

**Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force
December 15, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

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| Subject: | MINUTES OF MAYOR'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE MEETING 14 |
| Attendees: | Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Tito-Dante Marimpietri, Scott Henderson, Debbie McKee-Demczyk, Stacey Hawkins, Roger Bouma, Nancy Shaw, Daniel Stober, Peter Stoett, Ivano Labricciosa, Glen Posteraro, Kyle Douglas, Keith Cowley |
| Staff: | Warren Munro, Kyle Benham |
| Regrets: | Peter Saturno, Lucy Stocco, Ihor Lysyk, Jeff Robinson, Dustin Kellow |
| Meeting location: | Cisco Webex Meeting |
| Date & time: | December 15, 2020, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM |

| Agenda Item | Actions |
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| 1. Welcome | <p>Opening remarks by Mayor Carter and thanks to the participating members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank all participating members for their time and input this year. • Booming year for the real estate industry. • All Oshawa industries demonstrated great resiliency and adaptability. • Feed the Need received 1.5 million pounds of food from March to December, a 40% increase and received very generous cash donations as well. • General Motors announcement could add up to 15,000 jobs from associated businesses. • Continue to seek Federal and Provincial investment to support our economy. • Metrolinx expects shovels in the ground in the next 12-16 months and treasury approval expected within months. • Redevelopment of Highway 401 and their interchanges will be happening over the next 24 - 48 months. • Development achieved \$450 million worth of Building Permits in 2020. • Significant investment in the downtown core. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-secondary institutions are reinventing themselves and looking to welcome back their international students in 2021. |
| 2. November 20 th Meeting Minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the November 20th meeting minutes. |
| 3. Review of the Agenda | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to the existing agenda. |
| 4. Economic Update | <p data-bbox="513 516 711 548">Daniel Stober</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term pain over the next quarter. Vaccine roll out is expected to ease the strain and full roll out is expected in Q2 2021. • Unemployment rate has now bounced back a little. Two-thirds of all jobs recovered in Canada. • Forecasting CAD to rise to 78 cents against the USD. • TD report mentioned GM's announcement in their provincial forecast. • CEBA loan is being increased to \$60,000 effective December 4th and if paid back by December 31st, 2022 then \$20,000 is forgiven. • Federal government expanded the wage subsidy program by \$25 billion and \$70-\$100 billion in stimulus in the next few years. • In small-to-mid-market, noticing many applications for the expanded CEBA program. In addition, a lot of traction in the BDC co-lend program. • There is also an increase in re-financing to take advantage of the low interest rates. • Deferral program is wrapped up and no clients have requested an extension. • Noticing an increase for development, opportunities, and financing. Rates continue to be very low and encouraging for purchases. <p data-bbox="513 1486 701 1518">Keith Cowley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio is more of industrial sector, which is facing fewer challenges than the retail and restaurant sector. • Clients are now done with the principal deferral program. • Volume of Federal Relief Working Capital request has now reduced. The program continues to be available. • BDC Advisory services is more in demand by e-commerce sites and for operation efficiencies. • Continued concern for supply chain logistics whether it will be impacted due to global challenges and next phase of COVID-19. |

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| | <p>Mayor Carter questioned about consumer concern and consumer pressures for businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City has found 92% are not interested in deferring their taxes. • Dan Stober has not found that consumers are adversely affected. Consumer have definitely received assistance by the government, which has eased their challenges a little. Consumer confidence has definitely held up pretty well during this time. The rollout of the vaccine has now further helped build the confidence. • Housing market has been very strong during this time and auto purchases are bouncing back as well. • Keith there seems to be a positive outlook on consumers from businesses as individuals are getting more conditioned with their current situation. <p>Ivano Labricciosa suggested an initiative that demonstrates economic and development growth news is not a trade off from health and safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Carter noted that the Shop Local campaign and encouragement is to help small businesses, it also pushes the messaging to not migrate to other Regions. • “Stay Local, Shop Local, Support Local” captures the importance of economic growth but also the health orders. |
| 5. Roundtable Update | <p>Nancy Shaw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restaurant owners very concerned about Durham Region going into lockdown. However, even in current zone, they find it very difficult with only a 10-person capacity. Most businesses are losing money with such a small capacity. Suggested provincial communication include switching capacity to percentage of fire code. • Retail industry is hoping that Holiday season will help them keep afloat. • Continuing shop local videos, promoting City of Oshawa’s Shop Local campaign, and promotions Region of Durham’s Initiative. <p>Kyle Douglas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From a financial standpoint, the business has been able to weather the storm of the pandemic. Nevertheless, mental health and wellness has taken a serious toll. • Mental fatigue and distress must be addressed as group as all businesses are struggling in this area. |

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| | <p>Ivano Labricciosa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIA is focused on wrapping up the Holiday season and ensuring pick up and to-go options are available. • Certain industries have had their strongest profit and sales year; meanwhile, other businesses especially small businesses are closing their doors. The inequality in industry wealth is definitely a sore point for many businesses right now. <p>Debbie McKee-Demczyk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall term was delivered reasonably well despite the obstacles. Students and staff have adapted and successfully completed the term. • For winter semester, Durham College is closely watching the colleges in grey zone to be prepared with capacity restrictions and face-to-face delivery. • For January intake, welcoming back quite a few international students, if circumstances allow. • Fall 2021 will be dependent on spring and summer semester and government regulations at the time. <p>Scott Henderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cases on Durham campus yet. • Planning more in-person delivery for January if regulations permit. • International students have expressed interest in returning to campus for January. • Resident building won an award for mid-to-high rise residential precast project in Ontario. • Anticipating a post-COVID-19 surge of enrolment. Looking into infrastructure funding to accommodate more students and individuals seeking retraining and micro credentials in the future. • Continue community involvement through “Local Matters” initiative in Oshawa and Peterborough. • Collaborating the City of Oshawa’s Recreation and Culture team to develop a program on Digital Literacy Skills. • Approximately a dozen more students are interested in moving into residence. • Supply Chain and Logistics program is on track to be available in September. Strategic Change Management stream was introduced in the Master of Management and |

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| | <p>received a lot of interest. Also, introduced a new dual certificate program that combines HR certificate and Marketing and Entrepreneurship certificate.</p> <p>Mayor Carter noted that Regional Chair Henry, Mayor Mitchell and Mayor Carter signed a letter of support to the provincial government for the post-secondary institutions in Durham.</p> <p>Peter Stoett</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accident occurred on the construction site of the new Student Centre. • Concerned about mental health among students and faculty. Additionally, offered assistance from the Psychology department to address the issue. • Research stream is on the rise and working at full capacity. • Looking to fill their new downtown residents in the upcoming terms. • International students are returning especially from the engineering faculty. • Community engagement through Durham Outlook and there is now a clear path to opening the new building. <p>Glen Posteraro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noting the inequality among sectors since certain sectors such as real estate are having record years but the retail industry is suffering. • Industrial is performing well; smaller units are renting at a faster pace. • Retail and office continue to struggle. By March 2021 there is expected to be more long-term information about the industries. • Continue to communicate with business whether work from home is productive and expected to continue in the future. A number of businesses have expressed that the new model is working and they would like their employees to continue working from home. They are also assessing their real estate needs for the future. Office industry vacancy is expected to continue but there could be innovative ways to fill the space. • Retail may recover with the migration from Toronto and immigration internationally. <p>Roger Bouma</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sales and prices in November for year-over-year were up 25%. Sales in December are continuing which is unusual as a seasonal slowdown is supposed to occur. • Market is expected to be strong for 2021 but with more modest growth in the GTA. • Highlighted that a recent admin posting resulted in over 200 applicants, which shows the impacts of the retail and service industries. • Small adjustment in the stress test. It indicates that the market will remain strong because there is room for safety in case the interest rates increase. <p>Stacey Hawkins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builders are trying to wrap up projects before the ground freezes. • Suppliers are feeling the pinch. Small-to-medium size builders are not up and running at the same pace as the large builders and they tend to use local suppliers, which is causing a ripple effect. • Supply prices continue to increase. Builders have sold house but the price to construct are rising and is causing great concern. <p>Mayor Carter noted that Commissioner Munro recommended to the Development Services Committee that a Foreign Trade Zone be investigated for Port of Oshawa. This will be advanced in 2021</p> <p>Mayor Carter also shared the budget has been approved and will be increasing by 1.41% which is down from the proposed 9%.</p> |
| 6. Faces of Local Businesses | <p>Brett Murphy provided an update on Oshawa Loves Local.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently there is nine business profile videos. The most recent video with Buckingham Meat Market has received approximately 13,000 views. • Social media campaign is going strong and there is a lot of engagement with the community. |
| 7. Response Framework from Durham Region | <p>Kyle Benham shared for information a letter to the province from Chair John Henry urging to take an evidence-based approach when placing municipalities in grey zone.</p> |
| 8. Durham Region Education and Enforcement Campaign | <p>Kyle Benham shared for information a letter from Durham Region on enforcement and education campaign to push the regulations on red zone.</p> |

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| 9. Report on Status of Action Items | <p>Kyle Benham shared that after feedback from Task Force, Foreign Trade Zone inquiry was taken to Council and approved for investigation.</p> <p>Kyle Benham shared that free parking in downtown is back as it is a really important piece right now. Staff continue to investigate temporary pick up zones for food and retail pick up.</p> |
| 10. Closing Remarks | <p>Closing remarks by Mayor Carter Next meeting will January 8th at 11:00 am.</p> |