



**Canadian Union
Of
Public Employees
Local 30**

Edmonton Civic Employees

EPCOR

Edmonton Economic Dev.
Corporation

City of Fort Saskatchewan

Town of Thorsby

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April 7, 2020

Dear CUPE Local 30 Members,

Subject: COVID-19 - Update #2

This turn of events is truly extraordinary but I know we can get through it by working together. Through this time your CUPE Local 30 Executive and Staff have been working hard to advocate for members and implement changes that are necessary at this time. Each employer is in a different difficult situation and has had distinctly different responses with regards to staff. Thorsby and EEDC have already laid members off; Edmonton has sent layoff notices to many members effective April 13th; Fort Saskatchewan has given notice to members that some may be laid off and EPCOR has no plans to lay anyone off.

During this time many of you have taken on different roles and positions at different locations with varied duties and work schedules. I want to thank each and every CUPE Local 30 member who has worked with their employer to deliver vital services. You are appreciated and your efforts don't go unnoticed. Your work is important and for the communities we serve. Everywhere in the City of Edmonton, City of Fort Saskatchewan, EEDC, EPCOR and Town of Thorsby members are getting the job done despite the difficulties we are all personally facing.

Now, many of our members are facing layoffs as the employers are adjusting to the new normal. This can be disheartening and worrisome. Please know that your Local is working hard to keep as many members working for as long as possible and when they are laid off that ALL will be recalled as soon as possible.

Experts are saying this situation will continue for several months and we need to prepare for it. This means there might be further layoffs. Your Local is meeting with your employers to fight for you to stay employed but you may still get laid off.

Below you will find links to help if you are laid off.

EI

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-regular-benefit/apply.html>

Canada's COVID-19 Response Plan

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

Canada COVID-19 Support App

<https://ca.thrive.health/>

Alberta COVID-19 information

https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx?utm_source=google&utm_medium=sem&utm_campaign=Covid19&utm_term=beinformed&utm_content=v7&gclid=Cj0KCQjwybD0BRDyARIsACyS8mtV0ntVI FMStNILXFNnTbCVNLmxcl5DgUnvTtnNbK8ljgwXMIgSq0aAn46EALw_wcB

Canada Child Benefit

The Canada Child Benefit has been increased to an extra \$300 per child. This benefit will be delivered as part of the scheduled payment in May. Those who already receive the benefit don't need to re-apply.

Goods and Services Tax Credit

There will be a one-time special payment starting April 9 through the Goods and Services.

Tax credit for low and modest income families

The average additional benefit will be close to \$400 for single individuals and close to \$600 for couples. There is no need to apply for this payment as those eligible will receive it automatically.

As always, please contact myself, the Executive Board, or the Business Agents if you have any questions or concerns.

In solidarity,



John Mervyn
President, CUPE Local 30

JM/sm Canadian Office and Professional Employees Local 458 