



VULCAN & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Our Strength is in our Members!

March 23 – Virtual Round Table Discussion:

Agenda:

- Introductions
 - o Name
 - o Company Name
 - o Type of Business
 - o Location
- Second round
 - o How has COVID-19 (C-19) impacted your business so far?
 - o What is your biggest concern or struggle?
 - o What do you need / What can other business do for you?

Meeting Notes: (below are some comments that Grant Turner recorded)

- Ashlee – All major events have been cancelled
 - o Chalk classes cancelled
 - o Transition to online will be a challenge but maybe the only option in the short term
 - o Suggestion is to have lists of businesses that are public:
 - [Link to Chamber Members List](#)
 - [Like to County of Vulcan Business List](#)
- Lowell - Transitioning business to a digital / paperless format much faster than expected
 - o E-Signature Protocol
 - o How to connect with all age groups effectively
 - o [CRA - Helping Canadians with Economic Impacts](#)
 - o [Canadian Finance Department – Support for Canadians and Businesses](#)
- David - Computers – Make sure they are protected to reduce your risk of Hacks, and Viruses
- Gail - Although we are struggling now, look positive to the upcoming years especially 2020
- Sara - Loans (primarily Startup and Expansion) are available for small businesses of all types
 - o Training programs for entrepreneurs
 - o [Foothills Businesses COVID-19 Facebook Page](#)
 - o [Okotoks – Business Support and Recovery](#)
- Orlena – All upcoming catering events have been cancelled (huge loss of revenue)
 - o Still providing home meal delivery
 - o Concern is availability of food in the short term
 - o Suggestion to expand Facebook adds to include pictures



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- Julie – Growing her business through Virtual Meetings
 - o Cooking classes still happening
 - o How to cook with what you have “Pantry Staples”
 - o **5 Year Zoom expert** – (Willing to help others who are new)
 - o [Facebook Page – Life In Vulcan](#)

- Cynthia – Needs to go more virtual (social spacing is hard to maintain at work)
 - o Reduced hours
 - o People needing personal service
 - o 3 month of payment relief / deferral

- Grace – They are doing their best to provide for the public
 - o They are already experiencing a 50% loss of business
 - o Bringing in goods at a lower cost
 - o Willing to share and cross promote other businesses

- Mason – Very little impact so far

- Noreen – business is stagnant right now
 - o Doctors and health care providers are looking for new equipment
 - o Flyers to share information would be best put at the post office
 - o [Ring Central platform](#) is a free and very effective communication tool
 - o 1 tsp bleach to 1 cup of water to disinfect hard surfaces at home

- Sherry – Thank you for the updates
 - o [COVID-19 Info for Albertans](#). Suggest checking daily “**what’s new**”
 - o Please see supports and resources available to Alberta businesses and support organizations:
 - o If a company/stakeholder/client is interested in offering support/or products during this Covid 19 emergency, please provide details on the product or service on [Alberta Purchasing Connections Emergency Response Database](#). Should there be an emergency requirement for the product or service, the company will be contacted by a representative of the Government of Alberta.

- Pat – Business as usual as he has very little walk in traffic
 - o Shift will be due to the limitation of people at a gathering

- Wendy – Busy walk in traffic
 - o Government implemented limits of only 30 day supply of Rx’s
 - o Believed to be an essential service so will have to adjust to the changes

- Grant – Busy with clients wanting to review as markets are changing quickly
 - o Good time to review financial plans and strategies
 - o Benefits for business owners and employees
 - o Farm succession planning