

**COVID-19 Economic Task Force
Meeting #3
AGENDA**

**April 1,
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm**

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.

- 1. 3:15 pm – 3:20 pm** Remarks from Chair – Stephen MacKenzie
- 2. 3:20 pm - 3:50 pm** Committee Reports
 - Survey** – Workforce Windsor Essex & SBC
 - Manufacturing** – Canadian Association of Mold Makers
 - 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
- 3. 3:50 pm – 3:55 pm** WindsorEssex COVID-19 Economic Task Force Logo - Ryan Donally
- 4. 3:55 pm – 4:15 pm** Ongoing Concerns – (all)

Meeting #3 Key Notes

3:18 begin

37 participants

WDBA

Bryce Phillips

- Construction is still continuing in a reduced state = BNA is
- Workers on the traffic unit have become positive for COVID19
- Other feedback has been
- Evolving

Survey Committee

Natasha Marar

- Help from Justin
- Creating an interactive report
- Open until April 8th
- Highlights
 - o 492 Respondents / 513 now
 - o Industry representation
 - o 50% came from Windsor
 - o 80% had between 1-24 EE's
 - o 76% reported a negative impact
 - o 47% have cancelled
 - o 47% have closed temporarily
 - o Impacts
 - Revenue
 - Demand
 - Operational inefficiencies
 - o Expected
 - Fears over public perception – public perception
 - o More economic stimulus package
 - o Tax remittance
- Justin
 - o We should all be pleased with the sample size
 - o Potential closing date of April 8th
 - o WFWE will work on creating a summary document and a dashboard document that can allow by

Manufacturing Committee

Shelly Fellows

- o 2nd survey
- o Weekly Survey was closed yesterday at noon (90 respondents)
- o Demographics
 - 65% from Windsor Essex
 - 65% are MTD
 - 65% are under 50 EE's
 - Some custom automation and software
 - Highlights/Points
 - How many workplaces are being impacted by isolation
 - o 540 EEs were out of the workplace → up from 410
 - o Still have ¼ of workplaces not on isolation or quarantine
 - Seeing layoffs 1/3 of respondents still have not had any layoffs
 - Temp Layoffs - 1000 ee's were laid off in past 7 days up from 711 in week 1 = 1711 total
 - Permanent Layoffs = tiny fraction 26 ee's reported
 - Hiring = 14 new hires
- o Gov't Programs
 - EI
 - EDC and BDC

- SHRED – mobilize workforce on R&D
 - SWODF and Workshare Program
- Biggest Impacts to date:
 - 5 ee anxiety
 - Protection of ee's
 - Declining sales
 - Cashflow
- CMHA
 - Webinar for mental health issues
 - Resources that are available to them
- Financial Side
 - Cashflow challenges to come
 - Piggyback on a webinar to next week around the 75% wage subsidy
- Sales Pipelines
 - Program cancellations have declined
 - Postponements
 - Still getting new programs and new orders – TERRIFIC
- Medical Equipment
 - 75% last week
 - Action – ¼ are actually adding this as a line → 25% have started to manufacture medical equipment: HOw
 - Tooling
 - Direct production
 - Technical support
- What is operating level
 - 13% are over 90% operational capacity
 - 8% are almost completely shut down
 - The 92% are seeing some reduction in operations → most in 60% to 90% levels
 - What drives shutdown
 - Employee absences
 - Loss of work
 - Supply chain issues
- Diane Concern
 - 75% is going to be difficult – 3 months to show the 30% decrease

Daniel Biafore

- Products
 - Hands free ambu-bladder – Centreline
 - In cycle testing
 - Poly Bag Mask (PAPR) – QM, Tregaskis, IGB
 - U shaped – hot plate welded, using a miller blowing system
 - Need to do a proof of concept
 - SCUBA – Cavalier
 - Proof of concept stage
 - Working with Ken Blanchette
 - Need some assistance
- PPE

- LAVAL
 - Created sample product for N95 Masks
 - There is no material available
 - 3M is hosting all
 - Need a waiver for N95 Material
 - Working with IGB automotive
- FaceShields – Kelcom 3d, VistaPrint, Amherstberg Fire
 - Raw material availability
- Hand Sanitizer
 - Kingsville Brewery
 - Wolfhead
 - Hiram Walker
- Gov't Assistance Concerns
 - Expecting 18 months of interruption
 - Solid COVID-19 Policy and Work Site Modifications
- Top issues to be presented to Federal and Provincial
 - Health Canada Approvals
 - COVID 19 Windsor Essex product Emergency Response
 - Materials Needed – significant lack of supply
 - Limited Liability and Insurance
 - Mechanics of Wage Subsidy – 75%
 - Duration of Time for the issue

Vlad Franjo

- IRAP – Money can be used for accelerated
 - Approved licenced and ready
 - Has a licensed product

Agriculture & Agri-Food

Justine Taylor

- Entry of Temp Foreign Workers
 - Arriving today or tomorrow
 - More next week
 - ESDC? – outlines protocols for isolation period
 - Travel Requirements – health check in country and leaving country
 - Private Transportation and requirement to self isolate
 - Housing needs to be 2m separate
 - Unlikely that the workers WILL NOT be able to work while self-isolating
- Given the number of greenhouses
 - We anticipate the alternative housing arrangements
 - There may be 'on-farm' or other vacant spaces
- Been in close contact with Health Unit
 - Ensuring employer response plan and requirements are
 - Compliance for the self isolation
 - 14 days will be enforced by local authorities
- Support for Our Growers?
 - Not yet seeing the 30% losses

- During the 14 days - Workers are expect to be paid, food costs, - how can we offset some of htose costs
- OGVG
 - Working with agencies
 - Website to be password protected but will be available once it is figured out
- Changes to LMIA process
 - Established to a health line
 - Gov't has been quite responsive
- Survey of Growers for PPE needs
 - Most growers have their own PPE (as is a requirement of food safety)
 - Starting to see a shortage of PPE
- No disruptions in trade
 - Expected to come but not as of yet

Logistics, Transportation and Cross-Border

Susan Anzolin

- Change from last week is quite dramatic
 - Truckers are refusing to cross border – health and safety
 - Companies are dropping because of lack of drivers
 - Local company ususaly has 80 trucks on road – down to 2
 - Only moving essential medical supplies
 - Expectation to see disruptions in terms of trade
 - Stress is high
 - Truckers are essential employees
 - When he or she is at the bank (for example) they are barred
 - Healthcare workers are feeling more and more persecuted for crossing the border
 - Increasing message that healthcare workers are taking every single precaution to contaminate the community
 - Drop in revenues – local companies are looking for cash liquidity and wage subsidy
 - Speed of getting funding is an issue and a major question to gov't – quick, efficient and secure
 - Miovision Traffic Technologies Traffic Comparison from one month period
 - Decrease in total vehicles by 52% - down to 16,000
 - Trucks 9,000 to 5,000
 - Positive/ Good News
 - Transportation Club – supporting local causes (front line workers for front line workers – gofundme page)
 - Using local restaurants to feed local workers

Hospitality & Tourism

Gordon Orr

- TIAO as our survey
 - RTO1 (our region) –
 - 3% higher in layoffs and 3% higher in closures
 - 350 respondents are from our region
 - Detroit
 - Autoshow
 - Alcoholics Anonymous Conference

- Cancelled – all Windsor & Essex hotels would be full
 - Best Western Waterfront
 - 40 rooms per day for healthcare workers
- YQGStandsStrong
 - Community, Collaboration and Persistence
 - Minister
 - Tourism Development and Recovery Fund – 3X going up to \$1.5 million
 - Available on Website
 - On Heels of Takeout Tuesday
 - Fill-up Friday, Craft Beer Side, Door to Door
 - Bingo Blog – YQG Bingo – where you can walk and where you can drive to explore the region
 - Experiences Blog
 - Idea to help small business
 - You buy it and they bring it to you (Antonino's and Armandos) Pizza Kit or Pottery Kit
 - Wineries are virtual wine tasting courses

Dharmesh Patel

Direct Message

- IMO - Wage subsidy idea is great but what they ideally want is for businesses to take people off EI and hire them back so in essence paid in full to stay at home but that's assuming the business has funds to pay them as the subsidy takes 3 - 6 weeks to pay out.
- As of today there are 7 hotels/motels that have closed in Windsor. We are trying to contact all and get a number on a week by week basis.

Professional Services/ Retail

Keith Chinnery

- Ryan will send out the summary to the committee
- 14 people join the meeting - Great cross section of individuals
- Some businesses that had intended to stay open are not actual able to stay open
- Some companies are hiring
 - Delivery companies
 - Big Box
 - Grocery Stores
- Eligible of Subsidy Programs
 - Lots of questions
- Rent Deferrals
 - Apply to Insurance and Utilities
 - What happens with the landlords?
 - Adam Castle shared the ongoing list for Curbside and Delivery

Task Force Branding

Ryan Donally

- Will send the Logos tomorrow

BDC

Celso Oliveira

- Canada Emergency Business Account
 - o Up to \$40,000
 - o Zero interest for first year
 - o Available through your primary financial institution
- SME Loan and Guarantee program
 - o 1. BDC co-lending (with financial institutions)
 - Up to \$6.25 million
 - Commercial interest rate
 - 10-year repayment period
 - Available through your primary financial institution
 - o 2. EDC BCAP Guarantee
 - Up to \$6.25 million
 - Additional details available on [EDC website](#)
 - Available through your primary financial institution

END at 4:15 PM