



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

Dear Members and Associates:

This past weekend was refreshing. Hubby and I spent the majority of our time outside, walking, working on the yard, chilling in the night air. It felt good. This brings about anticipation for the days we can expand our territory. We regularly ‘vacation’ in Chatham-Kent, visiting restaurants, parks, waterways, retailers and great hot spots spattered across our municipality. We will indulge again, no doubt, and are fortunate to have ‘all that’ at our doorstep. We have a growing list of local spots that we can’t wait to visit again, or for the first time. People and business are cautiously ready to expand their COVID-19 borders. As we live to shop local, also remember to support local through revisited ‘experiences’ and of new ‘memories’ too. I encourage you to make your Chatham-Kent ‘bucket’ list of places you would like to visit or and things to do this summer, or fall, or Like a dog unleashed, our time will come to run and explore.

This week, we are offering webinars for business through the Canadian Chamber and Ontario Chamber of Commerce, and open to all business sectors and sizes.

Merger and Acquisition Strategies, Succession Planning and Preparing for Recovery - Being held this Wednesday, May 6th, at 2:00 pm, please register at link below. A live interactive discussion will help you understand how businesses are thinking about M & A strategies, success and planning for eventual rebound as we emerge from lock-down.

Clarifying Government Relief Programs for Business – Being held this Thursday at noon, please register at link below. The session, offered through the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, is open to all sectors and size of business. This conversation will address key questions about the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program and how it applies to employers across the province.

Feel free to share this, and below information.

Stay Safe, Distanced and Connected. Yours in Prosperity, *Gail Hundt* / President & CEO gail@chatham-kentchamber.ca

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](https://www.facebook.com/chathamkentchamber) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/chathamkentchamber) for up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. Below, and other, resources area available at www.chatham-kentchamber.ca



Physically Distanced, Staying Connected

BYOB HAPPY HOUR

Every Wednesday

Next one: Wednesday, May 6th, 2020

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Chamber Members Only

Please note this event has a maximum of 20 participants
Credentials will be provided after registering for the event

[REGISTER HERE](#)

List of Essential Workplaces – as of May 4th

Following advice from Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health, as of Monday, May 4, 2020, certain businesses and workplaces may reopen as long as they comply with strict public health measures and operate safely during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Businesses that are not identified on this list must keep their physical place of business closed.

- [Click here to read the Ontario list of essential workplaces](#)

If you have questions about what will be open or impacts to your business or employment

[read the frequently asked questions](#) or call the Stop the Spread Business Information Line at [1-888-444-3659](tel:1-888-444-3659).

Update from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

ICC Launches SOS (Save Our SMEs) Website

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) has launched a new website for the SOS (Save Our SMEs) campaign. The website features key advocacy materials and is designed to help entrepreneurs find the insights and information they need to navigate through COVID-19. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Canada’s national committee for the ICC, provides a platform for our members to become involved in International Chamber of Commerce activities. [Visit SOS Website](#)

Mental Health Week Begins Monday, May 4!

COVID-19 has placed a significant amount of pressure on employees, employers and families. Isolation, fear for the well-being of loved ones and financial strain are creating disruptions in all our lives. During these difficult times, it is important to know the resources that are available to help you stay mentally healthy. We encourage you to check out

our mental health resources on the Canadian Business Resilience Network website, especially now with the upcoming Mental Health Week. Please share them with your friends, family and colleagues. [More Information](#)

[Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance \(CECRA\) Portal](#)

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is administering the CECRA program on behalf of the Government of Canada and the provinces and territories. CMHC now has a portal online for the program; however, applications are still unavailable. [Access the CMHC portal](#)

UPCOMING WEBINARS

M&A strategies, succession planning and preparing for recover

Wednesday, May 6th 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

A live interactive discussion to help you understand how businesses are thinking about their M&A strategies, succession and planning for the eventual rebound as we emerge from lock-down and deploy cash in an era of ultra-low interest rates. [Register Now](#)

[Clarifying Government COVID-19 Relief Programs for Business](#) - **Thursday May 7th 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.**

Do you have questions about the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program?

[Register Now](#)

The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Explained

Thursday May 7, 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Discussion to include: Eligibility criteria, Qualifying periods, Eligibility criteria, Application process, Issues and opportunities, Frequently asked questions

[Register Now](#)

PRE-RECORDED WEBINARS

Our latest webinars:

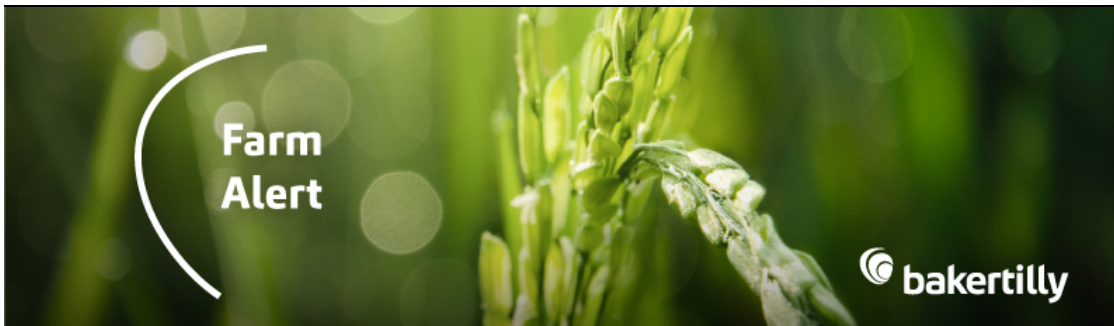
WATCH NOW: [Information Security and Data Privacy in the age of COVID-19](#)

WATCH NOW: [How Big Data is Being Used to Combat COVID-19](#)

WATCH NOW: [Cross Border Transportation During COVID-19](#)

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.



COVID-19 government programs for farmers: Do you qualify?

Thomas Blonde, BSc (Agr), CPA, CA, is a partner at Baker Tilly GWD

Much information has been published in recent weeks about government programs designed to assist businesses and individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, specifics about whether farmers can qualify for these programs have not been readily available.

[Read more](#)

This Mother's Day... Shop Members, Shop Local First.

Their doors may be locked but they are Open for Business



The Glasshouse Nursery & Garden Centre has gone online! www.glasshousenursery.ca

If you cannot find what you are looking for give us a call 519-352-1127!
We have all of your gardening products and gifts for Mom!

Zero-Contact Curb Side Pick Up and home delivery of our bulk landscape material available.



One of the biggest realizations that we've had during this pandemic is how fierce women are.

This Mother's Day, The Purple Pansy is celebrating women!
Nurses, doctors, grocery store employees, truck drivers. Moms, wives, sisters, and fiancées.
All of you deserve to be recognized this mother's day for the incredible women you are.
Trust the professionals at The Purple Pansy to help you choose the perfect gift.

Open mother's day week with curbside preorder pick ups, and preorder porch deliveries.

Call to book your order early 519-354-5555.

www.purplepansy.ca

instagram: thepurplepansy

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Purple-Pansy-flower-boutique-125634247535/>



Rubies may not be able to invite you into the store to browse but you can book the next best thing... a personal virtual shopping tour (learn more here <https://www.facebook.com/RubiesChatham/videos/2498819277114874/>).

Helpful staff is available Monday through Saturday 9:30am-5:00pm via phone 519-351-1119, email: sales@rubiesinc.ca or Facebook Messenger to assist you in finding the perfect gift for that special person in your life.

Engraving orders are still being accepted too.

Contactless pickup and payment will be arranged for any purchases.



Syd Kemsley Florist is offering safe non contact porch delivery and curbside pick up for the week May 4th to May 9th Monday-Saturday 9-5 pm and Sunday May 10, 9-1 pm.

Our storefront is closed but you can place an order by phone 519-354-1300 or on our website www.kemsleyflowers.com.

We are also offering free delivery locally in Chatham (outside Chatham a delivery fee will be added).

We have lots to choose from: fresh arrangements, hand tied cut flowers, dish gardens ,outdoor patio pots.



Make the most out of your Chamber membership and take advantage of some of the most competitive rates available on shipping services with the UPS Members Benefit Program.

The discount for the Chamber UPS Canada shipping program has increased to 50%

We're excited to share this opportunity with you and enhance our members' savings through UPS*.

Visit www.membersbenefitprogram.com/CKChamber or call 1-800-MEMBERS (1-800-636-2377), M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST. and see how you'll save!

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](#)