



On April 9, 2020 the Province announced that it is expanding its existing mental health programs and launching new services to support all British Columbians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Anyone experiencing anxiety, depression or other mental health challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, can now get help through virtual services. We know the commitment you have for agriculture, fish and food, but we also know that you may have many other concerns right now. We are doing our best to reach out to you to check-in and stay connected, but please know, if you need help, you are not alone.

You can access these virtual mental health supports on the following [website](#).

On this website, you will find information on virtual counselling services, tips on managing stress, self-assessment tools and many other resources.

Please free to reach out to your Ministry of Agriculture contacts with questions and concerns about your businesses, and for reliable and up-to-date information on the virus, please visit [bccdc.ca](http://bccdc.ca) or contact the dedicated 1-888-COVID-19 or 1-888-268-4319 phoneline.

### **Business Supports:**

A new B.C. Business COVID-19 Support Service will serve as a single point of contact for businesses throughout the province looking for information on resources available during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The service will act as a one-stop resource to answer questions about supports available to businesses from the provincial and federal governments, industry and community partners. Advisors are available Monday to Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Pacific time) and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1-833-254-4357.

Inquiries can also be emailed to: [covid@smallbusinessbc.ca](mailto:covid@smallbusinessbc.ca) or raised on the live-chat feature available on Small Business BC's (SBBC) dedicated [website](#).

Support is available in multiple languages and a call-back feature will be in place to help manage high call volumes.

SBBC's dedicated website will include announcements from industry and community partners, as well as a variety of resources, including webinars and practical tools. In addition, SBBC will

continue to provide its usual service, like access to expert business advisors, educational services and free resources in the context of COVID-19.

Support for businesses and their employees is a top priority for both governments. The support service will provide employers with information on resources available that they can share with their staff.

The B.C. Business Covid-19 Support Service is supported by the B.C. government and the Government of Canada through Western Economic Diversification Canada. As the situation evolves, both governments will continue to support businesses and take further action as needed.