



March 23, 2021

RE: Zoning By-Law Amendment (Z-9300) Seasonal Outdoor Patios

To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed By-Law Amendment to allow for seasonal outdoor patios for restaurants and taverns across the City of London.

The amendment, allowing for an increased outdoor patio season, and especially the allowance for pop-up patios in parking lots will be advantageous for many businesses in the Hyde Park area who have limited sidewalk street frontage.

If approved, these new provisions to the By-Law, will help to stimulate spending while supporting opportunities that will help this battered industry to weather and recover as they continue to navigate through COVID restrictions that have been very limiting to their sustained viability.

In addition, this recommendation supports the recent announcements from the Province amending COVID restrictions that will allow restaurants in the red and orange zones to increase their indoor dining capacity to up to 50% of their seating capacity.

We are hopeful that these actions of both levels of government will be a first strong step in the road to recovery for this industry that has sustained significant negative impacts to our communities at a local level.

Post Pandemic, the outdoor pop-up patios will provide ongoing opportunities for this industry to provide unique place-based culinary experiences that will continue to support local retail hubs as we all work to rebuild our communities and our economic footprints.

Lastly, this is just one of the many thoughtful actions the City has recommended (Staff and Council) and reviewed (with much community consultation working with partners) and we fully support this as a means in helping to steer tangible business outcomes for the betterment of both our businesses and our communities.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Warm Regards,

Donna Szpakowski; CEO & General Manager