

Prime Minister's speaking notes for the event with Minister LeBouthillier

October 22, 2020

Introduction

- Thank you, Diane, for your work as minister, and thank you, Paule and Carl, for welcoming me.
- I've already tasted your chocolates, so I must admit I'm disappointed not to be there in person, but I'm happy to see you virtually.
- *Speaking to business owners across the country, I'm hearing what things have been like lately.*
- I know that you have adapted to the situation, in particular by taking advantage of the increase in tourism in the Gaspé and the programs for buying local products.
- This sense of innovation is what makes businesses like yours so important to our economy and our communities.

Helping businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic

- The **Emergency Wage Subsidy** is being extended, for up to 65% of eligible wages until December.
- The **new Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy was also introduced**. This subsidy will be offered directly to commercial tenants.
- For the **Canadian Emergency Business Account**, loans have been expanded to \$60,000 for small businesses in need.
- We also launched the **Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, which provides more than \$280 million to support Quebec businesses**.
- For businesses that must temporarily close their doors in response to local public health directives, financial assistance will be provided directly to those affected.

Conclusion

- We want to help Canadian businesses succeed and grow. As your government, we're here to support you.
- *Together we will get through this. It's going to be okay.*