



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

Dear Member & Associates:

Morning has broken, like the first morning. Praise with elation, praise every morning.

I am sharing words from one of my favourite artists of long ago, Cat Stevens. These words seem to ring true right now. Maybe it is due to COVID-19, as I have been listening to Tea for the Tillerman a fair amount of late. The irony, Cat, now known as Yusuf Islam, is rerecording his famed album in a new version celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Today, I am celebrating like it is the first morning! Chatham-Kent has been given the open door, go-ahead for a number of businesses. We are entering Stage 2.

I am celebrating for the many proprietors and companies that have been waiting, very patiently, to greet patrons and clients. I encourage you to celebrate at a restaurant, outside in the beautiful Chatham-Kent summer weather, safely distanced. This all comes together as, along with peers, our Chamber banded and lobbied provincial government to amend AGCO rules, recognizing sidewalk and street expansions will be required to appropriately facilitate requirements. While Chatham-Kent is examining these initiatives, time will be of essence to advantage the uptake. Next steps will be to adapt and embrace these changes in our municipality. I, for one, am excited of the idea of more open air establishments, being more social while distanced. While it may be a short term plan, I envision how these changes could provide new and unique opportunities further to the future. (I might suggest visiting your barber or hair salon before Celebration Date Night - they, too, are opening!)

While we have fared better than our neighbouring communities, the CK businesses entering Stage 2 must continue with safe protocols, PPE rules and restricted capacities, while respecting the slow integration into ‘normal’. As a whole, Ontario will see larger gatherings, with groupings of 10 allowed. Daycares across the province can also reopen this Friday which, for some, may be a greater benefit than advantaging a hair cut or colour. The list of business sectors accessible to open this weekend is below, as is an assembly of valuable information from our Partners in Prosperity. Many partners, many offerings. All, in this together.

Yes, we are in praise of elation. We are moving forward. Keep up the great work Chatham-Kent! Stay Safe, Stay Distanced, Stay Supportive.

Please share this, and below, information...

Yours in Good Health and Prosperity, Gail Remember the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce slogan: **SHOP MEMBERS – SHOP LOCAL FIRST!**

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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

Update from the Provincial Government

Effective Friday, June 12th 2020 at 12:01 a.m. Businesses and services permitted to reopen with proper health and safety measures in place in regions entering Stage 2 include:

- Outdoor dine-in services at restaurants, bars and other establishments, including patios, curbside, parking lots and adjacent properties;

- Select personal and personal care services with the proper health and safety measures in place, including tattoo parlours, barber shops, hair salons and beauty salons;
- Shopping malls under existing restrictions, including food services reopening for take-out and outdoor dining only;
- Tour and guide services, such as bike and walking, bus and boat tours, as well as tasting and tours for wineries, breweries and distilleries;
- Water recreational facilities such as outdoor splash pads and wading pools, and all swimming pools;
- Beach access and additional camping at Ontario Parks;
- Camping at private campgrounds;
- Outdoor-only recreational facilities and training for outdoor team sports, with limits to enable physical distancing;
- Drive-in and drive-through venues for theatres, concerts, animal attractions and cultural appreciation, such as art installations;
- Film and television production activities, with limits to enable physical distancing; and
- Weddings and funerals, with limits on social gatherings to 10 people.

[Framework for Stage 2](#)

[Resources to prevent COVID-10 in the Workplace](#)

Find sector-specific guidelines and posters to help protect workers, customers and the general public from coronavirus (COVID-19) in Ontario

Update from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce

MORE BUSINESSES AND SERVICES TO OPEN

- The Ontario government announced that it is moving forward with a regional approach to Stage 2 of reopening the province.
- Effective Friday, June 12, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., the limit on social gatherings will increase from **five to 10 people** across the province, regardless of whether a region has moved to Stage 2.
- **For a complete list of regions entering stage 2 and businesses that can reopen, please click [here](#).**
- **[Read the OCC's response.](#)**

BANNING COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS

- The Premier has ordered legislation to ban all commercial evictions for those who qualify for the commercial rent relief program. The ban on evictions took effect on June 3 and will last until August 31. [Learn more.](#)

ONTARIO EXTENDING OUTDOOR PATIOS

- The Ontario government will allow restaurants and bars to temporarily extend outdoor patio spaces to safely accommodate patrons and staff once licensed establishments are permitted to fully reopen for business. [Learn more.](#)

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

- The federal government will soon allow limited exemptions to current border restrictions to allow immediate family — such as spouses, children and parents of minor children — of Canadian citizens and permanent residents to re-enter Canada.
- The Prime Minister stressed that anybody coming to Canada will be subject to a strict 14-day quarantine. [Learn more.](#)

Update from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

The Roadmap to Recovery, takes a comprehensive look at the challenges facing our economy and identifies 51 specific recommendations governments should adopt to overcome the challenges identified. Canada was prepared to do whatever it took to ensure we made it through this pandemic, and we need to apply the same mindset to repairing our economy.

[Read Our News Release](#)

CBRN Small Business Relief Fund

The application period for our Canadian Business Resilience Network Small Business Relief Fund opened Monday, June 1. We are offering grants to Canadian small businesses that have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to help them recover and support their resilience. These grants are made possible through the generosity of Salesforce and will be offered as a one-time payment of \$10,000 to 62 businesses across the country. Applications are open to businesses that are members of the associations and chambers that form the CBRN and are being accepted until Friday, June 12, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. ET. [Apply Now](#)

Tender Opportunity

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) has a requirement for face shields. The face shields must be made in accordance specifications listed in the request for proposal. These items will be delivered to Winnipeg, Manitoba. Firm quantity: five million, plus options. [More Information](#)

Government Changes Travel Restrictions To Ease The Movement Of Family Members

The Canada Border Services Agency is announcing that as of June 8, 2020 23:59 EDT, foreign nationals who are immediate family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents, and who do not have COVID-19 or exhibit any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or who do not have reason to believe they have COVID-19, will be exempt from the prohibition on entry to Canada if entering to be with an immediate family member for a period of at least 15 days. People admitted into Canada pursuant to this exemption must quarantine for 14 days. [More Information](#)

Agri-Food Workplace Protection Program

Eligible activities

Activities necessary to address a new and immediate health and safety issue directly related to COVID-19 response:

- Modifications within an agricultural operation to ensure appropriate safety with regards to social distancing needs (e.g., physical barriers)
- Acquiring personal protective equipment and other approved safety supplies for use throughout an agricultural operation and on-farm housing for workers
- Cleaning and disinfection throughout an agricultural operation and on-farm housing for workers

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/cap/capproducers.htm>



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.

Applications are now fillable and can be submitted directly to [online here](#)

UPCOMING WEBINARS

Webinar | Travel Insurance In The World Of COVID-19, With Johnson Insurance
Wednesday, June 10 at 1:00 p.m.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected our ability to travel. Yet as restrictions are slowly lifted and lockdown measures decrease, travel constraints will ease up. Once travel is allowed, people will have questions about travel insurance. What am I covered for? Is my current travel insurance policy sufficient? Where can I go if I have further travel insurance questions?

[Register Now](#)

Cannabis & The Workplace: Overview of CannaEd Learning

Thursday, June 11 from 10:00 am to 10:45 am

During this session, you will learn about: Why every employer in Canada should consider cannabis education and a workplace impairment policy. How cannabis education can address concerns and risks while keeping in mind inclusivity and human rights. See a short demo of the e-learning course and learn how easy it can be to set up for your organization

[Register now](#)

Recovery in the Food Processing Industry Webinar

Thursday, June 11th at 12:00 p.m.

A discussion on the impact of COVID-19 on the food processing industry across the province. This exciting conversation with industry leaders, will provide a timely overview of the current state of the food processing supply chain and the steps for recovery and strengthening of the industry.

[Register Here](#)

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](#)

Physical Return To Work: Practical Realities And Transformative Opportunities, With EY

June 17th, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Organizations are faced with a new duality of safely transitioning people back to physical locations while reimagining the future of work and business. Learn about:

- Operational resilience
- Health and safety considerations for a physical return to work
- Technology and cybersecurity concerns

[Register Now](#)

Take Control of Your Business: 3 Simple Tools to Help Your Business Survive and Thrive with Bradshaw & Associates

June 22, 1:30 p.m.

[Register Now](#)

How to Build an Effective Advertising Strategy with Facebook

June 24, 1:00 p.m.

[Register Now](#)

PRE-RECORDED WEBINARS

WATCH NOW: 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.

Hello Chatham-Kent Businesses! With changes in business quickly evolving, you may need access to offering Debit, VISA and Mastercard, and the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce can help you access and at rates guaranteed to help save on your bottom line! Contact us TODAY!



First Data Chamber Merchant Services Credit Card Processing to Help Drive Business



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](#)

[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](#)
