

March 31, 2020

Dear Constituents,

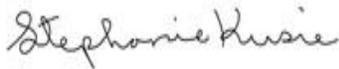
The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented global health crisis. But we know from history that in times of crisis, people and communities come together.

You can rest assured that your representatives from each level of government are working together to support you. We are united in our resolve to see our constituents through this challenging time, and we remain at your service. We all recognize the financial strain and the emotional toll that COVID-19 is taking on the members of our communities. Please know that we are working hard to connect you to the current services and information you need to stay safe and healthy in your homes, while remaining able to pay your bills and provide for your families.

Some key information has been compiled to help clarify what is available to you at this time, and how to connect with your representatives should you require assistance navigating the services provided by the municipal, provincial, and federal governments.

Please know that all of you are in our thoughts and prayers daily. We must all hold onto hope and draw strength from one another during this difficult time.

Sincerely,



MP Stephanie Kusie

March 31, 2020

The City of Calgary

Information and updates on the City of Calgary's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic can be found at calgary.ca/covid19. This includes information about:

- [Facility closures](#)
- [Event cancellations](#)
- Our current [Local State of Emergency and public restrictions](#)
- [Preventing the spread](#) of COVID-19
- [City services](#) that are available online
- [Customer credits and refunds](#)
- [Support for businesses](#)
- [Service changes](#)
- [Physical distancing and self-isolation](#)

C-train and bus services continue, but have been reduced to respond to the current situation. Updated routes and schedules along with other information can be found [online](#) or by calling 403-262-1000. The [Calgary Transit mobile app](#) will also reflect these changes. Transit customers are being asked to board buses from the rear door to minimize spread of the virus.

Enmax will provide those affected by COVID-19 with access to increased payment flexibility including installment plans, extending payment dates and/or suspension of collection-related activities on their ENMAX and City of Calgary municipal services. Enmax will also be suspending disconnection of any electricity services until further notice. Enmax can be reached [online](#) or by phone: 403-310-2010.

To identify your City Councillor, [click here](#).

March 31, 2020

The Government of Alberta

Visit alberta.ca/covid19 to learn about Alberta's response to the pandemic, and what is being done to protect us and help prevent the spread. It is updated with new information daily.

The “[Support for Albertans](#)” link clearly outlines the financial relief that is now available to Alberta’s families and vulnerable populations, employees, and employers. There, you will find information on all currently available programs, including:

- [One-time emergency isolation payments](#)
- [Utility payment deferral](#)
- [Student loan repayment deferral](#)
- [Increased security for Alberta Renters](#)

To identify your MLA, [click here](#).

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The Government of Canada

All Canadians are encouraged to visit canada.ca/covid19 for current information on the pandemic, including travel advisories and all of the federal supports available to help get us through it.

Employment Insurance (EI): If you have been laid off due to the virus, [apply online](#) or by phone: 1-800-206-7218.

EI Sickness Benefit: is available immediately for anyone who has been travelling or to workers sent home due to possible illness. [Apply online](#) or by phone: 1-833-381-2725.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) is set to be launched in April 2020, and will provide \$2,000/month for anyone not currently employed or receiving any other emergency benefits. We expect funds to be available by the end of April.

Note:

- The “Emergency Care Benefit” & “Emergency Support Benefit” have now been merged into one benefit (CERB).
- To apply for CERB, you will need to create a “[My CRA](#)” account.
- A toll-free number will be launched soon for those who do not have access to the Internet.
- Expect call volumes to be high. Your patience will be appreciated as public servants work to assist all of those in need.
- The CERB is for everyone now, regardless of EI eligibility.
- All unprocessed EI claims outstanding when CERB opens will automatically become CERB.

The government announced today that they will increase their initial wage subsidy for small businesses from 10% to 75%. Neither the launch date nor a link to apply have been provided however, we expect both will be published [here](#) in the coming days.

Small Business Loans, Working Capital Loans, and Purchase Order Financing are available through [BDC](#).

[Support for seniors](#) - The government is reducing the required minimum withdrawals from Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) by 25% for 2020. We know the stock portfolios of many seniors have been impacted and Stephanie and her colleagues will press the government for answers as to what more can be done.

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The Government of Canada continues to advise all Canadians to avoid all non-essential travel outside Canada. If you or a loved one are currently abroad, please read the travel advice listed [here](#).

COVID-19 Emergency Loan Program for Canadians Abroad - is for Canadian travelers who have no available source of funds to return home. This emergency assistance is a repayable loan. For information on how to apply, [click here](#) or call Global Affairs Canada's 24/7 Emergency Watch and Response Centre in Ottawa: +1 613-996-8885.

MP Stephanie Kusie
Calgary Midnapore Constituency Office

Phone: 403-225-3480

Email: stephanie.kusie.c1a@parl.gc.ca

To subscribe to my mailing list, [click here](#).

Website: stephaniekusiemp.ca

 Facebook: facebook.com/StephanieKusiePolitician |  Twitter: [@stephaniekusie](https://twitter.com/stephaniekusie)

Please note: The Constituency and Hill offices are not taking in-person meetings; however, staff are available to assist you.