

Subject: COVID-19 Updates - October 26, 2020 - Disability Tax Credit deadline extended

Date: Monday, October 26, 2020 at 4:50:27 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Ernie Baatz

To: Ernie Baatz

Staying Safe and Healthy

The basics of keeping the people we support, our teams and your families Healthy and Safe are important to practice every day:

- Stay home if you sick – Call 811 for further directions
- Wash your hands regularly
- Keep your distance – at least two metres or six feet from people outside your bubble
- Wear a mask on transit, in stores, in all indoor public spaces.
- Keep your social bubble small – But stay connected with friends and family. Phone, video chat, go for a walk outside – it is so important to keep in touch.

Thank you to everyone for the care you are taking in your every day activities. You are helping us all stay safe and healthy!

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Joint Statement on BC's COVID-19 response and Updates – Oct 26, 2020

“Today, we are reporting on three 24-hour periods. From Oct. 23 to 24, we had 317 new cases. From Oct. 24 to 25, we had 293 new cases, and in the last 24 hours, we have had a further 207 new cases.

“This represents a total of 817 new cases, including 11 epi-linked cases, for a total of 13,371 cases in British Columbia.

“There are 2,325 active cases of COVID-19 in the province, 5,077 people who are under active public health monitoring as a result of identified exposure to known cases, and 10,734 people who tested positive have recovered.”

In today's update from Dr. Bonnie Henry there were two new public health measures announced:

1. A new provincial health officer order limiting gatherings in private homes to no more than your immediate household, plus six others. This is a provincewide order that applies to all homes for all occasions.
2. An expectation is that people will wear masks in all indoor public spaces. As part of this, businesses are asked to review their COVID-19 safety plans with this in mind. If you are in a high-traffic area or among many people outside of your household while at work, a mask

will help to protect you and those around you.

The full update is available on the [BC Government website](#).

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Government of Canada extends deadline to apply for the Disability Tax Credit to receive the COVID-19 one-time payment for persons with disabilities

On Friday, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, announced that the deadline to apply for the [Disability Tax Credit](#) (DTC) to receive the one-time payment has been extended from September 25, 2020, to December 31, 2020. This will help more Canadians with disabilities access the benefit, as the COVID-19 pandemic has created challenges for some to collect the information needed to complete the DTC application process. An extension of the deadline will give clients more time to submit their applications, and the Government of Canada time to issue decisions regarding eligibility.

The one-time payment will help persons with disabilities deal with the expenses incurred during the pandemic, such as:

- expenses related to hiring personal support workers and accessing other disability supports;
- paying for increased costs for medical supplies and medication;
- the purchase of personal protective equipment;
- higher costs associated with physical distancing and working from home; and,
- the increased use of transportation and home delivery services to obtain groceries and prescriptions.

More information here in the Government of Canada Press Release:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/10/government-of-canada-extends-deadline-to-apply-for-the-disability-tax-credit-to-receive-the-covid-19-one-time-payment-for-persons-with-disabilities.html>

You can get assistance with applying for a Disability Tax Credit through three organizations in BC:

Plan Institute:

If you need assistance applying or have questions about it, please call our helpline at 1-844-311-7526 or email info@rdsp.com.

Disability Alliance of BC:

For help with the DTC and RDSP or to request a workshop, please call 604-872-1278; 1-800-663-1278 or email rdsp@disabilityalliancebc.org.

BC Aboriginal Network on Disability Society:

Indigenous people living in British Columbia who are looking for information surrounding the RDSP and DTC can connect with one of [BCANDS's](#) Indigenous RDSP Navigators at rdsp1@bcands.bc.ca, (250) 381-7303 – Ext: 204, or toll free: 1-888-815-5511 – Ext: 204.

Ernie Baatz

Executive Director

Spectrum Society for Community Living

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Be Calm, Be Kind, Be Safe