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CHAIR'S BLOG

May 2020

We have made it through another month of this global pandemic. It has been nearly 3 months that our storefronts have been closed, 11 weeks that our businesses have had to deal with crippling financial losses, 78 days that people have been laid off for. Only now have restrictions begun to lift and our businesses able to welcome customers back into their stores. Our government is working towards a plan to reopen Phase 2 businesses, but we suspect that we are still weeks away from the opening of the Phase 3 sectors.

We are acutely aware that business owners and customers will take a while to get comfortable with the world again. We are working hard as your Chamber to ensure that you have the resources and knowledge required to make the best decision for your business and your situation. The answer will not be the same for each person or business, which is why we find it so important to filter down each resource and all applicable subsidies that come from our federal and provincial governments.

Furthermore, as our member businesses prepare to re-open their stores, restaurants and shops, the Chamber wants to help to get the word out. For the remainder of the year the Chamber is offering our Digital Sign advertising and e-Blasts at 50% off. You can find information about the [Digital Sign on our website by clicking here](#), and by [clicking here for the e-Blasts](#).

We are continuing with our "We Are GPR" campaign. We encourage members in good standing of the Greater Parkland Regional Chamber of Commerce to submit a 15 second video clip highlighting who they are and how they're operating during this time. Alternatively, you can submit 4 pictures that convey your story. You can [check out our website for more information](#).

Before I conclude this blog post, a message from the Board of Directors and staff of the Chamber about inclusion and diversity. As a purpose driven organisation that is membership supported and values based, inclusion and diversity is a clear depiction of who we are at our core. The Greater Parkland Regional Chamber of Commerce, no matter a person's background, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or social status We Welcome You.

We Are GPR and we will work to represent our entire community.

Stay safe, stay healthy and take care of one another!

Richard Wong

Chair, GPRC

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