Hi All,

Please see the email below with an excellent outline of the new measures and restrictions implemented from the Province of Ontario today.

The Chamber of Commerce has done a good job summarizing the changes. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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From: Hamilton Chamber of Commerce <[hcc@hamiltonchamber.ca](mailto:hcc@hamiltonchamber.ca)>

Sent: January 12, 2021 3:28 PM

Subject: Ontario Declares Second Provincial Emergency to Address COVID-19

Provincial COVID-19 Update

Ontario Declares Second Provincial Emergency to Address COVID-19

The Ontario government is immediately declaring a second provincial emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMPCA).

Effective Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 12:01 a.m., the government is issuing a stay-at-home order requiring everyone to remain at home with exceptions for essential purposes, such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, for exercise or for essential work.

Click here to read the full announcement. <<https://i7.t.hubspotemail.net/e2t/tc/VX9Vzw6G0R34W6Fmj8H4xWQ7BW3pvQRf4lLQm7N7Hm8wm5kbT5V3Zsc37CgKybW3tJD3F10RzzGW4PvFVm1FL9MWW5W2y6D21fSw5N4DSDD7NFBQWW5LjBSp45LxffW3Wzzwx3kkpLPW8xc7xW2SthnMW5r_bNj3xKcsGW6CCPX46wcRYzW64B4K69972nPW5Ddwtf4c65q0Vs5VKZ3Rqy0cV9JTwP6-WwG1W1V9TGm3Tmz0jW1jLj-g3t-s41VM_yDX6b4y71W6m6yKd8rxq_nN1TcQpZ6_G4LW1QkCJ_2fqp7TW4ncMMk2v46xlW75rJSy76BpvSN722T8pD3kYGW73GdB180y23CW4tFdy15McDG2VpgRgl4NYmYNVBdKg27PythDVfnqW36T8Zs4W8SMz6-7FN-__W4tSCHz7P9vgxW3MLL145h8yFkW3pYxvm6s6LzGV7PqJg1-dBBH355r1>>

Additional Public Health Restrictions:

\* Outdoor organized public gatherings and social gatherings are further restricted to a limit of five people with limited exceptions.

\* Individuals are required to wear a mask or face covering in the indoor areas of businesses and organizations that are open.

\* All non-essential retail stores, including hardware stores, alcohol retailers, and those offering curbside pickup or delivery must open no earlier than 7 a.m. and close no later than 8 p.m. The restricted hours of operation do not apply to stores that primarily sell food, pharmacies, gas stations, convenience stores, and restaurants for takeout or delivery.

\* Non-essential construction is further restricted, including below-grade construction, exempting survey.

New Enforcement Measures:

The province will provide authority to all enforcement and provincial offences officers (including the Ontario Provincial Police, local police forces, bylaw officers, and provincial workplace inspectors) to issue tickets to individuals who do not comply with the stay-at- -order, or those not wearing a mask or face covering indoors as well as retail operators and companies who do not enforce. Those who decide not to abide by orders will be subject to set fines and/or prosecution under both the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, (ROA) and EMCPA.

Workplace Safety:

The Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is taking additional steps to protect workers with the launch of the "Stay Safe All Day" campaign, focusing workplace inspections in areas of high transmission, including break rooms, and providing new home educational materials to employers to promote safe behaviour before, during and after work.

As part of the "Stay Safe All Day" campaign, inspectors will use a data-driven approach to focus on workplaces with reported COVID-19 outbreaks, manufacturing businesses, warehouses, distribution centres, food processing operations, construction projects and publicly accessible workplaces deemed essential, such as grocery stores.

Businesses: Get help with COVID-19 costs

Ontario is helping businesses recover costs for PPE and providing extra support for businesses required to close or significantly restrict services as a result of provincial public health measures.

Click here to apply for funding.<<https://i7.t.hubspotemail.net/e2t/tc/VX9Vzw6G0R34W6Fmj8H4xWQ7BW3pvQRf4lLQm7N7Hm8xy3lGn5V1-WJV7CgV8BW5HqzKC8pjDZmW4Ggk-56gL7CHN2lXh3T6jB49W429t9M6spBKCW9cmHKL3Cmb5HW6FTbSl48Q0xcW8Wv5Nj7Yfwd-W408wB511dL71W7CGqtS5BjcGHVRplsQ7V5QpGW4HplHb3Qf5lMW2wM1-Q7Tx-hlN5Qq3NK7XDbBW5BC2Y434TpgHW5346Z-4BkVVQN4B26sC4GB9SW8Kl95c4S-4JpW5D7lnw1wGTKnW80q0Mq791MzxW1S2Dv37LbvJZW42P-xN88xlMbN7WszV3QvmyhW1SHrZ48hZT7VW88715k20GT1y3f661>>

New Small Business Support Grant COMING SOON

The Ontario Small Business Support Grant which will provide a minimum of $10,000 and up to $20,000 to help small business owners. This is a one-time grant and each small business will be able to use the support however they wish.

Eligible small businesses include those that:

\* Are required to close or significantly restrict services due to the Provincewide Shutdown on December 26.

\* Have fewer than 100 employees at the enterprise level.

\* Have experienced a minimum of 20 per cent revenue decline in April 2020 compared to April 2019.

Further details, including how to apply for the Ontario Small Business Support Grant, will be announced in this month. Stay tuned.

Contact Us

If you have any questions regarding today's announcement or need additional guidance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Contact our Policy & Government Relations Advisor, Paul Szachlewicz<<mailto:p.szachlewicz@hamiltonchamber.ca>>.

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