

## **COVID-19 - Updates from our Chamber and "Partners in Prosperity"**

Dear Members and Associates:

Making a Difference. Chambers Matter.

Today, we've included two videos to watch.

One: The Member Spotlight on Peach Physiotherapy as I had mentioned in yesterdays message. Steve provides interesting perspective on being creative while continuing doing business. He gives bonus showcase by providing stretches to help with neck, back and shoulder muscles, along with recommendations on relaxing.

Two: An interesting interview on *The Agenda* including Ontario Chamber of Commerce, VP Policy, Ashley Challinor and Jan de Silva, President & CEO, Toronto Region Board of Trade (kin to a Chamber of Commerce). Although it might sound 'big city', it is not. Quite the opposite. This watch will hit home in many ways as Chatham-Kent is seeing, and doing, much the same as discussion includes small business, Business Improvement Areas (BIA), rural internet and Digital Main Street initiatives. At end, the interview truly brings full circle. When you watch, you will know what I mean!

Our Premier announced plans for reopening with, some, '*Open for Business*' as of May 4<sup>th</sup> and we will follow for continued, planned, execution. As you are readying, keep safety and good health of All at the forefront. For now, have a relaxing weekend, enjoy the outdoors and burn some good energy. There is positivity in the air.

This information, and that below, is always open to sharing, please pass it on. Care and Share.

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 <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> for up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. Below, and other, resources area available at <u>www.chatham-kentchamber.ca</u>

#### Member Spotlight...

We're asking our members, "How are you managing and creating a 'new normal' during the COVID-19 crisis?" This week we profiled Peach Physiotherapy & Wellness Centre, provides insight & adds 'bonus' stretching tips in working long hours at computers and make shift desks.



### Ontario's COVID-19 Small Business Woes – The Agenda Video

More than six weeks after Ontario declared a state of emergency, businesses in the province continue to contend with ongoing closures and uncertainty. To discuss what's happening with small and medium-sized enterprises in the province:

Jan De Silva, president and CEO, Toronto Region Board of Trade; Ashley Challinor, vice president of policy at the Ontario Chamber of Commerce; and Rafael Gomez, associate professor and director of the Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources at the University of Toronto.

Watch the Video



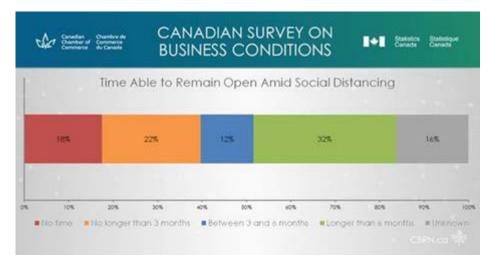
# Physically Distanced, Staying Connected BYOB HAPPY HOUR

*Every Wednesday* Next one: Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 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

### Canadian Survey on Business Conditions: Results



Thank you to all business owners for taking the time to participate in the Canadian Survey on Business Conditions!

Results will help governments and chambers of commerce across Canada create strategies and mechanisms to foster business continuity during and after COVID-19

Learn More

Update from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

#### Letter To Ministers Urging The Funding Of Shovel-Ready Projects

Infrastructure spending will play a crucial role in our economic recovery, which is why we issued a letter to Ministers McKenna and O'Regan calling on the government to choose shovel-ready projects from the National Trade Corridors Fund administered by Transport Canada. Dozens of shovel-worthy projects were unsuccessful in previous calls for proposals. We encourage the government to work with Transport Canada and fund projects that have already applied for funding through this program. **Read The Letter** 

#### Legislation Supporting Students And Recent Graduates Progresses

The legislation required to enact the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) and the Canada Student Service Grant (CSSG) passed the House of Commons on Wednesday, including a \$250/month boost to the proposed CESB. The Senate will consider the legislation Friday, with the Government of Canada moving to implement the programs as quickly as possible once the bill becomes law. **Read The Media Coverage** 

#### 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. <u>Access the CMHC portal</u>

## **UPCOMING WEBINARS**

#### M&A strategies, succession planning and preparing for recover

Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 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

# **PRE-RECORDED WEBINARS**

Cross Border Transportation During COVID-19 WATCH NOW: <u>https://bit.ly/2zqtH8T</u>

You can find a full list of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce webinars <u>here</u>

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.



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

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.

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

Visit <u>www.membersbenefitprogram.com/CKChamber</u> 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