



GEORGINA

# Media Release

Town of Georgina Corporate Communications  
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## Town extends COVID-19 business support programs to end of 2021

**Georgina, ON** – Council has approved extending COVID-19 business support programs until the end of 2021. The programs include grants, a development application fee rebate and a temporary patio program. To ensure the quick approval of applications, Council also approved the Economic Recovery Team to continue to administer these programs until the end of the year.

“It is essential we continue to support our local business community during these challenging and difficult times,” said Mayor Margaret Quirk. “When the first lockdown forced businesses to close, Georgina was the first municipality in York Region to offer financial support with the Georgina Emergency Response Benefit. By extending these programs until the end of the year, we can help even more businesses in our community.”

In 2020, these programs, along with the Georgina Economic Recovery Benefit (GERB), assisted 92 businesses and not-for-profit charitable organizations to cover costs associated with COVID-19 and/or expand their operations. The extension of these programs is essential to ensuring Georgina’s business community is supported while facing further and stricter lockdown measures.

As part of the 2021 budget, Council approved the following grant programs:

- \$34,200 is available to businesses in Georgina’s three dedicated Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) through the COVID-19 Community Improvement Plan Program to help cover costs such as renovations or technological enhancements.
- \$150,000 is available for development application fee rebates (up to \$3,000/per applicant), which comes out of the same budget as the Town’s non-COVID Development Application Fee Rebate Program.
- \$13,500 is carried over from 2020’s Not-for-Profit and Charitable Organizations Grant Program, which provides eligible organizations up to \$1,000 for three months.

The Temporary Patio Program, which provided nine dining establishments with the approval to set up temporary outdoor patios during the warmer months in 2020, will be available to restaurants until the end of 2021 subject to the easing of provincial restrictions and Ontario’s Reopening Framework.

For more information about Georgina’s COVID-19 business support programs or to book a one-on-one virtual consult, visit [georgina.ca/business](https://www.georgina.ca/business).

For the latest information, news and updates on COVID-19 in Georgina, visit [georgina.ca/COVID-19](https://www.georgina.ca/COVID-19).

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