

Canandaigua Chamber of Commerce wants to support your efforts to prepare for the current and potential impacts of Coronavirus COVID-19. This includes making operational decisions to reduce the potential for transmission of the virus in our community.

There exists a very real potential for the disruption of “business as usual” due to the spread of Coronavirus. Part of our role as a Chamber is to reduce this disruption by sharing timely information, providing helpful resources, and convening virtual and face-to-face opportunities for our members to maintain the sense of community that has seen us through other social and market irregularities.

Preparedness is key. The demonstrated impact of Coronavirus on other communities domestically and abroad is consistent and far-reaching. We need to take seriously its risk to our people and our economy.

There are things we can do.

- **Encourage frequent hand washing**, the use of hand sanitizer and no-contact greetings
- **Consider transitioning from face-to-face meetings** to virtual meetings or phone calls
- **Support employees’** decision to use sick days if they are ill, and identify those in situations who may be called upon to care for others
- **Consider remote work** for employees whose roles are appropriate for it. Work with your IT provider to enable remote access to email, voicemail, file storage, etc
- **Understand your obligations as an employer.** [OSHA](#) and the [EEOC](#) have both published guidelines.
- **Develop Plans** for reduced or disrupted operations. Prepare your business and your customers for any disruption in your operations, whether the result of consumer behavior, supply chain issues or staff illness. Learn more about Business Continuity Planning [here](#)
- **Contact your financial institution(s)** and determine their guidelines for remote management of your finance. Ensure access to emergency funding or a line of credit should your firm experience significant disruption
- **Contact your suppliers** to understand changes in product availability, shipping time or cost
- **Craft a Communications Plan** and stay in touch with your consumers using email, social media and on-site messaging
- **Use your resources and networks.** Many firms belong to networking and industry associations that are disseminating industry-specific information to help their members remain in touch with issues and opportunities
- **Stay informed.** Circumstances – and even regulations – change quickly. Consider the following resources when making plans for your organization, your employees, your volunteers and your consumers.

[Ontario County Health Department](#)

[New York State Health Department](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[US Chamber of Commerce](#)

We're looking at our own decisions. Our members derive great value from our events, socials and classes, but we're having to be mindful of the cautions issued by professionals in disease control and prevention. Accelerated cleaning and hygiene regimens. "Social distancing." Limiting large gatherings (see the Governor's restrictions on gatherings [here](#)).

We are here for you. Convening important conversations is central to our mission, and while we may hold some of these 'remotely' it doesn't mean we are any less invested in your safety and success. To the contrary, any decisions we make to cancel, postpone, relocate or 'virtualize' programming are made with best wishes for our continued success as a community of people.

Note: All committee meetings have been transitioned to virtual platforms until further notice. Watch your email and Facebook for participation information.

We'll keep you informed. Many of you have our events on your calendar and we promise to advise members via email and Facebook as to the status of events, meetings, office hours and operational updates.

We welcome your questions. While we're not doctors, we are members of the community, invested in its resiliency, sustainability and growth. If we can help you identify tools and resources to sustain your operations through this period of uncertainty, call 585-394-4400 or email [Ethan](#), [Elisha](#) or [Chris](#).

We're glad to be your Chamber team.