

DAVENPORT STORIES

CANADA SUMMER JOBS (CSJ)

During the pandemic, we expanded CSJ funding to cover 100% of wages for student jobs. **This year, Davenport organizations received just shy of \$1 million**—a huge leap from \$285,000 in 2015.

“The CSJ program has never been as significant: encouraging students to be a part of their community and rewarding it with intellectual, professional, and economic opportunities that support vulnerable populations exemplifies Davenport’s ability to unite in a challenging time. Safehaven was fortunate to retain two students beyond the CSJ window, and we attribute part of our success in combating COVID-19 to our students’ efforts and the government-run program.”

—Susan Bisailon, CEO of Safehaven

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES

“CEBA gave me the opportunity to keep my business open for customers plain and simple. By providing me that influx of cash flow to cover my expenses when things got tough I have been able to keep things moving for now and keep my store stocked for the neighbourhood traffic. While things have been tricky and sales patterns have changed, I have been able to take this time to reassess my inventory and find out what it is my customers are looking for now in this market.”

—Robin Vengroff, Three Fates



Meeting Three Fates owner Robin Vengroff

“The funds from CEBA enabled us to pivot our restaurant into a takeout window. We’ve moved away from catering and convenience items to focus on food delivery apps and now we are producing Tuck bacon for retail. We’ve just been rated Best Burger and Best Sandwich in the Junction Triangle, thanks to the great support from the community. This situation has been a challenge, but we’re making the best of it.”

—Robb Eng, Co-owner, Tuck Shop Kitchen

“The CEWS and federal sector-specific support have made a big difference for us this year and have allowed us to proceed into 2021 with our operations and our publishing lists intact, keeping on 100% of our staff.”

—Matt Williams, VP, Operations, House of Anansi Press/ Groundwood Books

SUPPORT FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE

“We offer a weekly dinner and food bank to help combat food insecurities in the community. During the pandemic we had to cancel some of our key programs that help with mental health and well-being by being a place to come for social interactions, but we have been able to sustain our food programs. We have been fortunate enough to receive the Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF) to be able to purchase some much needed personal care items. We have also been fortunate to receive the New Horizons For Seniors grant once again.”

—Katie Kwaczek, Oasis Dufferin Community Centre

“We are tremendously grateful to the Canadian government for their continued support of our agency. With New Horizons and ECSF, our dedicated staff, students and volunteers planned, purchased, sorted and delivered uncooked/cooked perishable and non-perishable culturally-specific foods and personal hygiene items to over 200 seniors. We also purchased 54 computers, virtual communication platforms, portable internet devices, and computer security software.”

—Sandra Cardillo, E.D., LA Centre for Active Living



With Patricia Martins at LA Centre for Active Living*

“Community Food Centres Canada (CFCC), a national food-security non-profit based in Davenport, has received \$11.25 million from the federal government to provide funding for emergency food aid to organizations across the country during COVID. This federal funding permitted CFCC to distribute funding to an additional 383 organizations and 138 Indigenous communities to provide people struggling to access food with healthy food baskets, take-away meals, food deliveries and grocery cards.”

—Nick Saul, Community Food Centres Canada



With Nick Saul of CFCC*

ARTS AND MEDIA

“For the past three years event-based fundraising has made up a large part of our budget, as the paid subscriber base for our non-profit community newspaper steadily grows. This year we had to cancel all but one of these in-person, crowded—sometimes sweaty—joyful events. The emergency funding from Canadian Heritage made up the shortfall, allowing us to keep the presses rolling until we can gather in big groups again.”

—Janet Morassutti, Managing Editor, West End Phoenix



Distribution day at the West End Phoenix, with Editor-in-Chief Dave Bidini, Managing Editor Janet Morassutti, and Distribution Manager Jane Gowan

WORKING HARD FOR OUR COMMUNITY



At the Amália Rodrigues mural unveiling on Dundas Street West with Little Portugal BIA Chair AnaBela Taborda



At Jornal de Toronto with José Francisco Schuster and Editor Alexandre Dias Ramos



Saying hello to Giorgio (aka: Frankie) at Corso Italia's famous family-run Frank's Pizza House



Dropping by the senior social at the First Portuguese Canadian Cultural Centre



Thanking the team at Bohemian Embassy Flats & Lofts for applying for Electric Vehicle charging stations



Visiting small businesses across Davenport, including Canvas Gallery which sells only Canadian art - with Mark Hunter



Attending Theatre Direct's Halloween Hullabaloo with the Artistic Director Lisa Marie DiLiberto at EarlsCourt Park



Meet and greet with the energetic and talented youth at the Islamic Information & Dawah Centre



Meeting new neighbours at the Friends of EarlsCourt Park community clean-up!



Davenport LGBTQ2+ Advisory Group session with special guest, Diversity and Inclusion Minister Bardish Chaggar



At Lansdowne Station promoting the COVID-19 Alert app



Helping Davenport Perth Neighbourhood & Community Health Centre distribute Thanksgiving dinner



Having fun at the "Ask Your MP Anything" event at Pelham Park



Visiting Akin Collective at their Sterling location with co-founders: Michael and Oliver



Discussing refugee and settlement issues at FCJ Refugee Centre

2020 YEAR-END REPORT



JULIE DZEROWICZ MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT DAVENPORT



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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, JULIE DZEROWICZ

Davenport friends and neighbours: amis et voisins de Davenport:

By the time you receive this, 2020 will have come to an end. What a difficult and unprecedented year!

If I could find a silver lining it would be how remarkable the communities that make up the Davenport riding have been in coming together to help each other. There is beauty in the kindness of people, organizations and companies who stepped up to fill a need. Whether it was a local store that delivered and donated food to those who needed it; groups of people who came together to make food on a weekly basis for families and isolated individuals in need; or those who went door to door to offer help and support. This historic pandemic has also forced us all to slow down and in many cases to better appreciate what is important in our lives.

At the time of publication, Toronto is in the middle of a serious second wave. I want to continue to encourage everyone to strictly follow public health rules—the only way out is for each of us to do our part. Together we will get through this.

This 2020 Year-End Report attempts to provide a summary of the majority of the emergency federal supports delivered during the pandemic. It is NOT a complete list of all government spending, but provides an idea of the depth and breadth of our support. **It is also important to note that 97% of all COVID emergency support in Ontario has come from the federal government—while the Ontario**

and local governments make many announcements, almost all the funding is coming from the national level. Significant federal emergency supports were sent for personal protective equipment (PPE), expanded health care, child care, testing, contact tracing, rapid housing, etc. Emergency funding was also directly sent to organizations, workers, and to small, medium, and large companies.

By the end of March 2021, the federal government's deficit is expected to reach close to \$400B. I want to remind you that our objectives were two-fold: to keep Canadians safe, and to ensure that we provide as much targeted support to ensure a solid foundation from which Canadian businesses could pivot. The vast majority of economists are in agreement: if the Canadian government were not as generous with our emergency supports, our economy would be in worse shape and our chances of successfully recovering and growing our economy would be greatly reduced.

In this year-end communication, I share some quotes from Davenport leaders, small business owners and residents on how emergency supports have been helpful and how organizations have adapted to survive and to serve their communities.

A green recovery, continued progress on new nation to nation relationships with Indigenous peoples, and affordable housing are top of mind issues for Davenport residents. During this pandemic we have not only stepped up to provide emergency supports, but also continued to make progress on these urgent federal priorities.

As we look forward with optimism towards the new year and what we hope will be a positive new normal, know that my team and I continue to be here to serve you. It is an honour and privilege to serve you Davenport! Please accept my best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Julie Dzerowicz
Member of Parliament | Davenport

MP Julie Dzerowicz meeting with the Prime Minister prior to the pandemic.

*Note: Any photo without a mask was taken before March 2020



COVID-19 EMERGENCY SUPPORTS - PART 1

Our federal Liberal government has rolled out generous emergency supports since the pandemic began, totalling close to \$400 billion. In Ontario, 97% of direct support for Canadians and businesses has come from the federal government, even if it is flowed through the city or province, according to the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario.

Below is a summary of key supports, though it is not comprehensive (for example, it does not include extra loans to small and medium businesses) and does not add up to the full \$400B. All numbers below are as of November 15, but for the latest information look for the Fall fiscal update from Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland on my website.

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

- Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB): 8.9M people supported—\$81.64B
 - Expanded Employment Insurance: About 2.8M people moved from CERB to EI
 - Canada Recovery Benefit for those without EI: So far, over 1M applications—\$1.87B
- Canada Recovery Caregiver Benefit: 186,000 caregivers helped—\$300M so far
- Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit: 135,000 sick workers helped—\$112M so far
- Canada Child Benefit top-up: \$300 per child—\$2B
- GST credit top-up: \$400 payment for low-income earners—\$5.5B

Additional support for people with disabilities: \$872M

- One-time payment of \$600 to 1.7M people—\$865M
- \$16M for community resources + accessible technology

Additional support for Seniors: \$3B

- \$9M through United Way for community support
- One-time payment of \$300 for OAS recipients (6.7M seniors), \$500 for GIS recipients (2.2M seniors)—\$2.5B
- Expanding New Horizons community grants—\$20M
- Reduced minimum withdrawals for RRIFs by 25%—\$495M

Targeted student support: \$6.2B

- Expanding student loans and grants—\$2B
- Canada Summer Jobs expanded by covering 100% of wages; Davenport received almost \$1 million
- Canada Emergency Student Benefit: 700,000 students helped—\$2.9B
- Youth Employment and Skills Program: creating 116,000 placements—\$1B
- Extended graduate research scholarships—\$291M

SMALL BUSINESS

- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS): 344,000 businesses—\$48.8B
- Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loans: 782,000 businesses—\$31B
- Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA): 106,000 businesses—\$1.3B
- Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (Part 2: tenants apply via CRA)—coming by end of year 2020
- Regional emergency fund for businesses with no access to other supports—\$1.5B
- Supporting Black-led businesses—\$93M
- COVID top-up for young entrepreneurs through Futurpreneur—\$20M
- COVID top-up for Women Entrepreneurship Strategy—

additional \$15M as part of \$5B strategy overall

- Work-sharing program extended to 76 weeks; layoff period extended up to 6 months

- Over \$70B in additional credit and tax deferrals for small and medium businesses

HEALTH RESPONSE

- Initial Public Health response, including testing, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and education—\$1B
- Initial provincial and territorial health needs—\$500M
- Additional funding for Health Canada and Public Health Agency—\$88M
- Created COVID Alert app, over 5 million downloads

Research investments: \$1.85B

- Establishing COVID-19 Immunity Task Force—\$200M
- Wage and research support for university and health research institutes—\$450M
- Contributions to vaccine institutes, production, other research, and much more—\$1.2B

PPE/Diagnostic testing: \$2.5B

- General procurement efforts, including 66M N95s, 309M surgical masks, 5,000 ventilators, and much more—\$2B
- PPE for essential workers—\$500M
- 40% of PPE production is with Canadian companies through Plan to Mobilize Industry

Vaccine procurement & development: \$2.3B

- Research, development, international partnerships—\$1.3B
- 5 agreements with individual companies with candidate vaccines: 262M doses for Canadians secured—\$1B

Rapid testing: \$240M

- So far, agreements with four companies for 30M rapid tests; over 4.2M distributed to provinces to date—\$240M

Virtual Care and Mental Health Tools: \$336M

- Virtual care and mental health tools—\$240.5M (plus more through Safe Restart)
- Kids Help Phone support—\$7.5M
- Mental health for Black Canadians—\$11.5M
- Mental health and substance use research—\$10.2M

SUPPORT FOR PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

Safe Restart Agreement—\$19B

- Testing & contact tracing—\$4.28B
- Health care system capacity—\$700M
- Immediate needs for people experiencing homelessness, substance abuse, or mental health issues—\$500M
- Protecting seniors and long-term care homes—\$740M
- Cities' operating costs—\$2B

- Public transit, cost-matching provinces—\$2.3B
- PPE for national use—\$4.5B
- PPE for provinces and territories—\$3B
- Child care—\$625M

More contributions:

- Top up for essential front-line workers (grocery clerks, health care workers, etc.)—\$3B
- Workforce Development Agreements to support training and retraining—\$1.5B
- Safe Return to Class Fund (ventilation in classrooms, additional teaching support, PPE, etc.)—\$2B

IMMIGRATION AND BORDERS

- Closed borders, with some compassionate exemptions
- Brought 63,000 Canadians home via 687 flights—\$64M
- Protecting health and safety of migrant workers—\$73.6M
- Emergency loans for Canadians abroad: 4,700 loans granted

ARTS AND CULTURE

- Urgent financial needs of the sector—\$500M
- National museums and arts centre—\$44.9M
- Support for independent production companies—\$50M

VULNERABLE CANADIANS

- Rapid Housing Initiative to build affordable housing—\$1B
- Top up to Reaching Home Initiative for people experiencing homelessness—\$157M
- Women and children fleeing violence—\$100M (\$50M in April plus \$50M in October)
- Canadian Red Cross: support for operations in long-term care homes, supporting quarantine sites, disaster relief, and more—\$100M

COVID-19 EMERGENCY SUPPORTS - PART 2

- Emergency Community Support Fund for local charities and organizations—\$350M
- Food security (food banks, etc.)—\$200M (\$100M in April plus \$100M in October)

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- Indigenous Community Support Fund—\$685M
- Funding for public health—\$285.1M
- Supplementing On-Reserve Income Assistance—\$270M
- Support for Indigenous-owned businesses/banks—\$440M
- Mental health needs—\$82.5M
- Post-secondary students—\$75.2M
- Safe return to school on reserves—\$112M
- Early learning and child care facilities—\$120.7M
- New shelters for women and girls fleeing violence—\$85M
- Many other programs—\$250M
- Indigenous peoples can also access all other worker benefits listed above.*

GLOBAL RESPONSE

- Helping international partners—\$492.9M
- New contribution to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance—\$50M over 5 years.
- Vaccine doses for low and middle-income countries, through COVAX—\$220M



With Katie Kwaczek and Canada Summer Jobs students at Oasis Dufferin Community Centre

OUR PLAN FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Canada began 2020 in an excellent fiscal and economic position. Since 2015, our federal Liberal government reserved fiscal firepower for potential challenges, and when the pandemic hit we began spending very generously because we knew we had to do everything possible to keep Canadians safe.

We also knew we needed to create a floor for the economy: a stable foundation that will allow businesses and workers to spring back up as soon as the pandemic is over and the recovery begins. Everything the government did right away—the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, the Canada Emergency Relief Benefit, credit and liquidity support to the financial sector, and the Bank of Canada's decision to cut interest rates—has kept that floor in place. Economists agree: if we had not taken these steps, the repercussions to the economy would have been far worse. As TD Bank economist Ksenia Bushmeneva said, the “Federal government income support programs and payment deferrals by financial institutions have so far been paramount for averting the delinquency tsunami and protecting the economy.”

Since the pandemic, and economic crisis began, we have come a long way. The unemployment rate has fallen from a high of 13.7% to just under 9%. Canada has recovered 76% of jobs lost due to the pandemic. TD Economics observed that “no matter how you slice the data, the Canadian labour market has been on a steadier road to recovery relative to the U.S.”.

Entering the pandemic, our net debt-to-GDP (gross domestic product) was at 31%, and due to COVID-related spending it is expected to rise to 49% in 2020-21. However, economists agree that this is manageable, and our spending is in line with other countries.

“When COVID-19 hit, Canada had the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7. Today, following our country’s most ambitious emergency response since World War II, we are still expected to have the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7. Our borrowing costs are at historic lows. Today’s interest charges on Canada’s debt as a share of GDP are the lowest in a century.”

Our government is aware that the necessary fiscal measures for fighting the coronavirus are not unlimited. These are temporary but essential measures. These investments are a bridge to a safer and more prosperous future.”

—Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland

DAVENPORT PRIORITIES

REPORT ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES



At the 21st Annual Pow Wow organized by Native Child and Family Services at Dufferin Grove Park*

to Action, including already introducing two bills in the House of Commons; the first to amend the Oath of Citizenship to recognise treaty rights, and the second to bring in an annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Self-Determination: Ten Ontario groups have also been selected for the Nation Rebuilding Program, with funding to create their own governance structures and laws, and re-establish connections to their history and traditional governance.

REPORT ON ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

In September's Speech from the Throne, our government reaffirmed our commitment to fighting climate change as a cornerstone of Canada's COVID recovery. We put oil and gas workers back to work with a \$1.7 billion investment to clean up orphan and inactive oil wells in B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan and created the \$750-million Emissions Reduction Fund to assist businesses in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, with a focus on methane. Large Canadian employers also had to present plans to contribute to Canada's goal of net-zero by 2050 as a condition to access the COVID-19 relief loan program, LEEFF.

We are increasing Electric Vehicle charging station infrastructure across Canada, delivering with partners over 1,000 fast charging stations to date. Fun Fact: within a 10km radius of my constituency office, there are 108 charging stations with over 600 connectors!

REPORT ON HOUSING

Housing affordability continues to be a top priority for the government through its National Housing Strategy—a 10-year, \$55+ billion investment in the creation of new housing supply, renewal of existing housing stock and funds for community housing providers.

During the pandemic, the government worked directly with the City of Toronto to find safe housing for our most vulnerable; increasing support and safe spaces for women fleeing domestic violence and funding safe spaces for the homeless (renting hotels and motels).

There was also an increased focus on creating rapid housing. In Davenport, the federal government renewed rental assistance available to all federal co-ops, and is a key partner in Toronto's Modular Housing Initiative, providing 40% of capital costs. This initiative will create 1,000 new modular homes by building small-scale infill housing, connecting people experiencing homelessness with stable housing and supports. The first project is now under construction in Davenport, at 150 Harrison, and includes 44 units.

COVID-19 continues to most affect vulnerable populations and there has been an increase in homelessness, with emergency shelters at or near capacity—with most of the work of dealing with the issue falling on our cities. Simply managing the problem is not sustainable and the PM and the government are committed, instead, to



Visiting the residents of Perth Co-Op*

the elimination of chronic homelessness, beginning with the Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI).

The RHI provides funding to expedite the delivery of affordable housing to vulnerable populations and the first phase provides \$1 billion in funding for the development of 3000 units, to be delivered within 12 months of agreements. In a key breakthrough, half the funding will flow directly to cities (based on severe housing need) with the City of Toronto receiving \$203.3 million.