

COVID-19



COVID-19 Response

May 2020



Prince Edward Island's Response to COVID-19

On February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization named a new coronavirus disease – COVID-19 – which was first detected in Wuhan, China on December 31, 2019.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the worldwide COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic.

On March 16, 2020, Prince Edward Island announced a state of public health emergency. As of May 22, 2020, there have been over 5.2 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 around the world and over 335,000 deaths. COVID-19 has changed the lives of billions of people around the world, a world that will never be the same.

Prince Edward Island has been fortunate in the fight to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. To date, there have been 27 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the province, all travel-related. As of May 8, all cases have recovered. There have been no deaths, nor have there been any hospitalizations as a result of the virus.

The province's response to COVID-19 has been first and foremost a public health response, based on the pandemic plan, to ensure Islanders are kept safe and have the best chance to recover quickly and safely from the virus. Secondary has been addressing the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 to individuals, businesses, sectors and industries.

With the steadfast and expert advice of the Province's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Heather Morrison, and staff from the Chief Public Health Office, a series of thoughtful and responsible public health measures were quickly put in place to protect Islanders from health impacts of COVID-19. These measures were routinely reviewed, evaluated and adjusted as the pandemic situation evolved.

The Government of Prince Edward Island has worked closely with the Chief Public Health Office to ensure public health measures were supported. It also has engaged Islanders, business sectors, community organizations and the federal government to ensure economic and social response efforts are flexible and address the immediate needs of those impacted by the pandemic.

An overview of the province's health and economic response to COVID-19 is outlined in this report.

COVID-19 in PEI

In total, there have been 27 cases of COVID-19 detected in Prince Edward Island, all travel-related. Requirements to self-isolate following international travel were put in place on March 13, and were extended to inter-provincial travel on March 21. The last case of COVID-19 in the province was considered recovered on May 8. As of May 22, there have not be any new cases in over three weeks.

100% of cases are recovered

COVID-19 Public Health Profile

| | |
|----|-------------|
| 27 | Total Cases |
| 54 | Median Age |
| 11 | Female |
| 16 | Male |

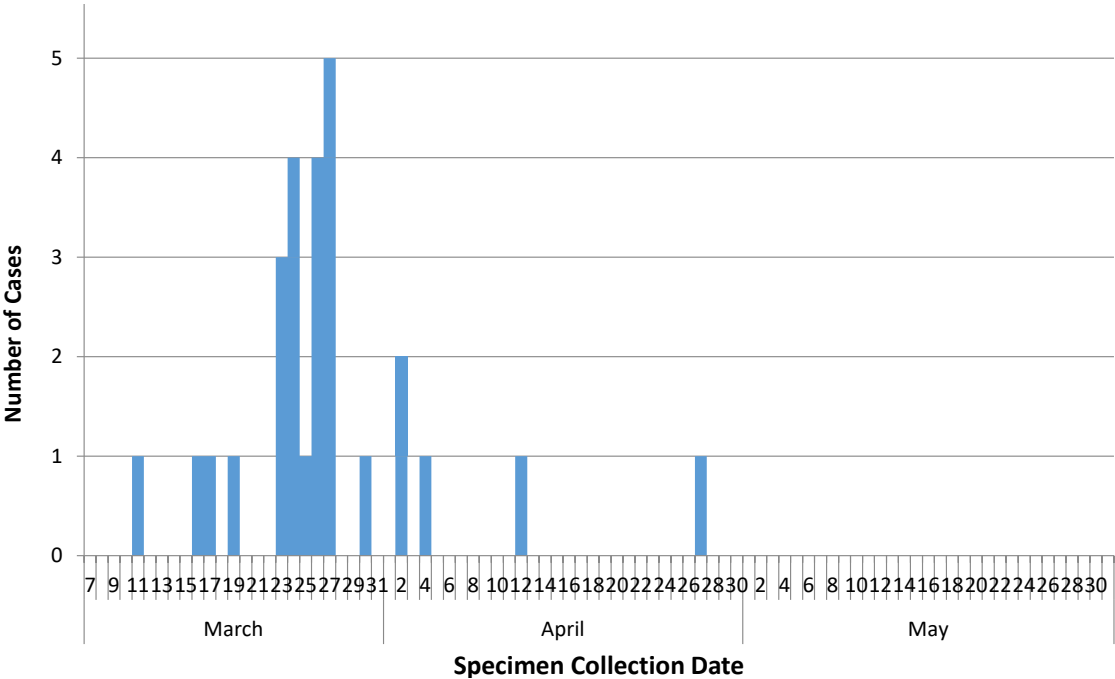
| | |
|------|------------------|
| 5553 | Tests |
| 27 | Recovered |
| 0 | Hospitalizations |
| 0 | Deaths |

Enforcement of COVID-19 Public Health Measures

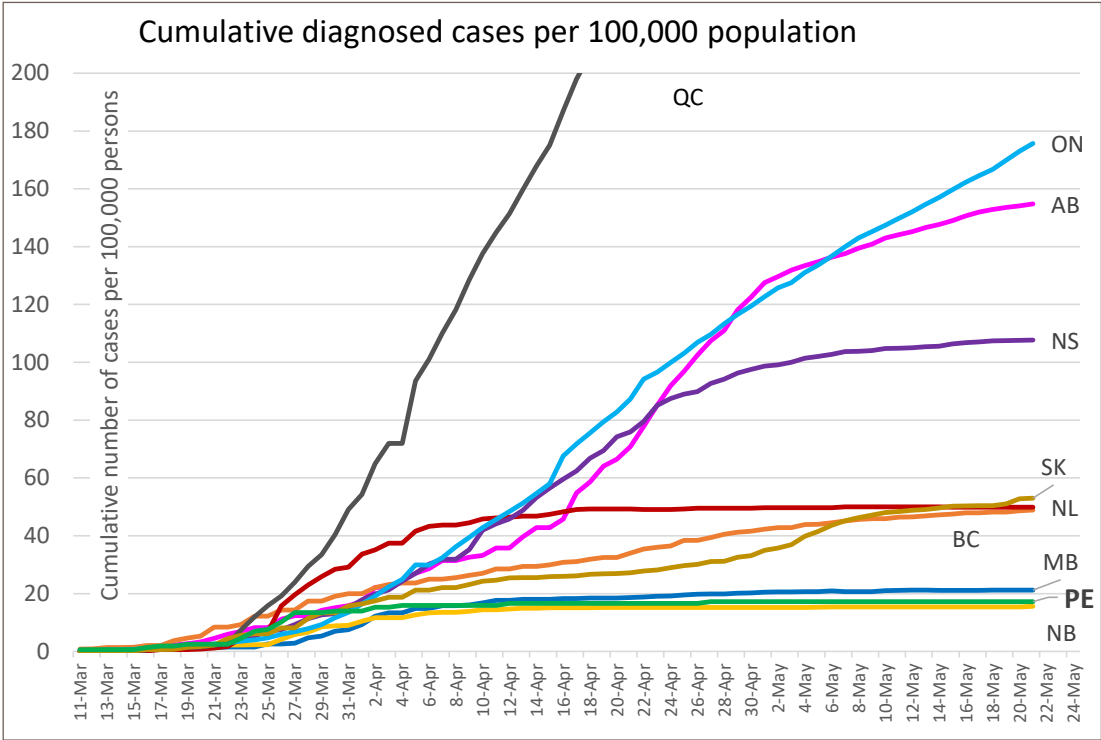
| | |
|------|--------------------------|
| 6186 | People who Self-Isolated |
| 255 | Calls of Concern |

| | |
|-----|----------------|
| 110 | Warnings Given |
| 19 | Fines Issued |

COVID-19 in PEI



Requirements to self-isolate following international travel were put in place on March 13, and were extended to interprovincial travel on March 21. The highest peak of COVID-19 occurred on March 27, with 5 cases detected.



COVID-19 Response Timeline

Week 1

March 11

WHO declares Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

COVID-19 toll-free information line launched

March 13

International travelers required to self-isolate for 14 days

All non-essential travel outside of country canceled

Social distancing of 2-meters is in place

COVID-19 Screening Clinic opens in Charlottetown

Health Joint Response Team established

March 14

First COVID-19 case confirmed on PEI

Situation Response Table moves to daily meetings

Week 2

March 15

Public schools closed for two weeks following March break (until April 6)

Child care centres closed until further notice

Health PEI moves to essential services only

Public and private long-term care facilities restrict visitors

Special Executive Council Committees established to address impacts of COVID-19

March 16

Province Declares State of Public Health Emergency

Government operations move to essential services

\$25 million COVID-19 Emergency Contingency Fund

March 17

Restaurants in-room dining, bars, theatres, play areas closed

\$500,000 to support United Way, Salvation Army and PEI Food Banks

Emergency Income Relief for self-employed: \$500/week

Emergency Working Capital Financing: up to \$100,000

PEI Housing Corporation suspends all evictions for 6 weeks

March 18

Health PEI restricts visitors to its facilities

All non-essential businesses closed

Finance PEI, IIDI and PEI Century Fund loan payments deferred for 3 months

\$4.5 million to CBDC for small business financing

Emergency Relief Worker Assistance Program: \$250/week for anyone with significant drop in working hours

March 19

Online COVID-19 self-assessment tool launched

Islanders Helping Islanders Task Force established with reps from all 3 parties

Tablets for Seniors Program

March 20

\$2 million support for early learning centers and staff

Suspension of PEI student loan repayment for 6 months

Home-learning for PSB and CSLF students begins

March 21

Public Health Order: Screening at points of entry

Public Health Order: Self-isolation following out-of-province travel

Week 3

March 23

Public Health Order: Fines for non-compliance with self-isolation

March 24

COVID-19 Screening Clinic opens in Summerside

Employee Gift Card Program: \$100 for workers experiencing lay-off

March 27

Closure of public schools and child care centers extended until May 11

Non-essential services and business to remain closed

Islanders Helping Islanders Volunteer Services Directory launched

Week 4

March 28

COVID-19 Screening Clinic opens in Charlottetown

Cough and Fever Clinic opens in Charlottetown

March 30

Cough and Fever Clinic opens in Summerside

PEI Sourced Solutions online portal launched

\$1 million Temporary Rental Assistance Benefit

Commercial Lease Rent Deferral Program

March 31

Emergency child care services for essential workers

School Food Team program to assist families struggling with food insecurity

April 1

Global Public Health Order: self-isolation, essential and non-essential businesses, child care centres, mass gathers of 5 or fewer, points of entry screening, and prohibit visitation at long-term care and community care facilities

Non-essential Government offices to remain closed until May 11

COVID-19 Income Support Program: \$750 one-time payment for Islanders with loss of income

Moratorium on all evictions across PEI during COVID-19 pandemic

April 2

Some COVID-19 testing carried out in PEI

\$1 million COVID-19 Special Situations Fund

Community Champions Initiative

Business Adaptation Advice Program

April 3

Increase COVID-19 Emergency Contingency Fund to \$40 million

Deferral of property tax and fee payments until December 31, 2020, interest relief for past due amounts, suspension of tax sale processes for rest of 2020

Response Timeline continued

Week 5

April 7

Extended deadline for Jobs for Youth to April 30

Emergency Child Care being provided to approximately 600 families of essential workers

April 8

First Island Producers Helping Islanders Initiative announced: free care packages for Islanders

April 9

\$750,000 Strategic Fund for Agriculture

Increased support for Farmers Talk program

Accommodation Support for Truck Drivers Self-Isolating Between Trips: \$20/night

Week 6

April 14

PEI releases COVID-19 Modeling

Expansion of Team Seafood, Post-Secondary Employment programs

Enhanced Jobs for Youth and Employment Development Agency Programs

UPEI Research Fund: \$75,000

\$95,000 to directly support PEI post-secondary students

April 16

PEI Declares State of Emergency

Province Extends State of Public Health Emergency

\$66 million assistance package for Tourism Sector

Second Island Producers Helping Islanders Initiative announced: free care packages for Islanders

Week 7

April 19

Province planning for easing of public health measures

April 22

New Mental Health and Addictions Toll-Free Info Service

Psychiatric Urgent Care Clinics in Charlottetown and Summerside

\$365,000 funding for Lennon Recovery House

April 23

\$4.7 million for potato industry to cover shipping and storages

\$8.8 million for Business Risk Management Farm Programs

\$5.6 million increase in coverage for AgriStability Program



Week 8

April 28

"Renew PEI, Together" plan to ease public health restrictions is released

April 29

Recreational angling season to begin May 1

April 30

Continuation of home-based learning for remainder of school year, with some in-school supports being offered beginning May 11

May 1

Phase 1 of *Renew PEI, Together* begins

Week 9

May 5

COVID-19 Agriculture Labour Support Initiative

Farm Team Program: \$2,000 bursary for returning post-secondary students; \$1,000 bursary for returning high school students

May 7

\$16.7 million support for Essential Workers: \$1,000 one-time payment (Fed-Prov program)

PEI Fish Emergency Loan Program: loans up to \$25,000 to Islander harvesters

Interest Relief Program for fish harvesters

COVID-19 Workspace Adaption Assistance Fund: up to \$2,000 per business

May 8

Province confirms all 27 cases of COVID-19 are recovered

Some public health measures eased: household members may gather indoors with up to 5 other people, outdoors with up to 10 other people, extend household unit by one or two members

Week 10

May 14

Increase COVID-19 Emergency Contingency Fund to \$75 million

May 15

Child Care Support for Families Returning to the Workplace: \$75 per child/week until June 26

Plan announced to move Phase 3 of *Renew PEI, Together* to June 1 contingent on continued mitigation success

Week 11

May 20

Seasonal residents can apply for travel to PEI beginning June 1

May 22

Phase 2 of *Renew PEI, Together* begins



COVID-19 in PEI:

Responding to the Needs of Islanders

It has only been a few months since the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 changed life as we knew it on Prince Edward Island.

Few could have predicted just how completely this global pandemic would change just about every facet of our lives – how we work, how we study, how we shop, how we interact with others. There is not a person, community or business across our province that has not felt significant impact.

Prince Edward Island is forever grateful for the quick action and steadfast leadership of the Chief Public Health Officer and her staff, and the support and cooperation of Islanders. It is due to our combined efforts that we have seen a relatively low case count, with no deaths, no hospitalizations, and no indication of community transmission of the virus.

However, it is not just the health-related impacts of the virus that are concerning to Government. It is the financial and social impacts that it has had, and continues to have, on Islanders and their families as a result of the necessary public health measures that have been implemented to slow the spread of the virus.

I have said in my role as Minister of Finance that I will continue to put in place the support measures to ensure that the Province has access to the finances and resources needed to support the people of this province.

This document will provide an overview of our COVID-19-related spending to May 15, 2020 on programs that have assisted Island businesses, including our primary industries, and everyday Islanders in providing financial support to those most affected by the pandemic.

I am proud of our response. It may not have been flawless, but our sole focus has been and remains on getting money into the hands of Islanders who need it as quickly as possible.

The information provided in this update is the most current information available, and is in keeping with my Department’s record of transparency. It will provide Islanders with the history of our COVID-19 spending, our financial outlook, and our plan for where we go from here.

I look forward to delivering a full and formal budget in the coming weeks, which will more comprehensively lay out our planned spending for the 2020-21 fiscal year. Until then, Islanders can be assured that we will continue to manage our finances, both responsibly and responsively, to meet the needs and demands of government programs and services.

Because of the strength of our economy before COVID-19, investments we made during the pandemic, and the resiliency of Islanders, I am confident in Prince Edward Island’s ability to rebound from these unprecedented times. We will get through this and Renew PEI, Together.

The Honourable Darlene Compton
Deputy Premier
Minister of Finance



COVID-19 in PEI:

Revised Economic Outlook 2020 and Year-to-Date Economic Update

Introduction

The following is an update to the economic situation of the Province since the release of the Preliminary Economic Outlook in April 2020. This document will provide a revised outlook for 2020, as well as a discussion of the current economic indicators released so far for 2020. All information in this document is current to May 15, 2020.

Revised Economic Outlook for 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a detrimental impact on the global economic situation. Forecasts for global growth have been revised down on numerous occasions as the breadth and depth of the COVID-19 shutdown became apparent. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised down its forecast for global growth and now projects the global economy to contract by 3.0 per cent in 2020, significantly worse than

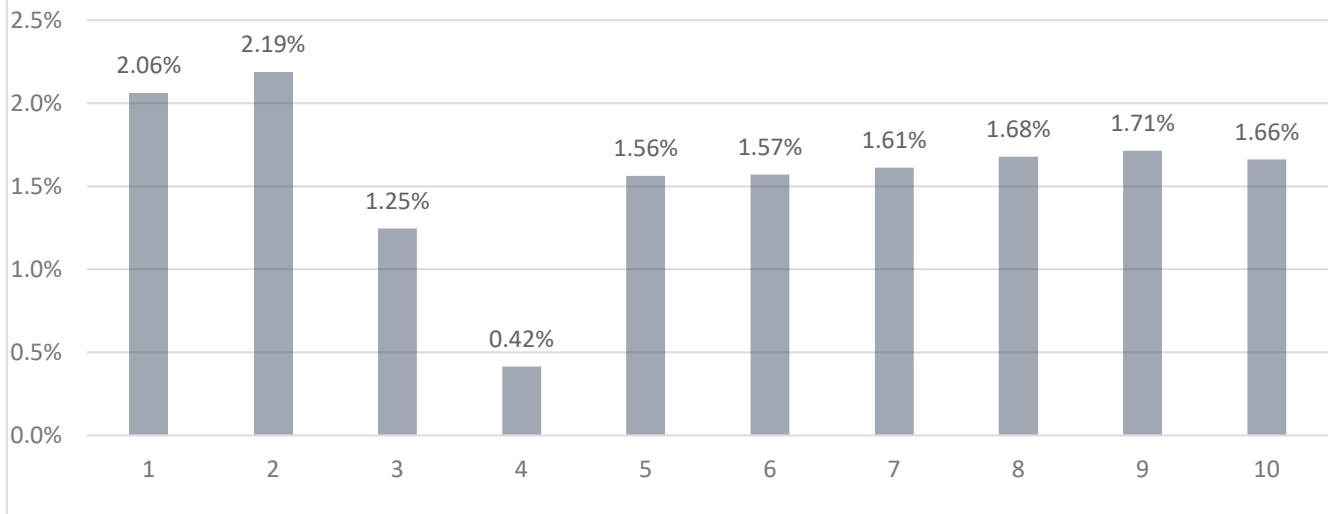
the performance during the 2008-09 recession. Advanced economies are projected to fare worse than emerging economies, with GDP contracting by 6.1 per cent and 1 per cent respectively. The IMF forecast for Canada has a contraction of 6.2 per cent, close to the average of advanced economies. Economic forecasts are fraught with uncertainty at the present time, as much depends on the containment of the coronavirus, and the success of reopening measures (including the ability to contain any further waves of the disease). Consequently, there is considerable downside risk to these forecasts.

While we are not immune to the economic damage wrought by the virus, Prince Edward Island has been spared the worst of the health effects of COVID-19. The Federal and Provincial governments have taken extraordinary financial measures to support both individuals and businesses through the course of the pandemic. These transfers to individuals and businesses will help to keep economic relationships

intact, and allow for an easier return to economic activity once public health directives deem it safe to do so.

Due to the social distancing measures in place, many people continue to be unemployed or away from work, and many activities are suspended. Provincial border restrictions remain in place, as well as the State of Emergency and the State of Public Health Emergency. However, as the number of cases on the Island has remained low, the Province is using a phased approach to ease restrictions to allow the resumption of economic activity. Though some sectors have been able to open as of May 1, 2020, the more significant phases of the re-opening are scheduled for May 22, 2020, when businesses like retail outlets, greenhouses and nurseries, some personal services and remaining construction activities are scheduled to reopen, along with other services like licensed and unlicensed childcare and additional health and dental services. Tentatively on June 1, 2020, activities like organized

Figure 1: PEI Population Growth Projections COVID-19 Scenario: Annually as at July 1



sports, day camps, recreational facilities and public spaces, as well as hotels and indoor dining to Island residents are to reopen, and seasonal residents will be permitted into the Province under certain conditions.

A significant part of the Island’s economic success over the past number of years has been based on population growth, largely through immigration. The population is projected to continue to grow in 2020, largely as a result of growth that took place prior to border restrictions coming into force. Population growth is estimated as of each July 1 and currently, population growth to July 1, 2020 is estimated to be 1.25 per cent as three quarters of the period were completed before border restrictions came into effect. Population growth is projected to be lower in 2021—at 0.42 per cent – as conditions slowly normalize and return to a more normal level in the latter half of 2021. As can be seen in the chart below, PEI is project-

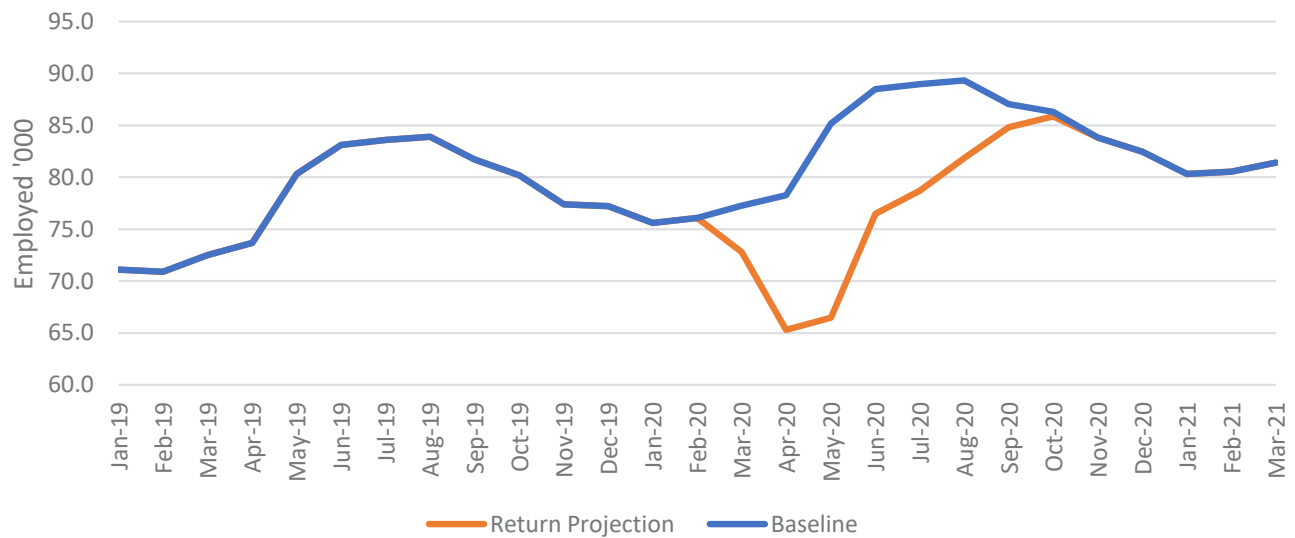
ed to return to normal levels of immigration by 2022. The resumption of immigration and inter-provincial migration activity will be key to continuing to support domestic demand, and provided that this occurs over the medium term, the Island is still on track to achieve its target of having 160,000 residents by 2022. Immigration is contributing an estimated 1.5 percentage points to the Island’s underlying real GDP growth rate.

Pent-up demand should ease in certain industries that have been inactive, resulting in a rebound in economic activity in service sectors. The eventual lifting of travel restrictions on the Island, in other provinces and internationally should benefit the Island’s manufacturers, food processors, and harvesters while the availability of temporary foreign workers will ease pressure on the agriculture and fish processing sectors. For tourism related industries where border closure measures are having a

material impact, such as accommodation and food services, arts, entertainment and recreation, a rebound in economic activity to levels previously seen is unlikely until these measures are relaxed.

Consistent with the results seen to-date on employment and unemployment, as well as the new guidance surrounding what is to be reopened when, the Province has updated its projections for employment. The newly modelled projections, which contain information from both the March and April Labour Force Survey (LFS) show a slower return to baseline employment than projected in April, with employment levels only reaching previous levels by October/November, as compared to September. May continues to be the month most impacted by the restrictions, with the potential for 23,900 people to be unemployed and an unemployment rate of 26.4 per cent as the seasonal hiring that normally

Figure 2: Estimated Impact of COVID-19 on Island Employment



begins in May does not happen. In the present scenario, employment remains below the baseline employment outlook until October, as shown in Figure 2.

As with prior estimates, Accommodation and Food Services, Arts, Entertainment and Recreation, and Retail Trade are the sectors most impacted by employment losses over this period.

Though the progression through these phases will relieve a significant amount of pressure on the economy, the resumption of 'normal' economic activity may be a long way off. The ultimate path of employment will depend on the success of the public health measures put in place to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, as well as the success of the first three phases of the plan to open back up the Island's economy and society.

Pent-up demand should ease in certain industries that have been inactive, resulting in a rebound in economic activity in service sectors.



Private Sector Forecasts

Since the release the Preliminary Economic Outlook in April 2020, GDP forecasts for the Island have been revised down in attempts to capture the impact of the measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on the average of published private sector forecasts as noted in Table 1, the outlook for growth has been revised down from -0.3 per cent in April to -5.1 per cent, a deterioration of 4.8 percentage points. Growth is projected to rebound significantly in 2021, to

5.0 per cent. There is a considerable amount of uncertainty surrounding the forecasts. Results could be improved depending on the timing and success of re-opening measures, both on the Island, as well as those of other Canadian provinces and trading partners.

Private Sector Forecasts as of May 21, 2020

| Organization | Real GDP (% growth) | | | Date Issued |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | |
| Conference Board of Canada | 3.6% | -3.0% | 5.7% | April 15, 2020 |
| TD Bank | 2.7% | -4.0% | 3.9% | April 23, 2020 |
| RBC | 2.8% | -6.0% | 4.7% | May 2020 |
| CIBC | 2.3% | -7.1% | 6.4% | April 24, 2020 |
| BMO | 2.1% | -3.0% | 4.5% | May 15, 2020 |
| Scotiabank | 2.8% | -8.1% | 6.7% | April 17, 2020 |
| National Bank | 2.0% | -4.8% | 3.3% | May 2020 |
| Average | 2.6% | -5.1% | 5.0% | |

Year-To-Date 2020

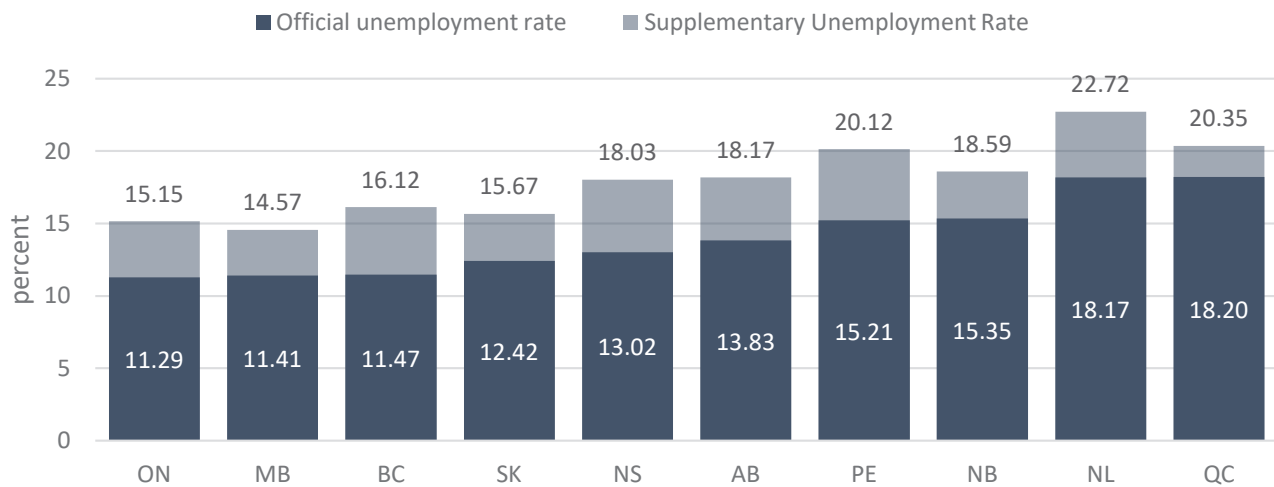
The strong economic performance from 2019 carried over into the first few months of 2020 as most of the measures to combat COVID-19 did not come into effect until the later part of March.

As of January 1, 2020, Prince Edward Island's population was 158,158. This represents a yearly increase of 3,047 persons or a 2.0 per cent annual growth rate. This is the highest year over year growth rate amongst provinces and territories, along with Nunavut also at 2.0 percent. This compares to a rate of 1.6 per cent for Canada as a whole.

The year-to-date figures show the strength in the early-year employment situation, as measures to control the spread of the coronavirus only came into effect during the latter part of March. As a result of the very strong labour market that carried over from 2019, through to April, both the labour force and employment were up compared to the same period in 2019, up 0.2 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively. On a year-to-date basis the unemployment rate also fell by 0.6 percentage points to 8.7 per cent, while the number of unemployed also fell by 6.4 per cent. The participation rate and the employment rate fell by 1.4 percentage points and 1.0 percentage point respectively.

The employment situation shifted radically at the end of March and into April as COVID-19 measures came into effect. The result was a significant deterioration in the employment situation which is still not fully reflected in the top-line numbers due to the concepts employed in the survey (people not looking for work are not in the labour force and not counted as part of the unemployed). Unadjusted for seasonality, and modified to include those not currently looking for work due to the pandemic, the unemployment rate was 20.1 per cent in April as can be seen in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Official and Supplementary Unemployment Rates by Province, unadjusted for seasonality April 2020



COVID-19 in PEI: Government's Financial Response

The Public Health Emergency was declared in Prince Edward Island on March 16, 2020, and the COVID-19 Contingency Fund was established on that same date with an initial facility of \$25 million to fund programs that would assist Islanders to cope with the economic effects of the pandemic. As we progressed into March, we saw mass closures including non-essential businesses, schools, hospital services and public services at every level of government, as we collectively took steps to reduce the spread of the virus within in the Province.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| \$44,679,600 | support to individuals (FY2020-21) |
| \$39,036,000 | support to business (FY2020-21) |
| \$14,363,100 | additional support to healthcare (net FY2020-21) |
| \$2,260,000 | student loans deferred for Island students |
| \$208,000,000 | property tax deferred for Islanders |

With more Islanders at home, either having been laid off or having their hours reduced, we saw a substantial uptake of COVID-related programming. Government became aware that the initial COVID-19 Fund would be insufficient and began to prepare to increase the funds available to more sufficiently meet

the needs of individuals and businesses affected due to the pandemic. That Fund currently stands at \$75 million – about 1.0 per cent of our provincial GDP.

Recognizing the continued risk to Islanders, and under advisement from the Chief Public Health Office, a State of Emergency was declared on April 17th, to invoke powers to better control our provincial borders and points of entry.

After consultation with the Chief Public Health Office, the *Renew PEI, Together* plan was released on April 28, which outlined the Province's phased re-opening strategy. The start of May marked the start of phase one, which began to ease restrictions, and on May 8, the Chief Public Health Office announced the relaxing of further restrictions on indoor and outdoor gatherings.

As outlined in Appendix A, we have committed in excess of \$40 million in business support programs. The core objective of these programs is to ensure our Island businesses remain stable and continue to be the backbone of our economy. Support includes industry-specific programming for our primary industries and more widespread business support that continue to assist small businesses and the self-employed.

We are approaching \$50 million over both fiscal years in direct support and relief programs for Islanders, families, students, and our most vulnerable, also identified in Appendix A. These programs, described in Appendix B, sought to address the immediate needs of individuals and their families as they experienced financial strain and hardship due to the pandemic.

At all times, we have worked closely with our Federal counterparts, local industries, community organizations, and stakeholders in providing programs that are impactful to not only Islanders and their families, but also our primary industries including our fishers, farmers, and tourist operators. Countless discussions were undertaken with business and community organizations to ensure that our initiatives were addressing real needs, and doing so quickly.

We are fortunate that we have not experienced a large number of cases within our Province, a testament to the early establishment of the public health measures to ensure our safety, and to contain the spread of the virus. As we begin to further ease restrictions, and open up our economy we will continue to work closely with our partners in non-governmental organizations, industries, and communities in providing support as we all continue to navigate the pandemic together.

APPENDIX A: COVID RESPONSE SPENDING

| | FY 2019/20 | FY 2020/21 |
|--|------------------|-------------------|
| Direct Support Programs | | |
| <u>Individuals</u> | | |
| Emergency Income Relief for Self Employed | 2,500,000 | - |
| Emergency Worker Relief Assistance Program | 750,000 | 1,250,000 |
| Grants to NGOs United Way, Food Bank, Salvation Army, others | 500,000 | - |
| Community Foundation Tablets for Seniors | 10,000 | - |
| PEI Employee Gift Card Program | - | 750,000 |
| Community Champions Program | - | 300,000 |
| Emergency Relief to Childcare Centers | 900,000 | 1,775,000 |
| Temporary Rental Assistance Benefit - Residential | - | 1,500,000 |
| Food and Snack Support for Families | - | 184,000 |
| Essential Worker Day Care | - | 500,000 |
| Income Support Fund | - | 7,500,000 |
| Student Employment Assistance | - | 2,900,000 |
| Post-Secondary Student Support Fund | - | 170,000 |
| Islander Producers Helping Islanders | - | 97,100 |
| Economic Support for Employers and Job Seekers | - | 2,641,000 |
| Special Situations Fund | - | 350,000 |
| Property Tax Waiving Interest Costs on Late Payments | - | 3,000,000 |
| Support for Essential Workers | - | 16,700,000 |
| Childcare Supports Extended | - | 5,062,500 |
| Total Supports to Individuals | 4,660,000 | 44,679,600 |
| <u>Business</u> | | |
| Business Adaptation Advice Program | - | 2,500,000 |
| Strategic Fund for Agriculture | - | 750,000 |
| Essential Worker Hotel Rooms - Truckers | - | 400,000 |
| Tourism Industry Support - Loan Program | 1,000,000 | 9,800,000 |
| Supports for Truckers | - | 100,000 |
| Storage and Shipping Costs for the PEI Potato Marketing Board | - | 4,718,000 |
| Supports for the Agriculture Sector | - | 255,000 |
| Agriculture insurance Programs | - | 4,400,000 |
| Accommodation Supports to Business - Temporary Foreign Workers | - | 1,708,400 |
| Fisheries Assistance Program | - | 8,940,000 |
| PEILCC Moratorium on License Costs | - | 140,000 |
| Special Situations Fund | - | 650,000 |
| Workspace Adaption Assistance Fund | - | 5,000,000 |
| Total Supports to Business | 1,000,000 | 39,361,400 |

APPENDIX A: COVID RESPONSE SPENDING

Health Care:

Capital:

| | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| 12 Ventilators | - | 276,400 |
| Lab Equipment - BD Maxx and GeneXpert | - | 322,400 |
| Virtual Care Capital - Software and Hardware | - | 619,000 |
| LTC - COVID-19 Isolation Units | - | <u>24,300</u> |
| | - | 1,242,100 |

Inventory:

| | | |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| Gowns | - | 3,496,500 |
| Masks | - | 4,365,400 |
| Gloves | - | 587,000 |
| Sanitizer | - | 448,600 |
| Drugs | - | 229,000 |
| Other | - | <u>20,500</u> |
| | - | 9,147,000 |

Operational Expenses:

Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Paid Leave: Isolation and Child Care | 494,000 | 332,700 |
| Physician Compensation Package - Fee for Service Physicians Impacted by Move to Essential Services. | 434,000 | 1,909,600 |
| Physician Virtual Care | 233,200 | 928,400 |
| Physician Participation of COVID-19 Meetings | 167,800 | 121,700 |
| Back-up psychiatry on-call pager fees | - | 18,000 |
| Additional Hospitalist Coverage | 4,000 | 22,500 |
| CPHO Overtime | <u>25,000</u> | <u>200,000</u> |
| | 1,358,000 | 3,532,900 |

Supplies:

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Drug Supplies | 98,000 | 11,000 |
| Lab Supplies | 142,600 | 290,000 |
| Linen | 87,900 | 20,100 |
| Reusable Gowns | <u>178,000</u> | - |
| | 506,500 | 321,100 |

Long Term Care:

| | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| Old Riverview Manor - Re-commissioning | - | 61,200 |
| Whisperwood Villa | - | 211,700 |
| Private LTC - Financial Support Package | - | 2,712,800 |
| Community Care - Financial Support Package | - | <u>2,097,000</u> |
| | - | 5,082,700 |

Testing Clinics:

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Cough, Fever & Assessment Clinics (Charlottetown/ Summerside) | 24,600 | 729,500 |
| - Physician fees | 18,500 | 208,000 |
| - Staff cost (redeployed staff) | 82,000 | 1,110,000 |
| Test Sample Transportation Costs | <u>8,300</u> | <u>9,800</u> |
| | 133,400 | 2,057,300 |

APPENDIX A: COVID RESPONSE SPENDING

| | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Mental Health and Addictions: | | |
| Child & Youth Urgent Clinic (Phone Based Service) | - | 54,000 |
| Mental Health Support Line | - | 30,400 |
| Adult Urgent Clinics - QEH | - | 500,000 |
| Adult Urgent Clinics - PCH | - | 260,000 |
| Deacon House - alternative location for addiction clients | - | 55,000 |
| | - | 899,400 |
| Other: | | |
| Virtual Care (Zoom Healthcare) | - | 637,700 |
| Alternative Accommodations for Healthcare Staff | - | 74,600 |
| Provincial Pharmacare Programs - DCAP Fees | - | 320,000 |
| COVID Hospital Preparation: QEH Fit Up | 29,100 | 3,000 |
| | 29,100 | 1,035,300 |
| | | |
| Projected Operational Savings | (2,167,500) | (8,954,700) |
| Total Health Care Costs | (140,500) | 14,363,100 |
| | | |
| <u>Loan and Payment Deferral Programs:</u> | | |
| | | |
| Individuals | | |
| Provincial Student Loan Payment Deferral Program - Active | - | 1,750,000 |
| Provincial Student Loan Payment Deferral Program - Loans in Default | - | 510,000 |
| Property Tax Deferral Program | - | 208,000,000 |
| | - | 210,260,000 |
| | | |
| Business | | |
| Emergency Working Capital Loan Program | - | 10,000,000 |
| FPEI/IIDI Loan Deferral Program | - | 4,960,000 |
| CBDC Loan Program for Small Business | - | 4,500,000 |
| Commercial Lease Rent Deferral Program | - | 1,530,000 |
| Tourism Industry Support - Loan Program | - | 50,000,000 |
| Fisheries Assistance Program | - | 40,000,000 |
| | - | 110,990,000 |
| | | |
| <u>Federal Revenue Received</u> | | |
| Canadian Health Transfer top-up | (2,089,000) | |
| Mandatory Isolation Support for Temporary Foreign Workers | | (1,130,000) |
| Support for Essential Workers | | (16,700,000) |

APPENDIX B: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Agriculture Labour Support Initiative (ALSI) - WORKPEI

A WorkPEI online portal that connects job seekers in PEI with farms requiring labour. Delivered by the Department of Agriculture and Land in partnership with Economic Growth, Tourism, and Culture.

Business Risk Management Programs: AgriInsurance and AgriStability

The Business Risk Management Programs help farmers manage risks that threaten the viability of the farm. A 10% discount on the producer share of insurance premiums will be in place for two years.

Also, for two years in the AgriStability Program, there are changes to the provincial portion of costs related to increasing the coverage levels from 70% to 85% and removing the reference margin limits. Additionally, interim payments of up to 75% are available to participating producers.

Canadian Agricultural Partnership: Strategic Fund for Agriculture Project

Strategic Fund for Agriculture Project is a Strategic Industry Growth Initiative (SIGI) under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The project supports PEI's agriculture industry in mitigating impacts from the

COVID-19 pandemic which are jeopardizing competitiveness, productivity and profitability.

Childcare Support Extension

As part of the Renew PEI Together Plan, families who are returning to work are eligible to receive a child care allowance of up to \$75 per child, per week between May 22 and June 26, 2020 to help with child care costs.

Commercial Lease Rent Deferral Program

To support small and medium-sized businesses, landlords are encouraged to defer rent payments from their commercial tenants for three months, spreading the deferred rent amount over the rest of the lease term.

Community Champions Initiative

To better support Islanders, Government entered into an agreement with Community Champions to deliver \$3,000 worth of aid each, in the form of \$100 gift cards, to Islanders to purchase basic necessities.

COVID-19 Business Adaption Advice Program

The COVID-19 Business Adaptation Advice program provides a non-repayable contribution to Prince Edward Island businesses, entrepreneurs, not-for-profits, and non-governmental organ-

izations to access professional advice and support to adapt or recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Income Support Fund

The COVID-19 Income Support Fund is giving eligible Islanders, including students, a one-time lump-sum payment of \$750. Applicants must demonstrate they have experienced the loss of a job, lay off, loss of all revenue through self-employment or expiry of Employment Insurance benefits, on or after March 13, 2020 and have an active application or intend to apply for support through a federal government program either through Employment Insurance Benefits, or the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

COVID-19 Special Situations Fund for Individuals

The COVID-19 Special Situation Fund is providing up to \$1,000 to Islanders who have experienced urgent income loss as a result of COVID-19 and are not eligible for other federal and provincial funding support.

This temporary program was put in place to support Islanders significantly affected by COVID-19 and with an urgent need. Applicants may be eligible for up to \$1000 for income lost between March 16 and May 8, 2020.

COVID-19 Special Situations Fund for Businesses

The COVID-19 Special Situation Fund is providing funding to Island businesses that have experienced urgent income loss as a result of COVID-19 and are not eligible for other federal and provincial funding support.

This temporary program was put in place to support Islanders significantly affected by COVID-19 and with an urgent need. Applicants may be eligible for up to \$1000 for income lost between March 16 and April 15, 2020.

COVID-19 Support for Essential Workers - Earning \$3,000/month or less

This program is providing a temporary wage top-up to essential workers employed during the PEI Public Health State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible employees earning \$3,000 per month or less will receive a one-time payment of \$1,000, administered through their employer.

COVID-19 Workspace Adaption Assistance Fund

The COVID-19 Workspace Adaption Assistance Fund provides a non-repayable contribution to Prince Edward Island businesses, not-for-profits, and non-governmental organizations that have incurred costs to implement safety measures of a COVID-19 Operational Plan.

Daycare/Early Years Centres Support

Government entered into agreements with local Daycare and Early Years Centres to subsidize fees that parents would have paid if the centres were not closed.

Emergency Income Relief Fund for the Self-Employed

The Emergency Income Relief Fund was a temporary program put in place to support the self-employed who have been significantly affected by COVID-19. This assistance provided affected Islanders with \$500 per week for the period of March 16 – March 29, 2020.

Emergency Relief - Worker Assistance Program

The Emergency Relief - Worker Assistance Program is a temporary program to provide financial support to employers to assist their employed workers who have been impacted by reduced hours at work as a result of COVID-19.

Emergency Working Capital Financing

Emergency working capital financing will assist PEI's small business during this unprecedented economic disruption to business, caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. This loan program is to assist qualifying companies maintain normal business operations during these difficult times.

Employee Gift Card Program

Government entered into a partnership with Sobeys to provide the PEI Employee Gift Card Program. This temporary program gives a \$100 Sobeys gift card to any employee, living and working on Prince Edward Island, who has received a lay-off notice as a direct result of the impacts associated with COVID-19.

Essential Worker Daycare Program

This program is providing a subsidy for daycare for essential workers, at \$30 per day, per child.

Fisheries Emergency Loan Program

This Program provides up to a \$25,000 loan to individual qualified PEI fish harvesters. These loans will be for a term of five years, and carry a 4% interest rate. However, the Department of Fisheries and Communities will cover the first eighteen (18) months interest, and Finance PEI will offer principal deferral for the same period of eighteen months.

Fisheries Interest Relief Program

The Fisheries Interest Relief Program is providing interest relief (12 months) to qualified PEI fish harvesters experiencing a minimum 30% decrease in fish-related revenues for the 2020 fishing season. In addition, clients that currently have debt with Finance PEI are eligible to defer their principal payments for the same 12-month period (May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021).

Food Security - Food Banks

To support food security, the swine sector and local abattoirs, \$40,000 in funding was provided for costs related to the purchase, processing and transportation of pork products to local food banks.

Funding Capital for Community Business Development Corporations

Government provided capital to Community Business Development Corporations (CBDCs) across Prince Edward Island for use in funding micro-loans for small businesses across the Province.

Grants to External Organizations

In partnership with organizations in the community to provide needed services to Islanders, Government provided funding to organizations such as the United Way, local food banks, and the Salvation Army, among others.

Hog Commodity Marketing Board

A \$200,000 funding agreement with the PEI Hog Commodity Marketing Board to explore market alternatives for hogs deemed surplus, due to processing plant closures and capacity reductions. The project will:

- Develop Short Term Welfare Slaughter Preparedness
- Offset extraordinary costs that have been incurred in an effort to avoid welfare slaughter

- Develop Long Term Welfare Slaughter Infrastructure Within the Province - Investigation of the establishment of a permanent infrastructure/facility capable of efficiently carrying out a welfare slaughter should an event similar to COVID-19/African Swine Fever (ASF) arise.

Hotel Rooms for Essential Workers - Truckers

Subsidized rooms were offered in a partnership with the government and transportation companies across Prince Edward Island to provide a safe space to self-isolate when not working.

Island Producers Helping Islanders

Government entered into a partnership with the PEI Potato Board and ADL, which saw the delivery of Island potatoes, milk, butter and cheese to Islanders. Government also partnered with the Community Foundation of PEI, Vanco farms and Sobeys in a fund raising event for the PEI Chapter of the Canadian Cancer Society and Family Violence Prevention Services.

Jobs for Youth Program

The Jobs for Youth Program provides Island students with valuable work experience to facilitate the school-to-work transition. Students are provided a summer work experience with a career related focus. The program provides direct benefits, such as valuable summer labour and wage assistance, to community non-profit organizations and encourages private sector employers to create unique employment opportunities for Island Youth.

PEI Potato Board - Storage and Shipping Costs of Processed Potatoes

Through the PEI Potato Board, this one-time project is intended to help potato producers by mitigating the shipping and storage of 100 million pounds of potatoes. These potatoes were at risk of not being processed as a result of reduced demand for frozen potato products with restaurant closures.

PEI School Food Project

Originally a pilot program that began in January 2020, the PEI School Food Project was extended to deliver meals to students in need at home. Students receive one meal and snacks every day, seven days a week.

Post-Secondary Student Program

This summer employment program will create jobs for post-secondary students by providing a financial incentive to Prince Edward Island employers. In turn, students will gain valuable work experience, preferably related to a student's field of study.

Principal and Interest Deferrals on Provincial Loans

All Finance PEI and PEI Century Fund loan clients will automatically be granted a three-month deferral on all principal and interest payments

Property Tax Relief Measures

Property tax relief measures were introduced, including the option to defer property tax and fee payments until December 31, 2020. Government is also offering interest relief for the tax year 2020, including all past due amounts, is suspending tax sale processes for the remainder of 2020, and extending property assessment appeal deadlines for the assessment year 2020 to December 31, 2020. The mailing of provincial tax bills for 2020 was delayed until June.

Rural Jobs Initiative

The Rural Jobs Initiative Program provides wage subsidies for targeted, rural-based, positions in the primary sectors, trades, tourism, biosciences, aerospace, information technology, and manufacturing. The Rural Jobs Initiative will fund up to 75% of the employee's wages at a rate of up to \$15.60/hour up to a maximum of 14 weeks, based on a 40-hour workweek.

Student Loan Repayment

To support student loan borrowers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Province of Prince Edwards Island automatically suspended payments on P.E.I. Student Loans from March 30, 2020, to September 30, 2020. This included pre-authorized debits.

Student Support Fund

The province's three public post-secondary institutions received additional funding for students who had immediate financial needs as a result of COVID-19. In addition, UPEI received \$75,000 as a research grant to support summer student employment opportunities.

Supports for Truckers

Government partnered with local businesses to create box lunches for truck drivers across the Confederation Bridge to acknowledge their dedication in continuing to provide essential goods to Islanders.

Tablets for Seniors

Government partnered with the Community Foundation to provide \$10,000 towards purchasing tablets for seniors so they could stay connected to loved ones during the pandemic.

Temporary Foreign Worker Self-Isolation Cost-Sharing

Cost-shared with the federal government, government has established centrally managed locations for temporary foreign workers (TFWs) to complete their 14 day isolation period. The federal government will also provide \$1,500 per TFW which will include support for workers' wages while under isolation.

Tourism Assistance Loan Program

This program Provides funding in the form of a repayable loan to qualified applicants. Interest payments on loans approved through this program will qualify for interest relief (interest payment made behalf of the client) from Tourism PEI for a period of 18 months with Finance PEI offering principal deferrals to match the same 18 month period.

Tourism Interest Relief Program

The Tourism Interest Relief Program Provides assistance to PEI tourism operators through a joint partnership of Finance PEI and Tourism PEI. More specifically, the program will grant a non-repayable amount equal to the interest expense associated with the operations term debt each month it meets eligibility (maximum 18 months).

Temporary Rental Assistance Benefit

This benefit provides temporary rental assistance to Islanders struggling to pay their rent as a result of income loss or reduction due to COVID19 measures. The benefit is \$1000 per household, to help cover the cost of rent over three months. Eligible tenants have the benefit paid directly to their landlord, benefiting both the landlord and the tenant.



PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/COVIDResponse