

Ottawa Board of Trade Supports the Mandatory Use of Masks

July 3, 2020, OTTAWA - The Ottawa Board of Trade President & CEO, Sueling Ching released the following statement in response to the City of Ottawa announcement regarding the mandatory use of masks to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

“We commend the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Public Health for their decision to require the use of non-medical masks in public with certain exceptions. It is **the right and smart thing to do** for our community health and our economy.”

“The counter measures of COVID-19 supported our ability to flatten the curve however, they have been devastating to our economy. Many businesses have not survived the imposed restrictions and we must do everything possible to **safely reopen and keep open our economy** in the COVID environment. The use of masks is a key tactic that other jurisdictions have effectively implemented, and we can learn from their experience.”

“In addition to reducing the risk of transmission, the consistent use of masks will also inspire the business, consumer and workforce confidence required to restart our economy. Even when businesses are given the green light to reopen, it only matters if consumers feel safe to shop and use services and everyone feels safe to go back to work.”

“The Board of Trade remains committed to supporting the business community through advocacy and programs during this challenging time. In addition to the mandatory use of masks, we encourage all businesses to make the POST Promise at www.postpromise.com as a means of further reassuring customers and workers they are committed to public safety.

“We urge all Ottawa citizens to support our local businesses when making buying decisions and be COVID WISE. Please wear a mask and be patient as we all transition to a new way of interacting for our collective benefit. The successful recovery of our economy is a community wide effort.”

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The Ottawa Board of Trade is a non-partisan, non-profit, independent organization with a mission to create prosperity through advocacy, collaboration and leadership. We represent the interests of all businesses in the Ottawa region as we strive for economic growth and community well-being.

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