



COVID-19 - Updates from our Chamber and “Partners in Prosperity”

Dear Member & Associates:

Today's message is different. Why can we not accept differences? Why can we not all be welcomed? Why can we not see that every business, and every person, is important to our being, our community, and beyond?

As we are venturing into new territory as business and community, we emphasize *local* is important. What we need to remember, is that all businesses with a presence in Chatham-Kent *is local*. Each brings value and benefits to our municipality. I like the fact they provide Chatham-Kent with investment of 'local' taxes, I admire that they employ 'local' citizens, I appreciate they all donate to 'local' charities and projects. I also like that they offer diversity and choice. I know of corporate Franchise Owners and 'big box' Store Managers dealing with the pandemic stresses for their employees and customers. They are human. I know of small & entrepreneurial merchants acknowledging they need out of town consumers to maintain their bottom line. They are human. I, like many, shop the proprietor and entrepreneurs as possible. I, like many, shop big box and corporations as well. More so, I, like many, support our community. Don't get me wrong, we shop, dine and experience out of town. We are human.

Let's consider how we can support *local* - in all its varieties. Let's embrace and accept every business with, and for, their uniqueness and differences. In my opinion, shouldn't life, in general, be like that?

Remember the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce slogan: SHOP MEMBERS – SHOP LOCAL FIRST!

Yours in Prosperity, Gail

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SHOP MEMBERS – SHOP LOCAL FIRST!

Visit the *Canadian Business Resilience Network* at CBRN.ca for the most up-to-date, relevant tools and links to aid you through this crisis and through to the path of success.

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. Below, and other, resources are available at www.chatham-kentchamber.ca

Member Spotlight...

We're asking our members, "What is, or was, your business prior to COVID-19? What has your business implemented for your 'new normal'?"

What advice can you share with other Chamber members and fellow business?



This Member Spotlight turns the tables as we interview Erik Shaw of YourTV. Watch as Erik shares new avenues, tips and advice for fellow business.

[Watch the Video](#)

Update from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce

ONTARIO'S NEXT PHASE OF TESTING

- The Ontario government will be implementing the [next phase](#) of its COVID-19 testing strategy to detect and quickly stop the spread of the virus. You can read full plan here: [Protecting Ontarians Through Enhanced Testing](#). Testing will now be available to more people in more locations across the province. [See the OCC's response](#).
- In our joint [Reopening Canada's economy memo](#) we identified mass testing as one of six critical elements to reopening.

CANADA EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE (CECRA)

- With June 1 fast approaching, main street businesses urgently need the federal and provincial government's help with addressing commercial rent obligations. We join the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and provincial and territorial chambers in calling for immediate action. [Read the letter here](#) and [share on social](#).
- The CECRA application portal is now open to all commercial landlords in Ontario. [Apply here](#).

CANADA EMERGENCY WAGE SUBSIDY CONSULTATION

- The federal government has [launched a consultation process](#) to seek information and feedback from businesses of all sizes, in every sector, labour representatives, not-for-profits, and charities on how the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) program can be adapted to save as many Canadian jobs as possible. The consultations will close on **June 5, 2020**.
- **To participate in this consultation:**
 - Share your experience by taking a [short survey](#), or,

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Provide in-depth feedback to this email fin.cews-succ.fin@canada.ca.

- The Prime Minister Trudeau announced [\\$650 million in new funding](#), for improving the health, economic, and social wellbeing of Indigenous peoples and communities who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

On May 28, to further protect seniors and staff in long-term care homes, the Ontario government announced an [extension](#) of the mandate of the Incident Management System Long-Term Care Table. The government has also deployed long-term care [inspection teams](#) to conduct detailed inspections of highrisk homes.

Update from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is offering 62 grants of \$10,000 each to Canadian SMEs that have been affected by COVID-19 to help them recover and support their resilience. Applications open Monday, June 1 and close Friday, June 12



[Apply here](#)

Government Of Canada To Provide Rent Relief For Eligible Business Tenants In All National Parks, National Historic Sites And National Marine Conservation Areas

The Government of Canada is taking further action to support businesses operating in Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas dealing with the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The government will waive up to 75% of eligible commercial rents for the months of April, May and June 2020 or equivalent amounts of annual rents. This relief is additional to measures announced March 27 allowing commercial operators to defer payments normally due on or after April 2, 2020 to as late as September 1, 2020.

Parks Canada will be contacting all holders of commercial leases and licences of occupation in national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas to provide details on this additional relief. Information will also be made available soon on the Parks Canada website.

Government Announces \$650 Million More For Indigenous Health, Economic And Social Support

Today the Government of Canada announced an additional:

- \$285.1 million to support the ongoing public health response to COVID-19 in Indigenous communities.
- \$270 million to supplement the On-Reserve Income Assistance Program to address increased demand on the program.
- \$44.8 million over five years to build 12 new shelters, which will help protect and support Indigenous women and girls experiencing and fleeing violence.
- \$40.8 million to support operational costs for these new shelters over the first five years and \$10.2 million annually ongoing.

\$1 million a year ongoing, starting this year, to support engagement with Métis leaders and service providers on shelter provision and community-led violence prevention projects for Métis women, girls, and LGBTQ and two-spirit people. [More Information](#)

Get Free Financial And Tax Advice To Help Your Business Recover

The Business Resilience Service (BRS) allows you to connect with experienced business advisors from across Canada for guidance on which government relief programs will be most appropriate to support your small- to medium-sized business, not-for-profit or charity on how to respond and reshape amid uncertainty caused by the pandemic. All you need to do is call 1.866.989.1080. Lines are open seven days a week – including on Saturdays and Sundays – from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET. Take a few minutes and make the call this weekend. [More Information](#)

Survey: Deferral Of Payments Of Duties And Taxes

On March 27, the federal government announced the deferral of payments of duties and taxes on imports through to the end of June. Given the relationship certain importers have with their customs broker, we want to learn more about how the deferral is working in practice. We are seeking your views in a 90-second survey to inform our discussions with the government. The deadline to contribute is June 4, 2020. [Complete The Survey](#)

Update from the Federal Government

The Prime Minister announced [additional funding for health, economic, and social support for Indigenous peoples](#) and communities. Today's funding builds on the \$305 million Indigenous Community Support Fund, and the additional support provided for communities and organizations working with Indigenous peoples living in urban areas and off-reserve. COVID-19 has further highlighted the unique challenges that already exist for Indigenous peoples and communities and we are working to ensure that they have the support they need to get through this crisis.

I also want to remind you that we are looking for feedback from employers of all sizes on the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. The deadline to submit feedback is June 5th, 2020. This consultation will help inform potential changes to the program with the intent of maximizing employment while meeting the needs of businesses and workers. You can share your experience by taking [a short survey](#) or provide in-depth feedback on the [guiding questions](#) by [email](#).

UPCOMING WEBINARS

[Building Canada Stronger: In-Conversation with Former Premiers: Clark, Charest and Lord](#)

Wednesday, June 3 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

An exciting in-conversation about political leadership in the time of crisis with three former Premiers: **the Honourable Christy Clark, the Honourable Jean Charest, and the Honourable Bernard Lord.**

Register now

Planning for recovery: How to restart your business in the wake of COVID-19

Tuesday, June 2 at 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

We will be joined by BDC Chief Economist Pierre Cléroux who will give an economic update and speak about the main business trends that will reshape the way we do business, and BDC Advisory Services Executive Vice President Peter Lawler who will discuss what business owners should be doing now as they ramp up operations and also give an overview of financing support programs and resources available.

[Register Now](#)

Workplace Safety & Prevention Services (WSPS) Virtual Office Ergonomics Awareness for Small Businesses

Wednesday, June 3 at 10 am – 11 am

This session will provide you with the opportunity to connect with an ergonomics coach who will provide an introduction to ergonomics in a home office setting, tips and suggestions on adjusting the components of your temporary / make shift workstation. Suggestions will be offered in order to make use of the home environment and the resources available, and assist with comfort and productivity, optimizing setup were possible.

[Register Now](#)

Build your Online Presence, with Facebook

Wednesday, June 3 at 1:00 pm

Learn how to build your business' online presence with a Facebook Business Page and find out about the free Facebook tools to jumpstart your business online. We'll cover everything from building your Facebook business page, to communicating with your customers, and managing and measuring your page.

[Register Now](#)

EBS Cyber Security Webinar with Field Effect

Thursday, June 4 at 11:30 am

What we'll cover during this webinar:

- Cyber threats you need to be aware of
- Data trends we're seeing during the pandemic
 - Video conferencing – is it secure?
 - Email security
- How can you ensure your security in this new environment? Are there specific things to be thinking about?

[Register Now](#)

[Webinar with the Hon. Mary Ng](#)

Friday, June 5th 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

The discussion with Minister Ng will address key questions on relief programs available to small businesses during a time when they need it most, as well as provide insights on what the path to recovery may look like.

[Register now](#)

Getting Creative With Your Mobile Phone, With Facebook

June 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Learn how to plan and create content using your mobile phone. We'll share tools, tips and creative apps that can help you create high quality content for your customers and followers.

[Register Now](#)

BDC Webinar: COVID-19 How to adapt your business to thrive in the new normal

Monday, June 15th 12:00 p.m.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented level of uncertainty for entrepreneurs. Sign up for this free webinar to discover a step-by-step approach to adapting your business strategy and forging your own path through the crisis.

[Register NOW](#)

PRE-RECORDED WEBINARS

WATCH NOW: [The Road to Recovery: Townhall with the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford](#)

You can find a full list of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce webinars [here](#)

Through our relations and affiliations with the Ontario Chamber and Canadian Chambers of Commerce, you are invited to participate in the webinars that they have organized, and we recommend you participate in to help guide you through relief programs and availabilities.

TIPS FOR SAFE SHOPPING

As businesses re-open, continue to **PHYSICALLY DISTANCE** and practice **HAND HYGIENE**.



Do not go out if you are sick



Go to places you know & when it's less busy



Use curbside pick-up or delivery



Use 70% alcohol-based hand sanitizer while out



Bring a list & avoid browsing



Take what you touch



Wash hands when you get home & after unpacking



Wash produce under running water (no soaps)



Be patient as stores adjust to changing guidelines



519.355.1071 X 1900



www.ckpublichealth.com/covid19



covid19@chatham-kent.ca

 Chatham-Kent
Public Health



The Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) provides financial contributions (interest-free loans) to help support fixed operating costs of SMEs, where business revenues have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Fund, valued at more than \$962 million nationally, is delivered by Canada's six regional development agencies.

[More Information](#)



Let UPS help you come back strong

As safer at home measures start to relax and we focus on rebuilding, lean on your Chamber UPS Savings Program to address logistics challenges and deliver the tools and resources you need to help your business come back stronger than ever. Here are a few featured solutions:

INCREASE YOUR CASH FLOW

- Save 50% on all shipping domestic and international

START SELLING ONLINE, QUICKLY

- Navigate the “next normal” with these [5 Tips to Expand your E-Commerce Strategy](#).

MANAGE SHIPMENTS LIKE A PRO

- Easily see all of your inbound and outbound shipments in one place with [UPS My Choice® for Business](#).

To learn more visit: www.membersbenefitprogram.com/CKChamber

Or call: 1-800-MEMBERS (636-2377), 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., to speak with a member care specialist.



Resources:

Local

[Public Health Information on COVID-19](#)

[Workplace Information](#)

[Chatham-Kent Economic Development](#)

[Community Futures CK](#)

[Business Credit Availability Program](#)

Provincial & Federal

[Support For Your Business](#)

[Canadian Business Resilience Network](#)

[Government of Canada Support for Small Businesses](#)

[Wage subsidy for Businesses](#)

[Chamber Plan Ontario](#)

[Canada's COVID-10 Economic Response Plan](#)

[Ontario Chamber of Commerce – COVID-19 Preparedness Toolkit](#)

[Canadian Chamber of Commerce – Pandemic Preparedness Guide for Business](#)
