



April 7, 2020

The Honourable Bill Morneau  
Minister of Finance  
Department of Finance Canada  
Parliament Buildings  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Hon. Bill Morneau,

This letter is in follow-up to the letters that we, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC), sent to you on March 18, March 24, and March 31, 2020.

We applaud the government for committing to the purchase of personal protective equipment for individuals most at risk of exposure while working and quick access to the Canada Emergency Response Benefit and the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy.

Our members validated these needs in a COVID-19 Pulse Survey we conducted between March 23 to March 31, 2020.

Hundreds of members provided feedback to six questions that were asked to gather information about their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. The top themes included financial hardship, human resources, technological challenges, mental health and safe return to operations. Here are a few examples from the hundreds of responses we received:

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"Cash flow to sustain basic living expenses"

"Self-employed single member practices have little or no government support that 'fits'"

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" It has totally changed my life, and my daily routine"

" Need support resources to share with staff on stress and anxiety"

" Severe financial instability and uncertainty affecting practice viability and potentially the mental health of individuals remaining in the firm"

" Isolation"

" Uncertainty for future"

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" Severe financial instability and uncertainty affecting practice viability and potentially the mental health of individuals remaining in the firm"

" Greater clarity, i.e. construction continue or not"

Architects are a key service provider for critical infrastructure and—as such—it is imperative that businesses resume as quickly and safely as possible to support rebuilding and restructuring.

The RAIC continues to be at your disposal to support the government and will assist in any way that we can. Do not hesitate to reach out for our support during this pandemic, we are all in this together and the RAIC offers its support to get through this together.

#### About the RAIC

The RAIC a not-for-profit association that is the leading voice for excellence in the built environment in Canada. The RAIC is a national organization with over 5000 members across all provinces and territories.

Sincerely,  
John Brown  
President

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