Pettapiece encourages local businesses to access relief grant

(Perth-Wellington) – Perth-Wellington MPP Randy Pettapiece today encouraged struggling local businesses to access the province's new Small Business Support Grant.

"Small businesses are critical to every community in Perth-Wellington," Pettapiece said. "Our government is absolutely determined to keep them afloat in this incredibly challenging time."

Applications for the Ontario Small Business Support Grant are now open for businesses affected by the provincewide shutdown. Businesses with fewer than 100 employees may be eligible for the one-time grant of $10,000 to $20,000.

"As Ontario's employers do their part to defeat COVID-19, they are facing unprecedented challenges as a result of this global pandemic," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board.

Bethlenfalvy added: "I encourage every eligible small business owner in Ontario to visit ontario.ca/COVIDSupport to access the support our government has made available. While we still have a lot of work ahead of us, we can all look confidently to the future as we resolve to do our parts and put COVID-19 behind us."

In addition to the Small Business Support Grant, businesses may also be eligible for other government programs, including energy and tax rebates. For more information, go to ontario.ca/COVIDSupport

In December, Pettapiece issued a statement on the provincewide shutdown. Emphasizing the urgency of taking additional steps to combat COVID-19, he noted:

"The provincial government has no greater responsibility than to protect our health and safety. Many hospitals and long-term care facilities are already stretched thin—including those we rely on here in Perth-Wellington. Local health officials have told me directly: Without stronger action, more COVID cases will overwhelm them."

Pettapiece is hopeful the restrictions will help to control the virus so that restrictions can be lifted as fast as public health conditions will permit.

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