

Business Listening Session #1 – Restaurant/Food Service Chat Record

01:08:20 thorkyle: Hi all! This is Kyle from Archives Coffee!

01:08:31 Blue Weber: Hello everyone!

01:08:43 sandiluck: Hi everyone. Sandi from Bully Brew Coffee

01:09:02 Ilene Odegard: Greetings from UND Career Services!

01:09:11 Cortnee Jensen: Hello, this is Cortnee Jensen from ND Department of Commerce

01:09:13 Nicole Evans: Hello All - Nicole from SBDC!

01:09:14 Jessica Tiller: Jessica from GRAND Lifestyle magazine/BBI International

01:09:23 Warren Sai: Hey everyone! Warren from French Taste

01:09:31 Becca Cruger: Becca Cruger from Grand Forks Region EDC.

01:09:36 JDemarcke: Hi everyone Jeff from Canad Inns

01:09:59 Michelle Christopherson: Greetings from the University of Minnesota Crookston!

01:10:02 meloney.linder: Hello from UND!

01:10:13 caanders: Hello everyone - Christine from NW MN SBDC in Crookston

01:10:28 Austin:Hi all! Austin Mack from Grand Forks Region EDC

01:10:41 lorit: Hello everyone - Lori at Gate City Bank

01:10:42 thorkyle: Concerns:

1) I've had to lay off my employees and am worried about how they get support for the next few weeks

2) I don't see a quick path back to opening before August (especially since I'm on campus). I'm pursuing an SBA loan, but is there other support to help? Particularly with rent and other fixed costs which add up quickly without business.

01:11:11 thorkyle: I know so many others are in the same boat.

01:11:46 thorkyle: Even a loan is hard to service without busines...

01:11:50 thorkyle: :)

01:13:19 Executive Director: Colette from the GF Senior Center-Our current concern is the lag time for delivery to seniors from Hugo's and the low number of phone orders they will take each day. This makes it hard for seniors who need to stay at home to do so. Whatever can be done to decrease the turnaround would be appreciated.

01:16:51 Andrea Edwardson: Link to ND Chamber Event on Emergency Business Financing - <https://www.ndchamber.com/events/details/covid-19-nd-business-briefing-emergency-business-financing-125>

01:20:31 Andy Conlon: Thanks again for joining us everyone. Please make sure to enter whatever questions/comments/ideas you might have into the chat.

01:21:13 Jenn Puhl Winkler (0610): FedEx Office is here and happy to help all local entities with any printing needs. We can do an array of signage, flyers, brochures, and more to help communicate hours, modified menus, or whatever you need!

01:21:36 Jonathan Christensen : I had a question regarding unemployment a question was asked to me about once you sign up you have to go in once a week to show your sill unemployed. will that continue

01:22:13 Peggy Anderson: Peggy Anderson, Andy's HD Marketing Mgr. Is there a list of restaurants that are in need of support that we can share on our website. We unfortunately are seeing a sudden decrease in customers especially are neighbors to the North!

01:22:14 Jerk Jerkinton's iPad: What is the question?

01:22:37 iPhone (3): perhaps the city should have a cell phone and home address database so the city can push relevant data to certain areas of town when new info becomes available.

01:22:44 Jonathan Christensen : jon@theloftbargf.com

01:22:56 Jonathan Christensen : Thabk you

01:22:57 Becca Cruger: If you scroll up, Brett, Kyle Thorson had some questions.

01:24:21 Jerk Jerkinton's iPad: Yes employees on unemployment will have to certify every week while they are unemployed.

01:24:23 Justin LaRocque: I have been told that the City of EGF is offering EDA loans now at 1%, however these have only been available as GAP loans. If GF has a similar program, is there any discussion by either city about loosening up those restrictions to avoid having to finance at 3.75%?

01:24:33 Andrea Edwardson:
Unemployment Links:
North Dakota employees that experience a layoff should contact: jobsnd.com.
Minnesota employees that experience a layoff should contact: mn.gov/deed/programs-services/mn-job-service

01:25:21 thorkyle: I just think it is hard to ask local business to absorb \$35-50k of debt... loans help us stay afloat, but there is a cost there as well.

01:27:12 thorkyle: Would be useful to also have some way to prepare for inventory purchases which might happen after a loan is signed. :)

01:27:28 thorkyle: Just sharing my thoughts for what they are worth

01:27:46 Warren Sai: Warren with French Taste. Is the Growth Fund meeting still happening with the JDA/Council on April 6th for SBA loans start-up? Where and what time?

01:27:58 Adam Kurtz: On Herald's website now--story about changes made to unemployment insurance.

01:28:08 RachelFranz: As a restaurant we are concerned about sitting on all sorts of products. One in particular is already tapped kegs of beer. We currently have about \$3000 of kegs tapped that we fear noone will want to drink at reopen. Is there a chance to allow temporary offsale for restaurants as well as bar? Bottles of wine would be a nice addition to sales as well.

01:28:16 Blue Weber: Can you share that link Adam?

01:28:33 Adam Kurtz: hang on

01:28:55 Adam Kurtz: <https://www.grandforksherald.com/business/5011770-North-Dakota-relaxes-rules-regarding-unemployment-benefits-officials-expect-claims-to-increase>

01:29:09 pgorte: Minnesota has relaxed some of the unemployment insurance requirements.

01:29:20 The Chamber-GF EGF: great questions

01:29:55 Meredith Richards: Thanks for the input, Kyle. We're listening!

01:30:38 pgorte: Minnesota is also seeking ideas. Contact Paul Gorte at pgorte@egf.mn. He will pass your ideas to the State.

01:31:16 Warren Sai: Thanks

01:33:27 Cortnee Jensen: In Fargo, a few restaurants have gone to a take and bake model.

01:33:58 Executive Director: Barry- Does the Chamber have mass email lists for restaurants/other food service operations? I ask in case we need to look at getting help preparing senior meals in the event our cooks get sick. -Colette GF Senior Center

01:34:33 thorkyle: 100% Jonathan!

01:34:45 Justin LaRocque: Amen Jonathan

01:35:17 Patrick: Absolutely Jonathan!!

01:35:24 Peggy Anderson: I agree. How can we regain our customer base without taking on more debt. What will happen at the local level to ease our mind to make a decision on whether to incur more debt. Thank You.

01:35:55 thorkyle: I've also struggled to get other companies to agree to waive or lower monthly fees.

01:35:59 Bryan Lee: Jonathan you are right on. Same in my business as well.

01:36:03 thorkyle: Garbage/recycling pickups would be great to see waived

01:36:46 thorkyle: (or lowered)

01:37:27 The Chamber-GF EGF: we are providing info like the senior center wants just call us

01:37:28 Matt Bonzer: Has anyone heard any talk about the Legacy Fund?

01:38:40 Dana Sande: I'd be surprised if the Governor didn't call a special session.

01:39:31 Mary Adams: there are only 4 available days for a session. it is being discussed

01:40:32 Executive Director: If any restaurant has extra food they would like to make into entrees that we can use for meals on wheels and our drive thru meal service, we would be able to purchase these. We would love to help you out and take some of the load off our kitchen. Sorry can't help with the open kegs! Call Colette 701-757-4861 GF Senior Center

01:41:03 Mark Schill: Governor Burgum has generally downplayed the use of the Legacy Fund in his press conferences, suggesting that he would like to hear what the needs are first and at that point they would decide how to fund programs. However, if you are a business owner and you feel that the Legacy Fund should be used, it's critical that you reach out to your legislators and the governor to let them know your thoughts. Be sure to complete the Dept of Commerce survey to send your.

01:43:49 thorkyle: Unemployment: Is anyone considering waiving the implications of rising insurance rates when employees take unemployment?

01:43:58 thorkyle: This will be another burden on businesses in the long run

01:44:51 thorkyle: Sorry if this is too many things, but just putting out my thoughts as they come.

01:45:04 Dana Sande: People need to not spread misinformation. Please don't spread rumors.

01:45:28 Mary Adams: good point Dana.

01:45:56 Adam Kurtz: Example, Dana?

01:46:01 Blue Weber: Please keep them coming Kyle

01:46:57 Dana Sande: I'm reading on FB people saying we have two GF County cases and one of them was a student who came back from spring break. I have no info on that issue, so I have no comment, but they don't back up any source.

01:46:58 pgorte: In Minnesota unemployment related to CV19 will not be used in the reate calculation.

01:47:33 Adam Kurtz: Thank you, Bret.

01:47:52 Cortnee Jensen: <https://ndresponse.gov/covid-19-resources/covid-19-business-and-employer-resources>

01:47:53 Peggy Anderson: Thank you to all of our city leaders, law enforcement officials and medical staff enduring long hours and stress during this difficult times. God Bless!

01:47:58 thorkyle: @pgorte, that would be a great model if we could follow it

01:47:59 Adam Kurtz: And thanks, Dana.

01:48:23 Andrea Edwardson: ND dept of health tracking - <https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/north-dakota-coronavirus-cases>

01:48:36 The Chamber-GF EGF: looking ahead finding a way to let bar and restaurnts reduce inventory is critical

01:48:55 Andrea Edwardson: MN dept of health tracking - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/situation.html>

01:50:25 Mary Adams: the state department of health services and the commerce department have very good websites.

01:50:39 thorkyle: haha!

01:51:18 Cortnee Jensen: Absolutely, Jonathan!

01:51:39 caanders: MN Gov. Walz and DEED Commissioner Grove just passed a Small Business Emergency Loan Program. Up to \$35,000, Zero Percent interest.

01:52:16 caanders: <https://mn.gov/deed/business/financing-business/deed-programs/peacetime/?fbclid=IwAR1sSHkHEPUwF5UJj77HiasQnB7-W2gwIHFwL9SVDns2VjX6cEzqzmrUBKE>

01:52:28 Pete Haga: That would be very helpful, Jonathan - and Blue.

01:53:27 Heather Ostrowski: For companies that are encouraging employees to help local restaurants, how do we answer employee concerns in regards to whether ordering delivery service is safe or not?

01:54:46 Pete Haga: Meredith is "point" for the city. Thank you.

01:55:31 Mary Adams: thank you for hosting!

01:55:46 jeff: thank you for the information

01:55:53 Warren Sai: Merci

01:55:59 Ilene Odegard: Good information; thank you!

01:56:07 Eric Ripley: Thank you!

01:56:18 Jenn Puhl Winkler (0610): Great forum - thanks for setting up the exchange of ideas, questions, concerns and suggestions!

01:56:22 thorkyle: Thank you everyone for your support in a scary time.

01:56:29 Bryan Lee: Thank you all for your hard work to try to find solutions.

01:56:51 Emberly: Great questions and responses. Thanks!!!