



GREATER CHARLOTTETOWN AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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July 15, 2020

Dear Minister MacAulay,

Further to my email on July 13, on behalf of the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce (GCACC), I wish to request a meeting between you and Chamber representatives to discuss your government's plan to return Veterans Affairs Canada employees to their Charlottetown workplaces.

As I am sure you are aware, this has been an incredibly challenging time for our local business community. On behalf of the GCACC and its 1000 members, I extend sincere thanks to you and your government for the support you have offered the local business community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Looking ahead to recovery during our 'new normal', the Chamber is seeking ways to balance the need to increase local economic activity, with our members' desire to ensure the health and safety of employees, customers, clients and the greater public. As you know, Veterans Affairs Canada's employees generate significant economic activity in our community. While we understand and respect the public health guidelines your government has put in place to protect your employees and fellow Canadians, the Chamber hopes to better understand your plan for Veterans Affairs Canada staff's safe return to the workplace.

In particular, we are seeking clarity on the following items:

1. The timelines and circumstances under which Veterans Affairs Canada will permit its employees to return to the workplace in Charlottetown.
2. Your government's consideration of implementing a hybrid workforce model at Veterans Affairs Canada that would allow a reduced number, or all employees on a rotating schedule, to safely return to the workplace in the immediate future.
3. Your government's protocols/procedures to ensure overall service delivery is maintained while staff are working from home.

The Chamber looks forward to the opportunity of discussing these items with you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gerard M. Adams
Interim CEO

CC: Sean Casey, Member of Parliament for Charlottetown; Guy Gallant, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister – Veterans Affairs Canada

