



Updates from our Chamber and Partners in Prosperity

Hello Everyone –

As businesses have opened with proprietors looking to save their bottom line, I have to boast of some of the programs the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce offers to its members that can have substantial impact. Our Merchant Services provide great benefit and savings for businesses that accept Visa, MasterCard and debit for sales and services, whether directly in store, or via an on-line presence. Our local representative, Naser of Berisha Merchant Services, is quick to assist and only a phone call or email away. Did you know we offer shipping options with discounts through our Purolator and UPS? From our current users, testimonials the savings are fantastic!

Respectfully, it hurts to see some businesses closing that are not able to keep up the good fight. While this is very saddening, there are businesses cropping up with new initiatives underway. Our newest members, CK Tubs & Taps and Fresh at Home, are open and ready for your business. Hubby made our first purchase of a new fixture yesterday, coming home with rave review of the offerings. We have yet to utilize Fresh at Home but I'm sure Andrew will be ready.

Today was my Mum's turn to be on front page of the Chatham Daily News, talking about safety and measures to ensure we all to our part to end this crisis. Always wearing her mask, 'For the time being, what does it hurt? It hurts us if we don't' Way to go Mum!! My hero. Some stores are asking you to wear a mask, others are not, however, we are in this together. It doesn't hurt, right?

Use the information below, in full or in part. Share. Please stay safe and stay distanced.

Yours in Prosperity,

Gail A.B. Hundt / President & CEO / Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce

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SHOP MEMBERS – SHOP LOCAL FIRST!

A banner with a light gray background. On the left, there is a faint image of a computer keyboard. In the center, there is a faint image of a green plant. On the right, there is a faint image of a white coffee cup. Overlaid on this background is the text 'Welcome New Members' in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

Welcome New Members

The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce is pleased to introduce our newest Chamber members. We continually strive to connect you to one another and to the community at large.

**Fresh At Home
CK Tubs & Taps Inc.**

Please welcome them by visiting their website and explore what they have to offer!

[Chamber Member Directory](#)



Value Added Programs



Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan offers a comprehensive benefit package designed with small business in mind. Group major medical, dental, health and life insurance ideal for firms of any size.



Esso Business Card Program offers Chamber members **3.5 cent discount** per litre off posted pump price at any Esso brand service station in Canada. **SIGN UP TODAY!!**



First Data offers preferred pricing Visa/Mastercard program for members helping members save money while making money. Extremely low rates for transaction services, **1.49** for Visa, **1.49** for Master Card and **.05** cents for a debit transaction.



CAA Insurance offers a group discount of 5% on both auto and home insurance.
Contact 1-833-389-8517



Purolator Shipping Services Program Helping you meet the challenges Offers Chamber members discounts starting at 25% on Purolator Express and Purolator Ground suite of services. Learn more at: www.purolator.com/occ



UPS Members Benefit Program Save 50% on all shipping domestic and international. Learn more at: www.membersbenefitprogram.com/CKChamber



BarterPay® is an organized bartering platform that helps businesses across Canada get the things they need without having to use money. Instead, they can pay for those things using their own goods & services!

Recovery Activation Program expands to Chatham-Kent

The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce has partnered with the Toronto Region Board of Trade & World Trade Centre Toronto's to connect businesses to the Recovery Activation Program.

The program is completely free for businesses of all sizes to digitize their operations, and open to participants across #Ontario.



You'll get:

- ✓ Training & support to digitize your operations
- ✓ A custom digital Transformation Blueprint
- ✓ Mentorship from experts

Sign up today: <http://supportbusiness.bot.com/RAP>

Chatham-Kent Small Business Recovery Grant Program

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent has established the Small Business Grant Recovery Program to provide a grant of up to \$5,000 to immediately assist small businesses who have been adversely affected in their revenue streams by the COVID-19 pandemic. Chatham-Kent Municipal Council and Administration recognizes the intense and severe financial hardship that has crippled small businesses due to the need for Public Health restrictions to slow the spread of COVID-19.

This Recovery Grant is intended to assist small business owners in their immediate needs to prepare their small business, store or restaurant in order to protect employees and staff members as they reopen for business. The grant fund pool is \$200,000 with available grants for businesses of up to \$5,000. Depending on the demand for this grant, amounts may be lower but equal for all successful applicants.

Applications will be accepted beginning Thursday, July 2nd until Thursday, July 16th, 2020.

Eligibility:

- Businesses must be located in Chatham-Kent;
- Business annual sales must be less than \$5 million;
- Business has been adversely affected due to COVID-19 pandemic and were not experiencing financial hardship prior to March 17th, 2020;
- Applicants have been unable to access other forms of relief or supports, or were ineligible;
- Business has not previously claimed bankruptcy or if so, when and proof of discharge can be provided;
- Business is not party to any outstanding claims or lawsuits;
- Business must pay commercial taxes or rent;
- Is a sole proprietorship, partnership or a corporation where the applicant is a majority; shareholder (if incorporated, application and grant funding is in personal name);
- Is a not-for-profit or other registered charity;
- If applicant owns multiple businesses, only one of the businesses may apply to be eligible for the grant;
- Locally owned franchises are eligible should they meet all other criteria;
- Maintains a separate business bank account separate from personal finances, follows government rules and regulations for operating a business.

Businesses not eligible:

- Corporate franchises, commissioned sales and distributorships;
- Multi-level marketing ventures;
- Previous recipients of other government relief or supports;
- Single events such as musical ventures, bands, DJs or dance/party event organizations.

Requirements of Program:

- Business owners must provide proof that the business was established prior to March 17th, 2020 (prior to Provincial Emergency Order);
- Applicant must provide number of full-time and part-time employees;
- Applicant must be willing to have their business name published as a successful applicant;
- Successful applicants must be willing to provide a testimonial on the effectiveness of the grant on their business;
- Business owner must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident living in Ontario;
- Proof of business establishment prior to March 17th, 2020;
- Business must provide the Municipality with proof that the business taxes are up to date as of March 1st, 2020;
- Applicants must provide purpose of grant funds: how will it be used, what expenses will these monies be used towards;
- Successful applicants must sign a declaration that all information provided in the application is true and accurate;
- An audit may be performed by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent or any of its agents to ascertain the veracity of this attestation and the eligibility of the applicant under the program;
- Applicant may be required to provide documentation to support responses on the application;
- Providing false or misleading information will disqualify the applicant from this and any future related grant programs;
- Applications will be reviewed on a grant review committee. Economic Development Services will notify successful applicants.

Questions

Please contact Darlene Debeck: DARLENED@chatham-kent.ca, 519-351-7700 X2038.

Apply Online

[Click here to access the application form.](#)

Update from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Funding Available For Skilled Trades Training

On Friday the Government of Canada announced they will spend \$40 million over three years in the Union Training and Innovation Program and have launched two calls for proposals. Eligible organizations are encouraged to apply for funding through two streams: Stream 1: Investments in Training Equipment; and Stream 2: Innovation in Apprenticeship. [More Information](#)

Government Introduces Draft Regulations Providing Relief For Registered Pension Plans

On July 2 the government released draft regulations that would help employers who sponsor a Registered Pension Plan (RPP) or salary deferral leave plan for their employees to manage and maintain their benefit obligations through the pandemic. It will also assure employees who participate in salary deferral leave plans that suspending their leave of absence (e.g., via a recall to essential-service work), or deferring their scheduled leave for up to one year, will not put their plan at risk.

[More Information](#)

Government Launches Calls For Proposals Under Two Forestry Programs

The Investments in Forest Industry Transformation (IFIT) program is to invest almost \$83 million to bridge the gap between new product development and commercialization, and will ensure a more competitive and resilient forest sector. The Indigenous Forestry Initiative (IFI) is to invest almost \$13 million to support Indigenous participation in forestry-related opportunities, businesses, careers and governance. The application process is now open and organizations are encouraged to apply on Natural Resources Canada's website. [Apply Here](#)

CRA Deadline Changes

The CRA has advised that T2 Corporation Income Tax Returns and T3 Trust Income tax Returns that would have been due in June, July, or August are now due on September 1. For T2s and T3s, as previously announced, any income tax balance due on or after March 18 and before September 1 will also be due by September

1. [More Information](#)

Government Ends GST/HST And Customs Duty Payment Deferrals

The federal government has confirmed it is ending the payment deferrals as planned on June 30, today. Businesses that continue to experience difficulty in remitting GST/HST and customs duty amounts owing can contact the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to make a request for the cancellation of penalties and interest, and/or for a flexible payment arrangement with the CRA. [More Information](#)

UPCOMING WEBINARS

COVID-19 - Technology Trends And Business Continuity, Hosted By Cisco

July 8 at 2:30 p.m.

As many organizations transition through the initial disruption of a global pandemic, they are now reevaluating their digital transformation strategies to be able to meet customer needs and thrive long-term. Join Wayne Cuervo and Lisa Richardson from Cisco Canada for a discussion on technology trends and applicable business outcomes across various industries.

[Register Now](#)

Nuclear Energy as a Key Engine of Ontario's Future

July 9 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Join **Ken Hartwick**, *President and CEO of Ontario Power Generation (OPG)*, and **Rocco Rossi**, *President and CEO of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce*, as they come together

for a virtual fireside chat to discuss the importance of nuclear energy as a key part of Ontario's future.

[Register now](#)

Get Digital: Upping Your E-Commerce Game, With EDC

Thursday, July 9th at 1:00 p.m.

As COVID-19 continues to change the way consumers and businesses shop, adopting a strong online presence, early and fast, is critical to your company's success. But the best practices and tools you need to establish your e-commerce presence have also changed. That's why you won't want to miss Export Development Canada's (EDC's) free webinar on Thursday, July 9, Get Digital: Upping your e-commerce game. You'll learn how to develop your e-commerce strategy and boost your digital brand to acquire new customers. [Register Now](#)

Maintaining Business Continuity Through COVID-19 And Beyond

July 14 | 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET

The discussion will cover:

- Equipping employees to work safely and effectively from home
- How to continue providing the same level of service to your customers

Access and protect your business data no matter where you are

[Register Now](#)

[Taking Action Against Anti-Black Racism in Corporate Canada](#)

Wednesday, July 15 | 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Join the Ontario Chamber of Commerce for an In-Conversation with Founder and Chair of the Council and BlackNorth Initiative, **Wes Hall**, *ICD.D, Executive Chairman and Founder of Kingsdale Advisors* and Co-Chair, **Rola Dagher**, *President and CEO of Cisco Canada*.

[Register now](#)

How To Support Employees' Mental Health And Well-Being During COVID-19 And Beyond

July 20 | 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In a recent survey by Sun Life, over half (56%) of Canadians surveyed said COVID-19 is negatively affecting their mental health. Join Carmen Bellows, Registered Psychologist and Director, Mental Health Solutions at Sun Life Financial to learn how to develop and maintain a positive mental health environment in your organization.

[Register Now](#)

CHATHAM-KENT
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE
74th Rural Urban Dinner & Awards

Nominations are Open!

Submit your nomination today!
Deadline for nominations is Tuesday, July 28th at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 25th, 2020
Chatham-Kent John D. Bradley Convention Centre

info@chatham-kentchamber.ca
www.chatham-kentchamber.ca



Award Categories:

- Agriculturist of the Year
- Agriculture Innovator of the Year (Individual)
- Agriculture Innovator (Business/Organization/Group)
- Friend of Agriculture

[Nomination Form](#)



Wednesday, September 23rd, 2020

Willow Ridge Golf & Country Club

10 AM Registration

11 AM Shotgun Start

a day of

for only

golf \$ 120



includes golf, cart, lunch, dinner & a prize for everyone too!

Design your day your way!

The entire day is based on your time, budget and choice

PLAY

18 holes of fabulous golf (includes cart) with lunch on the turn \$105(+hst)

PLAY & STAY

18 holes of fabulous golf (includes cart) with lunch on the turn followed by delicious steak dinner \$ 120 (+hst)

CONNECT

Not golfing but would like to network over a delicious steak dinner \$45(+hst)

Sponsorship Opportunities Available! 18 hole tournament. Shotgun Start.

Register online at www.chatham-kentchamber.ca

Deadline to register is Wednesday, September 16th.
For further information contact (519) 352-7540 or info@chatham-kentchamber.ca



**Annual Golf Tournament
Willow Ridge Golf & Country Club**

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

**ARE YOU LOOKING TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS, GAIN EXPOSURE &
SUPPORT THE CHAMBER THROUGH A FUN VENUE?**

Here are some great ways!...

Looking for Hole Sponsors, [Player Prize Donations](#), [Goodie Bag Giveaways](#) And...**GOLFERS!**

Registration Sponsor Cost: \$500

Directional signage to 'Registration' accompanied with your company logo

Preferred recognition as our exclusive 'Registration Sponsor' with directional signage at registration, and extending opportunity to further promote utilizing your company tent, banners and/or pop up banners

Preferred recognition on customized scorecards

Preferred recognition on pre & post promotion through Chamber social media, website and e-broadcast

Hole Sponsor Cost: \$165

Your business will be recognized as a sponsor with hole signage, on customized Scorecards, pre & post event promotion on Chamber Social Media through website, e broadcast, Facebook and Twitter.

Enhanced Hole Sponsorship Cost: \$350

Your business hosts the hole with 1 – 2 of your representatives.

Set up a table (& tent, if you choose). Consider a giveaway!

Your business will be recognized as a sponsor with hole signage, on customized Scorecards, pre & post event promotion on Chamber Social Media through website, e broadcast, Facebook and Twitter.

Player Prize Donations

Opportunity to donate a prize for the prize table. Minimum value: \$25

Your business will be recognized as a prize donator on the prize table as well as on the Chamber website and Facebook.

Goodie Bag Giveaways

Cost: Provide 125 fun/unique promotional items

Your business will be recognized within the goodie bag as a goodie bag sponsor as well as on the Chamber website and Facebook.

GOLFERS – Do you like to golf, have fun, build business & network?

Then this tournament is for you!!! **Register Today!**

SUPPORT THE CHATHAM-KENT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Resources:

Local

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

[Workplace Information](#)

[Chatham-Kent Economic Development](#)

[Community Futures CK](#)

[Community Futures CK - Regional Relief and Recovery Fund](#)

[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](#)
