I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the restaurant and hospitality industry in Winnipeg. As the meeting place for enjoyable nights out with family and friends our industry has been reduced to a meek and unpredictable take out and delivery business. With 75% of our industry operating on only 20% of their previous revenue stream to sustain their business, the industry's average profit margin of only 4.5% is not sustainable for the future of the industry in Winnipeg

We have seen an 80% reduction in our work force and dedicated operators have been turned into cooks, delivery drivers and grocery stores to assist in remaining sustainable during this destructive time with deferred cost programs starting to mount up, our industry is being expected to pay their full business and property taxes even though they are running at less than 50% of their revenue, deferred payments are due and the stress of bringing Winnipeggers back to work is growing.

For the approximately 25% of restaurants that are not operational, we see operators having to make the tough decision to cease operations due to lack to guidance on the future and no relief in sight for tax bills that are coming due. Who is standing up for restaurants in Winnipeg?

As one of the first industries to self close to ensure both patron and staff safety, our industry has been driven to compose operational protocols to ensure our future patrons can enjoy a dining experience in a responsible and safe environment. We are looking to our municipal government to come to the table with a business and property tax relief before more of our valued local restaurants have to make that tough decision to close permanently.

The average business life span for a small restaurant is 5 years while supporting an average of 50 full time and part time employee's. The Average restaurant supports 4 laterally industries through These employee's buy homes and pay property taxes and viably support other local businesses. a 50% reduction of business and property taxes for 3 months does not come close to the contribution levels of these viable businesses and its employee's over the life span of a successful business. I believe the quote Short term pain equals long term gain has never been more real..

Thank you for allowing us to speak with you today, and we look forward to the City of Winnipeg's response to our request.