



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

Dear Member & Associates

Today, the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund: COVID-19 was announced. Details and link below. As we are entering recovery mode, more expenses are ahead. We know that in order to safely open business to the public, it will take monies and added costs to do so. As the Voice of Business, and an organization that exists to support success of Chatham-Kent business, this fund is welcomed. As many volunteers in the community have been working together on recovery strategy and efforts for our Municipality, the timing of this latest government offering is warranted, and wanted.

While this does bring some relief going forward, there are still some businesses left behind. We know this, partnering Chambers know of it, provincial and federal governments know it too. ‘Rent’ truly has become a four letter word, in a negative sense. There has to be a means to correct this wrong. The program misses the mark in so many ways. We need to fix that. Still, there are businesses shut out from other programs as well. Businesses are not structured as ‘one size fits all’, reliefs can’t be either. That isn’t reassuring to businesses not assisted as yet, however, the work is not done.

While we are hearing more on ‘recovery’ efforts and less on ‘sustaining’ initiatives, both avenues continue towards the same end point. One is no more, or less, important than the other. Everyone, at every level, has their eye on the final destination, Prosperity.

I am packing my goods for May16Miracle, are you? If you are unable to donate goods, your time is as welcomed. If you can, do. If you can’t, all is respected. For details, visit [www.may16miracle.com](http://www.may16miracle.com).

As always, please share this information to your contacts and those that may benefit from the below information. Stay strong, stay safe.

Yours in Prosperity, Gail

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SHOP MEMBERS – SHOP LOCAL FIRST!

Visit the *Canadian Business Resilience Network* at [CBRN.ca](http://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 area available at [www.chatham-kentchamber.ca](http://www.chatham-kentchamber.ca)



### May Premium Adjustments Due to COVID-19

We are now able to confirm the following credits, which represent portions of the premium you were billed for May, will be applied to your June billing:

- Dental: 50% premium adjustment
- Extended Health: 10% premium adjustment

Once again, there is nothing for you to do. **These credits will be applied automatically.** While certain healthcare providers were given permission to reopen at the start of May, we will continue to support firms and their employees in this way until such time as employees are able to make use of these services and claims experience begins to return to normal.

Chambers Plan is founded on a pooled approach to benefits, contributing to its unparalleled rate stability. Rates are established, fully or partially, in keeping with the combined experience of all firms on the Plan. We want to assure you, we will continue monitoring the situation to protect the stability you have come to expect, and which is central to the Plan.

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As attention shifts to [#reopening](#) the economy, there are critical elements that must be addressed from the availability of personal protective equipment to mass testing.

Help the OCC advocate for the best policies by completing our survey: <https://bit.ly/2Ljrsad> [#COVID19](#)

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## Update from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

### Regional Relief and Recovery Fund will help SMEs that fall into COVID-19 Support Cracks

Today's statement of the \$962 million in funding to Canada's Regional Development Agencies and Community Futures Network will bring desperately needed help to SMEs unable to qualify for the COVID-19 support announced to date. [Read our full statement here](#)

### Regional Relief and Recovery Fund

### Innovation Canada: Interactive Business Benefits Finder

Innovation Canada's digital platform brings together all of the latest COVID-19 supports for businesses as well as hundreds of other programs and services offered by federal, provincial and territorial governments. Businesses answer a few quick questions and get access to:

- Opportunities to find funding, wage subsidies, loans, tax credits and expert advice offered by government and some not-for-profits too.
- A tailored list of the right supports for their business, delivered to them in under two minutes.
- The option to save their favourite programs to review later.

The email notification feature, where they can sign up to get emails whenever a program changes, an application deadline approaches or a brand new program is introduced that meets their needs, including new COVID-19 supports. [More Information](#)

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## **UPCOMING WEBINARS**

[Town Hall with the Premier of Ontario and Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade](#)

**Thursday, May 14 from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm**

A discussion on the road to economic recovery with the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

[Register now](#)

### **BDC Webinar: Planning for recovery: How to restart your business in the wake of COVID-19**

May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m.

What will recovery look like for Canadian businesses?

Discover what various business sectors can expect as well as the steps entrepreneurs need to take to successfully jump-start their operations.

[Register Now](#)

## **PRE-RECORDED WEBINARS**

**WATCH NOW:** [Clarifying Government COVID-19 Relief Programs for Business](#)

**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](#)

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.

**THE HUNGRY IN CHATHAM-KENT  
NEED OUR HELP.**

Join the fight on May 16<sup>th</sup> and help make a miracle.

**May 16<sup>th</sup>  
at  
noon**

**Place a  
non-perishable  
on your doorstep.**

**We'll pick  
it up.**

**And give it  
to those  
who need it.**

## A Reopening Playbook And Checklists To Businesses

**Determine plan for seasonal inventory - Non-essential retail**

**Contract & references:**

- Review contract, understand what is being supplied, delivery of goods / service dates
- Understand price point volume

**Risk Assessment of suppliers: Two factors to assess risk - degree of impact of COVID-19 to the supplier and criticality of supplier to retailer's business**

**Retail Operations: Three key priorities for retailers**

- 1. Supply chain management**
  - Stabilize supply & adapt to new demand
- 2. Inventory management**
  - Keep relevant items in stock while avoiding wastage
- 3. Store operations**
  - Flexibly manage operating processes, including labour & operating hours, while demand remains uncertain

**Manage help of products**

**Determine re-opening approach**

To assist retailers in their reopening planning, Retail Council of Canada, in partnership with the Boston Consulting Group and retailers from across Canada, are leveraging global best practices for a diverse range of retail formats with the fundamental aim of ensuring a safe environment for employees and customers. [Go to download](#)



## ***Wouldn't it be great to get the things you need without using money?***

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!

So now, you as a business owner, can acquire some of the things you need and pay by issuing your own goods and services to the network and keeping your hard-earned cash in the bank.

GO TO [chamber.barterpay.ca](http://chamber.barterpay.ca) TO LEARN HOW IT WORKS!



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](http://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!

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## **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](#)

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