



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 14, 2020

To: Committee of the Whole
From: Councillor Young
Subject: Hospitality Industry

Date: May 8 2020

RECOMMENDATION

1. Advocate for federal and provincial programs that assist restaurants in designing physical layouts, cleaning, ventilation, and serving processes that would allow them to operate safely.
2. Respond quickly to requests by hospitality industry to changes in zoning, occupancy, etc. to allow for physical distancing.

BACKGROUND

Recovery assistance should be targeted to the sectors that most need assistance. Victoria's construction industry is busy now and further capital projects may not be needed to keep employment high for those working in that sector. Some sectors, such as software programming, games development, web design etc. are well suited to remote employment and may not have suffered much. The health care sector and grocery stores are busy. We should encourage higher levels of government to also think about assistance for the hard hit sectors that are vital to Victoria, notably tourism, hospitality, non-food retailing and arts and culture.

Besides expanding outdoor seating beyond normal limits, perhaps into space used for parking (until vehicle traffic increases), restaurants may wish to expand temporarily into adjacent vacant spaces to allow for personal distancing, and we should be supportive of such measures. Some bars and nightclubs might need to rethink their format, seating arrangements etc, fundamentally to operate safely and we should again allow flexibility in this.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Young", written over a horizontal line.

Councillor Geoff Young