

## ***Further Employee Financial Support Arrives in April!***

On March 25, 2020 the federal government passed Bill C-13, An Act Respecting Certain Measures in Response to COVID-19. The Bill includes the new Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) which is in essence a combination of the previously announced Emergency Care Benefit and Emergency Support Benefit. The CERB provides for a taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month for up to 4 months payable every 4 weeks from March 15, 2020 until October 3, 2020.

### **Who is Eligible?**

Wage earners and self-employed individuals, including contract workers, who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance benefits who either:

- Must stop working due to COVID-19 and do not have access to paid leave or other income support;
- Are sick, quarantined, or taking care of someone who is sick with COVID-19;
- Are working parents who must stay home without pay to care for children that are sick or need additional care because of school and daycare closures; or
- Still have their employment but are not being paid because there is currently not sufficient work and their employer has asked them not to come to work

### **Already Receiving EI Regular & Sickness Benefit?**

- As of March 25, 2020, employees will continue to receive benefits and should **NOT** apply
- If EI benefits end before October 3, 2020 employees may still apply for the CERB **AFTER** their EI ceases

### **Already Applied for EI & Application Not Yet Been Processed?**

- Employees **DO NOT** need to reapply for EI

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Payment processing will be through a Canada Revenue portal to be established and is expected to be available the week of April 6, 2020 and payments are expected to be made within 10 days of application.

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