To the City Clerk:

Please add our comments to the agenda for the December 13, 2023 City Council meeting on item 2023.MM13.6, Last Chance to Help Small Businesses: Requesting the Federal Government Extend the Canada Emergency Business Account Deadline - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

Support for City council motion MM13.6 - Riverside BIA

I am writing on behalf of the 100+ business members of the Riverside Business Improvement Area in Toronto (along Queen Street East) to support the Council motion for an urgent reconsideration of the current CEBA repayment timelines. Multiple business owners need more time to repay and are not having a lot of success with existing repayment scenarios and timelines. There are many financial challenges and pressures facing small businesses, notably rising costs, inflation rates, and decreased consumer spending. Business owners need options for CEBA repayment, period.

We support the City council motion MM13.6 by Councillor Paula Fletcher that:
1. City Council request the Federal Government to extend the repayment deadline for the Canada Emergency Business Account to December 31, 2024.
2. City Council forward this Item to all Toronto area Members of Parliament, for information.

Thank you,
Jennifer Lay, Executive Director, Riverside BIA office

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