

May 26, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

As Canada begins implementing plans to reopen the economy, we believe it is paramount that the federal government take immediate steps to coordinate and facilitate the restart of Canada's tourism and travel sector. This sector, which provides 1.8 million jobs, has been devastated by the pandemic and urgent action must be taken to prevent long-lasting economic and job impacts. While providing wage subsidies and bridge financing to some companies in the sector are helpful stop-gap measures, without a coordinated restart plan to stimulate demand, there will unfortunately be serious and lasting damage.

We are reaching out directly in our capacity as leaders in the tourism and travel sector experienced in hosting travellers safely in our respective industries. We have proven our ability to adapt to ever-changing security, public health and safety needs. Our success in helping to rebuild public confidence was never more evident than in the aftermath of 9/11 and post-SARS. When faced with adversity and challenge, the travel and tourism sector has stepped up to embrace change, be nimble, and work with government to find solutions. The challenge today is no different.

We recognize and appreciate that governments have been hard at work to put in place measures to protect the public as we battle COVID-19. We acknowledge the need to prevent and mitigate a potential second wave of transmission. Indeed, many companies in the travel and tourism sector have already begun to put health and safety measures in place and are ready to work with government to rebuild public confidence. In short, hotels, airlines, airports, travel agencies, resorts and venues, restaurants and local retailers in each region of the country are part of the travel and tourism ecosystem and have been essentially shut down as a result of the pandemic, the border and travel restrictions, and quarantine arrangements.

Other countries, recognizing the unique value and economic contributions of their travel and tourism sectors, have already announced their intention to save the summer travel season. Regions have widely varying rates of transmission, and this means that travel should not face blanket restrictions irrespective of context. The European Commission recently unveiled an action plan to reopen borders, restart the hospitality sector, and re-establish key air, sea and train links, by putting in place a framework detailing key health and safety protocols. This approach will contribute to saving millions of jobs and restarting local economies in an orderly and progressive manner. In addition, the Australian government, through Tourism Australia, has launched an aggressive campaign to promote travel within its borders. Its 'Live from Aus' campaign, launched last weekend, is a direct marketing effort to reinvigorate interest in domestic travel.

For many in our sector, the summer travel season generates a disproportionate amount of our annual revenues given the geography and climate in Canada. Additionally, without clear direction on reopening borders and removing quarantine restrictions, the meetings and events business will not only be impacted this summer and fall but possibly into 2021 as a result of businesses reticent about booking long lead time events without clear government direction. We propose to work closely with the federal government to responsibly take the necessary steps, including additional bio-security measures if appropriate, to ensure that the upcoming summer travel season is not entirely lost for Canadians or the industry. To that end, we urgently request a meeting with you and relevant ministers, as soon as possible, to discuss a plan of action.

We have five asks:

1. Develop clear and uniform standards for the safety of travellers and the prevention of COVID-19 transmission through a partnership of government and members of the travel industry. These could include new processes for screening travellers, taking advantage of rapid advances in relevant technologies, and other clear and uniform measures to ensure safety that are easy for travellers to understand.
2. Work with provincial governments to safely remove inter-provincial travel restrictions currently in place to allow Canadians to visit friends and loved ones and explore our country this summer.
3. Continue to assess the efficacy of restrictions on non-essential travel from the United States for any purpose: the twice extended border restriction runs until June 21 and currently discourages all visitors.
4. Thoughtfully ease international travel restrictions based on what is being done in other jurisdictions around the world, notably the European Union; the current blanket restriction applies to all foreign nationals entering Canada, runs to June 30, and it seems likely that it will be extended.
5. In concert with public health professionals and where appropriate, replace the current universal 14-day quarantine for those arriving in Canada with measures that permit international arrivals without quarantine except in instances where travellers have been in a high-risk jurisdiction in the previous two weeks. This would be consistent with what is being done in other countries. The current provisions have effectively put an end to international tourist and business travel to Canada.

The highly restrictive measures in place today are not sustainable. Like the government, we want to avoid a second wave of the virus and are certain reasonable measures can be taken to help mitigate risk. It is possible to achieve these same goals with targeted, carefully considered measures.

Stay-at-home orders have been in place for many weeks and the rules and pace of economic reopening across provinces and territories vary greatly and are being implemented inconsistently. Canadians are justifiably contemplating travel this summer but remain uncertain about the end-to-end travel experience, with confusion about border restrictions, travel advisories, quarantine rules as well as rules at airports, hotels, and on airplanes. Some clarity and consistency in this regard will be key to any hope that the summer tourism season can be salvaged.

It is important to note that even if the decision was made to lift restrictions on travel today, the lead time required to call back staff, and reopen facilities with new safety protocols would be considerable. Because of the cancellation of festivals, tours, conventions and other events scheduled for this summer, even lifting travel controls would not result in activity at anywhere near normal levels. However, each day that passes without a timetable for easing restrictions guarantees further loss of businesses, jobs and tax revenue throughout Canada.

Our Commitment

Working together, we will develop and coordinate a comprehensive plan to ensure public safety and enable Canadians to connect with family and friends across the country once again, as well as to salvage a portion of Canada's all-important summer tourism season.

We have recently launched the Tourism Roundtable to spearhead and coordinate these efforts. The Roundtable is comprised of leaders in Canada's tourism and travel sector – airports, airlines, hotels and others – working together with a goal of restarting the sector safely and smoothly. Although Canadians will be hearing more from us in the coming weeks, some of the measures our members have already taken to protect Canadian travellers include the following:

- Major airlines have taken industry-leading steps to ensure safe and healthy flights, including temperature checks, installing HEPA filters on planes, implementing clean cabin initiatives such as electrostatic spraying and mandatory passenger safety routines, requiring the use of face coverings and providing individual sanitization kits. See example:

<https://www.aircanada.com/ca/en/aco/home/book/travel-news-and-updates/2020/cleancaireplus.html>

- Airports have introduced significant disinfecting programs, implemented social distancing measures, mandatory mask wearing requirements, and in some cases, where appropriate and possible, have been proactively managing the flow of passengers throughout their facilities. See example: <https://www.torontopearson.com/en/notices/coronavirus>
- Across the country, hotels have relaxed cancellation policies, implemented frequent and rigorous cleaning regimens, including new cleaning technologies, introduced social distancing spacing signage, and encouraged greater use of digital tools for check-in to promote distancing options for guests. See example: <https://www.hacsafestay.com/>
- The Canadian business events sector has been convening multiple task forces to design made-in-Canada, large venue protocols to ensure that gathering of larger groups will be done in a safe fashion. This will ensure that group travel can return and be hosted in health-conscience facilities with the highest level of operator excellence.

Our industry is committed to working together to quickly develop and implement additional changes required to build the trust of the travelling public while keeping Canada safe. While our members are ready to play their part, in order for our recovery to be successful, the Canadian Government – Transport Canada, the Canada Border Services Agency, the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority and the Public Health Agency of Canada – must take a leadership role to immediately establish clear and consistent health standards and protocols that are aligned with global rules and procedures and designed to build traveller confidence.

We urge the Canadian government to act quickly; our viability and future survival depends upon it.

Sincerely,



Charlotte Bell, President and CEO, Tourism Industry Association of Canada (TIAC)



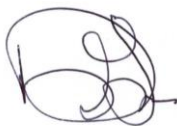
Susie Grynol, President, Hotel Association of Canada (HAC)



Mike McNaney, President and CEO, National Airlines Council of Canada (NACC)



Wendy Paradis, President of the Association of Canadian Travel Agencies (ACTA)



Daniel-Robert Gooch, President and CEO, Canadian Airports Council (CAC)



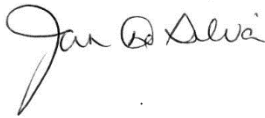
Clark Grue, Chair, Meetings Mean Business Canada



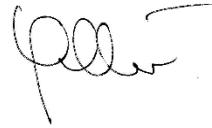
Perrin Beatty, President and CEO, Canadian Chamber of Commerce (CCC)



Bridgitte Anderson, President and CEO, Greater Vancouver Board of Trade



Janet de Silva, President and CEO, Toronto Board of Trade



Yves Lalumière, Président and CEO- Tourisme Montréal



Michel Leblanc, President and CEO, Greater Montreal Chamber of Commerce



Scott Beck, President and CEO Tourism Toronto

cc: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister
The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry
The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance
The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport
The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages
The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade

COVER PAGE
(graphically designed)

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Association of Exposition Management (CAEM) is the voice of the exhibition industry in Canada. It is the national not-for-profit association for Canadian professionals involved in the production, management, and planning of trade and consumer exhibitions.

CAEM works on behalf of the exhibition industry in Canada to provide targeted education and networking, health and safety guidelines, best practices, and positions on regulatory issues. Our members include over 200 organizations from across the country, including producers of trade and consumer exhibitions, facilities and suppliers of products and services to the industry.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, an [Exhibition Recovery Taskforce](#) was created by CAEM, to establish a set of proposed guidelines for the responsible, safe and effective reopening of exhibitions in Canada.

The suggested measures in this guide constitute a set of recommended Best Practices for the exhibition industry in Canada, in order to allow business activities in the sector to resume, in a phased and structured approach, with clear measures to be put in place to open safely and limit health risks.

These recommended guidelines are meant to be put in place during the move-in period of exhibitions, the exhibition days themselves, as well as the move-out period of exhibitions, in order to allow organizers to operate exhibitions in a safe, responsible and effective manner.

Recognizing that each province and venue has their own specifications, this guide is meant to outline the basic measures and considerations that are required to reopen exhibitions safely. Adjustments may be necessary to address regional government guidance, provincial reopening plans, as well as consumer confidence in each market.

It is also important to note that these guidelines are subject to change and may be adapted as new information about the virus becomes available or as health and safety measures are lifted, based on guidance from government and public health officials. CAEM will periodically update this document with additional information, as it becomes available.

The proposed guidelines have been prepared in consultation and with the support of leaders across all areas of the exhibition industry. The guidelines also include professional oversight from infection prevention experts at [Infection, Prevention and Control Canada](#).

This document draws on research and recommendations from a number of different industry resources and guidelines including:

[UFI Global Framework for Reopening Exhibitions and B2B Trade Events Post the Emergence from COVID-19](#)

[Event Safety Alliance Reopening Guide](#)

[Industry All Secure Standard](#)

II. DEFINITIONS

Venue: Convention centre, exhibition centre, conference centre or any other facility where an exhibition might take place.

Exhibition: An event in which products, services or information are displayed and disseminated. An exhibition can be business to business (B2B) or business to consumer (B2C).

Exhibitor: A representative from an organization that is presenting their products and services at an exhibition for commercial purposes.

Attendee: An individual attending an exhibition as a registered or ticketed visitor of the event.

Participant: Any individual involved in the production of the exhibition (workers, exhibitors, attendees).

Worker: An individual employed by the venue or the venue's service providers, or an individual employed by the organizer or by an exhibitor.

Organizer: A company who is renting space and/or services in a venue for the purpose of holding an exhibition.

Hydroalcoholic solution: A hand sanitization product that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Disinfectant solution: A cleaning product that has been approved by Health Canada.

III. CONTEXT

Exhibitions Drive Economic Recovery

- According to [Meetings Mean Business Canada](#), in 2018, business events had a direct spend at \$33 Billion, were responsible for 229,000 direct jobs and contributed \$19.3 Billion of direct GDP.
- According to [COVID-19 Research \(Destination Canada\)](#), the estimated impact of COVID-19 on business events is a loss of -\$636.84 million in direct delegate spending, and we anticipate this number will grow as more events are cancelled or rebooked. (as of April 13, 2020)
- Exhibitions - with clear guidelines for strict physical distancing, increased cleaning & hygiene, and enhanced crowd control – can play a key part in restarting the economy safely.
- Following a period of unprecedented economic decline, restarting exhibitions in a phased and structured approach, will allow companies and people to re-engage in the buying and selling cycle of goods and services, thereby injecting liquidity into the marketplace.

Business Events versus Mass Gatherings

- A clear distinction should be made between business events and mass gatherings.
- Exhibitions are business events, promoting trade and commerce within a given industry, where products and services are displayed and information is disseminated.
- Exhibitions are NOT festivals, civic events, concerts or sporting events, which are leisurely and discretionary in nature.
- Whether they are business to business events or business to consumer events, participants are focused on buying products and services, exchanging information and sharing knowledge.

A Controlled Environment

- Exhibitions should NOT be subject to the same constraints as concert halls, theatres or arenas.
- Exhibitions have much greater flexibility when it comes to layout and design, as they are held in a controlled facility environment, allowing them the flexibility to design layouts that accommodate people very differently than other venues and events.
- Exhibitions can adhere to medically substantiated safe density ratios and/or capacity restrictions. In the same way that grocery stores have been able to continue operating safely, exhibitions can also operate safely, with plans limiting health risks through enhanced physical distancing measures and enhanced cleaning and hygiene protocols.
- Exhibitions have much greater control over the flow of traffic, within their space. Producers of exhibitions, in collaboration with their venues and suppliers, have the ability to manage and direct the movement of their attendees - from arrival at the venue, to entering the exhibition hall, to navigating the exhibition floor, to food and beverage areas, and washroom facilities.
- By implementing strict social distancing measures, increased health and safety measures and enhanced crowd control protocols, trade and consumer exhibitions can be held safely, in accordance with specific health and safety guidelines.

Timing Considerations

- Organizers require several months of lead time, in order to plan, prepare, market and execute exhibitions. This operational requirement necessitates receiving advance notice from

government and public health officials in order to make the necessary arrangements to be able to reopen exhibitions that will take place in several months.

IV. GUIDELINES

The health and safety of all participants in exhibitions (exhibitors, attendees and workers) is a top concern amid the global COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, all parties must pledge to place an increased focus on health, hygiene and safety in order to reopen exhibitions. When the exhibition industry is allowed to hold events again, the health and safety of all exhibition stakeholders - workers, exhibitors and attendees – will be paramount, and will guide our approach, with any and all reopening actions to be informed by provincial guidelines, health data, defined criteria and the adoption of clear measures.

Occupational Health and Safety

The recommendations in this guide constitute a set of industry specific best practice guidelines for the reopening of the exhibitions sector in Canada. These guidelines should be used by exhibition stakeholders as a supplement, in addition to the obligations that already exist under each of the Provinces' existing Occupational Health and Safety Acts, including all existing resources to prevent COVID-19 in the workplace.

(include links to each of Provincial Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development websites)

Health, Hygiene and Safety Measures

The following guidelines should be implemented at exhibitions to increase health, hygiene and safety measures:

- Venue to post signage outside all entrances to the building, as well as at loading dock entrances and parking garage entrances, that states no participant with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19 is to enter the venue / parking garage.
- Venue and organizer to post signage outside all entrances to the exhibition hall that states no participant with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19 is to enter the exhibition hall.
- Venue and organizer to prohibit any and all participants who display signs of COVID-19 from entering the exhibition hall.
- Venue and organizer to work within government established guidelines for dealing with participants displaying signs of COVID-19.
- Organizer to appoint a Health and Safety Point Person for the duration of move-in, exhibition days and move-out, to ensure best practice guidelines are being followed and education is provided to all participants.
- Venue and organizer to ensure all workers on their teams are specifically trained for awareness of COVID-19 symptoms and the appropriate protocol to follow.
- Venue and organizer to implement a pre-work screening "health check" with all workers, at the beginning of each shift.
- Venue and organizer to encourage workers to wash their hands a minimum of once every hour, before eating or drinking, after touching shared / common items, after using the washroom, after handling cash or credit cards, after each transaction if contact was made, and at the end of their shifts.

- Venue and organizer to ensure that key workers (cleaning, medical, food and beverage workers) are provided with personal protective equipment including masks and gloves.
- Venue to provide hand sanitizing stations with hydroalcoholic solution and/or hand washing stations at the entrance to the exhibition and at key locations throughout the exhibition site including restrooms, food and beverage locations and conference rooms, with regular use encouraged to all participants (workers, exhibitors and attendees).
- **Organizer to strongly encourage exhibitors and attendees to use personal protective equipment, including masks, when on-site at the venue.**
- Venue and organizer to enable and communicate a no-contact policy (e.g. no shaking hands, no exchanging business cards, encourage contactless payment, encourage attendees to purchase tickets in advance etc ...).
- Venue and organizer to leverage technology solutions to provide attendees with a means to register / buy tickets in advance, thereby minimizing queuing and contact during the registration and ticketing process. This could include enabling the use of QR and barcodes to facilitate seamless and contactless access upon entry, where appropriate.
- Venue and organizer to restrict cash payments in favour of contactless payments at restaurant / food areas, on-site box office, and anywhere else on exhibition site where commercial transactions might take place. If a cash payment is accepted, worker (cashier) should immediately disinfect their hands after completing the transaction with a hydroalcoholic solution.
- Venue to prohibit buffet-style stations in favour of pre-packaged food only in restaurant / food areas.
- **Organizer to ensure badges and lanyards are cleaned and disinfected before distribution.**
- Organizer to eliminate all handouts (promotional material, giveaways, brochures, guides etc.)
- Venue to conduct a deep cleaning of exhibition site prior to move-in and again before the exhibition opens.
- Venue to implement enhanced cleaning and disinfecting procedures and protocols with special attention to high-touch surfaces and areas including door handles, restrooms, counters, seating areas, food preparation areas, pay stations, bank machines, stair ramps, escalators, elevators etc ... This should be done every two to four hours depending on the volume of participants in the venue.
- Venue to implement special measures for restrooms including managing line-ups at the entrance points to each restroom, publishing the maximum capacity for each restroom on the door, communicating this information on signage outside the restroom, put every other urinal "out of service", maintaining restroom doors in the open position, ensure 2 meter physical distancing is respected inside restroom at all times, install hand sanitizing stations with hydroalcoholic solution at the entrance/exit of each restroom.
- Venue and/or official suppliers to ensure shared equipment, machinery and tools, including but not limited to forklifts, pump trucks and scissor lifts, are regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Venue and/or official suppliers to display / publish measures and cleaning protocols accessible for everyone.
- Venue to increase the collection and removal of waste receptacles with a proposed schedule to regularly disinfect the waste receptacles themselves.
- Audio-visual supplier or organizer to disinfect any and all audio-visual equipment after each use.

- Venue to use appropriate disinfectant solutions, approved by Health Canada
- Organizer to work closely with venue to respect and enforce any and all health, hygiene and safety measures.
- Venue to suspend coat check services until further notice (in order to avoid the unnecessary handling of objects).
- Venue and organizer to ensure that any information booths, service counters, registration areas, box office, restaurants / food areas etc ... are equipped with a physical transparent partition.
- Organizer to ensure exhibitors disinfect their respective booths and exhibits regularly throughout the exhibition.
- Organizer to ensure exhibitors eliminate all handouts from their exhibits.
- Venue to limit entry and exit points to and from the exterior of the building, and venue and organizer to limit entry and exit points to and from the exhibition site. In the case of an emergency, participants must have access to all emergency exits of the building.
- Venue to ensure proper ventilation, temperature, humidity and air purification controls are in place.
- Venue and organizer to establish and maintain direct communication with local authorities.
- Organizer to manage procedure to address on-site concerns and answer questions from exhibition stakeholders.

Physical Distancing Measures

The following guidelines should be implemented by exhibitions to comply with physical distancing requirements:

- Venue and organizer to enforce that workers practice physical distancing measures by keeping more than 2 meters (6 feet) apart from other workers, exhibitors and attendees. If a situation occurs where it is impossible to maintain the 2-meter physical distancing rule, a masque or visor should be mandated and worn by workers.
- Organizer to ensure that during move-in and move-out they have a dedicated worker (with a mask or visor) stationed at the entrance of the loading docks, to ensure the delivery and pick-up of material to and from exhibitor booths is managed according to a pre-set move-in and move-out schedule and to control the number of individuals in the loading docks and on the exhibition site at any given time.
- Venue to introduce barriers and demarcate floors with markers to indicate spacing regulations for any area where a line-up might occur (e.g. entrance halls, restaurants, restrooms, ticketing / registration areas, media rooms, exhibition office, service counters, info booths, feature areas etc ...).
- Organizer to design floor plan with 10' aisles minimum to allow spacious distance for attendee circulation.
- Organizer to manage seating in conference spaces (where applicable) to allow for 2-meter physical distancing between attendees.
- Venue to manage restaurant seating and layout (where applicable) to allow for 2-meter physical distancing (e.g. distancing tables and limiting capacity inside restaurant areas).
- Venue to adjust washroom capacity (when needed) to allow physical distancing.

- Venue and organizer to post signage promoting physical distancing upon entry and in multiple locations throughout venue and exhibition site.
- Venue and organizer to plan for additional guards and attendants to enforce physical distancing guidelines in any areas where line-ups might occur, as well as throughout the exhibition site.
- Elevator protocol to be added

Crowd Control Measures

The following guidelines should be implemented at exhibitions to control crowd density

- Venue and organizer to manage the flow of attendees (e.g. monitor access routes, line-ups, entrance areas and control access).
- Venue and/or organizer to adapt registration / ticketing process to reduce contact onsite (enable online registration and ticketing wherever possible).
- Organizer to manage number of exhibitors and workers on exhibition site during move-in and move-out.
- Venue or official material handling supplier to manage access to elevators, forklifts and other equipment during move-in and move-out in accordance with pre-established move-in and move-out schedule.
- Organizer must ensure that all move-in and move-out workers respect 2-meter physical distancing regulations. In the event that it is impossible for a group of workers to physical distance, organizer to mandate that workers wear a mask or visor to complete their work.
- Organizer to control the number of attendees on the exhibition site by limiting the number of people based on area in gross square feet or by restricting the capacity in the venue to a pre-set percentage of the venue's maximum capacity. A 2-meter physical distancing requirement between all participants (workers, exhibitors and attendees) on the exhibition site should be used in order to determine the density ratio or maximum capacity percentage for each exhibition. By controlling the number of people on the exhibition site in this manner, physical distancing can occur.
- Organizer to consider attendee management protocols that might include designated time slots, multiple entry and egress points, separate entry point for mobility challenged attendees and monitored number of attendees permitted to ensure load capacities are met.
- Venue to remove seating in waiting areas and to create a process to ensure attendees stay separate while waiting to enter the exhibition site (e.g. floor markings, outdoor distancing, waiting in cars etc ...).
- Organizer to use, when possible, directional arrows on the floor, to control the flow of attendees throughout the exhibition site, and to reduce interaction and crossover between attendees. This may include introducing one-way attendee traffic in order to create a logical flow through the venue to prevent bottlenecks.

Communication Measures

- Venue to communicate in advance to the organizer and all official suppliers to the venue, the health, hygiene and safety measures; physical distancing measures; and crowd control measures that they are expected to follow and implement during the exhibition.
- Organizer to communicate in advance to exhibitors, attendees, and exhibition partners and suppliers, the various health, hygiene and safety measures; physical distancing measures; and crowd control measures that they are expected to follow and implement during the exhibition.
- Organizer to ensure that each exhibitor signs an Exhibitor Health and Safety Acknowledgment Form outlining their obligation to respect and enforce certain health, hygiene and safety measures; physical distancing measures; and crowd control measures, with their own workers and within their own booth space. **See attached sample of Exhibitor Health and Safety Acknowledgment Form.**
- Organizer to ensure that each of their suppliers (decorators, A/V companies, registration companies, staffing agencies etc ...) signs a Supplier Health and Safety Acknowledgment Form outlining their obligation to respect and enforce certain health, hygiene and safety measures; physical distancing measures; and crowd control measures, with their own workers while working at the venue. **See attached sample of Supplier Health and Safety Acknowledgment Form.**
- Organizer to communicate best practice guidelines on exhibition website, mobile apps and through push notifications (if applicable).
- Organizer to update exhibitor manuals to include specific details of what exhibitors need to execute in terms of health, hygiene and safety measures, as well as physical distancing measures and crowd control measures.
- Organizer to display signage throughout the exhibition site to communicate the most important health, hygiene and safety guidelines, as well as physical distancing guidelines.
- Organizer to make regular announcements about the importance of maintaining physical distance and the importance of washing and sanitizing hands, in addition to other best practices.
- Organizer to communicate with attendees in advance - through email, social media channels, ticket purchasing sites and push notifications (if applicable) - key pieces of information, including updates from health organizations about admission policies; health, hygiene and safety guidelines; physical distancing guidelines; and crowd control guidelines.

Name

Mr Lorenz Hassenstein

Job title or role

President & CEO

Organization name

Metro Toronto Convention Centre Corporation (MTCCC)

Submitted on Mon, 06/01/2020 - 07:07

To whom it may concern:

As I am sure all are aware by now, tourism is a significant contributor to the Canadian economy. The "workhorse" sector within tourism is business events. While this sector holds little glamour, it is community based, spurs sector innovation, drives overall economic throughput, supports labor growth, tax and most importantly, is an underpinning of the airline, private and public transportation, hotels, restaurants and attractions industries. The industry works 24/7 and supports hundreds of thousands of Canadians by attracting spending from outside the Province of Ontario (any Province).

The two attachments attempt to outline the critical contributions this industry will make to our recovery, while describing how this industry can work safely to protect our population, while restarting this important economic engine. The goal or agenda of the business events sector of tourism, is to move business events to an earlier phase of reopening the economy.