

# Kitimat COVID-19 Business Support: Phase One

The Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force is pleased to launch Phase One of Kitimat COVID-19 Business Support. Phase One aims to provide an initial level of support to help local businesses overcome COVID-19 related challenges. Efforts remain active to provide additional resources in future phases of Kitimat COVID-19 Business Support.

The Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force's Phase One of COVID-19 Business Support includes five synergistic campaigns to support local businesses and boost the local economy.

## 1. Business Information Support Campaign

The following tools will be made available to support businesses with navigating available resources for COVID-19 conditions.

- Business Support Hotline (250-632-8900 ext.2244)  
Monday to Friday (9am – 12pm / 1pm – 4pm)
- Online Business Support Data Base will be hosted at [www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca)
- Online Webinar and Learning Sessions (sessions will be announced by the Chamber of Commerce)

## 2. Local Business Free PPE Support Campaign

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided free of charge to local businesses operating under COVID-19 restrictions. The intention is to lessen the financial burden for local businesses having to purchase PPE in order to maintain safe operations during COVID-19 restrictions.

- Order forms and details can be found at [www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca) (COVID-19 Business Support)
- Orders will be managed by the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce (250-632-6294)

## 3. Shop Local Kitimat Consumer Awareness Campaign

Efforts will be made to raise awareness of local business operations and promote local shopping opportunities.

- Development of a “Kitimat is Open for Business” promotional video
- Shop local stimulus contests to win gift certificates for local businesses

## 4. COVID-19 Commercial Realm Physical Distancing Support Campaign

Courtesy umbrellas will be made available to local businesses in commercial realms to provide weather relief for customers forced to wait outdoors for services, due to COVID-19 capacity restrictions.

- Umbrellas, umbrella stands, and information signage will be provided free of charge to businesses.
- To arrange for courtesy umbrellas contact [edo@kitimat.ca](mailto:edo@kitimat.ca) or 250-632-8900 ext.2244

## 5. Regional Visitor Tourism Marketing Campaign

Additional resources will be applied to market Kitimat to regional tourism audiences, as a premiere destination in Northwest B.C.

For more information on the Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force's Phase One of Kitimat COVID-19 Business Support, please visit [www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca)

### Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force

In the wake of economic impacts of COVID-19, the District of Kitimat and the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce partnered to form the Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force. The Task Force is comprised of representatives from both partnering organizations, along with Haisla Nation, Rio Tinto BC Works, LNG Canada, and the local business community including representation from the tourism service sector, industrial service sector, and general service sector. The intention of the Task Force is to identify COVID-19 challenges that local businesses are facing, and connect them with resources and tools to facilitate a healthy economic recovery and a vibrant local business community.

The first action of the Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force was launching the Kitimat COVID-19 Business Impact Survey. Results from the survey were analyzed to identify approaches for supporting local businesses through the challenges of COVID-19, including the five campaigns that comprise Phase One of Kitimat COVID-19 Business Support. Results from the survey can be viewed at [www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca) (COVID-19 Business Support).

District of Kitimat Council allocated \$500,000 in the 2020 budget to provide relief and support to local businesses experiencing COVID-19 challenges. The Kitimat Economic Recovery Task Force will provide recommendations on how to utilize these funds to support local businesses and empower the local economy. District of Kitimat Council approved \$100,000 of the reserve to fund Phase One of COVID-19 Business Support.



# KITIMAT ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE