

Ministers Briefing Notes – Post Election Priorities

1. Covid19 Impact on Hotel Industry

- Short, medium- and long-term impact to leisure and corporate markets
- Saskatchewan Tourism Sector Support Program - \$35 million to support the tourism sector in Saskatchewan.
- Saskatchewan Small Business Emergency Payment – 2 x \$5,000 support
- HAC - Wage subsidy extension - “Hardest Hit” CEWS extended to next summer.
Improving access to government loans (BCAP)

Emerging Issues – Without further support, extensions or consideration, the impacts on the industry will be exacerbated and the evaporation of the tourism industry will continue unabated.

End of deferrals, Pay in lieu of notice, Insurance

Fixed costs – property tax relief needed as no revenues or income coming into our urban/hardest hit properties.

Temporary layoff provision – Significant payouts by operators (\$300,000+ for some full-service properties).

Insurance - Global Shift, Canada no longer good investment for underwriters = hard cycle getting harder. Natural disasters (fire, flood, water), Covid – 19 Criteria for premium renewal = Property Age (60 years), claims history (\$100,000 in past 3 years), flood plain and liability. Of full-service properties, 10% will not be renewed and those who are, will see increases in premiums.

2. Visitor Economy - Leisure Initiatives.

- National priorities “Staycations”
Provincial – Tourism Sask \$5m. Packages that can be linked to Tourism Saskatchewan.
- Media Campaign - \$1.5m Fall/Winter media campaign. Landing page, call to action, booking engine and media contest. NEED PROMOTIONS AND PACKAGES.

3. Airbnb

- HAC National study and initiatives.
- Municipal Strategies – Must consider “permanent residence only” as a reasonable requirement for STR if hotels are going to survive and compete against these commercial operations. Great work in Regina and Saskatoon. Amended bylaws includes business licences and \$2,500 Discretionary Use Permit application.

Recommendations:

Ministry of Finance, Ministry of TED –

Provincial (Education) and Municipal tax relief/forgiveness for hospitality operators.
Commercial rent protections extended until end of Emergency and Medical Order.

Ministry of LRWS – Maintain position on payout provision extended to end of
Emergency and Medical Order.

Ministry of Finance – Create program (Similar to CEWS) that would allow employers
to bring back employees, give appropriate notice and allow staff to work out notice
period (75% paid by government, 25% by employers).

Ministry of Parks, Culture, Sports and SLGA –

Request VLT increase to 50% until end of emergency order.

Reduce LCT to 6%.

Ministry of SGI - Recommend government step in and backstop exodus of
underwriters. Spread underwriting out between insurers and SGI to mitigate exposure.

Ministry of Health - Meeting restrictions, hotels, event, and conference space need to
be considered the same as Restaurant guidelines (50% of room capacity).

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