

**Reasons for Decision:**

**Order #AP2021-0114**

On <date removed>, <name removed> filed an appeal of the Director's decision to close their income assistance file. The letter communicating the decision was dated <date removed>.

The decision letter sent to <name removed>the appellant did not provide a reason for the decision.

At the hearing, the Department indicated it had been informed <name removed> was in receipt of the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). <name removed>'s bank statements confirmed they had received CERB payments, and their file was closed effective <date removed> for excess income.

<name removed> told the Board that they received approximately \$12,000 in CERB payments. The appellant provided the Department with their bank statements showing all of the CERB deposits.

In response to questions from the Board, <name removed> stated there was no dispute that they received the CERB payments. The appellant believed they applied for the CERB in <month removed>.

The Board has heard a number of CERB-related appeals. The Board is aware that there are eligibility criteria for CERB, and that CERB applicants must attest that they meet these criteria.

<name removed> acknowledged during the hearing that they received \$12,000 in CERB payments, which greatly exceeded their assistance budget. As there is no provision in *The Manitoba Assistance Act* or the *Regulation* to ignore the income, <name removed> would not have been eligible for assistance during the months in which they received the CERB funds.

Based on a careful review of the written and verbal evidence, the Board determines the Department's closure of <name removed>'s file was consistent with the legislation and regulations. The Board confirms the Director's decision to close <name removed>'s assistance file.

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