

April 24, 2020



Hon. Chandra Arya
Member of Parliament for Nepean
240 Kennevale Drive, Suite 201
Ottawa, Ontario K2J 6B6

Re: Ontario – Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program

The Honourable Chandra Arya,

On behalf of the members of the Ottawa Coalition of Business Improvement Areas (OCOBIA) we would like to thank you for your government's, in partnership with the Ontario Provincial government, recent introduction and support of the Ontario – Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program to help small businesses and landlords with their rent in these challenging times.

Our organization, which represents over 6,200 bricks and mortar businesses and property owners, has been advocating rent relief as a part of a solution to sustain businesses (and their landlords) whose revenues have dropped dramatically as they have been closed down by public health agencies to slow the spread of COVID-19.

It is programs like these that will help ensure the survival of many of our businesses through this uncertain time, in the hopes that mainstreet neighbourhoods and vibrant commercial areas are able to recover from this economic catastrophe.

Thank you for your hard work and innovative solutions on behalf of small business in Ottawa.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Kaluski", is written over a faint, light blue rectangular stamp.

Mark Kaluski, Chair
Ottawa Coalition of Business Improvement Areas (OCOBIA)
info@ocobia.org