

## **FW: Non-repayable Grants Available as part of COVID - 19 Tourism Adaptation Fund**

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### **Attention: Tourism Businesses of Leeds Grenville**

Regional Tourism Organization 9 (RTO 9) is pleased to have received funding from the Federal Government - COVID 19 Tourism Adaptation Fund. RTO 9 will administer the funding and distribute it to tourism-related businesses located within Leeds Grenville (with the exception of businesses in Gananoque were eligible for funding through a similar program operated by Kingston Economic Development Corporation).

Application intake is open until February 15, 2021- 4:00 pm. **This is a non-repayable grant of between \$1,500.00 - \$20,000.00 maximum**, applicants need to have a matching cash contribution of 20%. The grant will cover 80% excluding HST. This is a first come first serve program, **you are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.**

English - <https://tourismtalk.ca/partnerships/partnership-funding/covid-19-tourism-adaptation-fund/>

Français - <https://tourismtalk.ca/partnerships/partnership-funding/fonds-dadaptation-special-covid-19-pour-le-tourisme/>

#### **Eligible tourism businesses are:**

Tourism Operators as defined by and according to Tourism HR Canada include:

Accommodation (hotels, motels, resorts, campgrounds, and recreational vehicle facilities), Recreation and Entertainment (zoos, museums, theatres, sports facilities, amusement parks, government parks, heritage sites, hunting, fishing or outdoor adventure outfitters, and casinos), Food and beverage services (restaurants from fast service to fine dining, as well as pubs, nightclubs, cruise ships, and convention centres); Travel services (retail travel agencies, wholesale tour companies, or corporate offices with their own booking divisions) and Transportation (companies that provide transport by air, land or water, and include airlines, bus companies, taxi companies, ferry services, and cruise ships). Retail stores heavily dependent on tourism may also be considered.

#### **Eligible costs include:**

- Health and safety protocol that could be signage, virtual queue, plexi glass partitions etc. Anything that would help the business apply local/provincial health guidelines
- Alterations to accommodate social distancing including expansion of patio space for restaurants (including tables, chairs, umbrellas) and/or acquisition of equipment like outdoor heaters to extend seasons
- The purchase of large-scale PPE or sanitizing equipment (fog machines etc.)
- Cleaning supplies for workers/customers
- The acquisition and implementation of digital tools and operating transformations like virtual queue, timed entry ticketing or contactless check-ins, contactless payment upgrades

All applications will be reviewed by a committee, where final approval will be decided. One-time adaptation and re-opening costs incurred between June 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021 by a registered business. Costs incurred prior to application require receipts to be submitted and costs going forward will require approval prior to cost being incurred.

**Please direct any questions to:**

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