



Emailed to:

Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

MPP Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria (Brampton South) prabmeet.sarkaria@pc.ola.org

Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction

MPP Vic Fedeli (Nipissing) vic.fedelico@pc.ola.org

Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Chair of Cabinet

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MPP Marit Stiles (Davenport) MStiles-QP@ndp.on.ca

MPP Peter Tabuns (Toronto-Danforth) tabunsp-co@ndp.on.ca

MPP Jessica Bell (University-Rosedale) jbelle-CO@ndp.on.ca

December 9, 2020

To Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria and our provincial leaders,

Re: Requesting Your Support for Small Business Retailers during Lockdown

The Riverside District BIA, Bloorcourt BIA and Queen Street West BIA are three of Toronto's 80+ BIAs. We collectively represent approximately 600 small and medium sized businesses and property owners.

We are writing to you today to provide feedback directly from a survey of our small business members, and to request your support for small retailers through a series of specific measures, as follows:

Modification to the Lockdown to allow appointment-based shopping, while maintaining or enhancing the safety protocols such as contact tracing for small business. Fairness and equality need to be a priority to level the playing field between large and small retailers;

Additionally, requested measures applicable to all businesses:

Greater Financial Supports in an easy to access format, when businesses are required to reduce hours or shut down, so they are able to remain solvent and re-open. We would request an increase to the Main Street Relief Grant to be a \$2500 monthly infusion - with a one-time application process - to be ongoing through the pandemic;

Advanced notice of measures affecting businesses: More sufficient time needs to be given when orders are mandated to allow business operators, local and provincial enforcement agencies to sufficiently and responsibly react. We request that we receive an update **by**

December 15th understanding if the Lockdown for the City of Toronto is going to be lifted or extended beyond December 21st);

Moratorium on Commercial Evictions needs to be mandated through to March 2021 to provide greater certainty through the difficult winter season.

We would welcome and appreciate any further dialogue. Thank you sincerely for your ongoing support of small and medium sized businesses.

On behalf of the Riverside District BIA, Bloorcourt BIA, and Queen Street West BIA:

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