

May 28, 2020

To: Cornwall City Council
Cc: City Clerk Manon Levesque
Re: Response on Home-Based Businesses - COVID-19

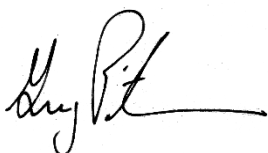
On request from the office of the General Manager, Planning, Development and Recreation, the Cornwall & Area Chamber of Commerce was requested on May 26th to prepare a response to the motion presented to council by counsellor Eric Bergeron at the council meeting on May 11th regarding "Home-Based Businesses - COVID-19".

The Chamber is dedicated to supporting a fertile entrepreneurial ecosystem in the City of Cornwall & surrounding Area. With that in mind, we are in favour of strategies which encourage the creation of new businesses whether they have a work from home model or not. We have received no reports from members or non-members that state that there are currently barriers to starting a business from home (that are within the City's purview).

We are supportive of the City's efforts to attract remote workers and recognize the opportunity to expand these efforts post COVID-19. With more companies making the move to permanently shift operations from bricks & mortar locations, and more workers freed up from the restrictions that come with maintaining proximity to an office, we believe the Cornwall area is positioned to capitalize.

The Cornwall & Area Chamber of Commerce is always willing to work with the City to find helpful solutions for area businesses. We look forward to continuing the conversation.

Sincerely,



Greg Pietersma,
Executive Director,
Cornwall & Area Chamber of Commerce
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