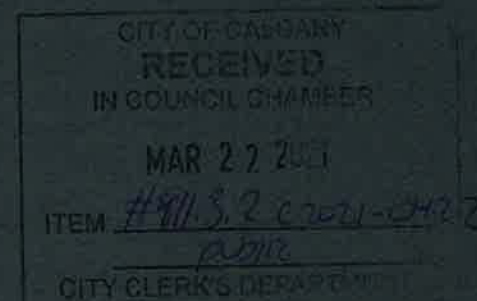


Options for Targeted Relief to Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

Presented by City Manager David Duckworth
City Manager's Office

C2021-0422

ISC: Unrestricted



Recommendations

That Council:

1. Provide Administration with the one-time authority to waive up to \$8.8 million in business licence and related fees for new and renewing businesses for a period of one year, starting on 2021 March 17.
2. Direct Administration to work with the Business Sector Task Force and return to Council in 2021 May with a report outlining further relief options with remaining funds, estimated to be \$21.2 million.



Key Messages

- Immediate option supports 40,000 businesses
- Administratively efficient
- Balances immediate relief with consideration of future options
- Supported by Business Sector Task Force and Council's Business Advisory Committee Working Group members



Federal and Provincial Business Relief

Federal

- **Canada Emergency Business Account**
Interest-free loans for small businesses and not-for-profits
- **Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy**
Rent and mortgage support for qualifying organizations affected by COVID-19
- **Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy**
Help for businesses to keep or rehire employees
- **Business Credit Availability Program**
Credit to help cover operating costs due to COVID-19
- **Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program**
Low-interest loans to cover operational needs for hard-hit businesses
- **Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility**
Bridge financing for Canada's largest employers facing financial challenges

Provincial

- **Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant**
Grant for organizations up to \$20,000 in funding for PPE, rent, wages, inventory, etc. Open until March 31, then will be replaced by new grant program in April 2021 with funding available up to \$30,000 (details not yet released)

Immediate Business Relief Measures - Business Licence Fees

Option	City Cost
Waive business licence renewal fee for one year	\$6.8 million
Waive new business licence fees for one year	\$2 million



What We Heard

- Some relief provided now and some reserved for the future
- Recognition that any future grant program recognize relief needs for businesses that have been more impacted than others
- Consideration for administratively efficient program and exploration of third-party partnership for grant administration and distribution

Additional Business Support and Relief Measures

Administration will return in May with options for remaining estimated \$21.2 million.

Options may include:

- A grant system for small businesses
- Supports for Calgary businesses that have been hardest hit by the pandemic
- Supports for all businesses impacted by COVID-19



Recommendations

That Council:

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