



April 14, 2021

TO: Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

AND TO: Minister of Health Hon. Christine Elliott;  
Email: [christine.elliott@pc.ola.org](mailto:christine.elliott@pc.ola.org)

Dr. David Williams  
Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health  
Ministry of Health  
393 University Avenue, 21st Floor  
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The Windsor Essex County Health Unit  
Attention: Theresa Marentette, CEO  
Email: [tmarentette@wechu.org](mailto:tmarentette@wechu.org)

The Windsor Essex County Health Unit  
Attention: Dr. Wajid Ahmed  
Medical Officer of Health, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit  
Email: [wahmed@wechu.org](mailto:wahmed@wechu.org)

## **Re: COVID-19 Shutdown**

Dear Premier Ford,

At its Regular Council Meeting of April 6, 2021, Council of the Town of Essex discussed the serious and dire challenges facing our small businesses due to the Covid-19 restrictions currently imposed in our area.

Council of the Town of Essex discussed the fact that small businesses and the people behind those small businesses are the very backbone of our economy but we are continuing to lose these small businesses due to the continuing cycle of shutdowns and restrictions that are having disproportionate impacts on our local small businesses .

As a result of the discussion that ensued, the following resolution was passed:

R21-04-117

Moved By Councillor Verbeek

Seconded By Councilor Garon

**That** the presentation by David Cassidy be received, and



**That** the Town of Essex calls upon the Ontario Government, and all local and Provincial health officials to immediately bring to an end the devastation that is occurring to our small businesses and to allow all of our local small businesses to immediately open and remain open for in-store sales but with limited capacity (such capacities being proportionate to the size of the business) and with increased safety measures in place as may be appropriate during this time;

**And that** the Town of Essex calls upon the Ontario Government and all local and Provincial health officials to recognize and alleviate the unfair impacts a province wide shutdown has on our local small businesses when there are many other regions in the Province that have significantly higher COVID-19 rates/cases than those of Windsor-Essex County; and that the Town further asks our local and Provincial health officials to continue to provide even more detailed local data in order to support and demonstrate the fact that the Windsor-Essex Region should not have the same level of restrictions imposed as in those other regions in the Province that have much higher case numbers.

**And further** the Town of Essex makes this call upon the Ontario Government and all local and provincial health officials in recognition of the fact that most importantly it is the individuals, the people behind our small businesses who together with others in our community, are suffering as a result of the current shutdown. While it is vitally important to take all reasonable measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 it is equally important to recognize and take steps to protect the mental health of all Ontarians who are suffering at this time and respectfully our small businesses in the Windsor-Essex region are suffering greatly and so we again call on the Ontario Government and all local and Provincial health officials to recognize and alleviate the unfair impacts a province wide shutdown is continuing to have on our local small businesses.

**And that finally**, this resolution be sent with a request for support to the Province, local and Provincial Health Authorities, our local M.P.P. and all local municipalities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Auger", written over a white background.

Robert W. Auger, L.L.B.  
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RWA/cr



c.c. Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
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