

Good morning,

Just a quick note that there are some major changes to the way EIA ("social assistance", or "welfare") operates during this time. At this point, individual case managers are NOT checking emails and phone calls, rather all contact for those with existing accounts will go to a centralized number and email:

204-948-2888 or 1-855-944-8111

eia@gov.mb.ca

Calls will be answered in rotation, and whichever EIA agent answers the phone call or email will have access to the person's file. The EIA office is not open to the public during this time.

For those who would like to start the application process for EIA, they can do so online: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/eia/> and an EIA agent will contact them by phone to complete the application process.

Or, if the individual does not have regular access to a phone or to Internet, they can simply call 204-948-2888 (in Winnipeg) or 1-855-944-8111 to speak to an EIA agent about other ways to apply.

Some other financial-related news that pertains to our families:

- Manitoba to Postpone Eviction Hearings and Freeze Rent Increases: <https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47219&posted=2020-03-24>
- There should be a one-time increased GST cheque amount coming for low-income families in May 2020: <https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47219&posted=2020-03-24>
- Eligible recipients will receive \$300 more per child with their regular May Canada Child Benefit payment: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/coronavirus.html>
- The Emergency Care and Emergency Support Benefit application will be available in April 2020.
- EI Emergency Sickness Benefits for those who are quarantined: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/ei-sickness/apply.html>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Emily Richard

