Your association or organization has been identified as a key stakeholder of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). We hope you will share the following information with your membership.

***La version française suit***

**Important information related to SR&ED tax incentives during the COVID-19 crisis**

We recognize the vital role that the Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program plays in supporting Canadian businesses. We are doing everything we can to ensure that businesses receive their credits as soon as possible during these difficult times, and that innovation and creativity are fully supported when they are most needed.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)'s Business Continuity Plan has been adjusted to include priority activities that support the economic well-being of Canadians. This includes programs like SR&ED.

Here are some measure the CRA is implementing:

- Most refundable claims will be processed as soon as possible with minimal burden on the claimants, injecting funding into businesses that need it now to help manage the adverse financial implications of the pandemic. Claims accepted at this time may be subject to review/audit at a future date to ensure eligibility.

- The CRA is prioritizing objections inventory related to critical programs, including SR&ED claims.

- We will generally not contact small or medium businesses to initiate any SR&ED claim reviews. This pause is reflective of the CRA’s efforts to mitigate health risks and minimize the burden on businesses, while concentrating on prioritizing the delivery of benefits to Canadians during this challenging time.

- Any taxpayer under audit who wishes or needs their SR&ED claim review to proceed may work with their auditor remotely by telephone and through My Business Account to advance the file as much as possible under the current circumstances.
• If you have questions about the status of your SR&ED claim, we continue to be available to help and answer questions; please contact the SR&ED Program in the tax services office that serves your area. For contact information, go to canada.ca/taxes-sred.

• Should you have questions on other topics such as filing and payment deadlines and proactive relief measures, the CRA’s liaison officers will be available exclusively by phone to provide the key information that small businesses and self-employed individuals need most urgently. Business owners and self-employed individuals can fill out the Liaison Officer Service request form to have a liaison officer contact them by phone.

For more information

We thank you all for your patience as we navigate through this situation together. To learn more about how the CRA is helping Canadians with the economic impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, go to Changes to taxes and benefits: CRA and COVID-19.

For general information on the SR&ED Program, go to canada.ca/taxes-sred.

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