



PATHWAY NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS INC. OF PEEL
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COVID-19 UPDATE

Outstanding Rent Payment for: April 2020

Dear Resident,

THANK YOU! If you have made your rent payment, which was due on April 1, 2020. Your support for your housing community during the COVID-19 emergency is very much appreciated.

If you did not make your payment, this **rent arrears** reminder is being sent in accordance with the Residential Tenancies Act and Pathway's account reporting system.

Considering the impact that COVID-19 is having on many people, we kindly ask that you take note of the following:

- **If you have lost income or employment due to mandated COVID-19 related business closures** and expect that you will have difficulty paying your rent, please communicate your personal situation in writing to the Management Office so that we may work together to keep your rent account in good standing. However, you are encouraged to **pay any amount you can** immediately to help Pathway pay its bills. Also, please inform the Management Office of your plan to pay the amount owing before the end of the month.
- Pathway, as a not-for-profit housing corporation that provides social housing for the benefit of its residents, has operational expenses, such as insurance, maintenance, utilities, property taxes, and mortgage, which must be paid to ensure that residents remain housed and continue to have safe, clean, and well-maintained facilities and equipment.

Temporary Income Support Programs

If you need financial assistance/support as a result of COVID-19, here are programs to consider:

1. **Employment Insurance:** If you were recently laid off or have reduced work hours you may qualify for Employment Insurance (EI), which provides income replacement. You can apply for EI as follows:
 - Online: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei.html>
 - By Phone: 1-800-206-7218 or TTY: 1-800-529-3742 (for deaf and hard of hearing)

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB): CERB will provide up to \$2,000 a month for four months for workers who lose income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. CERB is available for wage earners, contract workers and self-employed individuals who are NOT eligible for Employment Insurance. Others may be eligible including those who are sick, quarantined or taking care of someone with COVID-19 and working parents who are required to stay home without pay to care for children who are sick or need care due to daycare or school closures.

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2. Applications for this benefit will be accepted online starting April 6, 2020.
More information available online at <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>
3. **Ontario Works (OW):** Ontario Works can help with temporary financial assistance for the cost of food and housing. Apply for OW as follows:
 - Online: <https://www.peelregion.ca/help/ontario-works/>
 - By Phone: Call 905-793-9200 if you live in Brampton or Mississauga

Other Financial Supports

- **Special Goods and Services Tax Credit Payment**

The Government of Canada is providing a one-time special payment through the Goods and Services Tax credit for low and modest-income families by early May 2020. The average additional benefit is expected to be approximately \$400 for single individuals and close to \$600 for couples. Eligible households will receive this payment automatically.

- **Canada Child Benefit**

The Government of Canada is providing an extra \$300 per child through the Canada Child Benefit, which will be delivered as part of the scheduled benefit payment in May 2020. There is no need to re-apply for households that are already receive the Canada Child Benefit.

- **Guaranteed Annual Income System**

Beginning in April 2020, the Province of Ontario is doubling the Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) payment for low-income seniors for six months. There is no application process for GAINS. Eligible seniors will receive increased payments automatically.

Region of Peel – 905-791-7800 or visit <https://www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus/housing/>

- **RGI residents**

Residents who are in receipt of rent subsidy (**RGI**) temporarily will not be required to submit Annual Income Verification packages. However, should your income be reduced due to the COVID-19 please provide this information to the office as soon as possible.

Please continue to practice social distancing, hand washing and sanitizing and other recommendations set out by health officials. Your cooperation during this challenging time is very much appreciated.

We are in the COVID-19 crisis together and we'll get through it together.

Management