

# COVID-19: Learn about the benefits available

## Support for individuals

### A young grad, with student debt

**Michael**, who is a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA), and a recent grad, currently works full-time as a plumber in Edmonton, Alberta. He has been paying off his student debt monthly and recently returned from a trip abroad.

Based on the advice of the Chief Public Health Officer, Michael was in isolation and unfortunately later tested positive for COVID-19.

#### Available benefits

- ✓ Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB): **\$2,000** monthly for up to 4 months
- ✓ 6 month, interest-free moratorium on Canada Student Loan repayments: **\$160** per month on average, for 6 months, in deferred Canada Student Loan payments

**This could mean \$8,960 in additional support.**

If Michael has questions about his benefits, or wants to learn how to access them, he can visit [Canada.ca/economic-response-plan](https://Canada.ca/economic-response-plan).

If Michael would like information on CERB he can call 1-833-699-0299.

#### In practical terms...

To ensure that he is able to pay his bills while he is in isolation and throughout his recovery, Michael can receive income support through the CERB and receive \$2,000 monthly for up to 4 months while he is away from work. He does not need to get a medical certificate to be eligible.

In addition, he will not have to worry about making his monthly student loan payment by taking advantage of the new 6 month, interest-free payment moratorium for all Canada Student Loan repayments. The average payment being deferred through the moratorium is \$160 per month, or \$960 over the 6-month moratorium.

He can also check in with the Métis Nation of Alberta to see if any additional support is available to him as a result of measures MNA has put in place using funding from the new [Indigenous Community Support Fund](#), such as getting goods to community members who are in preventative isolation or quarantine.

