

## 2021 BUSINESS LICENSE FEES WAIVED FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES IN RECOGNITION OF CHALLENGING TIMES

**Welland, ON** – Earlier this year, City Council supported Staff's recommendations to streamline the approval process for temporary outdoor patios and adding outdoor displays for 2021. At this week's meeting, Welland City Council approved Staff's recommendation to refund and waive all costs associated with obtaining a business license in 2021, excluding fire inspection fees.

Automatic refunds will be completed for businesses that have already paid fees for 2021. Businesses who have yet to submit their 2021 application will still be required to do so to obtain a valid license; additionally, all required inspections will need to be completed.

"Welland City Council and Staff are extremely supportive of our business community. Waiving of the business license fees will hopefully assist them as they deal with significant issues related to COVID-19," stated Mayor Frank Campion. "We continue to look for other ways of assisting the business community."

On average the City of Welland issues approximately 300 business licenses each year. For more information on City of Welland COVID-19 recovery, visit welland.ca.

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