

**Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force
Meeting Minutes**

Subject:	MINUTES OF MAYOR'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE – MEETING ONE
Attendees:	Mayor Dan Carter, D.S. Chair Tito Dante-Marimpietri, Nancy Shaw, Dustin Kellow, Ivano Labricciosa, Scott Henderson, Keith Cowley, Roger Bouma, Steven Murphy, Lucy Stocco Stacey Hawkins, Ihor Lysyk, Glen Posteraro, Kyle Douglas Daniel Stober, Debbie McKee Demczyk, Peter Stoett
Staff:	Paul Ralph, Warren Munro, Kyle Benham
Regrets:	None
Meeting location:	Skype/Conference Call
Date & time:	April 24, 2020, 11 AM – 12:30 PM

Agenda	Remarks
Introduction	<p>Mayor Carter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomed the Task Force members and thanked them for agreeing to participate • Suggested that the meeting may need to be more frequent than monthly for now • City/Regional Councillor Marimpietri who will be Chairing the Task Force <p>Chair Tito Dante-Marimpietri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference will not be discussed today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will be reviewed by members at the next meeting and feedback is requested prior to May 8th • Proposed Business Community Survey will not be discussed today • Members will be sent a copy of the working draft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feedback regarding questions is requested prior to the next meeting ○ Next meeting will take place May 8th at 11 AM • Suggested that the bulk of the meeting be used to hear from the members regarding the issue and opportunities that are facing the business community
	TASK FORCE MEMBER'S ROUNDTABLE
Greater Oshawa	Nancy Shaw

Agenda	Remarks
Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working hard to get messaging out to members (including updates from Mayor) • Small business are saying they have trouble meeting rent • Businesses are in fear of the unknown, end date, survival, gatherings, future of restaurants • Chamber is able to assist with any hands-on help required and forward surveys
Oshawa B.I.A. & O.P.U.C.	<p>Ivano Labricciosa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown businesses are seeking rent relief • BIA is hearing more from businesses that are leasing and less from owners • Small businesses (owner operated) are frustrated because the regulations exempt them from accessing employee and business grants • BIA small businesses are finding it challenging to navigate the programs • Companies are concerned about what business models will be after lockdown and ongoing safety concerns
Business Community Representatives	<p>Durham Region Association of Realtors</p> <p>Roger Bouma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although realtors considered essential service, it's not business as usual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Homes that are being sold are mainly those that need to sold right away or people that already sold homes before the lockdown • Sales have dropped off 55%, compared to this time last year while values are holding for now • Buyers are considering holding for possible price reductions <p>Durham Recruiting</p> <p>Dustin Kellow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of their clients have laid off employees • Increased number of calls for recruitment for essential service positions • Noticing a trend of confusion for companies about programs and deciphering what is new information • Companies are facing challenges with employees not feeling comfortable coming in to work • Social distancing at work is and will be a challenge <p>CRCS DKI</p> <p>Kyle Douglas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company sales volume is down by 50%

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biggest concern in community is that the way of doing business will be completely changed • Recommending that the City promotes resources that help inform businesses that post-lockdown they will need to evolve their business models and operations
Development Community Representatives	<p>Durham Home Builders Association Stacey Hawkins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 170 members in the association • Members are focused on health and safety regulations • Struggling to finish projects as subcontractors are not working • Sending out daily news bulletin to members (changes and updates to laws) • Seeking updated information on building permits across municipalities • Interested in virtual public meetings • Concerned about slow down on new homes even after lockdown is lifted <p>Glen Posteraro Real Estate Investment Brokerage Inc Glen Posteraro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenants are concerned about the upcoming May 1st rent • Landlords are limited in how much they can assist given their own expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landlords are concerned about economic stability past June • Suggested City extend the payment dates further and work with province to provide additional relief <p>Local Developer Ihor Lysyk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small infill developer and landlord • Managed expenses/ payments thus far but concerned about upcoming months • Concerned about the recovery period • Suggesting that City Planning/ Building Permits Departments expedite all permits as much as possible and emphasize every project and job <p>Tribute Communities Lucy Stocco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large company that develop high rise and low rise communities • Adjusting schedules on certain projects

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oshawa Development Services has been very accommodating • Have put in strict health and safety protocols • Would like City to keep Columbus Part II on the radar • Interested virtual council meetings • Concerned about closing on homes and condos after they are finished
Post-Secondary Institutions	<p>Durham College Debbie McKee-Demczyk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-secondary is considered a non-essential workplace • Student services are being offered on a virtual platform • Applied research is able to continue as projects are technology based • Offering Cyber Security series • Continuing to support student entrepreneurs virtually • Continuing to run job platform for students that shows which employers are hiring • DC is assessing how best to identify and deliver training needs • Considering helping fill gaps for small businesses that do not qualify for programs • Campus was closed for one week during that time shifted to online courses <p>Trent University Durham G.T.A. Scott Henderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in finding how best they can help the community transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also how can they best utilize students (student placements) • University took five business days off to off to pivot to online learning for the last three weeks of classes and exams • Revamped summer courses to remote learning and created contingency plans for fall/winter semesters • Student resident project is continuing as allowed by Province <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovations to interior is on hold <p>Ontario Tech University Steven Murphy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shifted to online learning within three days • Short term plan – Brilliant Catalyst Incubator will be offering a wide variety of seminars (e-commerce site, business skill training) • Currently engaging organizations (SMEs and large businesses) for skills training and upskill trainings and creating programs just-in-time.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in exploring co-op placements for creative solutions – minimal cost as existing programs can off-set the wages • Prepared to offer full online classes in September blended program • University will not be going back to old model. Seeking more value added services (not less time on campus, different time on campus) • Working with organizations to provide face shields, ventilators, and placements for nursing students
Announcements	<p>Mayor Dan Carter Informed task force of two new press releases that just came out related to rent relief and GM' production of PPE. Links noted below: https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/24/prime-minister-announces-partnerships-provinces-and-territories https://media.gm.ca/media/ca/en/gm/news.detail.html/content/Pages/news/ca/en/2020/Apr/0424_GM-Canada-Plans-to-Make-Face-Masks-in-Oshawa.html</p>
Financial Sector Representatives	<p>B.D.C. Keith Cowley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided details on various programs B.D.C is involved with (Business Credit Availability Program, Canada Emergency Business Account, B.D.C. Co-lending programs for SMEs, EDC Guarantee for SMEs, BDC Working Capital loans) • Concern is volume of requests (approx. 4 times more inquiries thru call centre) • Recommended course of action is to approach your financial institution • Battling misinformation from staff and employers • Concerned about small business that are not covered in existing programs <p>TD Bank Daniel Stober</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking the proactive role and calling hundreds of their SME clients • Business owners have a fear of taking on more debt • Bank is currently focused on deferral payments and CEBA program • Willing to share any economic reports that are provided through TD
Open Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in creating a platform with financial institutions and Chamber that would assist business owner better navigate

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	<p>programs and understand the information. Along with a personal contact that could assist as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action item should include clarifying the recovery roll out phases • Reference to Invest Durham Covid Response portal as a comprehensive website containing various resources and programs • Chamber will be doing webinars (government programs, mental health, etc) • Offering to streamline any services the task force would like to offer • Utilizing post-secondary student to offer consulting services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match businesses with the agencies/ institutions that can best assist them • Create portal where members of the community can ask and answer questions about best practices and government programs • Match members of the community to assist one another (those who have completed government program application with those seeking assistance)
Action Items	<p>As a result of the open discussion with the Task Force the following noted possible action items for the next meeting were identified</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft letter to Province regarding GO Train Construction 2. Defer Payment of Development Charges for to occupancy 3. Defer Consumer Price Index scheduled for Non-residential development on July 1, 2020 4. Advance Regional Community improvement Plan for downtowns in Durham Region for incentives such as Increased Assessment Grants 5. Establish a COVID 19 email address for one stop shopping 6. Any other item considered appropriate by individual Task Force members <p>Kyle Benham will be emailing members the terms of reference and survey questions. All feedback will be consolidated and finalized by the next meeting.</p>