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John Nater, M.P.
Perth—Wellington

March 19, 2020

Dear Business Community in Perth—Wellington:

With the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring the Coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic, and Canadians being encouraged to stay in their homes, every sector of our economy is being impacted.

To that end, I would like to hear your thoughts on what measures the Government of Canada should take as part of their economic response to this crisis. I have already heard from many of you on how this crisis is impacting your businesses. Some of you have made the difficult decisions to temporarily close your doors and lay off staff. I remain committed to doing all I can to support you during this difficult period.

Several measures have already been announced, including:

- Allowing all businesses to defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after today and before September 2020.
- Further expand Export Development Canada's ability to provide support to domestic businesses.
- Provide flexibility on the Canada Account limit
- Augment credit available to farmers and the agri-food sector through Farm Credit Canada.
- Launch an Insured Mortgage Purchase Program to purchase up to \$50 billion of insured mortgage pools through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC); and
- Creating a new Business Credit Availability Program through Business Development Canada. This includes a Small Business Loan, a Working Capital Loan, and Purchase Order Financing. Further information on this financing available here: <https://www.bdc.ca/en/pages/special-support.aspx?special-initiative=covid19>
- A series of benefits to help individuals and families unable to work.

You can read the full details of these measures here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

The immediate health and safety of Canadians is paramount. This includes maintaining our supply chains for food, medicine and other essentials. Once the Government has better control of the spread of COVID-19, we will all need to work together to restore the economy.

Although my offices are no longer open for face-to-face meetings, my staff and I will continue to assist my constituents in every way we can during this difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Nater". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Nater".

John Nater, M.P.
Perth—Wellington