



**Downtown Port Colborne BIA
STAFF REPORT
Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

- Pre-Christmas Events have gone extremely well with lots of positive comments regarding the Christmas Open House, Tugboat Santa Video, and Storefront Lighting Contest. In addition, the new lighting has been received well with 60 poles having the fixtures installed covering main street and downtown.
- Ferrero Rocher Chocolates received by businesses which was a pleasant surprise and thanks to the Ferrero Company for supporting small businesses.
- A special thank you to PC Forge for supporting local businesses with their employees receiving gift certificates to shop local rather than a big box store.
- Welcome to Port Colborne to Bram Cotton, Economic Development Officer is eager to work cooperatively with BIAs. The City will be announcing shortly the new Tourism Coordinator.
- Luke Rowe, City Events & Volunteer Coordinator will continue as the liaison for community events.
- PC Works via Andrea Boiter was able to provide two student ambassadors for downtown during the holiday season. The students assisted with events, and with one of the not for profit in downtown. Thank you to Melissa Mitchell and Avalon Sider.
- Three Board resignations have been received, (Betty Konc, Frank Beres and Rob Phillips). Six applications from interested individuals to be discussed this evening.
- Staff has been taking part in the OBIAA Best Practices Calls, where BIA's share their ideas, resources and strategies to deal with Covid-19, parking issues, festivals, events, grants, governance matters, and training opportunities for small businesses to name a few items.
- Office staff will be working, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays due to increased hours in the new contract. Staff will be working from home during the lockdown.

Welcome

- Mark Guilbeault and Associates, an insurance business previously located in the Main Street BIA area has moved to 625 King Street (Next to Smoking Buddha).

Submitted by:

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Downtown Port Colborne BIA