# **British Columbia**

- On March 23, 2020 the BC provincial government introduced a \$5-billion aid package to support British Columbians and businesses who are suffering due to the ongoing novel coronavirus pandemic (see <u>link</u>).
- On April 3, 2020 the BC government announced \$10 million to enhance infection prevention and control equipment in B.C. seniors long term care and assisted living homes (see <u>link</u>).
- On April 9, 2020 BC government announced \$5 million to expand existing mental health services and launch new virtual programs to help British Columbians cope with the pandemic (see <u>link</u>).
- As part of its \$5 billion aid package the BC government announced \$35.6 million will be available through Community Living BC (CLBC) to support providers of residential services including home-sharing, group homes, and supported independent living (see <u>link</u>).
- With the announcement in early April 2020 for BC to move towards restricting staff to work at one long term care or assisted living facility the costs estimated to establish equitable wages and benefits will be around \$10 million per month (see <u>link</u>).

# Alberta

- On March 15, 2020 AB government commits \$500 million to the COVID-19 response (see link).
- On April 20, 2020 the Alberta government announced \$24.5 million is being advanced to operators to help address immediate cost pressures due to COVID-19 (these funds address immediate cash flow issues for operators although not additional expenses).
  - Additional funding was also provided to allow for: Increased health-care aide staffing levels; A wage top-up of an additional \$2 per hour for health-care aides; and Up to 1,000 paid student practicum positions to fast-track certification and get more staff into our continuing care facilities (see <u>link</u>). This equates to about \$7.3 million per month to boost staffing levels and wages at long-term care homes (see <u>link</u>).

### Ontario

- On March 23, 2020 Ontario announced it would provide \$200 million in social services relief funding (see <u>link</u>).
- On March 25, 2020 Ontario introduced \$17-billion package to support the health sector, people and businesses through the COVID-19 outbreak. This funding includes a \$1-billion pandemic contingency fund, nearly \$1 billion more for hospitals, and \$75 million to help front-line workers New spending includes a \$1-billion pandemic contingency fund, nearly \$1 billion more for hospitals, and \$75 million for more personal protective equipment for front-line workers (see link).

- In particular, Ontario invested \$243 million for surge capacity in the long-term care sector, as well as funding for 24/7 screening, more staffing to support infection control, and supplies and equipment to help tackle the COVID-19 outbreak.
- On April 25, 2020 Ontario government announced front-line workers in the battle against COVID-19 will receive a \$4 an hour "pandemic pay" increase. Those front-line workers who work more than 100 hours a month will receive an additional \$250 a month for up to four months, for a maximum of \$1,000. More than 350,000 workers will be eligible for the extra pay. They include front-line staff in long term care and retirement homes, at emergency shelters and in social services, in home and community care, in correctional institutions and some staff in hospitals (see <u>link</u>).
- As outlined in a letter sent May 7, 2020 to long term care licensees, Ontario will be providing additional one-time emergency funding to the long-term care home (LTC) sector of up to \$88,340,000 to support the efforts in preventing and containing the spread of COVID-19. The initial disbursement of up to \$34,838,200 for May 2020 will be flowed to homes as follows:
  - Every LTC home will receive a base allocation of \$12,000 and \$200 per bed to support the necessary incremental expenditures of long-term care homes to prevent and contain COVID19;
  - Small and medium homes with certain types of beds will receive additional funding of \$15,000 (for small homes – with 96 beds or fewer) or \$10,000 (for medium homes – with between 97 and 160 beds, inclusive) per home respectively; and
  - Homes with COVID-19 infection are expected to incur more costs as more efforts are needed for further prevention and containment, and in recognition of this, these homes will receive an additional allocation of \$10,000 per home and \$200 per bed.

### Quebec

- On March 30, 2020 Quebec government announced long-term care facilities and seniors residences in Quebec will receive up to \$133 million in emergency funding in the fight against the novel coronavirus pandemic. In particular, the money will go towards hiring staff and buying more protective gear and disinfectants in those facilities, according to the minister responsible for seniors and caregivers (see <u>link</u>).
- On May 7, 2020 the Quebec government announced full-time workers in CHSLDs the province's long-term care homes where the majority of Quebec's most serious outbreaks have been will see bonuses up to \$1,000 per month. All those working full-time in long-term care homes will get an additional \$100 per month. If there is at least one confirmed case of the virus in the facility, they will get an additional \$200 after two consecutive weeks of work, and a further \$400 after four weeks of consecutive work (see link).

### Manitoba

 On May 5, 2020 Manitoba announced it is providing \$45M to support seniors including offering them a one-time, refundable \$200 tax credit to offset COVID-19 pandemic costs, such as grocery deliveries and technology needed to stay connected to loved ones (see <u>link</u>).

- On April 3, 2020 the Manitoba government announced new measures to speed up health-care equipment creation, as well as provide extra tax relief and increase shelter capacity for vulnerable people (see <u>link</u>).
- On April 14, 2020 the Manitoba government announced plans to compensate health-care workers who are forced into 14-day quarantine due to possible workplace exposure to COVID-19 (see <u>link</u>).

#### PEI

On May 6, 2020 P.E.I. announced increased funding to support private health facilities, including long-term care and continuing-care facilities, for their additional costs related to personal protective equipment, and increased staffing cost. This includes funding increases of \$300,000 a month to community care facilities and \$290,000 a month for long-term care facilities, plus \$130,000 to provide support for dementia patients entering long-term care (see link).