

January 26, 2021

Region of Peel 7120 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, ON, L5W 1N4 Via email: <u>council@peelregion.ca</u> **RECEIVED** January 27, 2021 REGION OF PEEL OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Members of Peel Regional Council,

On behalf of the Downtown Brampton BIA, Port Credit BIA, Streetsville BIA, Cooksville BIA and Malton BIA we write to you today with regards to the proposed property tax increase of 1.3% proposed with the Region of Peel 2021 Budget.

This increase represents approximately \$116.00 to the small business property tax bill. Although the number may seem small and insignificant, in principle we as a collective representing over 1000 small businesses do not agree with this proposed increase for 2021.

As you all know, COVID-19 has devastated our downtown main streets, which have hit our communities hard.

Many of our BIA members, or small business owners and operators have been driven to a dark and dire economic climate with a multitude of hardships. From several job losses, to increased debt loads and bankruptcies, businesses need more financial assistance and tax incentives at this time. Particularly due to the uneven playing field. Small businesses have been forced to shutdown and/or close their doors and have been kicked to the "curb" since the beginning of this health pandemic.

What we have heard from many businesses is that they are in dire need of more help to get them back on track, and any type of business cost increase is not appropriate at this time.

Thank you,

Kristina Romasco, Chair, DBBIA Jake Pedler, Chair, PCBIA Steve Smith, Chair, Cooksville, BIA Todd Ladner, Chair, Streetsville BIA Sam Kohl, Malton BIA

| REFERRAL TO        |
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| RECOMMENDED        |
| DIRECTION REQUIRED |
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