



Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers

April 6, 2020

Amidst the uncertainty and myriad of information hitting us during this time, each of you is a source of stability, communication and hope for people across the country. Given workloads your efforts may not have been acknowledged so let me thank you for all that you do!

Government Finance Officers across Canada and around the world are at the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Your professional association, the Canadian Association of Government Financial Officers (CAGFO) is here and available to help as best we can. We want to ensure that you and your colleagues are supported in your vital roles as you address the immediate concerns of your communities and your employees at this time.

In an effort to share information and best practices around financial and other processes concerning COVID-19, we will be offering a COVID-19 CAGFO resource page on our [website](#) where, on your behalf, we will curate the very best, timely and relevant publications (webinars, articles, blogs, etc.) that we hope will provide you with information and direction through this time. To assist the process, please take a moment to [complete this COVID-19 Response Survey](#) that will help us determine the best ways to support you through this crisis. We will communicate with you as resources are added online.

A few words on the CAGFO Annual Conference scheduled for September 15 – 18, 2020 in Edmonton AB – the other volunteers and I that comprise your Board of Directors are closely monitoring events. The need to practice social distancing is paramount but we are cautiously optimistic that by this fall, we will be getting back to a more normal footing. With this in mind, our plans for the much-appreciated annual conference are still moving forward, [registration remains open](#) but we have made special arrangements for deferred payment of fees. No registrants will be held accountable for any paid registrations should the conference be cancelled due to government restrictions around the COVID-19 strategy. The hotel block remains open as well. Please [click here](#) to review the Sutton Place Hotel response to COVID-19. CAGFO values and respects the health and well-being of all our Members and we will keep you informed on any updates or changes to our annual conference.

Once again, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and professionalism that underscores your service to the public. Together as a professional community we see your humanity and the vulnerability inherent in that service and are here to support you through this journey.

Stay safe and healthy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Noreen Kassam', is positioned above the name and title.

Noreen Kassam
CAGFO President

P.S. Being very much cognizant of the events of the day that are being precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, I encourage you to stay up-to-date by reviewing the information provided by the Canadian government available online at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>.