

**PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. THIS E-MAIL ACCOUNT IS NOT MONITORED.**

Dear Merrickville-Wolford Business Owner,

We are pleased to provide local businesses with an update on programs that support our community and our small businesses.

1. **New Digital Main Street Programs:** As part of a partnership between the federal and provincial governments, Digital Main Street announced three new programs to help small businesses create and enhance their online presence and reach more customers:

- 1) **ShopHERE** provides small businesses and artists with a quick, easy and no-cost way to start selling online right away;
- 2) **Ontario Grants Program** provides main street businesses with \$2,500 Digital Transformation Grants;
- 3) **Future Proofing Main Street** assists businesses with identifying new markets, pivoting their business model, and developing and implementing a digital transformation plan.

Details on all three programs can be found here:

<https://digitalmainstreet.ca/ontario/>.

2. **Sign Templates** businesses can use: As businesses begin to reopen safely, it may be helpful and build customer confidence to inform customers about the safety measures you've put in place for their protection. With thanks to the United Counties Economic Development Task Team and the Health Unit, templates have been developed in a fillable format so that businesses can complete and post signs in their retail shops. In addition, the Health Unit has created a checklist for businesses with patios. Templates and the patio checklist are attached. These documents and additional small business resources can be found on our website at <https://www.merrickville-wolford.ca/business-help>.

3. **FedDev Ontario** is accepting applications for the federal Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF). The RRRF provides financial contributions (interest-free loans) to help support fixed operating costs, where business

revenues have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and businesses have been unable to access other Government of Canada measures. More details and application can be found here: [https://www.feddevontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/h\\_02581.html?OpenDocument](https://www.feddevontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/h_02581.html?OpenDocument)

4. A list of local PPE suppliers throughout the United Counties of Leeds Grenville is being updated regularly and can be found here: <https://invest.leedsgrenville.com/en/contacts-news-events/covid-19.aspx>

We hope this information is helpful.

Doug Robertson  
CAO/Clerk/Director, Economic Development  
Village of Merrickville-Wolford



If you would like to unsubscribe from future e-mails of this nature from the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, please forward this e-mail to [edo@merrickville-wolford.ca](mailto:edo@merrickville-wolford.ca) with the word "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line.

If you become aware of a local business owner who did not receive this e-mail that you feel would benefit from being added to our e-mail list, please invite them to e-mail a request directly to [edo@merrickville-wolford.ca](mailto:edo@merrickville-wolford.ca). Indirect, third party requests to add someone to the list will not be processed.