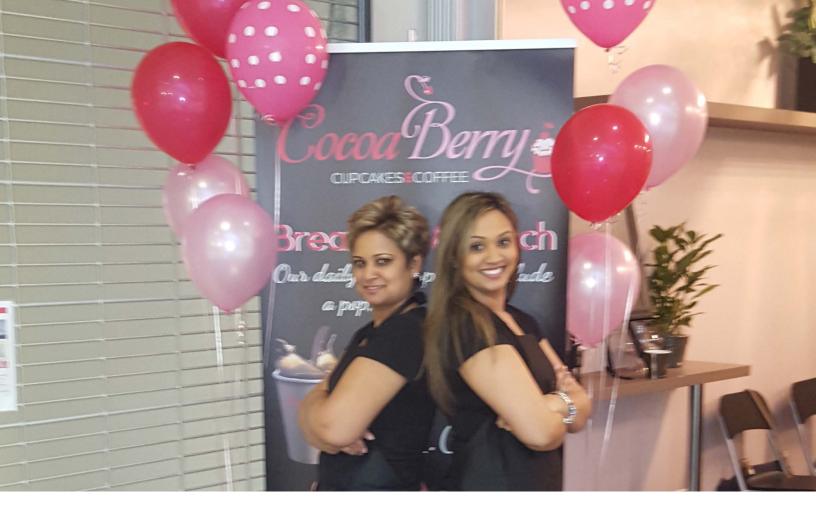


"I'm from Toronto and re-located my business to Oshawa in February 2020. I have since moved to the Durham area and find my business has thrived in this community. I have also made strong professional relationships with local business owners. Oshawa has provided us with a customer base that truly supports and appreciates handmade items and the maker diversity allows us to keep our shops curated and unique! It's important to support local businesses as it supports our local economy, keeps our community diverse and adds a higher quality of life for all."

Colleen The Nooks Canada





"We are a family business, operating since 2016 and proud to be owned and operated by women of colour with a passion for making all things sweet. We've lived in Durham Region for many years. We were happy when an opportunity presented itself to open in Oshawa and even though these are tough times, we believed that our sweet treats could help bring some smiles and warm up some hearts. We all want our community to look vibrant and alive with business and people bustling. We need each other."

Linda and Channel Naraine Cocoa Berry Oshawa





"It's the small businesses that are the ones that support the community and that is what we want, we want Oshawa to flourish and welcome them. It's a unique time right now, trying to figure out how to support businesses; it's very important to be there for them. From the bottom of my heart, I thank everyone for supporting Oshawa, we need the support so that we can continue with our businesses and being there for you."

Diana Lovell Kirk Lovell Holdings Ltd.





"I grew up in Oshawa; I grew up just down the street in central Oshawa with my mom and two sisters. My mom got a job when I was 11 years-old at General Motors. So we are continuing to invest in Oshawa and to spend and invest locally because we believe that we are going to affect one another. If you spend and invest locally, it's going to help your own family. I just want to thank everybody in advance for considering how they can do their part to help Oshawa."

**Richard Summers** President, CEO, Summers & Co. Developments Inc.





"We started in Oshawa roughly eight years ago. We think Oshawa is set the boom and we have seen consistent growth. Our business was in a unique situation going into COVID; we actually shut down our operations completely to create hand sanitizer for the first three months of the pandemic. We created almost 100,000 cans of hand sanitizer at our facility over a short amount of time which went to local front line workers and to local businesses. We would like to thank the local community for their amazing support for our brewery here in Oshawa and we look forward to welcoming everyone back as things continue to open up into the future."

**Jeff Dornan** Owner & Co-Founder, All or Nothing Brewhouse & Distillery





"The Canadian Automotive Museum was created by a group of local business leaders who opened the museum to the public 1963. During COVID-19, a new timed-ticketing model was introduced to ensure a lower number of visitors in the museum at any time. Engaging social distancing signage was added to the galleries to remind visitors of the importance of physical distancing and the lobby was rearranged to create more distance between staff and visitors. It's important that the community supports local companies as there is a great multiplier effect when visitors come to Oshawa. Many guests grab a coffee or lunch while in town or visit other local attractions. There's a great community of local businesses."

Alex Gates Executive Director and Curator, Canadian Automotive Museum





"We are a family owned business that started July of 2007. I enjoy running Avanti, I love being in downtown Oshawa, I have been here all of my life. We try to keep as local as possible, this way, it helps everyone out and it's just a big chain that keeps going in a circle and circle and this is what we all prosper from. We hope to see you soon here at Avanti at Downtown Oshawa. And don't forget, please shop local!"

**Dominic Albis** General Manager, Avanti Trattoria





"Local businesses employ thousands of people, many that are your friends and neighbours! Local businesses give consumers actual people to do business with face to face when they need support or have issues. At Dive Source, we support a large local dive community of thousands of people who love the sport of scuba diving and we are a central hub where they can meet and interact, have their equipment maintained and get local training and dive trips. It's impossible to have that experience without a local business."

Brian Pallock Owner, Dive Source Scuba Supply





"Shopping local means keeping business in the community and also supporting your local neighbour. There's this cute quote which always makes me smile ["when you buy from a local small business an actual person does a happy dance"], and I think it's nice knowing that your money is staying in the community. We love the people. The people in Oshawa are real down to earth, hard working and loyal."

Arcadius Malik Co-Owner, Pink Canary

