

Local Economic Developers Launch COVID-19 Response Website

Keeping Local Businesses Informed of Financial
Supports and Funding Programs



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2020 – The various economic development agencies that serve Oxford County are working together to keep business informed. A new website has been launched (www.oxfordconnection.ca) as a one window approach for business support information related to the COVID pandemic.

The website will be updated daily and will include information on local measures such as tax deferrals being offered by some Oxford communities, provincial initiatives such as deferred WSIB payments, and federal financial supports such as the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy that provides 75% wage subsidy for qualifying businesses.

Locally agencies that support business are working hard to do what they can to support business. For example, Community Futures Oxford has launched an Emergency Microloan to provide up to \$30,000 short- and medium-term cash flow that will help businesses get through the next several months. Likewise, the Small Business Centre has been fielding an increased number of calls answering the concerns of local small businesses. The Centre has created a number of info graphics explaining government programs which have been shared across the country.

The site will also include a calendar of upcoming free webinars for business as well as information on how to support local businesses during this unprecedented time.

Partners in this initiative include economic development officers from Ingersoll, Tillsonburg, Woodstock and Rural Oxford Economic Development, as well as The Small Business Centre, Community Futures Oxford, Tourism Oxford, the Oxford Workforce Development Group, SCOR EDC, and staff from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

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