

Small businesses left holding the bag.

The rent deferral policy introduced on Friday is intended to help small business. Deferring rent payments while small businesses are closed because of covid-19 coupled with a guarantee to landlords in the event the small business fails and cannot pay - protects the landlord and in turn the banks from the lost revenue during closure. But it leaves the little guy - small business - holding the bag without matching revenue to pay the missing rent.

We can never catch up.

During Friday March 27th's press interview, the Premier announced a rent deferral agreement between commercial tenants and landlords. Once signed, the agreement is to be submitted to the Province with a signed repayment schedule. Once signed the government will secure any losses the landlord may incur, up to \$5,000/month. But what about the losses the small business has incurred due to the closure? If the small business fails, the province secures the debt to the landlord. And in turn, that helps secure the landlord's debt to the bank. **For the small business owner, this plan does not work.**

How are small businesses expected to re-pay three months, or four or five month's rent without matching revenue? This deferral plan is just a plan to help the small business borrow money from the landlord - to repay with what money? Why would we borrow money to be closed? What if this extends to six months closure, where are we left? And this plan doesn't even address our ongoing utility costs.

Why are small businesses being asked to assume all of the financial risk for these enforced closures?

Here is our question for the Premier:

If we attempt a restart after this is over, and the increased debt load due to the requirement to bear the entire financial burden of the closure is just too much, after we file for bankruptcy, where is the quick restart the Premier is hoping for?

In order for this to work, there has to be, as a minimum a sharing of the burden of the closure between the business, the landlords, the financial institutions and the government. It is not fair to place all of the burden of this situation on the backs of the one least able to bear it - the little guy - the small business owner.

If you are a small business in Nova Scotia in support of this letter please email us here
nssmallbusiness@gmail.com

1. Café Lara *Halifax*
2. Make New *Halifax*
3. East Peak Climbing
Halifax
4. Lady Luck
Boutique *Halifax*
5. Lifax Tech Inc
6. Il Trulo *Dartmouth*
7. Ametora Supply
Lunenburg
8. Dots & Loops
Lunenburg
9. One Block
Barbershop *Halifax*
10. Bluecollar
Barbershop *Halifax*
11. Coffeology *Halifax*
12. Earth Goddess
Halifax
13. Hamachi Kita
Halifax
14. Heartwood
Restaurant *Halifax*
15. Hold Fast Cafe
Halifax
16. Saskia Roch
Aesthetics *Halifax*
17. The Loop *Halifax*
18. AQC Salon *Halifax*
19. Sawadee Tea
House *Halifax*
20. The Bobbin Tree
Sydney
21. Guapa Boutique
Halifax
22. Painted Solutions
Sydney
23. Rinaldo's *Halifax*
24. Taco Lina's *Halifax*
25. Local Source
Halifax
26. Argyle Fine Art
Halifax
27. CrossFit Basinview
Bedford
28. My Fair Ladies
Ethical Emporium
Sydney
29. Trident Cafe and
Booksellers *Halifax*
30. Espresso 46
Halifax
31. Aurora Aesthetics
Halifax
32. Tart & Soul *Halifax*
33. Bird's Nest Cafe
Halifax
34. Foxy Moon Salon
Halifax
35. Lucky Penny
Coffee *Halifax*
36. Studio East Food &
Drink *Halifax*
37. All Dolled Up Hair
& Beauty *Sydney*
38. Cooked
Photography
Halifax
39. Somata Therapy
New Glasgow
40. Timber Lounge
Halifax Halifax
41. Serpentine Studios
Halifax
42. Purple Cow
Internet *Halifax*
43. Dime Salon Inc
Halifax
44. Kings Co-op
Bookstore *Halifax*
45. Lexicon Books
Lunenburg
46. Venus Envy *Halifax*
47. Heartsparks Music
Therapy *Bedford*
48. Dee Dee's Ice Cream
Halifax
49. Water & Bone *Halifax*
50. Side Door Nutrition
Bedford
51. Kitsune Food Co
Halifax
52. Agricola Holistic
Health *Halifax*
53. Mend RX *Halifax*
54. Nurtured *Halifax*
55. Biscuit General Store
Halifax
56. Inkwell Boutique
Halifax
57. The Loot *Halifax*
58. Coastal Sports &
Wellness
Halifax/Bedford
59. Ryan Dominey Hair
Halifax
60. The 902 Creative
Studio *Halifax*
61. Applehead Studio
Halifax
62. Anther & Apiary *Truro*
63. Sparkles n' Sawdust
Halifax

64. Anastasia's Beauty Boutique *Halifax*
65. Props Floral Design *Halifax*
66. Kam-Moon *Halifax*
67. The Wooden Monkey *Halifax/Dartmouth*
68. The Deck Box Halifax *Halifax*
69. World Tea House *Halifax*
70. Element School of Performing Arts
71. Wild Leek Food *Halifax*
72. Obsolete Records *Halifax*
73. Cape and Cowl Comics and Collectibles *Lower Sackville*
74. The Independent Mercantile *Halifax*
75. Yolove Beauty *Dartmouth*
76. Chives Canadian Bistro *Halifax*
77. 2 Doors Down Barrington Street *Halifax*
78. 2 Doors Down Dartmouth Crossing *Dartmouth*
79. 2 Doors Down Bar and Bites *Halifax*
80. CheeseCurds x 4 *Halifax/Dartmouth/Bedford*
81. Habaneros x 6 *Halifax/Dartmouth/Bedford/Truro/Sydney*
82. PonZu *Dartmouth*
83. Upstreet BBQ Brouhouse *Dartmouth*
84. Patch Halifax *Halifax*
85. The Cottage Cafe *Dartmouth*
86. Super Dave's Auto Sales *Halifax*
87. Alter Ego Photography *Halifax*
88. Lincoln Street Food *Lunenburg*
89. Made in the Maritimes *Halifax*
90. Ocean Optometry *Halifax*
91. Miller Optometry *Bridgewater/Halifax*
92. Field Guide *Halifax*
93. Seamus Davids Pub *Dartmouth Crossing*
94. Daggery Cove Tattoo Parlour *Dartmouth/Lunenburg*
95. Birkinshaw's Tea Room *Amherst*
96. Sharon's Closet *Amherst*
97. Uncommon Grounds *Halifax x2*
98. La Cucina Cafe Pizzeria and Spaghetti House *Dartmouth Crossing*
99. 360fit *Halifax/Dartmouth*
100. Hair Devotion *Bedford*
101. Move East *Halifax*
102. HFX Tattoo Company *Halifax*
103. Stevies Barbershop *Wellington*
104. The Old Apothecary *Halifax*
105. Highwayman *Halifax*
106. The Spoke & Note *Windsor*
107. Burrito Jax *Burnside*
108. SixSigma Capital *Dartmouth*
109. Mosaic Market *Windsor*
110. Standard Paving *Halifax*
111. Mosaic Market *Windsor*
112. Stillwell Beergarden *Halifax*
113. Stillwell *Halifax*
114. Freehouse *Halifax*
115. Divergence Tattoos *Halifax*
116. O2 Wellness *Bedford*
117. Click Productions *Halifax*
118. Burrito Jax *Sackville*
119. Steve-O-Reno's Cappiccino's *Halifax*
120. Transcend Furniture Gallery *Windsor*
121. Chroma Tattoos *Windsor*
122. Coconut Creek Gift Shop *Dartmouth/Digby*
123. Banks Bikes *Wolfville*

124. Indochine Banh
Mi *Halifax*
125. Massage Haven
Chester
126. Little Eden,
Bakery and Cafe
Halifax
127. Layers Cupcakes
Halifax
128. East Coast
Bakery *Halifax*
129. Ash Jewelry
Halifax
130. HaliMac Axe
Throwing
Halifax/Kentville
131. Wild Lily *Wolfville*
132. M&J's Catering
and Eatery *Bedford*
133. Obladee *Halifax*