

# NORDASKI REGION

COVID – 19 BUSINESS IMPACT SURVEY RESULTS

## IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND ON THE WORKFORCE

April 23, 2020



# The impact of COVID – 19 on OPERATIONS

## LEVEL OF IMPACT

**29%**

**HIGH**

This could put us out of business.

**46%**

**MEDIUM**

This is going to significantly impact our finances.

**25%**

**LOW**

This may impact us financially, but we are confident that we can weather the storm.

**1%**

**NONE**



## ESTIMATED FINANCIAL LOSS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF COVID-19?

*(44 respondents answered this question)*

**46%**

\$20,000

**34%**

\$20,000 to \$50,000

**11%**

\$50,000 to \$100,000

**18%**

\$100,000 or more

*Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding and respondents who provided multiple answers to certain questions.*

## HOW HAS COVID-19 IMPACTED YOUR OPERATIONS?

(69 respondents answered this question)

**38%**

We reduced hours, staff and business operations

**25%**

We're working remotely and continuing operations

**39%**

We closed temporarily

**0%**

We closed permanently

**12%**

No impact

## IF YOU ARE CONTINUING YOUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS, HOW HAVE YOU ADJUSTED?

(56 respondents answered this question)

**39%**

Our storefront is operating with reduced hours.

**54%**

Our storefront is closed but we offer our products and services by telephone.

**30%**

Our storefront is closed but we offer our products and services online.

## WHAT ADDITIONAL IMPACT OR MEASURES HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED?

(69 respondents answered this question)

Our supply chain is interrupted

**29%**

We've had contracts cancelled

**13%**

We've had to cancel contracts

**32%**

Decrease in sales (or donations if not-for-profit)

**52%**

We've had to cancel fundraising events.

**13%**

We are having to restrict spending because of uncertainty.

**65%**

We increased cleaning and sanitation in our office/facilities.

**48%**

We are experiencing significant increase in consumer demand.

**12%**

# The impact of COVID – 19 on the WORKFORCE

Number of lay-offs following the release on March 26<sup>th</sup>, of the list of essential services:

(60 respondents reported layoffs)



140

Full-time

127

Part-time

16

Seasonal

3

Contract

## WHAT HAVE YOU TRIED TO ACCOMMODATE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON YOUR WORKFORCE?

67%

We educate our employees as to the symptoms and risks associated with the virus, as well as prevention measures.

14%

We staggered work hours for employees.

18%

We've required employees to work from home.

7%

We are asking employees to use vacation, sick or personal days during the pandemic to defer layoffs.

7%

We continue to pay wages to employees that are off work for quarantine or illness.

25%

We've closed our business/organization temporarily and not paying employees during closure.

53%

We've informed employees of the government assistance programs.

40%

We provide protective gear for our employees.

30%

Other: Other: *we increase wages during the crisis, inform employees of their choices to either come to work or not if they are afraid, reduced shifts, re-assigned tasks in an effort to avoid lay-offs, we are an essential service – employees work 6 hrs/day and we pay for 8 hours.*

## SUGGESTIONS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES

*When asked about what the community could do for them, answers following categories: communication and awareness building and support.*

### COMMUNICATION / AWARENESS

- Better information on the situation with the crisis and its impact in our community. We feel like we don't know where we are going or what to do.
- More information on what businesses can do, what is legal or not. It's hard to find the information because it changes from one week to the next.
- I would like to hear some leadership in media from local officials to remind people about seriousness, protective measures, local cases, etc.
- Communicate the importance of shopping local to support local businesses during (and beyond) the pandemic.
- We hear and see social innovation like never before. Let's hope it continues.

### SUPPORT

- Patrol, people need to take this seriously.
- Establish minimal protection measures for ALL businesses that remain open.
- Deferral or reduction of municipal taxes.
- Develop a plan for local small and medium enterprises for 'after the crisis'.
- Long term loan or mortgage.
- Express concern to the federal and provincial government the potential need we may require grant/loans shortly to assist.

The organizations involved in conducting this survey wish to thank the responding businesses and organizations. Our goal with the survey is to better understand the impact of COVID-19 on your operations and on your workforce, as well as to get suggestions from local businesses and organizations on possible local solutions that might assist you during this difficult time.

The results of the survey, along with the suggestions that were received have been forwarded to our municipal and community partners for their consideration and response. We will keep you posted as local steps are taken to address your concerns and suggestions. As a starting point, here is what has already been undertaken or is in the works in the community:

- ✓ Regular updates on programs and incentives shared by NordAski.
- ✓ Contacts and links posted on Town of Hearst website and on SOS COVID-19 Hearst Facebook page.
- ✓ All parks are closed and posters have been posted along the walking trails in the municipality.
- ✓ Partners will follow-up with an update to this survey on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

## WHO ANSWERED THE SURVEY?

**69** businesses and organizations

**62%** Private      **23%** Public      **16%** Not for profit

### EMPLOYEE SIZE RANGE - APRIL 1, 2020

(65 respondents answered this question)

**16** 0 employees      **44** 1 to 19 employees      **2** 20 to 49 employees

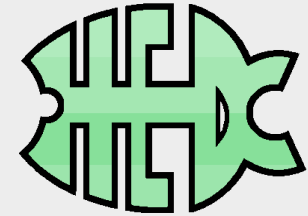
**2** 50 to 99 employees      **1** 100+ employees

## RESPONDENTS BY INDUSTRY

(63 respondents answered this question)

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	18
Mining, Quarrying or Oil & Gas Extraction	2
Utilities	8
Construction	6
Manufacturing	6
Wholesale Trade	1
Retail Trade	17
Transportation and Warehousing	7
Information and Cultural Industries	4
Finance and Insurance	3
Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	5
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	1
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services	4
Educational Services	7
Healthcare and Social Assistance	5
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	5
Accommodation and Food Services	8
Public Administration	4
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	9
Other (Please Specify) <i>Automotive, Welding and Machining, Esthetician, Gas station/Auto repair</i>	

# Partners involved in conducting the survey between April 6 – 14, 2020



Hornepayne Economic  
Development



FAR NORTHEAST TRAINING BOARD (FNETB)  
your Local Employment Planning Council

COMMISSION DE FORMATION DU NORD-EST (CFNE)  
votre Conseil Local de Planification de l'Emploi



Provincial government support for businesses

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-support-businesses>

Federal government support for businesses

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/04/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-new-support-to-protect-canadian-jobs.html>

Town of Hearst COVID-19 information

<https://www.hearst.ca/en/covid-19/>

Township of Hornepayne

[https://www.townshipofhornepayne.ca/news/what\\_s\\_new/coronavirus\\_facts](https://www.townshipofhornepayne.ca/news/what_s_new/coronavirus_facts)

Constance Lake First Nation

<http://clfn.on.ca/>

Municipality of Mattice Val-Côté

[https://www.facebook.com/Municipalit%C3%A9-de-Municipality-of-Mattice-Val-C%C3%B4t%C3%A9-551835745193547/?epa=SEARCH\\_BOX](https://www.facebook.com/Municipalit%C3%A9-de-Municipality-of-Mattice-Val-C%C3%B4t%C3%A9-551835745193547/?epa=SEARCH_BOX)