

July 29/20 Email from Doug Robertson:

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Dear Merrickville-Wolford Business Owner,

As we continue to progress through Stage 3 of re-opening safely, we are pleased to provide more tools, resources and information, which we hope will help on the road to economic recovery.

Village Launches [Support Small, Support Local](#) Promotional Initiative!

Shopping Local is a great way to support our retailers, restaurants, artists, agri-food producers, manufacturers and more. Exciting events and programs underway include:

- Fresh Village *Support Small, Support Local* signage posted throughout the community, and in local news and social media. <https://www.merrickville-wolford.ca/>
- Mayor Doug Struthers welcomes MPP Lisa MacLeod and MPP Steve Clark on a walk-about in Merrickville-Wolford, visiting local businesses to spread the message to shop local! (See United Counties of Leeds Grenville [eNews](#) article)
- Ontario government launches “Shop Local! Shop Safe! Shop with Confidence!” campaign - encouraging Ontarians to support their local small businesses and to shop safely while doing so:
<https://news.ontario.ca/medq/en/2020/06/ontario-encourages-support-of-local-small-businesses.html>

Public Washrooms Open in the Village Today

In addition to Parks Canada’s washrooms at the Merrickville Lockstation, there are now 2 more public washrooms available for use 10am - 6pm daily:

1. Rink house on Main Street W, by the outdoor rink surface, next to Nana B’s Bakery

[317 Brock Street West, P.O. Box 340, Merrickville ON K0G 1N0
www.merrickville-wolford.ca reception@merrickville-wolford.ca](mailto:reception@merrickville-wolford.ca)

2. An accessible, portable washroom in public parking lot on Wellington Street W, next to Merrickville Veterinary Services
Directional signs have been reinstalled to guide patrons to the washrooms and COVID-19 protocols are in place. Details are posted on signage at each location.

Digital Main Street Program Expansion

Now includes 3 new programs to help small 'main street' businesses create and enhance their online presence:

1. ShopHERE - Eligible businesses may apply for assistance with creating a free website for an online storefront.
<https://digitalmainstreet.ca/shophere/>
2. Digital Transformation Grants of \$2,500 - Eligible businesses may apply for funding to undertake a guided digital transformation.
<https://digitalmainstreet.ca/ontariogrants/>
3. Future Proofing – Eligible businesses (including homebased) may apply for assistance with identifying new markets, pivoting their business model and developing a digital transformation plan. <https://digitalmainstreet.ca/futureproof/>

Free PROFIT Seminar on Exporting Food & Beverage Products to the USA

September 1 to September 24, 2020, OMAFRA is hosting a 'new-to-exporting' seminar program called PROFIT (Program to Raise Ontario Food International Trade), designed to provide a working knowledge of exporting food and beverage products to the USA, offered in a virtual format at no cost for 2020.

- For any Ontario-based manufacturer or seller of Ontario-made food, beverage or agriculture products.
- Program will be offered in eight, 90-minute sessions during September 2020.
- Topics include: Preparing to Export, Market Research, Food Safety, Nutritional Testing and Labeling, Logistics and Transportation, Financial Risk Management, US Tax Laws, Government Funding Programs, Working with US Customs, FDA and USDA, Selling into

the US, Exporting to International Markets, Experienced Exporter Panel.

- For more information and to register, click [HERE](#)

COVID-19 Safety Measures to Protect Your Customers & Employees:

- Posters for businesses to download & post provided by the Leeds Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit include those attached for:
 1. [Safe Shopping Regular Stores](#)
 2. [Safe Grocery Shopping](#)
 3. [Mask Required](#)
 4. [Protect Yourself & Those Around You](#)
- Sector-specific guidelines in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, have been released by the Province in partnership with health and safety organizations. These help workplaces better understand their responsibilities and include best practices to help you comply with your legal obligation to protect the health and safety of workers.
https://www.ontario.ca/page/resources-prevent-covid-19-workplace?_ga=2.124151690.1684534418.1595958829-505252469.1572615658
- List of local PPE suppliers throughout the United Counties of Leeds Grenville is updated regularly and found here, along with additional business resources and programs: <https://invest.leedsgrenville.com/en/contacts-news-events/covid-19.aspx>

We hope that this information is helpful as we work together to revitalize our local economy.

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



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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. Indirect, third party requests to add someone to the list will not be processed.