

June 01 BIA Call Notes

John Kiru
Councillor Bradford
John Porter, BarterPay
Mike Major

John Kiru acknowledged the land we are meeting on today.

Councillor Bradford Update:

Councillor shared updates on the following

- Vaccination rates and acceleration of second doses.
- Reopening conversations with Minister Sarkaria.
- Timeline concerns have been conveyed to the Minister.

Queen Street West BIA: Any updates on the operational pieces tied to reopening?

Councillor Bradford: Dr. D’Villa will be asking the province for clarity on that this week. At this time, nothing to share.

Church-Wellesley Village BIA: Level of anxiety amongst our membership on reopening. There is a big need for predictability, and fears of another lock down.

John Kiru: Are you aware if the Budget Implementation Bill has been passed to allow for funding of business support programs outlined in the budget?

Councillor Bradford: Can reach out to Minister Ing’s office for clarity on that.

BarterPay Presentation:

John Porter, CEO of BarterPay has joined our call to speak to opportunities for BIAs and member businesses. Presentation has been circulated with meeting notes.

Mike Major, BIA Office Update:

City of Toronto Economic Development is working with Board of Trade on distribution of rapid COVID-19 testing kits. The BOT will develop a platform that businesses can sign up for an appointment to pick up their kits. Continues to be developed, finalized in coming weeks.

Conversations held with FedDev Ontario around secure additional funding for specific four programs. Retail Accelerator Program, Vacant Commercial Rehabilitation Program, Plaza Pops, and substantial enhancement to Main Street Innovation Fund.

Innovation Fund submissions have been reviewed. Confirmation letters to come shortly.

Midtown Yonge BIA: Would eligible improvements include those necessary for businesses to share space?

Mike Major: Reviewing what types of improvements money would be provided for. Consultations to come.

New Business:

Discussion on businesses being served with lawsuits by anti-maskers.

Discussion on BIAs experience with CafeTO installs to date.

Transportation Services has provided a response to TABIA's letter submitted last week on CafeTO. Response has been shared with meeting notes.