



April 16, 2020

The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance
CC: Mr. Paul Rochon, Deputy Minister Department of Finance

By email

Dear Minister Morneau,

On behalf of the BC Care Providers Association (BCCPA) and EngAge BC, I would like to thank you and your staff for the work you have done to support Canadians during what has been an immensely challenging time for our country.

We are writing to ask the Ministry of Finance to afford further reconsideration to the inclusion criteria for the *Canada Emergency Business Account*, as to allow for home support organizations to access this necessary resource. As we understand it, the new *Canada Emergency Business Account* will provide interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits, to help cover their operating costs during a period where their revenues have been temporarily reduced. To qualify, organizations must demonstrate they paid between \$20,000 to \$1.5 million in total payroll in 2019.

As you may know, Canada's home health operators are integral to ensuring the well-being and independence of seniors, and other people requiring support across the country. These services are often funded by the government, but sometimes care or support is delivered on a private-pay basis.

While we commend the intent of the federal government's initiative, we are concerned that it unintentionally excludes some organizations because of the nature of their business. For example, several of our members have payrolls of over \$1.5 million, but would be categorized as a small or medium-sized business.

In order to ensure the sustainability of private home support organizations, we ask that the Ministry considers exceptions to the program's inclusion criteria, based on the ratio of payroll expenditures to revenue.



I would welcome any follow-up questions from Ministry staff on this matter, and thank you for considering this request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Fontaine".

Daniel Fontaine
CEO, BCCPA & EngAge BC

About BCCPA

[BC Care Providers Association](#) has represented non-government care providers for over 40 years. Along with our operating arm, EngAge BC, we work with over 370 long-term care, home care, assisted living, independent living and commercial members across British Columbia. Our members provide care for over 25,000 seniors annually and creates more than 18,000 direct and indirect jobs across the province.