

The Update

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FEATURE ARTICLE

>> Government of Canada launches pre-budget consultations



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of Canada

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Make your voice heard! Support the Community Futures program!

A strong economy starts with a strong middle class and a responsible fiscal plan. For the last four years, investments in people and communities, combined with the hard work of Canadians, have helped create more than a million new jobs—driving continued economic growth and creating more opportunities for people to succeed.

Today, Finance Minister Bill Morneau was at Ryerson University in Toronto, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Minister of Finance Mona Fortier was at HEC Montréal in Montréal, and the Parliamentary Secretary to Ministers Morneau and Fortier, Sean Fraser, was at Saint Mary's University in Halifax to participate in town halls and launch the Government of Canada's consultations for Budget 2020.

The consultations will focus on the priorities laid out in the 2019 Speech from the Throne—strengthening the middle class and growing the economy, fighting and preparing for climate change and protecting the environment, keeping Canadians safe and healthy, and continuing the work towards reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Ministers Morneau and Fortier invite all Canadians to contribute their ideas on how the Government can continue to build an economy that works for everyone. **People can share their ideas through in-person events and also by making submissions through the Your Budget website launched today.**

>> Small businesses invited to propose innovative solutions to new challenges



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News release

Government of Canada launches new secure software challenge

January 27, 2020 – Ottawa, Ontario

As the single largest purchaser of goods and services within Canada, the federal government is using procurement to help Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) start up, grow and scale up.

Through the Innovative Solutions Canada (ISC) Challenge Stream, the Government of Canada invites SMEs to propose innovations that address specific government challenges. Successful applicants may receive up to \$150,000 to develop a proof of feasibility. If accepted into Phase 2, SMEs could receive up to \$1 million to develop a working prototype. By funding the development of innovations, the Government helps SMEs accelerate their journey to market and create good middle-class jobs across Canada.

[Read more](#)

NEWS & COMMUNITY

>> What could cause Canada's next recession?



What could cause Canada's next recession?

First, an important disclaimer: We're not expecting Canada to enter a recession anytime soon. On the contrary, Canada's economy should do slightly better in 2020 than it did in 2019.

We believe increases in residential investment, more investments in the oil and gas sector and the resolution of trade disputes will drive growth this year. That said, there are risks on the horizon. This Monthly Economic Letter - January 2020 looks at three of the more important risks we are keeping our eye on.

>> Women Entrepreneur Spotlight (BDC): Sweet Success

Lisa Allain overcame challenge after challenge to build a successful business.



Lisa Allain was a young mom who had just started working as a nurse when a horrific car accident changed her life. She suffered extensive brain and other injuries that left her bedridden for a year. She had to relearn how to walk and hold things. As if that wasn't enough, she also learned she had a brain tumour.

Allain's marriage fell apart, and she lost her nursing license. Unable to work, she had to resort to food banks to feed her three kids as a single mom.

Then, her luck started to turn around on her youngest child's first birthday. "I made some cookies and everybody raved about them and wanted to buy some," she says. "I thought, 'Hmm! Maybe I could make some money so I can feed my kids.'"

[Read more](#)

>> Investment Intentions of Canadian Entrepreneurs An Outlook for 2020



Investment Intentions of Canadian Entrepreneurs: An Outlook for 2020

What investments are entrepreneurs planning for 2020?

Despite heightened uncertainty about the world economy, Canadian entrepreneurs plan to slightly increase investment in their business over the next 12 months.

This is one of the main results coming out of BDC's latest survey of more than 1,000 small and mid-sized business owners about their investment plans for 2020, their confidence in the economy and their sales outlook.

Access the study to find out:

- How confident entrepreneurs are feeling about the economy
- The hiring and sales outlook of Canadian entrepreneurs for 2020
- Which businesses are planning to invest and what they plan on purchasing
- The investment picture in different sectors and regions

[Access the report here: Investment Intentions of Canadian Entrepreneurs](#)

ACROSS ONTARIO

>> ONCA Update: Continued delay means no proclamation in early 2020



Continued delay for ONCA

The Ontario government gave notice in 2018 that the proclamation of the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) would occur “early 2020”. However, on December 31, 2019, the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services informed us and updated their website that ONCA will not be proclaimed in early 2020. No specific date or timeline was given. The government noted that the delay is related to a technology solution - an online registry that would allow organizations to incorporate and file electronically through Service Ontario.

The clock is ticking

Legislation can't sit on the books forever waiting to be proclaimed. As a requirement of the Legislation Act, 2006, during the first week of the new Legislative session, the Attorney General will table an annual report naming Acts or parts of Acts that are not yet in force and that were at least nine years old on Dec. 31, 2019.

LESSONS LEARNED & BEST PRACTICES

>> Rural Entrepreneurship Case Study webinars



Have you watched our Rural Entrepreneurship Case Study webinars? Each webinar highlights an approach to entrepreneurship programming taking place in rural communities throughout ON. Webinars include:

Stories of Rural Entrepreneurship (2019)

Repurposing Public Space

Inspiring Young Entrepreneurs

Win This Space

Community Demonstration Projects (2019)

Combatting Social Isolation – Chigamik Community Health Centre

Food Security – Prince Edward County

Connecting Families to Services – Middlesex County

Check them out at this link: <http://www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca/knowledge-centre/visual-resources>

>> Community Snapshot Toolkit



At Statistics Canada, we are passionate about data. We're proud that our data can be used to shape the day-to-day lives of Canadians. Our latest toolkit will make it even easier to see how data, and census data in particular, provide insight into communities across the country.

As a community supporter, your organization plays an important role in helping bring Statistics Canada data closer to the Canadian public. I am pleased to provide you with a copy of our new Community Snapshot Toolkit.

The fillable templates will help you create a statistical snapshot for any census geography in Canada—you can post these visualizations on your social media, your community bulletin board, or anywhere!

The toolkit includes templates, instructions and hyperlinks to help you navigate the Statistics Canada website and access the data you need to create your own community snapshot.

Your snapshot will illustrate your community's educational attainment, top occupational category, population count and much more. With the help of this toolkit, you will be able to discover the wealth of census data that is available online, and how to navigate to the information you need.

>> Social Enterprises in the News



Vancouver Social Enterprises in the news helping to build healthy communities

After the launch of Buy Social Canada's Downtown Eastside Social Enterprise Impact Report in early December we are thrilled to see the hard work of Vancouver social enterprises in the news. The Vancouver Convention Centre puts social procurement into practice and you can read about their partners and the impacts these buying decisions have here.

>> Training: Financial Forecasting Made Easy



For a small business idea to be considered viable, it should generally meet four criteria: it should be aligned with the entrepreneur's passions and interests; it should be aligned with their skills, abilities, and resources; it should solve a problem or meet a market need; and it must demonstrate financial viability.

In 'Counselling Your Clients through Financial Forecasting', you'll explore strategies and methodologies you can use to help your clients through this often-difficult process.

This is a small (10 participants) and interactive online half-day course.

Cost: \$250.00 per participant, \$225.00 for each additional participant from the same organization

Duration: 3 hours, plus a 90-minute self-directed assignment to receive a certificate of completion

Registration deadline: Feb. 17, 2020

Seating limited, register today!

Get more information

The Update - Your Newsletter

Do you have feedback or story ideas for the next Update? Contact Community Futures Ontario at 1-888-633-2326 or info@cfontario.ca

Ce bulletin est également disponible en français. Veuillez communiquer avec nous à pour obtenir votre exemplaire du bulletin, Le Point.

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