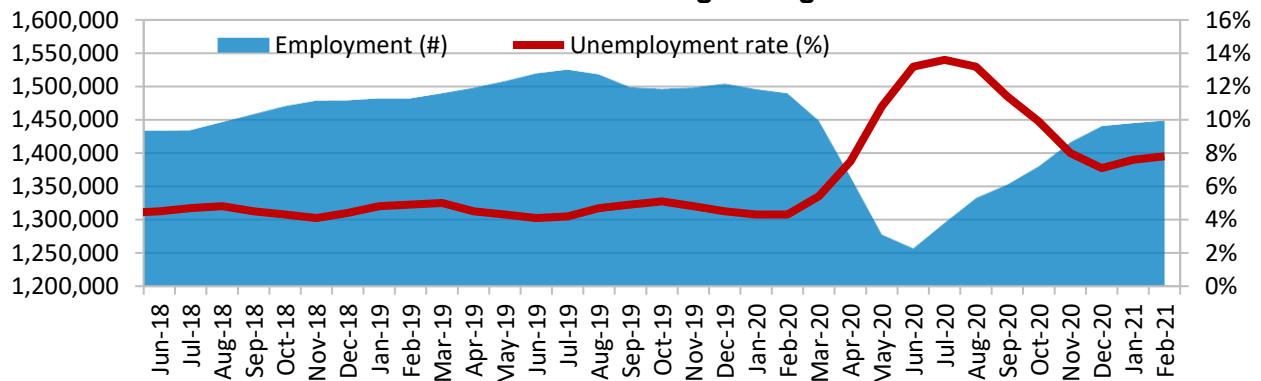
Changes in employment totals and unemployment rate – three-month moving average

The following sections highlight statistics related to employment change by industry and occupation that are published as a three-month moving average for Vancouver; therefore, data published for February is an average of December, January and February. Using this three-month moving average data, employment in February was 1,448,800 and the unemployment

¹ Seasonal adjustments to labour force data are done to eliminate the effect of seasonal and calendar influences (e.g. seasonal shopping or agricultural work).

rate was 7.8%. The following chart shows the monthly change of employment and the unemployment rate using three-month moving average employment data.

Figure 2 – Unemployment rate and total employment change in Metro Vancouver, three-month moving average

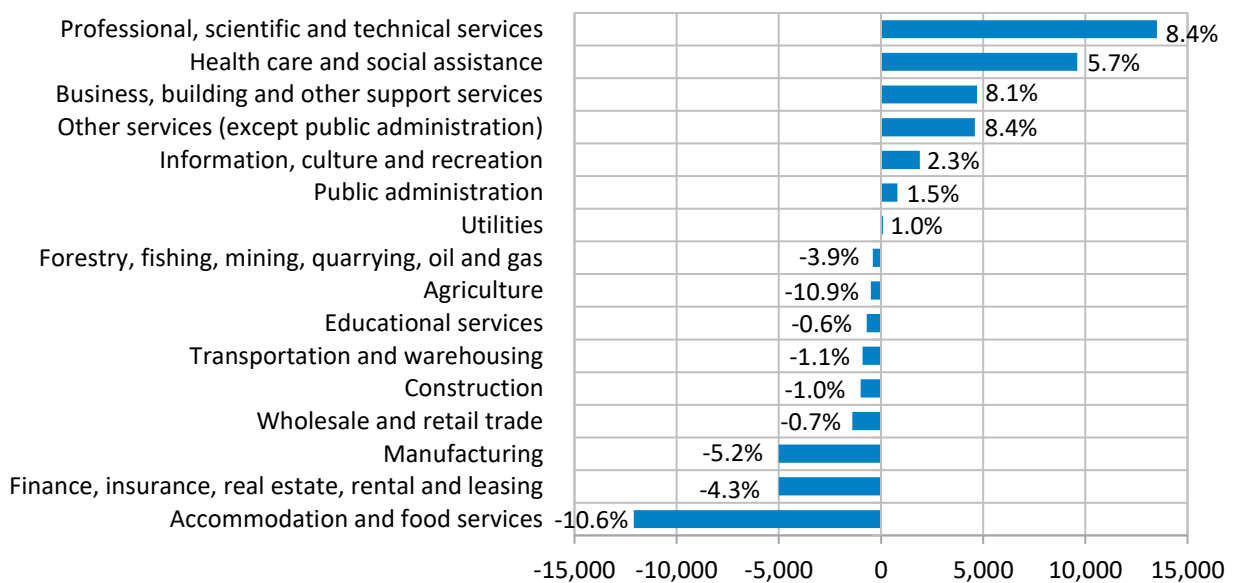


Source: Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0095-01 Labour force characteristics by census metropolitan area, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality.

Industry overview

Employment in the professional, scientific and technical services industry experienced the largest two-month gain in Metro Vancouver, increasing by 13,500 workers (8.4%). The second largest sector employment increase was in the health care and social assistance sector, which gained 9,600 workers (5.7%). The third most employment gains was in business, building and other support services, which increased by 4,700 jobs (8.1%). Between December and February, employment in the accommodation and food services declined by 12,100 people, a decrease of -10.6% of its workforce. The second most losses were seen in finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing, which increased by 5,000 workers (-4.3%). Manufacturing declined by 5,000 workers (-5.2%) over the two month period.

Figure 3 – Employment change by industry in Metro Vancouver, December to February

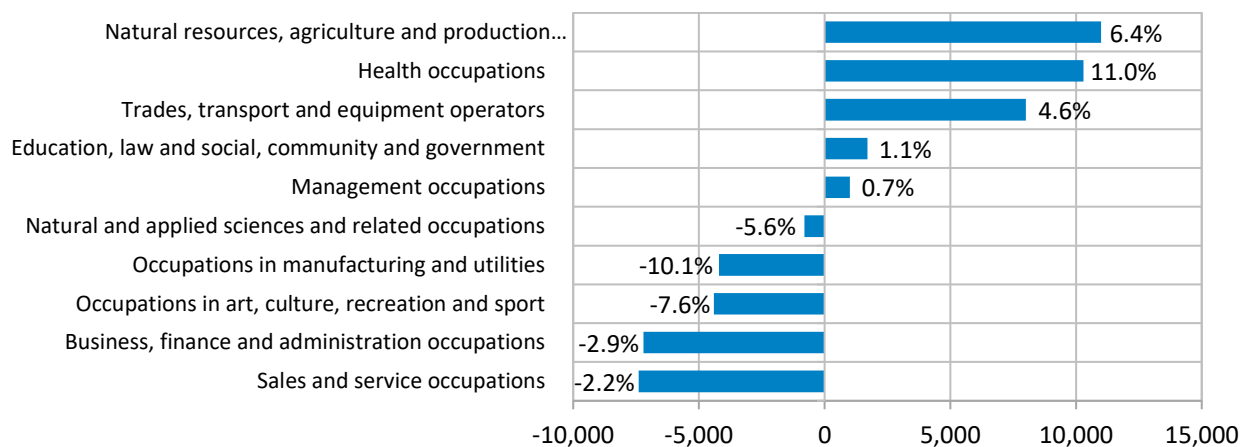


Source: Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0097-01 Employment by industry, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

Occupation overview

Occupation employment data for Vancouver is published as a three-month moving average; therefore, data published for February is an average of December, January and February. Employment in natural resources, agriculture and production occupations experienced the largest 2-month gain in Metro Vancouver, increasing by 11,000 jobs (6.4%) between December and February. The second largest increase was in health occupations, which gained 10,300 workers (11.0%). The third largest employment gains were in occupations in trades, transport and equipment operators, which increased by 8,000 jobs (4.6%). Between December and February, employment in sales and service occupations experienced the largest decrease with 7,100 less workers (-2.2%). The second largest loss was attributed to business, finance and administration occupations, which experienced a decrease of 7,200 jobs (-2.9%). Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport declined the third most, with a loss of 4,400 (-7.6%).

Figure 4 – Employment change by occupations in Metro Vancouver, December to February

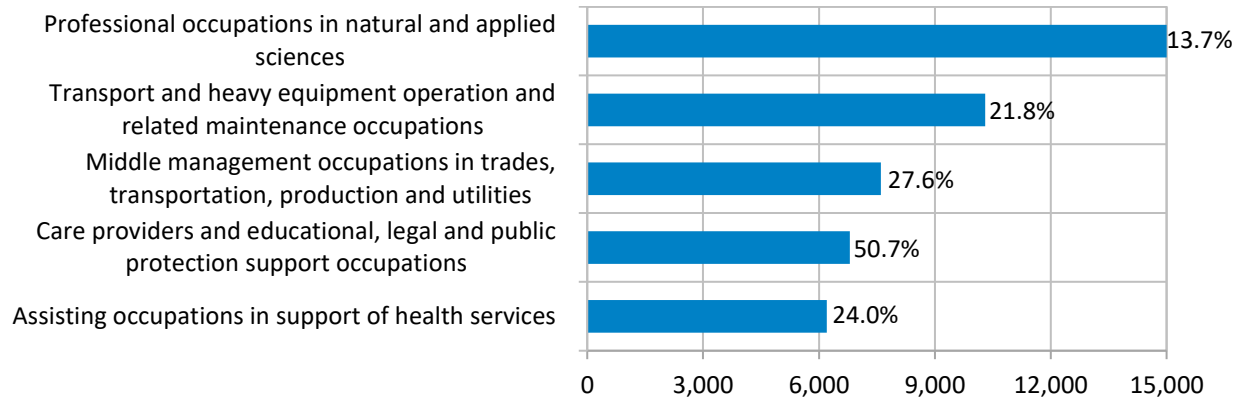


Source: Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0313-01 Employment by occupation, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

The largest increase in employment by detailed occupations was for professional occupations in natural and applied sciences, which increased by 15,000 (+13.7%) workers between December and February. Other occupations with the most employment gains from December to February include:

- Transport and heavy equipment operation and related maintenance occupations (+10,300; +21.8%)
- Middle management occupations in trades, transportation, production and utilities (+7,600; +27.6%)
- Care providers and educational, legal and public protection support occupations (+6,800; +50.7%)
- Assisting occupations in support of health services (+6,200; +24.0%)

Figure 6 – Most employment gains by detailed occupation, December to February

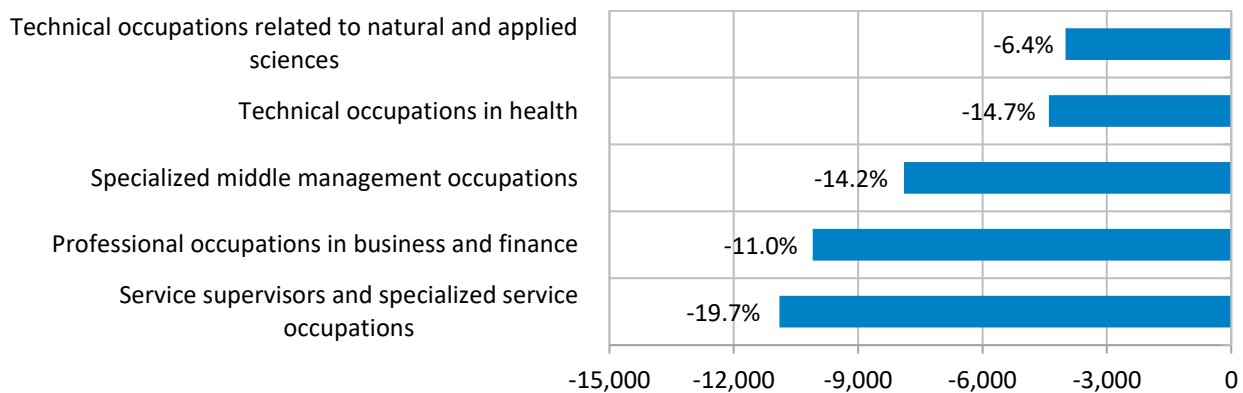


Source: Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0313-01 Employment by occupation, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

The largest decrease in employment by detailed occupations was for service supervisors and specialized service occupations, which lost 10,900 (-19.7%) workers since the previous month. Other occupations with significant employment losses include:

- Professional occupations in business and finance (-10,100; -11.0%)
- Specialized middle management occupations (-7,900; -14.2%)
- Technical occupations in health (-4,400; -14.7%)
- Technical occupations related to natural and applied sciences (-4,000; -6.4%)

Figure 5 – Most employment losses by detailed occupation, December to February



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0313-01 Employment by occupation, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, census metropolitan areas.

Government orders

A number of major orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic have been issued by various levels of government since March 2020. Figure 7 lists new orders and announcements that have been issued over a two-month period from December 20th to February 20th. A full list of orders and announcements since March 2020 is reported in Appendix A. The next Economic Impact of COVID-19 - Monthly Labour Force Data memo will be released in May and will highlight changes in employment from February to April.

Figure 7 – New labour and business-related Government orders and announcements issued from December 20th to February 20th

Government	Date declared	Announcements/Orders
SINCE PREVIOUS Reference Week		
Province of British Columbia	December 22, 2020	The Emergency Program Act (EPA) has capped fees on food delivery services at 15%
Province of British Columbia	December 22, 2020	State of emergency extended
Canada	December 23, 2020	Health Canada authorizes Moderna COVID-19 vaccine
Canada	December 31, 2020	Pre-departure COVID-19 testing and negative results to be required for all air travellers coming to Canada
Province of British Columbia	January 5, 2021	State of emergency extended
Canada	January 8, 2021	New policy to help former international students live and work in Canada
Province of British Columbia	January 19, 2021	State of emergency extended
City of Vancouver	January 19, 2021	\$8,406,150 in grants approved to 144 cultural organizations to help them continue providing critical programs and services.
Province of British Columbia	January 22, 2021	26 arts and culture groups in the Lower Mainland to receive over \$1 million to improve space or buy equipment
Canada	January 22, 2021	Sectoral Initiatives Program to fund \$72 million over three years to support sector-specific projects to help workers gain skills and access resources
Canada	January 26, 2021	The Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) with Canadian financial institutions will offer guaranteed, low-interest loans up to \$1 million to businesses that have year-over-year revenue decline of at least 50%
Canada	January 29, 2021	All flights to and from Mexico and Caribbean countries are suspended until April 30, 2021
Province of British Columbia	February 2, 2021	State of emergency extended
Province of British Columbia	February 2, 2021	Broadway Subway Project kicks off with site preparations
Canada	February 3, 2021	Minister of Infrastructure and Communities sets five new priorities for the Canada Infrastructure Bank: public transit, green infrastructure, trade and transport, broadband, and clean power
Canada	February 4, 2021	Government of Canada announces one-year ban for pleasure craft and cruise vessels entering arctic waters until February 28, 2022
Canada	February 5, 2021	The Regional Relief and Recovery Fund offers an additional \$20,000 for eligible small businesses
Province of British Columbia	February 5, 2021	\$20 million towards reskilling program to help British Columbians return to work
City of Vancouver	February 9, 2021	\$2.1 million approved in funding for the City's Street Cleaning Grant program
Canada	February 11, 2021	Government of Canada invests in Canadian clean technology innovations
Canada	February 12, 2021	All travellers entering Canada will be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test

Government	Date declared	Announcements/Orders
		result on arrival. Air travellers will be required to stay in a government-authorized hotel for 3-nights.
Province of British Columbia	February 16, 2021	State of emergency extended

Upcoming LFS data releases

Statistics Canada is scheduled to release LFS data on a monthly basis. The following table illustrates the upcoming LFS data releases and their reference period. The column on the right of Figure 8 indicates when a new Economic Impact of COVID-19 – Bi-Monthly Labour Force Data memo will be issued in conjunction with the LFS data release.

Figure 8 - Schedule of Labour Force Survey release dates

Release dates	Reference period	Memo
April 9, 2021	March 15 to March 21, 2021	
May 14, 2021	April 12 to April 18, 2021	Yes
June 11, 2021	May 10 to May 16, 2021	
July 9, 2021	June 14 to June 20, 2021	Yes

Additional Data Sources: Employment Lands and Economy Review

The Employment Lands and Economy Review team has also prepared 30 fact sheets using a variety of data sources detailing the economic structure of the city of Vancouver and the role of the city within the regional economy. These fact sheets are available on the City's website here: <https://vancouver.ca/employment-lands>.

City of Vancouver business support webpage

On Friday, April 3rd, City staff established the COVID-19 Business Communications and Support Office (BCSO) to assist local businesses at this critical time. The office is a single point of contact for Vancouver's local business owners to get information from the City of Vancouver regarding business support programs, to learn what City-run business services are currently available, and to make suggestions to the City concerning business and the economy. The webpage is available here: <https://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/covid-19-coronavirus-support-for-local-businesses.aspx>.

Staff in the City-Wide & Regional Planning division of the Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability department is supporting the BCSO, ensuring that information for business remains current and accessible, responding directly to questions by e-mail as well as assisting with developing resources for responding to concerns raised by local business operators.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me or Chris Robertson, Assistant Director, City-Wide & Regional Planning, at 604-873-7684 or chris.robertson@vancouver.ca.



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APPENDIX A – All labour and business-related Government orders and announcements up to the end of the previous reference week ending December 19th

PRIOR TO Reference Week		
Province of British Columbia	March 12 th	Gatherings of over 250 people prohibited
Canada	March 13 th	Cruise ships with over 500 people prohibited from docking at any Canadian port
Province of British Columbia	March 16 th	Gatherings of over 50 people prohibited
Canada	March 17 th	Bank of Canada lowered the interest rate by 50 basis points to 0.75%
Canada		Canada closed its border to non-citizens (with some exceptions); inbound travelers must self-isolate
City of Vancouver / Parks Board		All VPL, Civic Theatre, and Park Board facilities closed
Province of British Columbia		State of emergency declared
Province of British Columbia		Those travelling on or after March 12 th must self-isolate
Province of British Columbia		Order to shut down all restaurant and bar dine-in service
Province of British Columbia		Notice to close casinos
Canada		March 18 th
Canada	10% wage subsidy for small employers and non-profits for three months	
City of Vancouver	March 19 th	State of emergency declared
Canada	March 20 th	Canada-U.S. border closed to all non-essential travel starting March 20 th
City of Vancouver		Order to shut down all restaurant table service starting March 20 th
Province of British Columbia	March 21 st	Order to shut down personal service establishments (salons, spas, massage and tattoo parlors)
City of Vancouver	March 23 rd	Order to shut down personal service establishments (salons, spas, massage and tattoo parlors)
Province of British Columbia		BC Emergency Benefit for Workers provides a tax-free \$1,000 payment starting May 1 st
Province of British Columbia	March 24 th	School Tax reduction for businesses in property classes 4, 5 ,6
Canada	March 27 th	Deferral of GST and HST tax payment, and taxes and duties owed on imports until June
Canada		Bank of Canada lowered the interest rate by 25 basis points to 0.50%
Canada		Canada Emergency Business Account provides up to \$25 billion to eligible financial institutions to offer \$40,000 interest-free loans to small businesses guaranteed and funded by the Government of Canada with up to \$10K forgivable.
Canada	March 27 th Implemented April 27 th	Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy: 75% wage subsidy up to \$847/week if applicant's business revenue has decreased by 30% because of Covid-19
Canada	March 30 th	Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Loan and Guarantee program that will enable up to \$40 billion in lending
Province of British Columbia	April 1 st	BC Hydro announces series of targeted bill relief programs across all customer types
Province of British Columbia	April 2 nd	\$300 monthly top-up for income assistance or disability assistance

City of Vancouver	April 3 rd	COVID-19 Business Communications and Support Office launched to assist local businesses
Province of British Columbia	April 8 th	Emergency Relief Support Fund providing \$225 per month for parents of children with special needs
Province of British Columbia	April 9 th	Temporary rental supplement of \$300 per month for eligible households with no dependents (\$500 with dependents)
Province of British Columbia		Residential rental eviction ban
Province of British Columbia	April 14 th	Requirement for 14-day self-isolation for all temporary foreign workers arriving in BC for seasonal farm work
Province of British Columbia	April 15 th	Provincial state of emergency is extended to April 28 th
Province of British Columbia		Additional services for commercial truck drivers
Province of British Columbia	April 16 th	Further reduction to school property tax rate for commercial properties, enhancement to 50% reduction to provincial school property tax rate that was originally announced for classes 4, 5, and 6
Province of British Columbia		Postponing the date that late payment penalties apply for commercial properties in classes 4,5,6,7 and 8 to Oct. 1, 2020
Canada / Province of British Columbia		The Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program (CECRA) to provide 75% commercial rent relief to tenants
Canada	April 17 th	\$675 million for small and medium-sized businesses through Canada's Regional Development Agencies
Canada		\$500 million in funding for Culture, Heritage and Sports
Canada	April 18 th	\$306.8 million in funding to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses
Translink	April 20 th	TransLink has announced almost 1,500 layoffs and reduced services to save costs.
Canada	April 21 st	\$350 million in emergency funds for community groups and national charities
Canada	April 23 rd	Medical and Research Strategy announced including \$1.1 billion in funding for research into vaccines and treatments, and national testing and modelling.
City of Vancouver	April 29 th	Property tax payment deadline for both residential and commercial delayed from July 3 to October 30, 2020
Province of British Columbia	May 1 st	B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers provides a one-time, tax-free payment of \$1,000
Canada	May 5 th	\$252 million to support for agricultural-food industry with implementing measures to comply with sanitary requirements and maintain food supply
Province of British Columbia	May 6 th Implemented May 19 th	B.C.'s Restart Plan announced to lift restrictions in phases, gradually allowing for more social and economic activity. Phase 2, which will begin in May 19, includes: opening regulated health services and more non-essential businesses
Canada	May 7 th	Up to \$3 billion in wage top-up for essential workers announced.
Canada	May 11 th	Announced large employer emergency financing facility (LEEFF) providing bridge financing to employers with annual revenues of more than \$300 million

Canada		Expansion of the Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) to mid-sized companies with larger financing needs. Support for mid-market businesses includes loans up to \$60 million, and guarantees up to \$80 million
Canada	May 12 th	\$3 billion for infrastructure projects to make facilities more pandemic-resistant and encourage outdoor activities. Projects must be completed in 2021.
Canada	May 14 th	New Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) devotes nearly \$962 million to help more businesses and organizations in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism and others that are key regional and local economic drivers.
Canada	May 15 th	Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) will be extended by another 3 months (to end of August) to support businesses in re-opening plans
Canada		\$450 million to help researchers and research institutions impacted by the pandemic
Province of British Columbia	May 19 th	Pandemic pay for front line health and social workers.
Canada		Expansion to the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to include many owner-operated small businesses
Province of British Columbia	May 22 nd	Authorize expansion of patio service area through simplified licensing process
Canada	May 25 th	Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) opens for applications
Province of British Columbia		\$10M grant for tourism marketing organization
Province of British Columbia	June 1 st	\$7.5M for music industry through Creative BC for Amplify BC.
Province of British Columbia		Commercial eviction ban extended through the month of July
City of Vancouver	June 1 st	Launched the Temporary Expedited Patio Program, which permits restaurants and liquor-serving establishments to set up temporary patios using street, on-street parking and sidewalk space in front or next to their business for free.
Province of British Columbia	June 2 nd	In-class instruction re-opens
Province of British Columbia	June 5 th	Closed hospitality businesses allowed to sell stock
Province of British Columbia	June 10 th	State of Emergency extended through the end of the day on June 23, 2020
Canada	June 11 th	\$133M for Indigenous businesses
City of Vancouver	June 12 th	City to introduce pop-up plazas, parklets and issues 47 temporary expedited patio permits and expands program to patios on private property to support ongoing recovery efforts
Province of British Columbia		Better access to gaming grants program for non-profits
Province of British Columbia		BC Arts Council second half of operating grants released
Canada	June 16 th	CERB extended from 16 weeks to 24 weeks for workers
Province of British Columbia		Temporary emergency funding program (TEF) for licensed child care centres is being extended until Aug 31, 2020
Province of British Columbia		Approval of temporary wholesale pricing for those with liquor licenses
Canada	June 17 th	\$500M additional R&D funding through Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's (NSERC) Discovery Grant program.

Province of British Columbia	June 19 th	Extended the temporary rental supplement (TRS) until the end of August 2020 to support landlords and tenants
Province of British Columbia	June 20 th	Extension of electricity costs for industries that have been impacted by COVID-19
Province of British Columbia	June 24 th	BC enters Phase 3 of the Restart Plan, including the return of travel and tourism within the province.
Province of British Columbia	June 25 th	Applications open from local governments, community groups and First Nations for nearly \$160 million in infrastructure grants to help strengthen communities throughout British Columbia.
		Extension of the temporary layoffs provisions to a maximum of 24 weeks expiring on Aug. 30, 2020
Canada		Program launched to encourage students to volunteer in the fight against COVID-19. Post-secondary students will be eligible to earn up to \$5,000 this summer through a new volunteer service grant.
Canada	July 2 nd	Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program extended for an additional month, through July
Province of British Columbia	July 2 nd	Emergency order protecting eligible businesses from being evicted extended through July in alignment with federal CECRA extension
City of Vancouver	July 3 rd	Over 180 temporary patio permits issued
Province of British Columbia	July 7 th	Extended State of Emergency to July 21
Canada	July 14 th	Travel restrictions at the Canada-U.S. border will be extended into August as the COVID-19 pandemic continues
Canada	July 16 th	Announced investment of over \$19 billion (was previously \$14 billion) through the Safe Restart Agreement with provinces and territories to protect health, get Canadians back to work and prep for possible second wave
Province of British Columbia		\$2 billion from the Safe Re-Start Agreement will be coming from the federal government to support the province's restart plan
Canada	July 17 th Implemented: August 17 th	Announced changes to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) that would extend the program until the end of the year and open it to employers who had any drop in revenue can now qualify.
City of Vancouver	July 24 th	Over 280 temporary patio permits issued
City of Vancouver	July 31 st	Community Centres set to open Sept 8th
Canada	July 31 st	Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) extended through August.
Province of British Columbia	July 16th	Rental repayment framework protects renters by ensuring they cannot be evicted for a missed or late rent payment from March 18 to Aug. 17, unless a renter defaults on their repayment plan.
Province of British Columbia	August 4 th	State of Emergency extended until August 18th
Province of British Columbia	August 5 th	Additional \$2 million in funding for the CleanBC Specialty-Use Vehicle Incentive (SUVI) program
City of Vancouver	August 6 th	Approves over \$4.85M of grants repurposed to help community organizations recover
Canada	August 13 th	Additional \$31 million for quick recovery actions in communities through the Canada Healthy Cities Initiative.

City of Vancouver	August 14 th	Over 360 temporary patio permits have been issued and expands public space on Robson Street
Province of British Columbia	August 17 th	The Province's temporary COVID-19 Crisis Supplement that has been provided since April will be extended for an additional four months
Province of British Columbia		\$2-million Arts Infrastructure Program for arts and culture venues
Province of British Columbia	August 18 th	Improvements to Workers Compensation Act
Province of British Columbia		State of emergency extended
Canada	August 20 th	The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) has extended by four weeks for a total of 28 weeks
City of Vancouver	August 21 st	Vancouver Police Department (VPD) give authority to enforce provincial health orders
Province of British Columbia		\$2,000 violations can be issued for owners or organizers contravening the provincial health orders on gatherings and events
Canada	August 26 th	\$2 billion for Safe Return to Class initiative
Canada		Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) now applies to any revenue drop
City of Vancouver/ Parks Board	August 31 st	Vancouver Aquarium closing to public indefinitely and laying off 209 staff starting Sept 8 th
Province of British Columbia	September 1 st	State of emergency extended
Canada	September 2 nd	The application deadline for CEBA has been extended until the end of November
Province of British Columbia	September 3 rd	Broadway Subway design and build contract project awarded to the Broadway Subway Project Corporation
Province of British Columbia		Maximum allowable housing rent increase set at 1.4% for 2021
City of Vancouver	September 4 th	Announcing the opening of more than 50 recreation facilities over the next six weeks
Canada	September 9 th	The Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program extended for the final time into October
Canada		Black Entrepreneurship Program to support Black business owners and entrepreneurs
Province of British Columbia		\$1.6 billion fall and winter preparedness plan strengthen measures that respond to the health-care requirements of COVID-19
Province of British Columbia	September 14 th	\$2 million to launch the new Domestic Motion Picture Fund
Province of British Columbia	September 15 th	State of emergency extended
Province of British Columbia	September 17 th	Stronger BC for Everyone: BC's Economic Recovery Plan includes \$1.5 billion in economic recovery spending
Province of British Columbia	September 18 th	TransLink will receive \$644 million under the federal/provincial Safe Restart Agreement.
Province of British Columbia	September 19 th	Community-based sports groups facing the risk of closing are encouraged to apply for support from the Province's \$1.5-million Local Sport Relief Fund
Province of British Columbia		The CleanBC Building Innovation Fund (CBBIF) to provide funding for 13 projects throughout the Province and an additional \$8 million for a second intake as part of British Columbia's Economic Recovery Plan
Canada	September 21 st	TransLink, BC Transit and BC Ferries will share more than \$1 billion under the federal/provincial Safe Restart Agreement

City of Vancouver	September 22 nd	Employment Lands and Economy Review provides quick-start actions to support the City's COVID-19 Recovery Program, as well as emerging policy directions to help Vancouver support jobs, businesses, and the future growth of our economy
Canada	September 24 th	Announcement of the three new Recovery Benefits for workers not eligible for EI
Canada	September 25 th	Announcement of Canada-wide early learning and child care system
		More accessible and flexible EI system announced
		Extension of benefit of furloughed employees under the wage subsidy program for the upcoming four-week period, from October 27 to November 24, 2020.
City of Vancouver		Launching a new one-time grants program to provide financial and in-kind support to the arts and culture sector
Province of British Columbia	September 29 th	State of emergency extended
Canada	October 2 nd	Additional \$600 million to support workers and businesses through RRRF. This means an additional \$263.7 million for Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)
		border restrictions that remain in place and enhancing quarantine monitoring
Canada	October 5 th	Applications open for the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB), and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB).
Canada	October 7 th	New interest relief measure to provide help to Canada Student Loan borrowers on medical or parental leave
Canada	October 9 th	CERS updated to provide rent and mortgage support directly to tenants until June 2021, with a 25% top up for organizations having to shut down due to public health orders
		CEBA expanded to an additional \$20,000 to eligible businesses and not-for-profits Application deadline extended to end of year
City of Vancouver		Temporary patios may continue to operate throughout winter until November 31, 2021
Canada	October 12 th	Applications for the Canada Recovery Benefit open
Province of British Columbia	October 13 th	State of emergency extended
Canada	October 20 th	\$12 million for the Canada United Small Business Relief Fund
Canada	October 22 nd	\$100 million over four years to support oil and gas sector job growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF)
City of Vancouver		Employment Lands and Economy Review provides quick-start actions to support the City's COVID-19 Recovery Program, and policy direction to support jobs, businesses, and guide economic growth through the Vancouver Plan
City of Vancouver	October 23 rd	City launches online application to extend temporary patios
Canada	October 26 th	Canada Emergency Business Account open to businesses using personal banking accounts
Canada	October 27 th	University of British Columbia's energy-efficiency initiative receives a boost through the Low Carbon Economy Fund

Province of British Columbia		State of emergency extended
Canada	October 30 th	2021–2023 Immigration Levels Plan sets out a path for increases to immigration targets to help the Canadian economy recover
		\$796,000 in funding from the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) through the Pandemic Response Challenge program
Canada	November 9 th	Connecting British Columbia to high-speed Internet with the Universal Broadband Fund
Province of British Columbia		Rent freeze extended until July 10, 2021 and pending increases cancelled under the powers of the Emergency Program Act and COVID-19 Related Measures Act.
Province of British Columbia	November 10 th	State of emergency extended
		New health orders to restrict gatherings and events
Canada	November 12 th	\$4 million to support 53 new projects under the EcoAction Community Funding Program.
Canada	November 13 th	\$1,560,000 in support will help two BC projects focused on audiovisual, interactive digital media, visual art and design
		Government of Canada moves forward on pay equity to help address wage gaps in federally regulated workplaces
		\$1.7 million for business ecosystem support in BC through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) for seven organizations.
Province of British Columbia	November 13 th	Province updates measures to enforce Lower Mainland COVID-19 public safety
City of Vancouver	November 24 th	\$2.05 million in critical support grants to more than a hundred arts and culture organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19.
City of Vancouver	November 25 th	Empty Homes Tax rate increased to 3% for 2021 tax year.
City of Vancouver	December 4 th	Interim safety and design upgrades to Beach Avenue to provide additional space during the pandemic.
Canada	December 18 th	Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) rate increase to 75 per cent to help businesses in the beginning of the new year.