



**COVID-19 Economic Task Force
Meeting #15
AGENDA**

**June 24, 2020
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/331091208?pwd=Y1VFZnhscngwZHFoUTdjTGNYcjh5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 331 091 208

Password: 031262

One tap mobile

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WindsorEssex COVID- 19 Economic Task Force Purpose:

In a timely manner, collect, coordinate and disseminate information on strategies, programs and other remedies that are available to mitigate the effects that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on the economic well-being of workers, entrepreneurs, businesses and the Windsor-Essex regional economy.

Assist in the development of industry specific, scenario-based recovery strategies.

1. **3:15 pm – 3:20 pm** Remarks from Chair – Stephen MacKenzie
2. **3:20 pm - 4:00 pm** Committee Reports
 - Research** – Workforce Windsor Essex & SBC
 - Agriculture & Agri-Food** – Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers
 - Logistics, Transportation and Cross Border Issues** – Institute for Border Logistics & Security
 - Hospitality & Tourism** – Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island
 - Professional Services & Retail** – Windsor Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce
 - Manufacturing** – Canadian Association of Mold Makers
3. **4:00 pm – 4:15 pm** New Business – (all)

Logistics, Transportation and Cross Border Issues – Institute for Border Logistics & Security

Susan Anzolin

- Real time data as of June 23 on Huron Church Rd:
- 9000 trucks /day pre COVID
- 9884 trucks on June 23, 109% increase
- Rail efficiency 90% next week, hovering at this level
- 90% recovery level not due to COVID but a general trend
- Info session to be held to clarify some of the issues so that people are well prepared when crossing the border, letter sent out to CBSA
- Tips for traveler and template letter for people to cross next week
- Up coming seminar on COVID 19 and CUSMA June 30 @10am, please register
Supply Chain Disruption/Opportunity: COVID-19 and CUSMA: <http://www.choosewindsorsex.com/node/3342>

Agriculture & Agri-Food – Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers

Justine Taylor

- Action plan and resources to help with the farmers, farmers are collaborating and OGVG is supporting it.

WFWE

Natasha Marar

- Putting together business update on the survey based on some provincial updates
- Working session to map out where different industry is at right now

Hospitality & Tourism – Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island

Brian Hendel:

- Owner of splice digital
- Building digital product
- Regional vendor has been locked up
- Shopmytown.ca: regional ecommerce platform 60 vendors no cost to post/sell
- Create a focal point and create campaign. Hoping to validate and build traction.
- 1% goes to local charity

Gordon Orr

- Rise and increase in bankruptcy 20% and permanent closure 15%
- Rent relief: 4%-8% many people not be able to capitalize on that program
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Dharmesh Patel

- Occupancy: 35%-28% \$105 in county
- Phase II is not a savior unless you have patio. No canopies allowed according to Dr.Wajid Ahmed recent announcement. A letter was sent to him to see if he will change that.

Professional Services & Retail – Windsor Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce

Keith Chinnery

- continue build on shopYQG
- Chamber's automobility seminar about 5G. Status of 5G in WE. Webinar in a few weeks, stay tuned.
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Rakesh Nadu

- Special financial package in support of Leamington, Kingsville areas, Rent relief and CERB programs

Manufacturing – Canadian Association of Mold Makers

Mike Bilton

Auto manufacturing and its relative supply base overall ramp up is on target, volumes and inventories look to even out in or around November. Look for focus on BEV's and EV's to flood the OEM marketing world in Sept/Oct, provided there's limited effects of a 2nd wave if it hits.

Shelly Fellows

- Webinar tomorrow 11:30 am focused on H&S. WSIB, ministry of labour and training. SOLD OUT!
- Watch the video on youtube, will be recorded.
- Next webinar July 13th. Update from RBC about state of the economy. Stay tuned.
- Top issues: border challenges. Marion has been supporting on a case by case basis for companies.
- AL tariffs: concern for mold makers. Next survey will go out on July 6th.

Richard Janik**CTMA**

- Die tooling molding is up swing.
- Most part business in sustaining until September.

Vladimir Franjo

- Initiative automation company and greenhouse grower. Moving faster. Interests on both sides. Trying to get \$50,000 to get a pilot going.

Yvonne Pilon

3 levels

-digital squad, \$2500 grant

-Shop here program

-Wetech: future proofing program, not developed yet. Deep diver in helping with business pivoting. Working with students for long time period, a few months. Hiring ON students.

Marion Fantetti

Tips: 1 person in vehicle. Wear a mask approaching the booth. Include a company policy of COVID in a clear bag to show to officer. Keep it specific, didn't veer off the path. These tips will be included in the handbook Susan and Marion is drafting.

Nancy Creighton

Outlined some of the programs to colleagues, great feedback, other regions looking to emulate what we are doing here in WE.

Dianne Malefant

Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) available to businesses in Essex County

Available in addition to Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)

Ginny Wilkinson

- Low income jobs in wealthy neighbourhood are in jeopardy than in poor neighbourhood. See valuable story and link to economic report - US centric but with applications to Canada as well.
<https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2020/06/23/881662948/why-reopening-isnt-enough-to-save-the-economy>

Steve Salmons

- Uptake in activity
- Rebound in aggregates. Large volume of grain coming through.