



## **PRESS RELEASE:**

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## Chamber Check program launched to keep businesses open and safe

(WATERLOO REGION, Ont.) – The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce and Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce have launched a new certification training program through their Chamber Business Ready platform that aims to help businesses remain open by creating a safe environment for both employees and customers alike.

'Chamber Check' is a free and innovative program powered by Axonify that offers valuable training to business owners and their employees when it comes to operating in a COVID-19 world.

"Being small businesses, it's in our hands to do what we can to keep people safe, both those who work for us and those who enter our places of business," said Cambridge Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Greg Durocher. "That's the best defence we have towards keeping our businesses open."

Upon completion of the training program, which can be accomplished in one sitting or in short increments depending on work schedules, business owners/operators will receive a 'Chamber Check' certificate indicating they have received extensive safety education to conduct business amid a COVID-19 environment.

The program, developed in consultation with Waterloo Region Public Health, is available to not just business owners but any number of their employees.

"Having this type of training in place is vital to not only keeping employees and customers safe, but it also helps build confidence in our community that our local businesses are doing their due diligence when it comes to dealing with this global crisis," said Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber President & CEO Ian McLean.

As well as a certificate, participating businesses also receive a Chamber Check decal that can be placed in a prominent location to let customers know their place of business has been fully certified when it comes to safety protocols and procedures surrounding COVID-19.

'We're proud to partner with The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce and Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce on the Chamber Check program. As a Waterloo-based business we're dedicated to doing our part to keep our local residents safe," said Carol Leaman, Founder and CEO of Axonify. The Chamber Check program is available to all businesses – not just Chamber of Commerce members - of all sizes and sectors in Waterloo Region.

To learn more about this valuable program and the Chamber Business Ready platform, please visit: <u>https://chamberbr.axonify.com</u>

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## **Background Information:**

Through the inventive Chamber Business Ready platform, participants in the Chamber Check program are provided with a series of valuable resources, including videos and practical quizzes designed around various safety issues and potential scenarios that can arise while working in the midst of this pandemic.

As they work their way through the interactive and educational tools contained in the program, the knowledge they gain will become beneficial in the day-to-day operation of their businesses.

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The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce is a strong advocate for continued development of our community and a partner for prosperity. By working together and focusing on initiatives that support growth, members use the services of the Chamber as an important catalyst for their business success. Recognized as a leader in one of Canada's most forward-thinking business communities, the Chamber is committed to serving, leading and supporting the business community in Kitchener Waterloo.

The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is committed to the enhancement of economic prosperity and the quality of life in Cambridge. A non-partisan organization funded solely by memberships, the Chamber works hard to address concerns of business, provide access to information resources and represent members at the municipal, provincial and federal levels of government. With more than 1,800 member firms, the Chamber's strength is clearly in its hardworking volunteers and committees addressing issues affecting local business and providing practical solutions.