Dear Client,

On July 17, 2020, the federal government announced significant changes to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS), which we will refer to as CEWS 2.0. The original CEWS program (1.0) utilized an all or nothing approach in which a qualifying entity needed to have a 30% decline in revenue to receive any benefits.

The new CEWS 2.0 no longer uses an “all-or-nothing” approach. Instead it uses multiple sliding scales that adjust the amount of CEWS support based on the exact revenue decline. In circumstances of severe business decline, it may even result in CEWS being higher than under the current mechanics. In short, if you are experiencing any declines in revenue over the course of this pandemic you may be eligible for a claim under the new program.

The draft legislation introduced technical amendments to the overall program, as well as extending the program to December 2020. The extension of the program resulted in five additional 4-week claim periods (periods 5 to 9) with a final claim period (for December) to be determined later.

Period 5 – July 5, 2020 to August 1, 2020

Period 6 – August 2, 2020 to August 29, 2020

Period 7 – August 30, 2020 to September 26, 2020

Period 8 – September 27, 2020 to October 24, 2020

Period 9 – October 25, 2020 to November 21, 2020

Period 10 – a prescribed period that ends no later than December 31, 20201

The details of the program are beyond the scope of this email. If your business has experienced a decline in revenue for any of the above periods or if you would like more information about the program and its applicability to your business, please contact your partner/manager at the firm and we will be happy to assist you.

For a direct link to the Department of Finance backgrounder concerning the new CEWS 2.0 please click [here](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/07/adapting-the-canada-emergency-wage-subsidy-to-protect-jobs-and-promote-growth.html).