
SUBJECT**COVID-19 - CANADA EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL RENT ASSISTANCE (CECRA)**

ISSUE

Provide an update on the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance and explain why CMHC was delivering the program?

RESPONSE

- **By the end of the program, the Government of Canada delivered more \$2 billion in rent support through the CECRA program.**
- **This assistance has helped over 140,000 small businesses, while supporting 1.26 million jobs in Canada.**
- **Following an announcement by the Department of Finance on September 8, 2020, the CECRA program concluded on September 30, 2020.**
- **On October 9, 2020, the federal government announced a new Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy, which provides simple and easy-to-access rent and mortgage support until June 2021 for qualifying organizations affected by COVID-19.**
- **This new Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency and picks up where CECRA left off, providing a subsidy for eligible fixed property expenses.**

If pressed on the program administration

- **Given its extensive experience and expertise in the real estate sector, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) was selected to deliver the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program.**
- **CMHC has a proven ability to deliver targeted and effective programming related to real estate in an expeditious and efficient manner, while ensuring proper controls over credit, property and fraud risks, and delivering value for the taxpayer.**
- **In doing so, CMHC has often partnered with the private sector to deliver impactful programs related to real estate.**
- **CMHC consulted with two financial institutions with experience in servicing commercial mortgages and requested proposals with estimated costs for the delivery of CECRA. MCAP presented a stronger proposal and the lowest cost of the two which led to the execution of a contract agreement with CMHC.**
- **The Government and the my office had no influence or role over the selection of MCAP nor did we participate in any of the negotiation or awarding of the contract. CMHC, as a Crown Corporation has the legislative and financial authorities to make sourcing decisions without consent or approval from the government of Canada.**