

Chief Administrative Officer

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON L2V 4T7 905-980-6000 Toll-free: 1-800-263-7215

MEMORANDUM

CAO 14-2021

Subject: Pandemic Relief Taskforce

Date: July 22, 2021

To: Regional Council

From: Ron Tripp, P.Eng., Acting Chief Administrative Officer

At the Regional Council meeting of May 20, 2021, Councillor Gale raised the following point under Other Business:

13.1 Pandemic Relief Taskforce

Councillor Gale requested information respecting the COVID-19 pandemic relief taskforce, and whether local business groups have been consulted.

Attached as Appendix A to this memo is a summary of the many proactive activities and consultations between the Region and our business community, primarily lead by Director George Spezza and our Economic Development team. Of particular note, is the work of the Economic Rapid Response Team (ERRT). This initiative which is being administratively led by the Economic Development team, and its mandate, was established in March of 2020 by the Regional Chair and the twelve Mayors.

Additionally, Council will receive Report CHR 3-2021 at its meeting of July 22, 2021 for information. This report describes a very inclusive forum with our business community representatives hosted by the Regional Chair and the twelve mayors. As indicated in the report, it is the intention of the elected officials to continue this valuable dialogue.

In response to the specific inquiry, there has been, and will continue to be, extensive and inclusive dialogue and consultation with our Niagara Region business community.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Ron Tripp, P. Eng

Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: Economic Development and Business Engagement