



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

February 2, 2022

premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Small Business Support in Essex-Windsor

The Council of The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, January 25, 2022, gave consideration to a letter received from The Corporation of the County of Essex, dated January 7, 2022 requesting support for small businesses in Essex-Windsor.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

That the Town of Tecumseh **support** the January 7, 2022 County of Essex letter to the Premier of Ontario regarding support for Small Business in Windsor-Essex.

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh's support of the County of Essex' letter of January 7, 2022. A copy of the January 7, 2022 letter from the County of Essex is attached for your ease of reference.

Yours very truly,

Laura Moy, Dipl.M.M.
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

LM/sw

Attachments

1. County of Essex letter of January 7, 2022

cc: The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
(MEDJCT.Minister@ontario.ca)
The Hon. Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction
(nina.tangri@pc.old.org)
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance (minister.fin@ontario.ca)
Michelle E. DiEmanuele, Secretary of the Cabinet (M.DiEmanuele@ontario.ca)
Greg Orencsak, Deputy Minister of Finance (greg.orencsak@ontario.ca)
Taras Natyshak, MPP – Essex (tnatyshak-gp@ndp.on.ca)

Rick Nicholls, MPP – Chatham-Kent-Essex (rmicholls-co@ola.org)
Percy Hatfield, MPP – Windsor-Tecumseh (phatfield-gp@ndp.on.ca)
Lisa Gretzky, MPP – Windsor West (lgretzky-gp@ndp.on.ca)
Warden Gary McNamara, County of Essex (gmcnamara@countyofessex.ca)
Mike Galloway, Chief Administrative Officer, County of Essex (mgalloway@countyofessex.ca)
Valerie Critchley, Interim Director of Legislative Services & Clerk, Town of Amherstburg (vcritchley@amherstburg.ca)
Robert Auger, Clerk, Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk, Town of Essex (rauger@essex.ca)
Paula Parker, Clerk, Town of Kingsville (pparker@kingsville.ca)
Kristen Newman, Director of Legislative and Legal Services/Clerk, Municipality of Lakeshore (knewman@lakeshore.ca)
Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Council Services/Clerk, Town of LaSalle (jastrologo@lasalle.ca)
Brenda Percy, Municipal Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services, Municipality of Leamington (bpercy@leamington.ca)
Steve Vlachodimos, Clerk, City of Windsor (svlachodimos@citywindsor.ca)
(clerks@citywindsor.ca)
Mary Birch, Director of Council Services & Community Services/Clerk, County of Essex (mbirch@countyofessex.ca)
Rakesh Naidu, CEO, Windsor-Essex Chamber of Commerce (rnaidu@windsoressexchamber.org)
Gordon Orr, CEO, Tourism Windsor-Essex (gorr@tourismwindsoressex.com)

January 7, 2022

Premier Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier,

Re: Small Business Support in Essex-Windsor

We are writing to you on behalf of the small businesses in the Essex-Windsor region struggling to keep their doors open in the face of further public health restrictions that continue to increase costs while drastically diminishing the ability to generate revenue. There is a very real risk of widespread closures in a region like ours that is so heavily reliant on cross-border commerce and the tourism and hospitality sector.

We were heartened by your government's announcement Friday that it will provide a \$10,000 grant for eligible businesses subject to closures under the modified Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen, as well as your commitment to providing electricity-rate relief for businesses and workers and families spending more time at home.

We agree with Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade that "small businesses, job creators and the entrepreneurial spirit are the backbone of Ontario's economy" and encourage you to consider providing additional supports to struggling businesses in Essex-Windsor.

The rise of the Omicron variant has had a devastating impact on local businesses, who were already struggling two years into this pandemic. Not only must these businesses deal with closures, capacity restrictions and the cost of implementing vaccine certificate protocols, but also with members of the public who are reluctant to shop local as they perceive it safer and more convenient to shop online.

Even before Omicron, nearly two-thirds of small businesses across Canada had not seen sales return to normal levels. And, of this group, nearly a quarter report their business may fail within the next six months. The need for significant and immediate financial help is critical.

Small Business Support in Essex-Windsor

January 7, 2022

We urge your government to:

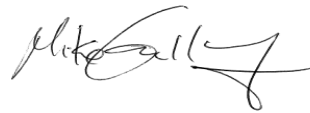
1. Expedite the rollout of the just-announced Ontario Small Business Support Grant and make it easy for small businesses to access.
2. Consider boosting the supports available under that program as well as implementing additional support programs for small business.
3. Provide small businesses immediate access to the government portal for grants and subsidies.
4. Urge the Federal Government to work with the Province to reinstate the commercial rent assistance program
5. Provide financial assistance to businesses to implement new vaccine certificate protocols (implementing new QR code reader, staffing people to check vaccine passports, etc.)

Rapid action and significant support is needed to avoid a wave of small business closures in Essex-Windsor and we urge you to push both privately and publicly for these measures.

Sincerely,



Gary McNamara
Warden



Chief Administrative Officer

Cc; The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario (doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)
The Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org)
The Hon. Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction (nina.tangri@pc.ola.org)
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance (peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)
Taras Natyshak, MPP, Essex (tnatyshak-q@ndp.on.ca)
Rick Nicholls, MPP, Chatham-Kent-Essex (rick.nicholls@pc.ola.org)
Percy Hatfield, MPP, Windsor-Tecumseh (Phatfield-q@ndp.on.ca)
Essex County Local Municipalities (Clerks by email)

519-776-6441 ext. 1327
TTY 1-877-624-4832

360 Fairview Ave. W.
Suite # 314 Essex, ON N8M 1Y6

 countyofessex.ca

Small Business Support in Essex-Windsor

January 7, 2022

City of Windsor (Clerks Office by email)

Rakesh Naidu, CEO, Windsor-Essex Chamber of Commerce

(rnaidu@windsoressexchamber.org)

Gordon Orr, CEO, Tourism Windsor-Essex (gorr@tourismwindsoressex.com)

Michelle E. DiEmanuele, Secretary of the Cabinet (M.DiEmanuele@ontario.ca)

Greg Orencsak, Deputy Minister of Finance (greg.orencsak@ontario.ca)

 519-776-6441 ext. 1327
TTY 1-877-624-4832

 360 Fairview Ave. W.
Suite # 314 Essex, ON N8M 1Y6

 countyofessex.ca