



## COVID-19 Health & Safety Refund Program

Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The COVID-19 Health and Safety Refund Program offers refunds to eligible applicants for costs associated with upgrading health and safety measures in their workplace post COVID-19. The intent of this program is to ease the financial burden on businesses reopening after COVID-19 who may need to add additional health and safety measures in order to meet compliance with provincial legislation, or to keep staff and customers safe and healthy</li> <li>• The intent of this program is to assist businesses who need to reconfigure their workspaces; add additional signage to advise of physical distancing measures; costs associated with the installation of protective barriers; and business modifications related to health and safety processes and procedures (i.e. adding hand sanitizing stations, occupancy control, air ventilation or air circulation solutions)</li> <li>• The program will provide assistance to eligible applicants in securing financing for health and safety improvements;</li> <li>• Haldimand County will benefit from this program as it will assist with the costs business will face as they begin to re-open post COVID-19. Keeping businesses open will ensure jobs are being retained in the community and also prevent declines in commercial tax collection.</li> </ul>
Legislative Authority	<p>• (The municipality may) make grants to registered owners, assessed owners and tenants of land and buildings within the Community Improvement Project Area, to pay for the whole or any part of the cost of rehabilitating such lands and buildings (Section 28(7) of the Planning Act).</p> <p>S. 28(1) of Planning Act (emphasis added): “community improvement project area” means a municipality or an area within a municipality, the community improvement of which in the opinion of the council is desirable because of age, dilapidation, <b><u>overcrowding, faulty arrangement</u></b>, unsuitability of buildings or for any other environmental, <b><u>social or community economic development reason</u></b></p> <p>S. 28 (7.1) Eligible Costs (emphasis added) - For the purposes of subsection (7), the eligible costs of a community improvement plan may include costs related to environmental site assessment, environmental remediation, development, redevelopment, <b><u>construction</u></b> and reconstruction <b><u>of lands and buildings for rehabilitation purposes</u></b> or for the provision of energy efficient uses, buildings, structures, works, improvements or facilities. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (8).</p>
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matching grant of up to 50% of Eligible Costs up to a maximum grant of \$2,500 per property;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restricted to costs associated with upgrading health and safety measures related to COVID-19 in the workplace</li> <li>• This grant will permit applicants to apply for costs retroactively (backdating to March 15, 2020), associated with health and safety improvements related to COVID-19. Grants will be accepted until December 31, 2020</li> </ul>
Eligibility Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All of the Haldimand County Downtown Areas CIP (outlined in Section 6.7) apply.</li> <li>• Eligible Costs include (but are not limited to): reconfiguring of a business workspace; add additional signage to inform of physical distancing measures; costs associated with the installation of protective barriers; and business modifications related to health and safety processes and procedures (i.e. adding hand sanitizing stations; occupancy control, air ventilation or circulation solutions)</li> </ul>
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refunds will be provided upon successful completion of the approved work, to the satisfaction of the County.</li> <li>• Grants are provided on a one-time basis to the eligible applicant for an approved project.</li> </ul>
Allocated Program Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2020 \$25,000 will be allocated to this initiative</li> </ul>