



Sent: May 13, 2024 1:33 PM

To: 'darrin.canniff@chatham-kent.ca' <darrin.canniff@chatham-kent.ca>; 'conor.allin@chatham-kent.ca' <conor.allin@chatham-kent.ca>; 'lauren.anderson@chatham-kent.ca' <lauren.anderson@chatham-kent.ca>; 'michael.bondy@chatham-kent.ca' <michael.bondy@chatham-kent.ca>; 'anthony.ceccacci@chatham-kent.ca' <anthony.ceccacci@chatham-kent.ca>; 'marjorie.crew@chatham-kent.ca' <marjorie.crew@chatham-kent.ca>; 'ryan.doyle@chatham-kent.ca' <ryan.doyle@chatham-kent.ca>; 'amy.finn@chatham-kent.ca' <amy.finn@chatham-kent.ca>; 'aaron.hall@chatham-kent.ca' <aaron.hall@chatham-kent.ca>; 'melissa.harrigan@chatham-kent.ca' <melissa.harrigan@chatham-kent.ca>; 'rhonda.jubenville@chatham-kent.ca' <rhonda.jubenville@chatham-kent.ca>; 'jamie.mcgrail@chatham-kent.ca' <jamie.mcgrail@chatham-kent.ca>; 'brock.mcgregor@chatham-kent.ca' <brock.mcgregor@chatham-kent.ca>; 'carmen.mcgregor@chatham-kent.ca' <carmen.mcgregor@chatham-kent.ca>; 'alysson.storey@chatham-kent.ca' <alysson.storey@chatham-kent.ca>; 'trevor.thompson@chatham-kent.ca' <trevor.thompson@chatham-kent.ca>; 'john.wright@chatham-kent.ca' <john.wright@chatham-kent.ca>

Subject: IMPORTANT - Council Agenda Item - Procedure to Fill Vacancy on Council

Dear Mayor and Council:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am communicating our support of the Municipal Administration recommendations in the matter of Procedure to Fill Vacancy on Council. Following Councillor Pinsonneault's departure to provincial representation, these recommendations to Council are wise and prudent advice on behalf of the Municipality, the community and the taxpayer.

In this case, if able to avoid an estimated cost of \$75,000 to hold a by-election, and trusting Moréna McDonald will accept the appointment, the recommendations to Council are forward thinking and sound advice in saving time and monies. While we do not endorse candidates, we do endorse actions made for the right reasons. As such, the Municipality will be adding a Councillor that can provide vision, inclusivity and a proactive voice to a prosperous Chatham-Kent.

To note, we recruited Moréna McDonald to our Board of Directors, joining on February 29th of this year. In our opinion, Moréna brings a strong and youthful entrepreneurial business mindset, sensible ideas and inclusive leadership to all she is involved in. She is vested as Co-Chair of the municipal Power of Young People Advisory Group and is serving on the Community Development Advisory Committee. She is also one of the organizers instrumental to the successful Dresden Night Market and the May 16th Miracle. For all these reasons, she was an ideal candidate to join our Board representation.

Yet, with your support of the recommendations of appointment to Council, the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce will lose a valuable member of our Board. As an elected official, resignation from our Board of Directors is mandatory should Ms. McDonald fill the Council vacancy. We recognize this knowing, if accepted, the Municipality of Chatham-Kent Council will include additional proactive leadership and, of importance, without spending time and taxpayers monies unnecessarily.

With that, we ask and trust Council to accept the recommendations brought forth to Procedure to Fill Vacancy on Council.

Yours in Prosperity,

Gail A.B. Hundt / President & CEO / Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce
gail@chatham-kentchamber.ca / 519 352 7540 ext 2213
chatham-kentchamber.ca / 54 Fourth St., Chatham ON N7M 2G2