



GREATER KITCHENER WATERLOO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BUSINESS BUILDING COMMUNITY



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Greater Kitchener Waterloo and Cambridge Chamber distributing self screening kits for SME's

CAMBRIDGE, Ont. – The Greater Kitchener Waterloo and Cambridge Chambers of Commerce have joined forces to provide free self screening kits to small and medium-sized businesses throughout Waterloo Region.

The goal of the program, created in partnership with Communitech, is to identify asymptomatic or presymptomatic individuals from spreading COVID-19 in the workplace, at home and around the community.

“The need for self screening has always been the key to curbing the spread of this deadly virus since it was first detected more than a year ago,” says Cambridge Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Greg Durocher. “By providing these free kits we will not only keep people in our community safe, but hope to assist our SMEs get back on track after a very difficult year.”

SMEs can log into <https://chambercheck.ca>, a joint Chamber website, and click on the ‘Workplace Self-Screening’ tab to order their two-week supply of Abbott Panbio Antigen screening kits using a very simple form.

Volunteers, will prepare the kits for pick-up at Cambridge Chamber’s office at 750 Hespeler Rd. A designate from each SME, responsible for supervising the self-screening collection onsite, will be required to attend the site for the initial pick-up where they will receive video training to properly supervise the screening process-and safely dispose of the used kits.

“Collecting data is an important part of this process and will go a long way in allowing us to get this pandemic under better control much quicker,” says Durocher.

Each SME will be required to electronically submit their screening results after each occasion and will be recommended to screen staff twice weekly. The accumulated data will be reported to the Ministry of Health bimonthly.

If a screen results in a positive for COVID-19, the employee will be required to leave the workplace and notify public health to arrange for a PCR Test at an approved Public Health Collection Site, and awaiting further instructions from Waterloo Region Public Health.

“We’re honoured to be involved in such an important initiative like this with such great community partners,” says McLean. “It’s our hope by having this program in place, along with the Bus Rapid Screening project, we will be able to reopen our local economy safely and efficiently, with greater certainty on controlling the spread.”

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The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce is a strong advocate for continued development of our community and a partner for prosperity. By working together and focusing on initiatives that support growth, members use the services of the Chamber as an important catalyst for their business success. Recognized as a leader in one of Canada’s most forward-thinking business communities, the Chamber is committed to serving, leading and supporting the business community in Kitchener Waterloo.

The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is committed to the enhancement of economic prosperity and the quality of life in Cambridge. A non-partisan organization funded solely by memberships, the Chamber works hard to address concerns of business, provide access to information resources and represent members at the municipal, provincial and federal levels of government. With more than 1,800 member firms, the Chamber's strength is clearly in its hardworking volunteers and committees addressing issues affecting local business and providing practical solutions.