



**COVID-19 Economic Task Force
Meeting #9
AGENDA**

**May 13, 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
Update on recovery strategy

2. **3:20 pm - 4:00 pm** Committee Reports
Survey – 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)

Intro of Murray Wilson from Oxley

Survey – Workforce Windsor Essex & SBC

Beginning at 3:17

Updates from Steve

Stephen MacKenzie

- Good feedback from each committee
- Working on a standardized formatting of response
- What is the document
 - o Overview of industry
 - o Targeting a chart of what the economic system may look like

Ginny Wilkinson– DEGC

- Seeking information about economic analysis
- How will industries come on line
- DETROIT still feels like they are at a downward trajectory
- Love to collaborate with staff on how far out we are looking
- County of Wayne
 - o More reflective of this group
 - o Looking to get to strategies to make this happen

Agriculture & Agri-Food – Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers

Justine Taylor

- Agri
- AAFC has released an FAQ document focused on the public health aspects of workplace management. It can be found [here](#). There is a lot of useful information about managing your workplace. Of particular interest is the following excerpt about the classification of exposure risk. We strongly urge you to consider the classification when you are planning workplace to flow with the aim of minimizing contact between groups.

Protocols for contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19

- A **close contact** is a person who lives in the same household as a person infected with COVID-19 or a person who had close prolonged contact (within two meters for more than 15 minutes) with another person who has tested positive for COVID-19 without the consistent and appropriate use of recommended personal protective equipment. This type of contact is considered a high risk exposure and it is recommended that a close contact of a known case self-isolate at home for 14 days starting from the date of the last unprotected exposure.
- A **non-close** contact is a person living or working with someone tested positive for COVID-19 who had prolonged contact (greater than 15 minutes) but was not within 2 metres of the positive person. This type of contact is considered medium risk exposure and it is recommended that the exposed person self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days following their last contact.
- **Casual contacts** like someone being briefly in the same room for less than 15 minutes or someone working at the same place but not near the COVID-19 positive person (within 2 metres) are considered low risk.
- Employees may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, **provided they are not close contacts at high risk**, remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community. Employers will work with local public health to determine required approaches for each unique situation.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada has information on the [Public Health Management of cases and contacts associated with coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

Government of Canada Announces Financial Support for the Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector

- As a follow up to the announcement made Tuesday ([click here](#)), we have since learned that greenhouse will be able to access the \$77.5 million Emergency Processing Fund to help food producers access more personal protective equipment (PPE), adapt to health protocols, automate or modernize their facilities, processes, and operations, and respond to emerging pressures from COVID-19 so they can better supply Canadians with food during this period. Details are below. We encourage anyone looking for support in any of these categories to apply. It is CRITICAL to demonstrate need to the government if we want to see expanded support in the future.
 - o Looking at the organization from a public health lens
 - o Close/ Casual/ non-contact lens of
 - o Chatham
 - More you can do to minimize close contact – more likely to lose less staff
- \$ Funding from Gov't
 - o 77.5\$ emergency processing funds
 - o Funds available for mitigation support
 - PPE
 - Sanitation
 - Etc
 - Production capacity – repurpose
 - Automation technologies
 - Storage capacity
 - Details will be forthcoming (funds out by Sept 30th)
 - o Mandatory TFW isolation
 - Up to \$1500 per worker for cost of initial period
 - Direct applications to employers
 - Straight forward for growers
 - Retroactive funds being available
 - o Gov't shortening TFW to 10 days vs 10 weeks
 - o Agriculture and agrifood Canada – has a calculator available
<http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/?id=1556747661715>

Andreas Waller

- Agritech Webinar on May 20th – Invest Ottawa is hosting this
- Provincial
- <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/agritech-innovation-commercializing-tech-solutions-for-the-future-tickets-104458598480>
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James Maitland

- Seeing the backside of the peak
- Penalty waiver period is back into effect – most retailers are now back to normal

FedDev Funding/ Community Futures

Diane Malefant

- Regional Relief and Recovery Fund
- Windsor – apply to FedDev
- County – apply to Diane Malefant
- Up to \$40,000 – 0% interest until 2023
- https://www.feddevontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/h_02581.html?OpenDocument
- Portion of this loan can be forgivable
- Community Futures – can his sole proprietors – hitting the people who have been either declined or ineligible for other programs

- FedDev
 - o Pre-revenue firms can access funding (ie only been venture or angel funded)

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

Steve Salmons

- T2B, Sterling Fuels, MNSI
- More than 50 iPads to the St. Clair Campus
- Helps the isolation from family and friends
- Patients needed help and the donation has allowed to connect with family and friends
- Units will be transferred to the hospital when St. Clair campus temp hospital is closed

Susan Anzolin

- Consul General (Toronto) provided gift card to local restaurants
 - o 9 restaurants participated
- City of Windsor Discussion with Consul General and Mayor
 - o Ford, FCA, Mike Bilton, Mayor and Consul General
 - o To ensure our region is well prepared for the re-launch of OEMs
 - o key to ready-up the various levels of supply to OEMs
 - o Next steps – nothing concrete yet
 - o Coordinated approach moving forward
- Prime Minister Trudeau – Border closure
 - o Border will be extended until June 21st
 - o Continue to monitor time between cities
 - o Committee will continue to monitor
- LTCB Committee Key Points
 - o Importance of CEWS – allows companies to stay afloat
 - We need to ensure that we keep this open beyond June
 - Access to this program needs to be continued

Hospitality & Tourism – Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island

Gordon Orr

- Local data is being collected through a survey put out by TWEPI

United Nation's World Tourism Organization released their tourism barometer May 2020.

- Findings:
 - o Worst crisis world tourism has faced since record began in 1950.
 - o International tourism already down 22% in Q1 resulting in a decrease of 67M International tourist arrivals translating into \$80B (US funds) in lost exports.

Identified 3 scenarios if travel restrictions start to open:

- If July - 58% decline in tourism arrivals
- If Early September - 70% decline in tourism arrivals
- If Early December - 78% decline in tourism arrivals

Those scenarios result in:

- Putting 100-120M direct tourism jobs at risk
- Putting export revenues from tourism anywhere from \$910bn - \$1.2 Trillion loss in US funds

Other:

- Local tourism industry is all eagerly awaiting:
 - o When can they open
 - o Protocols necessary to do so

- Access to PPE

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Local Hotels

- March occupancy of 34%
- April occupancy at 15%
- No room service
- 24 hours of gap between hotel stays
- Some hotels will only take group or corporate clientele

Tourism Windsor Essex is hosting a partner webinar on May 21st to launch our Respond, Restart & Recover Plan. This plan has been rolled out to a variety of our stakeholder groups capturing input from over 75+ tourism partners.

Professional Services & Retail – Windsor Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce

Keith Chinnery

- Q- Checklists for each various business?
 - Working with Health Unit to get the checklists out
 - MANY different variables
 - Cleaning
 - Number of people
 - Turnaround times
- Many people are waiting on provincial announcement
 - Waiting for a green light of when to re-launch
- Local Staffing firm
 - Seeing a pickup of employment in the professional areas
- Working with Kyle Brykman and Francine Schlosser
 - Employment Engagement and SME's
 - 15-20 minute survey to present the results

Manufacturing – Canadian Association of Mold Makers

Shelley Fellows

- Seeing survey fatigue – 44 response
- Moving to a monthly survey
 - Continued positive news
 - Callbacks are happening
 - Businesses are picking up
 - Scaling up to full operations
 - Improvement of PPE
 - RRP.ORG
- Positives
 - Improved ee' engagement
 - Requesting the link for Kyle and Francine

Richard Janik

- RRP Platform
 - Almost completes the process
 - Example 100 face shields
 - Yes- we found a match
 - You may have a contact number – but you don't yet see a price, logistics, shipping or any of the other requisites

Daniel Biafore

RRP Website

- Overview of the RRP website
- There will be no price information

- The requester and the producer will then organize a private transaction
- Lots of activity
- Strong national interest

Andreas Waller - OCE

- From webinar with Detroit regional Chamber of Commerce's Sandy Baruah and GM's Gerald Johnson, Executive VP Global Manufacturing:
- GM's guidelines for safe workspace:
 - https://www.gm.com/content/dam/company/no_search/safetyplaybook/GM_ReturnToTheWorkplace_Employee_Guide.pdf (document)
 - <https://www.gm.com/masthead-story/return-work-safety-protocols.html> (website)

Vlad Franjo- NRC

- 2000 – 2600 Companies will get support
- Approx. 950 companies in Ontario will get support
- Money from NRC will flow quickly relating to the R&D and Innovation

Nancy Creighton- Funding

- Larger companies
 - o Loans over \$12.5 Million
 - BDC from \$12.5 to \$60 m
 - o Another fund that is above that amount for larger companies
- Starting to get feedback from Ontario Health
 - o Masks and Gowns and Gloves are still high need
 - o Not looking at intubation or ventilator products
- OCE
 - o Doing verification, certification and testing for Health Approval

Yvonne Pilon - WETech

- UWindsor & Blackberry partnership for the Masters of Applied Computing Program
- Building on the CyberSecurity Hub
- SHOUT OUT TO NOAH CAMPBELL
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPEITtLYekI&feature=youtu.be>

Justin Falconer –Workforce Windsor Essex

- Reorganizing project work for the year
- Working on some program and applications