

Small Business Closure/Lockdown

As a citizen of Ontario I am concerned about the approach we are taking regarding the health crisis with Covid-19. Lock-downs attempting to "slow the spread" of Covid-19 do not seem to be working, which is evident by the increase of "cases" during lockdown. What is clear, are the negative effects lock-downs are having on small businesses and those out of a job due to closures. Hundreds of businesses have permanently closed down ending the employment and income for all involved causing financial ruin for business owners, depletion of life savings and income termination for employees. Businesses closing impacts everyone from product suppliers to accountants to landlords or owners and employees. Given we have had strict lock-downs and mandatory masks since July, yet the number of cases continues to rise it seems more lock-downs and stricter rules would yield the same results. Businesses that remain open (Costco/Walmart) have limited their hours which affects the ability of hundreds of part time jobs and have meant more people funneling into one establishment rather than spread out between many.

It seems we have become so obsessed with stopping a single person from dying that we have stopped every person from living. The mental health implications from continued isolation and economic ruin will be felt for years to come. As a citizen I strongly request that lock-downs be ended and personal responsibility be reestablished among the caring citizens of our communities.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Jennifer Seney