

My name is Maurice Patry, I am the owner/operator of Kammoe and Sons outfitters in Timmins Ontario. My business is an outfitter that is family owned and operated. Many people from around the world come to our camp in order to hunt black bears, wolf and enjoy fishing. They are fed and provided with accommodations for five night and six days. They are each provided with a guided hunt, everyone is set up in a tree stand with the area already baited and ready to hunt. Since COVID-19 my business has been impacted in many ways. Several parties had previously reserved their place for the 2020 spring bear hunt, when reserving a deposit must be provided. With these funds I can prepare for the season which consist of ordering large amounts of bait, purchasing food and much more. Due to the boarder's closure between the united states of America and Canada the individuals who had previously reserved were unable to be present. All who had pre-booked have requested a refund for their deposits, while all the bait and food had already been ordered I was compelled to return all deposits from which the funds where unavailable causing Kammoe and Sons a deficit.

We have had to cancel our hunts for the spring of 2020 and are unsure of our future. All income has halted due to COVID-19. Our income is solely the profit made from our clients. Due to the unknown we must continue to prepare for our fall 2020 season as some have previously registered, this includes payment of the land use permit, maintenance of equipment, gasoline, bait and more. I have invested between 80-100 thousand dollars into the operation and management of the outfitters. It has been a passion of mine for decades. I fear that COVID-19 will also impact the future of Kammoe as people around the world may fear traveling to Canada long after the state of emergency is lifted. This would affect the proceeding years, in order to operate we need a minimum number of clients to ensure we can continue our operations.

As the business owner I have felt many stresses during this pandemic and feel the government should provide some relief for individuals during this crisis. The government can help me by providing a percentage of the current running cost associated with the business. How does one continue to compensate for the cost when no income is available?

I personally thank you for giving me this time to express myself and hope that this will shed some light regarding the future of tourism and business owners.