Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced Friday that the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) will be extended until December 19. He also announced flexibility to the CEWS and will no longer be required to have suffered losses of at least 30%, the federal government has decided to eliminate this criteria, as of July. Here's a little more detail, according to the finance ministry website.

> • Allow the extension of the CEWS until December 19, 2020 and present the details of a new program design for the period up to November 21, 2020.
>
> • Allow more employers to receive the subsidy, extending eligibility to include those who have experienced a drop in income of less than 30%, and paying all base employers a reduced basic subsidy gradually. For example, many employers who have experienced difficulties, but whose earnings fall below 30%, may be able to get help with retaining and recalling workers. In addition, employees of companies currently using the CEWS program will continue to be supported even in cases where the company's revenues now exceed the level corresponding to a 30% decrease.
>
> • Introduce an additional subsidy at the maximum rate of 25% for employers who have been hardest hit by the pandemic. This would particularly help employers in industries that return to work less quickly.
>
> • Provide greater certainty to employers who have already made business decisions for the months of July and August by ensuring that the rate of their subsidy will not be lower than the rate to which they would have been entitled under previous rules .

The new measures will, however, have to be approved by parliament. As soon as we have more details, we will let you know.

https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/07/supporting-canadian-workers-and-businesses-with-a-redesigned-canada-emergency-wage-subsidy.html

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