



**SMITTY'S CANADA INC.**

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**Bulletin #173/21**

DATE: November 16, 2021  
TO: Alberta Franchisees and Stores  
FROM: Jim Weidinger, President  
RE: Alberta Jobs Now Announcement

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Hi Alberta Stores,

Please see the statement below from Restaurants Canada:

Dear Alberta Industry Contacts,

Yesterday Premier Kenney and Labour Minister Shandro announced changes for phase two of the [Alberta Jobs Now](#) program to make it easier for employers to access the support. You may recall that the Alberta Jobs Now program provides employers with 25% of an employee's wages up to \$25,000 for a 52-week period. Accommodation and foodservice employers were the largest sector of employers to take advantage of the program in phase one. Applications for the second intake period begins today (November 10<sup>th</sup>). The new criteria for phase two of the Alberta Jobs Now program will make it even easier for restaurateurs to access program funding. Here is a summary of the eligibility changes:

- Opening the program to Alberta businesses and non-profits that have been incorporated or registered for less than a year.
- Reducing the minimum number of hours employees must work under the program from 30 to 15 hours per week.
- While the focus is on hiring unemployed and underemployed Albertans, employers may fill available positions with employed Albertans if there is a business need.
- Reducing the number of positions that employers can apply for per intake period from 20 to 10.
- Reducing the amount of time employers have to fill positions from 120 to 90 days after receiving application approval.
- Employers who have hired eligible employees since May 19, but have not submitted an application, can apply during this intake period.
- If an employer was previously declined because their employee(s) was ineligible but now qualifies under the new criteria, the employer can reapply.

More details on yesterday's(November 15<sup>th</sup>) announcement can be found [here](#). For more information on eligibility and how to apply please visit [alberta.ca/jobsnow](http://alberta.ca/jobsnow).

### **REP Implementation Grant Applications**

For those of you asking when they can apply for the \$2,000 REP Implementation Grant announced last month, Restaurants Canada understands that REP businesses will be able to apply for this funding sometime early next week. Restaurants Canada will provide application guidance once an announcement is made on accepting applications.

Please utilize this resource if you feel that it would help your business.

Kind regards,  
SMITTY'S CANADA INC.

*Jim Weidinger*

Jim Weidinger  
President