



Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut
COVID-19 Update following Provincial Announcement
Health Order CMOH 42-2020

Date: December 13, 2020

From: Lisa Hardy, Executive Director Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut

Good afternoon Clubs / Skating Schools, Coaches and Officials:

Effective today, Health Order CMOH-42-2020 ([Enhanced Public Health Measures](#)) which includes the temporary closure of all indoor recreation facilities, including arenas, resulting in the restriction of club and skating school activity province-wide for a minimum of four (4) weeks. One-to-one indoor training, such as training with a fitness trainer or coach, **is not permitted.**

We know many clubs / skating schools, coaches and athletes are looking for ways to continue with programming in some way. As a result, we have been receiving questions as to what is still permissible under the current health order.

Is Virtual / Online training still permitted and in effect under the Skate Canada Insurance?

Yes, the Virtual/Online Training allowance was extended by Skate Canada until August 31, 2021

The information around the virtual training and what is required or permitted is on Skate Canada's website <https://skatecanada.ca/covid-19-response/#virtualonlinetraining-requirements>

Can I coach at a rink in someone's backyard?

No. The Province has imposed restrictions on social gatherings and people are not permitted to have anyone at their home (indoors or outdoors). There are certain exclusions on this such as childcare, or a caretaker, however coaching a skater would not fit within those exclusions.

The homeowner, skater, and coach could be subject to enforcement fines of \$1000. Additionally, individuals can be prosecuted for up to \$100,000 for a first offence for violating a public health order.

Can I coach at an outdoor rink? Will my insurance be valid?

In occasional circumstances only. Outdoor recreation is still permitted under the current health order; however, members of different households must still maintain 2 metres distancing at all times.

Skate Canada insurance is only covered if the following conditions are met:

- The extra ice must not be shared with non-skate Canada members (ex. General public)
- The extra ice must not be scheduled on a routine basis.
- During this extra ice, at no time may the Skate Canada coach instruct group lessons or provide a group program such as CanSkate.

The Skate Canada Club or Skating School must consider these sessions in support of their programming. This support would not have to be in writing in advance of these sessions. This support could be delivered verbally if and when a claim is submitted.



Can we get an exemption for our high-performance athletes to continue to train indoors?

No. In addition to the mandate for all indoor fitness, recreation, and physical activity facilities to close under health order [CMOH 42-2020](#), we do not meet the eligibility criteria for professional or semi-professional team sports in order to apply for the exemption.

We continue to advocate, along with other Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO's), to have the Province view or exempt Elite and High-Performance athletes from the new enhanced health measures similar to what Ontario has. There is an openness to the development of this, however to date there has been no movement in this regard and it is not expected to be resolved in the near-term unfortunately.

Can my skaters continue to skate on their own on outdoor ice?

Yes. Outdoor recreation is still permitted under the current health order; however, members of different households must still maintain 2 metres distancing at all times.

Can we video a skater for an evaluator to do an assessment?

Skate Canada has been running a pilot for virtual assessments of the STAR 6-Gold structure in November and December. It is expected that the outcome of the pilot will be available in January 2021, however until the pilot is complete and delivery guidelines or expectations are provided to the Sections by Skate Canada, we are unable to take video submissions for assessments.

If you have any questions, please email returntoskating@skateabnwtun.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hardy
Executive Director

Additional Support and Resources

Mental health resources and support

The COVID-19 pandemic can have a significant impact on mental health. Online resources are available if you need advice on handling stressful situations.

- [Help in Tough Times](#) (AHS)
- [Mental health and coping with COVID-19](#) (CDC)
- [Talking with children about COVID-19](#) (CDC)
- [COVID-19 information for young kids and students](#) (PDF, 122 KB)

If you need to talk, call the 24-hour help lines:

- Mental Health Help Line at [1-877-303-2642](tel:1-877-303-2642)
- Addiction Help Line at [1-866-332-2322](tel:1-866-332-2322)

Sport Information Resource Centre

- [Mind over Matter Article: Mental health tips for coaches, athletes, and sport administrators](#)

TrueSport

- [How to set athletic goals in uncertain times](#)
- [Pivoting for the Goal: How to help Athletes through Mid-Season Adjustments](#)
- [6 Simple Reasons why Athletes Fail to Meet Their Goals](#)

Financial Support

Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)

The Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are directly affected by COVID-19 and are not entitled to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits. The CRB is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

If you are eligible for the CRB, you can receive \$1,000 (\$900 after taxes withheld) for a 2-week period.

If your situation continues past 2 weeks, you will need to apply again. You may apply up to a total of 13 eligibility periods (26 weeks) between September 27, 2020 and September 25, 2021

For information on eligibility criteria see [here](#)

Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS)

Canadian **businesses, non-profit organizations, or charities** who have seen a drop in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for a subsidy to cover part of their commercial rent or property expenses, starting on September 27, 2020, until June 2021



Rent Subsidy

Eligible organizations include not for profits, and registered Canadian amateur athletic associations.

The eligible expenses include rent, taxes, property insurance and interest on commercial mortgages.

The maximum funding per period is \$75,000 per location, up to \$300,000 which is based on their loss of revenue they have experienced.

Organizations are eligible for receive a % of their eligible expenses based on % of revenue they have lost.

The time frame for calculation is Sept 27 2020 to June 2021, and does allow organizations to apply for retroactive expenses.

Lockdown Support

Qualifying organizations that are subject to a lockdown and must shut their doors or significantly limit their activities under a public health order may be eligible for additional Lockdown Support of 25% of eligible expenses.

For more Information and application - www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/11/canada-emergency-rent-subsidy.html

Alberta Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant

Alberta Jobs, Economy and Innovation's Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant offers financial assistance to Alberta businesses, cooperatives, and non-profit organizations that were ordered to close or curtail operations and that experienced a revenue reduction as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Starting early the week of December 14, job creators who have experienced a 30% revenue loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic will qualify for the program, lowering the threshold from the existing 40% revenue loss requirement. This 30% threshold will be available to impacted businesses retroactive to March.

Alberta businesses affected by the public health orders in effect from November 6, 2020 and later will also be eligible to apply for a second payment through the program.

Job creators that meet the program's eligibility criteria will be able to apply for 15% of their pre-COVID-19 monthly revenue up to:

- a maximum of \$5,000 in funding for their first payment, and
- a maximum of \$15,000 for their second payment
- Application intake for the second payment is not currently available but will open soon.

More information, including updated eligibility criteria and how to apply for the second payment will be available shortly at www.alberta.ca/sme-relaunch-grant.aspx.



Businesses, cooperatives and non-profits can use these funds as they see fit to help offset a portion of their relaunch costs, such as implementing measures to minimize the risk of virus transmission, which could include:

- physical barriers
- purchasing personal protective equipment and disinfecting supplies
- paying rent and employee wages
- replacing inventory and more

Businesses, cooperatives and non-profit organizations that were ordered to close or curtail operations as a result of public health orders issued by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health may be eligible.

Applications will be open until March 31, 2021 unless otherwise communicated.

Please visit www.alberta.ca/sme-relaunch-grant.aspx for more information.

Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)

Provides interest-free loans of up to \$60,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits. Repaying the balance of the loan on or before December 31, 2022 will result in loan forgiveness of 33% (up to \$20,000)

Applicants require an active CRA Business Number (active prior to March 1, 2020) and must meet eligibility requirements of either the Payroll stream (over \$20,000 employment income paid in the 2019 calendar year) or the Non-Deferrable Expense Stream (have eligible non-deferrable expenses over \$40,000)

As of December 4, 2020, CEBA loans for eligible businesses increased from \$40,000 to \$60,000 and applicants who received the \$40,000 CEBA loan may apply for the \$20,000 expansion.

All applicants have until March 31, 2021 to apply.

For more information and application - <https://ceba-cuec.ca/>

Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

Canadian employers that have seen a drop in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic, may be eligible for a subsidy to cover part of your employee wages retroactive to March 15.

Eligible applicants must have had a CRA payroll account on March 15, 2020 and have experienced a drop in revenue. See [here](#) for who is eligible to apply.

CEWS has been extended to June 2021, including changes to the rates and top-up calculation. Changes to the CEWS program can be found at [here](#)

Deadline to apply is January 31, 2021 or 180 days after the end of the claim period, whichever comes later.