



March 23, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE: BC GOVERNMENT COVID -19 ACTION PLAN

Today, [the Provincial Government released the B.C. COVID-19 Action Plan](#) that will see \$5 billion in income supports, tax relief and direct funding to British Columbians. Below are the highlights as they relate to the residential, commercial and industrial building industry. UDI will be seeking clarity on these tax relief measures, such as their potential application to all property classes, if there is specific mechanism for rent relief to flow-through to tenants and if the industry should expect any further tax extensions or deferrals.

Highlights:

- Businesses with a payroll over \$500,000 can defer their Employers Health Tax payments **until Sept. 30, 2020**. Those businesses with payrolls under this threshold are already exempt from the tax.
- Business and light- and major-industry property classes will see their school tax halved, providing \$500 million in immediate relief for business property owners and their tenants.
- Tax filing and payment deadlines have been extended for the provincial sales tax (PST), municipal and regional district tax and carbon tax **until Sept. 30, 2020**. The scheduled April 1 increase to the provincial carbon tax will be delayed and reviewed by Sept. 30, 2020.
- We anticipate a further Provincial COVID-19 announcement regarding renters and landlords Wednesday.

Additional Resources:

- [Greater Vancouver Board of Trade COVID-19 tax relief bulletin](#)
- [B.C.'s COVID Action Plan](#)
- [Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan](#)
- [B.C.'s COVID-19 Action Plan helps people and businesses](#)
- B.C. COVID-19 self-assessment tool [found online here](#)
- Latest **non-medical COVID-19 updates**, including travel recommendations, please call or text the provincial government through a newly created hotline at 1-888-268-4319 (1-888-COVID19) between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily
- [Latest orders and directives from the provincial health officer](#)
- For prevention and treatment, visit [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) or follow [@CDCofBC](#)

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns by contacting me at AMcMullin@udi.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne McMullin', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anne McMullin, President & CEO, UDI