



COMPUTER ANIMATION STUDIOS OF ONTARIO

COVID-19 Response Activities - April 2020

CASO has been working tirelessly to support its membership during the COVID-19 crisis that has profoundly impacted our industry in every imaginable way. We have worked with all levels of government, banks, associations to assess the crisis and champion measures to assist our industry to remain standing. Our sector employs over 6000 people and their families in a highly critical sector to the provincial economy. Our membership continues to share information thru dialog with all members of industry and government.

We have been providing daily updates to our membership with critical intelligence to help our membership navigate their studios thru the COVID-19 crisis:

Highlights of April 13th to 17th, 2020

CASO

-the CASO Board began working on our submission of recommendations to the new Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee on how the ministries could support jobs in our critical industry during the COVID-19 crisis including various timeline projections and tax credit application support.

<https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-starts-planning-for-economic-recovery.html>

Federal Update

-Updated membership to new key details on the Federal Emergency Wage Subsidy , passed in the house over the weekend <https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/04/additional-details-on-the-canada-emergency-wage-subsidy0.html>

-Provided membership with the new Bank of Canada rate

<https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2020/04/fad-press-release-2020-04-15/>

-Provided timely summaries of Federal initiatives regarding commercial rent relief measures. Updated membership on federal initiatives to support low income essential workers and details on expanded CERB eligibility <https://www.canada.ca/en/news.html>

Provincial Update

-Updated membership that the Emergency Orders have been extended for 28 days and provided reference for the orders

-Provided update that Ford is responding to commercial rent concerns and is working with the Federal government on an initiative to support business owners

<https://news.ontario.ca/newsroom/en>

Highlights of April 6th to April 10th, 2020

CASO

- Shared critical update on the status of CRA's processing of film and tax credit applications to members
- Shared highlights of data intelligence from the Nordicity COVID-19 IMPACT Survey to begin to assess the impact to vfx and animation companies from COVID-19 and prepare submission
<https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-starts-planning-for-economic-recovery.html>
- Board Members have shared important key summaries analysis on all new Federal and Provincial programs available to businesses impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Provincial Update

- Provided vitally important information to membership regarding the new Ontario Jobs + Recovery Committee and CASO path for input:
<https://www.news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/04/ontario-starts-planning-for-economic-recovery.html>
- Updated membership that the government is working for relief from auto companies during work from home phase.
<https://news.ontario.ca/newsroom/en>

Highlights of March 30 to April 3rd, 2020

CASO

- (CASO) has created with Nordicity a CASO COVID-19 IMPACT survey to help quantify the impact of the crisis and champion measures to support our membership to economic recovery. We encourage our membership to complete this secure and confidential survey ASAP and no later than April 6th
link https://na1se.voxco.com/SE/114/COVID_CASO/
- Comprehensive information from CASO business associations on how to apply to the BDC Business Credit Availability program to support your studio <https://www.bdc.ca/en/pages/special-support.aspx>
- Provided detailed breakdown on updated Federal Wage Subsidy

Federal Response to COVID-19

- Detailed information on the Federal Wage Subsidy and initiated feedback to the government on how to better support the VFX and Animation with this program
- Provided critical information on safety measures to be undertaken to stop the spread of the virus
- Detailed information on BDC loans <https://www.bdc.ca/en/pages/special-support.aspx>
- Provided details on Emergency Funds, E.I. to support laid off workers

Provincial level supports

- Details of the paper of Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses and provided critical answers to membership on how to provide technical support to their online businesses https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-orders-the-mandatory-closure-of-all-non-essential-workplaces-to-fight-spread-of-covid-19.html?utm_source=ondemand&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=p
- Daily updates on provincial measures to slow the curve in Ontario https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus?utm_source=Google&utm_medium=CPC&utm_campaign=COVID-19
- Initiated feedback on measures to support insurance related issues for Film and Television production, post-production visual effects and animation