

Council waives business licences fees and temporary patios and outdoor displays on public and private property for 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Welland, ON – Continuing efforts to support industries negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council approved waiving all business license fees, minus fire inspection, and continues to permit temporary patios and outdoor displays for 2022.

For restaurants, though indoor dining has resumed, and proof of vaccination is required for those sitting down to meals, patios have proven to be a significant lifeboat for establishments to remain open and serve more customers.

“We acknowledge that the food service industry has been hit hard, and they’re not alone, as many of our businesses in Welland have felt the effects of COVID-19,” said Mayor Frank Campion. “As a council, we need to find ways to help businesses in our city. Waiving these fees keeps more money in the pockets of our businesses while they try to recover, and we’re proud to continue with creative and effective ways to help them do that.”

Though licensing fees are waived for 2022, businesses are still required to obtain a valid license and all required inspections and applications still need to be completed.

By the Numbers:

- 300 – approximate number of businesses licences issued yearly
- 23 approvals for new or expanded outdoor patios between 2020 and 2021 and of those;
- 4 approvals were for outdoor patios on public lands in front of a restaurant
- 19 approvals were for patios on private property.
- 24 hours or less – most approvals were issued
- 150 – in dollars, fee waived for road occupancy permit
- 4,688 – in dollars, fee waived for site plan exemption for outdoor patios

Applications for 2022 patio and outdoor display licensing will be available in early 2022.

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