

## Joleen Kaminski

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**From:** CLRInfo  
**Sent:** May 12, 2020 8:56 AM  
**To:** Ken McCormack  
**Cc:** Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski  
**Subject:** COVID 19 Update: May 12

CLR Members,

In today's address, the Prime Minister (PM) announced more help for senior citizens with \$2.5 billion in new money.

- The funding will include a one-time tax-free payment of \$300 for roughly 7 million seniors who are eligible for Old Age Security.
- Those most vulnerable who are eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement will get an additional \$200.
- The New Horizons for Seniors Program for elders will also receive \$20 million. This funding will support organizations that offer community-based projects that reduce isolation, improve the quality of life of seniors, and help them maintain a social support network.

Here is a link to the announcement:

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/12/prime-minister-announces-additional-support-canadian-seniors>

In the coming months, the federal government will work with provincial governments to find solutions to make seniors facilities safer for residents and their staff. In the meantime, Canadians are encouraged to reach out to their elderly family and friends who are most likely feeling isolated, lonely and scared.

In response to reporters' questions, the PM answered a number of questions related to the announced senior support program as well as other support/subsidy programs, testing, indigenous relations, etc., but there was no new information.

The federal government continues to offer no new information with respect to whether they will continue to stick with the May 21 date previously announced for re-opening the Canada-US border to non-essential travel. Given the condition of the US with respect to COVID cases, it is difficult to imagine the border will open on May 21. However, when asked by reporters if the border will re-open as planned, the PM would only say that the lines of communication with the US are open and he cited the need to control COVID transmissions and ensure the safety of Canadians.

Stay safe and well!

Sincerely,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

Construction Labour Relations Association (CLRA) of BC  
97 – Sixth Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 5H8



☎ 604-524-4911

C 604-968-4911 | F 604-524-3925

E [kenm@clra-bc.com](mailto:kenm@clra-bc.com) | W [www.clra-bc.com](http://www.clra-bc.com)

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