

What business owners are saying about CECRA: Comments from CFIB's 10th COVID-19 survey

May 20, 2020

"I am fearful without rent relief for April, May and June I will lose my business." - Hair Salon, St. John's, NB

"We are all in big trouble if the rent assistance is an optional, landlord applicable program. I'm sure most businesses would be helped by the government's offer of 50% rent coverage without having to depend on the property owner to opt into the program. Please make this a program that is offered to tenants. That would be a stress reliever all on its own." - Café, Courtenay, B.C.

"We need real rent relief or at least commercial evictions should not be allowed so that our landlords are incentivized to actually deal with us fairly and realistically instead of "merely" expecting their contractual rents while we have faced permanent losses when the government themselves have closed our businesses!" - Bookstore, Winnipeg, MB

"Very concerned about the lag in commercial rent assistance and there is so far no assistance for our business that is available and yet we are looking at being closed until September at the earliest AND we will be losing upwards of \$50,000 in revenues. No idea how we're going to recover/continue without assistance" - Art Centre, Langley, BC

"Changes should be made to the rent assistant program to put less pressure on the landlord and easier access to funds for the tenant. Landlords are not utilizing the program which is putting further stress on my ability to keep functioning as a business currently and when I can reopen." - Physiotherapy Clinic, Hamilton, ON

"If the government wants to give 50% of rent, give a 50%. There should be no need to ask the landlord to give 25%. Property taxes, storm water management fees, mortgage payments, etc. have not been reduced by 25% for property owners. Flat out the government is trying to make landlords look bad. As a landlord it is none of my business to know the sales of tenants." - Landscaping, Kitchener, ON

"Not sure if I understand correctly - the landlord is expected to absorb 25% of the monthly rent? Also with loan a landlord would have to wait until the support arrives. How does a landlord pay for property tax, upkeep, maintenance, janitorial, power, lawn care, spring outdoor cleaning, water and sewer? This program puts strain between a tenant and landlord." - Prosthetic & Orthotics Clinic, Fredericton, NB