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## **COVID-19 Update CEWS & CEBA**

## **Extension of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)**

On May 15, 2020 the federal government announced that the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) will be extended by three months to August 20, 2020.

The government also indicated that it might revise the CEWS requirement to demonstrate a 30 per cent drop in gross revenue. Details of changes to the revenue requirements will be announced in the near future.

The announcement did not mention extending the 10% Temporary Wage Subsidy beyond the currently announced time frame ending June 20, 2020.

## **Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)**

On May 19, 2020, the government announced the expansion to the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA). The changes will now allow sole proprietors and businesses that pay employees through dividends rather than salary to be participants in the CEBA.

Under the expanded criteria, businesses with payroll lower than \$20,000 will be eligible for the CEBA provided that they have:

- A business operating account at a participating financial institution.
- A Canada Revenue Agency business number, and have filed a 2018 or 2019 tax return.
- Eligible non-deferrable expenses between \$40,000 and \$1.5 million. Eligible non-deferrable expenses could include costs such as rent, property taxes, utilities, and insurance.