

KENORA & RAINY RIVER DISTRICTS

COVID-19 BUSINESS IMPACT SURVEY RESULTS

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON BUSINESS
OPERATIONS AND THE WORKFORCE

April 22, 2020



The Impact of COVID-19 on OPERATIONS:

LEVEL OF IMPACT

25%
HIGH

This could put us
out of business.

43%
MEDIUM

This is going to
significantly
impact our finances.

22%
LOW

This impacts us
financially,
but we are
confident we can
weather the storm.

9%
NONE



**ESTIMATED FINANCIAL LOSS SINCE
THE BEGINNING OF COVID-19?**
(44 respondents answered this question)

34%

Less than
\$20,000

39%

\$20,000 to
\$50,000

11%

\$50,000 to
\$100,000

16%

\$100,000
or more

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding and respondents who provided multiple answers to certain questions.

HOW HAS COVID-19 IMPACTED YOUR OPERATIONS?

(76 respondents answered this question)

30%

We reduced hours, staff and business operations.

50%

We're working remotely and continuing operations.

34%

We closed temporarily.

1%

We closed permanently.

5%

No impact.

IF YOU ARE CONTINUING YOUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS, HOW HAVE YOU ADJUSTED?

(76 respondents answered this question)

24%

Our storefront is operating with reduced hours.

50%

Our storefront is closed but we offer our products and services by telephone.

51%

Our storefront is closed but we offer our products and services online.

14%

Unable to continue operating our business.

WHAT ADDITIONAL IMPACT OR MEASURES HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED?

(76 respondents answered this question)

Our supply chain is interrupted.

34%

We've had to cancel contracts.

22%

We've had contracts cancelled.

32%

Decrease in sales (or donations if non-profit).

62%

We've had to cancel fundraising events.

17%

We are having to restrict spending because of uncertainty.

70%

We have increased cleaning and sanitation in our office/facilities.

70%

We have increased cleaning and sanitation in our office/facilities.

17%

The Impact of COVID-19 on the WORKFORCE:

Number of lay-offs following the release of the list of essential Services on March 26th.

58 respondents reported lay-offs



48

Full-time

33

Part-time

27

Seasonal

23

Contract

WHAT HAVE YOU TRIED TO ACCOMMODATE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON YOUR WORKFORCE?

57% We educate our employees as to the symptoms and risks associated with the virus, as well as prevention measures.

21% We staggered work hours for employees.

35% We've required employees to work from home.

3% We are asking employees to use vacation, sick or personal days during the crisis, and deferring layoffs.

14% We continue to pay wages to employees that are off work for quarantine or illness.

29% We've closed our business/organization temporarily and not paying employees during closure.

53% We've informed employees of the government assistance programs.

Who Answered the Survey?

87 Businesses & Organizations

46% Private **23%** Public **31%** Not for Profit

EMPLOYEE SIZE RANGE – APRIL 1, 2020
(44 respondents answered this question)

9 0 Employees **35** 1 to 19 Employees **8** 20 to 49 Employees

4 50 to 99 Employees **2** 100 or More Employees

RESPONDENTS BY INDUSTRY (87 respondents answered this question)

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7
Mining, Quarrying or Oil & Gas Extraction	2
Utilities	2
Construction	5
Manufacturing	3
Wholesale Trade	1
Retail Trade	21
Transportation & Warehousing	4
Information & Cultural Industries	3
Finance & Insurance	2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	5
Management of Companies & Enterprises	0
Admin & Support, Waste Management & Remediation Services	1
Educational Services	9
Healthcare and Social Assistance	19
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	10
Accommodation & Food Services	8
Public Administration	2
Other Services (except Public Administration)	19

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding and respondents who provided multiple answers to certain questions.

Suggestions from Local Businesses:

When asked about what the community could do for them, the answers received could be summarized under two categories: communication/awareness and support.

COMMUNICATION / AWARENESS

- Municipal government to have more awareness of services and refer community members.
- Remember to shop local and reopen cancelled orders once we can be operational again.
- Please support local businesses and order online where possible and if you can.
- Adapt to our need to facilitate virtual support events and charity drives. Understand our need to request donations despite mass job loss.
- Shop larger orders and less often.
- Educate the community on flattening the curve and the importance of staying home.
- Community has been incredible in its support. Financial and food donations have not stopped.
- Be considerate, kind and understanding of the people who need the most help.
- Be aware of local retailers' safety issues for their staff.

SUPPORT

- I worry about some of our students not having internet access. Offer free data for phones where students are working in rural areas.
- Offer a break with paying bills and do not charge interest on late payments.
- Please lower payments with utilities and taxes.
- Bill for city taxes later or allow for late payment as some businesses lost over 90% of their income while still having to pay for heat, hydro, insurance, interest on mortgages.
- Reduce property taxes; waive interest owed.
- I am torn between lobbying the government to close everyone except grocers and medical people for a short period to expedite the flattening of Ontario's COVID-19 curve and getting back to normal or staying the course. Staying the course leaves business owners to continuously evaluate ways to better operate in order to save our business and keep our staff working.

Municipal Contact Information COVID-19:

Atikokan: <http://www.atikokan.ca/content/covid-19>

Dryden: <https://www.dryden.ca/en/city-services/covid19.aspx>

Emo: <https://www.twspemo.on.ca/>

Fort Frances: <https://www.fortfrances.ca/covid-19>

Ignace: <https://www.ignace.ca/residents/public-information/public-notices>

Kenora: <http://kenora.ca/covid-19-updates/>

Machin: <http://visitmachin.com/phone-numbers/>

Pickle Lake: <http://picklelake.ca/covid-19/>

Rainy River: <http://www.rainyriver.ca/>

Red Lake: <https://red-lake-coronavirus-response-redlake.hub.arcgis.com/>

Sioux Lookout: <https://www.siouxlookout.ca/en/index.asp>

Sioux Narrows / Nestor Falls: <https://www.snnf.ca>

Northwestern Health Unit: <https://www.nwhu.on.ca/Pages/home.aspx>

Residents of the Kenora & Rainy River Districts:

Support from the Government of Canada:

The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) supports employers that are hardest hit by the pandemic and protect the jobs Canadians depend on.

The subsidy generally covers 75% of an employee's wages – up to \$847 per week - for employers of all sizes and across all sectors who have suffered a drop in gross revenues of at least 15% in March, and 30% in April and May.

The program will be in place for a 12-week period, from March 15 to June 6, 2020.

Employers who are eligible for the CEWS are entitled to receive a 100% refund for certain employer contributions to Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, the Quebec Pension Plan, and the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan paid in respect of employees who are on leave with pay.

For employers that are eligible for both the CEWS and the 10% Temporary Wage Subsidy for a period, any benefit from the Temporary 10% Wage Subsidy for remuneration paid in a specific period will generally reduce the amount available to be claimed under the CEWS in that same period.

Applications for the CEWS will be open on April 27.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html#businesses>

Northwest Training and Adjustment Board Survey: April 6 – 17, 2020



www.ntab.on.ca



Provincial government support for businesses

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-support-businesses>

Federal government support for businesses

<http://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2020/04/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-new-support-to-protect-canadian-jobs.html>

Municipal COVID-19 information

Check your municipal website for current information