

COVID-19 Weekly Information Update - August 14 / Mise à jour de la semaine - le 14 août

Hello,

We would like to send you a few updates regarding COVID-19 and ask you to share this information in your networks. Please continue to consult the [AAFC website](#) regularly for updates.

1. **CEWS program redesign for Period 5 applications**

The **Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)** helps employers who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to keep workers on their payroll or bring back previously laid-off employees. To ensure that Canadian workers and businesses are in a better position as our economy safely re-opens, **the Government has recently implemented changes to the CEWS that broaden the reach of the program and provide better targeted support, which may include your farm or food-processing business.**

The Government of Canada has launched an updated and improved Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy online calculator. It will help small and large employers alike prepare to apply for the next period of the CEWS program, which will open for applications on August 17, 2020.

The CEWS calculator can be found on the CRA's [Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy web page](#), which includes detailed information to help employers understand how the CEWS can support their employees and operations, who is eligible to apply, and how claim periods are structured. The calculator uses a step-by-step approach to get employers to enter information about their business situation to provide an estimate of the subsidy they can expect to receive.

Please see attached for more information.

2. **Aluminum tariffs**

On August 6, 2020, the United States (U.S.) announced the imposition of tariffs of 10 per cent on imports of certain aluminum products from Canada, which will take effect on August 16, 2020. In response to these measures and in accordance with the May 2019 Joint Statement by Canada and the United States on Section 232 Duties on Steel and Aluminum, Canada intends to impose surtaxes against imports of aluminum and aluminum-containing products from the U.S., representing a proportionate amount of Canadian aluminum products affected by the U.S. tariffs. **Although no agriculture or agri-food products are included on the list, some of the products under consideration may nevertheless be of interest to agricultural stakeholders. You are encouraged to review the list of products under consideration closely and to provide any comments no later than September 6.**

The official consultation notice and list of products are available here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/programs/consultations/2020/notice-intent-impose-countermeasures-action-against-united-states-response-tariffs-canadian-aluminum-products.html>

Thank you,

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