

From: [Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX](#)
To: [Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX](#); [Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX](#)
Subject: FW: BCRB for SDPR Clients - SDPR/FIN meeting January 15th
Date: January 15, 2021 4:33:57 PM

FYI – Update on BCRB modified process. Picture and path will likely be more clear next week. Will follow-up then. Thank you.

Jonathan Dubé

Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Corporate Services Division
Tel: s.17 | Mobile: s.17
E-mail: Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca

2020 Top Work Unit Winner

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From: Pratt, Megan SDPR:EX <Megan.Pratt@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 15, 2021 3:44 PM
To: Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>; Upton, Debi L SDPR:EX <Debi.Upton@gov.bc.ca>; Robinson, Sheila A SDPR:EX <Sheila.Robinson@gov.bc.ca>; Christensen, Suzanne SDPR:EX <Suzanne.Christensen@gov.bc.ca>; Harrington, Molly SDPR:EX <Molly.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Jensen, Dana SDPR:EX <Dana.Jensen@gov.bc.ca>; Quesnel, Dwayne H SDPR:EX <Dwayne.Quesnel@gov.bc.ca>; Chiu, Cary SDPR:EX <Cary.Chiu@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BCRB for SDPR Clients - SDPR/FIN meeting January 15th

Good afternoon,

Dana, Cary, Dwayne and I attended a meeting with Ministry of Finance ED's this morning, including representatives from the Revenue Division, Banking/Cash Mgmt, Policy, CAS and OCG. The purpose of the meeting was to determine whether a FIN or SDPR system could manage the BCRB payments for SDPR clients, most specifically those clients requiring cheques. The following was discussed:

There is general agreement that we will collaborate to find a way to make payments to SDPR clients who are not otherwise eligible (e.g. don't have bank accounts, haven't filed 2019 taxes, have trouble obtaining additional information requested by FIN, or have been denied initially due to 'mismatches' in information). There is also recognition that these payments need to be distributed in a timely manner since it relates to the BC Recovery Supplement of \$150 which is being provided Jan-Mar 2021.

The group agreed (except where noted) that there are two potential options for BCRB payments to SDPR clients:

s.13

The group will set another meeting early next week once FIN/CAS has had the opportunity to review and provide detail on timing/cost/level of effort/risk and BC Mail timelines for cheque mailing.

Thank you,

Megan

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From: Pratt, Megan SDPR:EX

Sent: January 14, 2021 5:01 PM

To: Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>; Upton, Debi L SDPR:EX <Debi.Upton@gov.bc.ca>; Robinson, Sheila A SDPR:EX <Sheila.Robinson@gov.bc.ca>; Christensen, Suzanne SDPR:EX <Suzanne.Christensen@gov.bc.ca>; Harrington, Molly SDPR:EX <Molly.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Jensen, Dana SDPR:EX <Dana.Jensen@gov.bc.ca>; Quesnel, Dwayne H SDPR:EX <Dwayne.Quesnel@gov.bc.ca>; Chiu, Cary SDPR:EX <Cary.Chiu@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: BCRB for SDPR Clients

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

SDPR staff (including myself, Dana Jensen, Cary Chiu and Dwayne Quesnel) met with Ministry of Finance, Revenue Division this afternoon to discuss the payment of the BCRB to SDPR clients who otherwise are not able to complete the application process or meet eligibility criteria (e.g. requirement for a bank account for EFT, have not filed 2019 income taxes). Following are items that arose during the meeting:

s.13; s.17

Next update – after urgent meeting Friday January 14th, 10:30am.

My thanks to Dana, Cary and Dwayne for their input and support on this process and recap.

Thank you,

Megan Pratt, CPA, CGA
Executive Director and CFO
Financial and Administrative Services Branch
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
PO Box 9950 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9R3
Work: s.17 / Cell: s.17
Megan.Pratt@gov.bc.ca

Our Vision

A British Columbia where everyone has the opportunity to participate fully in their communities and reach their full potential.

Our Mission

We make a difference by providing accessible, relevant and respectful supports and services to help British Columbians overcome social and economic barriers.

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Page 05 of 10

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

From: [Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX](#)
To: [Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX](#); [Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX](#)
Cc: [Christensen, Suzanne SDPR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Recovery benefit IA/DA stats
Date: January 13, 2021 4:01:47 PM

Thanks Jonathan! Would love to get an update after your meeting.
Alisma

From: Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 12, 2021 2:38 PM
To: Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX <David.Galbraith@gov.bc.ca>; Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX <Alisma.Perry@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Christensen, Suzanne SDPR:EX <Suzanne.Christensen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Recovery benefit IA/DA stats

Right David – work is still on-going to set up the data match and for FIN to develop the modified application (e.g. on-line portal). Payment process is also still to be decided. I believe the next meeting is later this week and I will get an update for you then. I am told this is more likely to start some time in February.

From: Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX <David.Galbraith@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 12, 2021 1:58 PM
To: Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX <Alisma.Perry@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>; Christensen, Suzanne SDPR:EX <Suzanne.Christensen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Recovery benefit IA/DA stats

No word on the alternate process yet as Min of Finance and our staff work on the complexities. I haven't heard of a number of our clients yet that have accessed it yet. I will ask JD or SC if they've heard. My gut is it would take a data match so wouldn't have happened yet but I will see what they say.

David Galbraith
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Social Development and
Poverty Reduction
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fully in their communities and reach their full potential"

From: Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX <Alisma.Perry@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 12, 2021 1:51 PM
To: Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX <David.Galbraith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Recovery benefit IA/DA stats

Hi David,

Do you have any numbers yet on how many IA/DA clients have applied for the recovery benefit?

Have you heard any news from Finance on when the alternate application process will be ready?

Thanks!

Alisma

Alisma Perry

Senior Ministerial Advisor

Social Development & Poverty Reduction

Cell: s.17

Pronouns: she/her/hers

From: [Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX](#)
To: [Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX](#)
Cc: [Milne, Karen SDPR:EX](#); [McArthur, Karen SDPR:EX](#); [Upton, Debi L SDPR:EX](#); [Pratt, Megan SDPR:EX](#); [Jensen, Dana SDPR:EX](#)
Subject: URGENT REVIEW: Feb Cheque Stuffer
Date: February 8, 2021 4:31:50 PM
Attachments: [SDPR February 2021 Cheque Stuffer FINAL .docx](#)
Importance: High

Hello,

We now have a FIN approved cheque stuffer message for your review. BC Mail has extended deadline for the Feb cheque stuffer to **4:45pm today**. Thank you.

Regards,

Jonathan Dubé

Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Corporate Services Division

Tel: s.17 | Mobile:s.17 | Pronouns: he, him, his

E-mail: Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca

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Update on the BC Recovery Benefit – Issued by the Ministry of Finance

On December 8, 2020, the Province of BC introduced the BC Recovery Benefit (BCRB). The tax-free BC Recovery Benefit will help individuals and families by providing:

- \$1,000 for eligible families and single parents with incomes of up to \$125,000.
- \$500 for eligible single people with incomes of up to \$62,500.

I received a payment from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR) in December 2020 or January 2021:

SDPR clients who received income assistance, hardship assistance, disability assistance or comforts allowance in December 2020 (for January benefit month) or January 2021 (for the February benefit month) or the senior's supplement in December 2020 or January 2021 are eligible for the BCRB and no longer need to apply for it.

SDPR clients will automatically be provided the BCRB in the same form that they receive their benefits from SDPR, such as:

- Via direct deposit from the Ministry of Finance, or
- By cheque mailed to your home address, or
- Through pick up at your local office if you do not have an address on file.

What do you need to do?

- If you have already applied for the BCRB and received the full \$500 for single people or \$1,000 for single parents and families, there is no further action required.
- If you have already applied for the BCRB and received a reduced eligibility amount, you will automatically receive a top up to the full amount via the payment method you originally provided. Top up amounts of under \$10.00 will not be issued.
- If you have applied for the BCRB and are in the verification stage, you do not need to complete the verification process, as the BCRB payment will automatically be sent to you.
- If you have not applied for the BCRB, there is no further action required, as the BCRB payment will automatically be sent to you.



Please report the BCRB on your Monthly stub as “Other Income”. The BCRB payment is exempt and will not affect your monthly payment amount.

I did not receive a payment from SDPR in December 2020 or January 2021:

If you were not in receipt of income assistance, hardship assistance, disability assistance or comforts allowance in December 2020 (for January benefit month) or January 2021 (for February benefit month) or the senior's supplement in December 2020 or January 2021, you are not eligible for the automatic payment. To access the BC Recovery Benefit, you can apply through Ministry of Finance using their online application <http://gov.bc.ca/recoverybenefit> or call toll-free line at 1-833-882-0020

From: [Karimi, Nina SDPR:EX](#)
To: [Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX](#)
Cc: [Simons, Nicholas SDPR:EX](#); [Yano, Brady SDPR:EX](#); [Vavrik, Anne SDPR:EX](#)
Subject: Re: BCRB for SDPR Clients - SDPR/FIN meeting January 15th
Date: January 15, 2021 5:03:27 PM

Yay!

Nina

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2021, at 4:54 PM, Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX
<Alisma.Perry@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Here's an update from Jonathan's team on the recovery benefit for IA/DA recipients.
Still a work in progress, but looks like we'll get there!
Alisma

From: Dube, Jonathan SDPR:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 15, 2021 4:34 PM
To: Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX <David.Galbraith@gov.bc.ca>; Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX
<Alisma.Perry@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BCRB for SDPR Clients - SDPR/FIN meeting January 15th

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Megan Pratt, CPA, CGA
Executive Director and CFO
Financial and Administrative Services Branch
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
PO Box 9950 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9R3
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Cc: [Christensen, Suzanne SDPR:EX](#)
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To: Galbraith, David J SDPR:EX <David.Galbraith@gov.bc.ca>; Perry, Alisma SDPR:EX <Alisma.Perry@gov.bc.ca>
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Alisma Perry

Senior Ministerial Advisor

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