



June 26/20

IMPORTANT MEMO TO THE HFM VENDORS:

Dear HFM Vendor;

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the city, our Market, and specifically the vendor community. We have successfully stayed open during the crisis and because of our focus on the health and safety of customers, vendors, and staff, there have been no positive tests from within the Market; Public Health has commended the Market for its efforts. Congratulations to all of our vendors for adhering to the recommended COVID-19 guidelines.

Naturally, there are many questions being asked regarding the treatment of Market rent during COVID-19, particularly since the Federal Government has made financial support available to private sector landlords in order to support their tenants. Municipalities and their tenants do not qualify to participate in the Federal program.

To clarify the Market's position, all vendors are responsible for the full amount of all Market fee's up to and including the month of March 2020. The HFM Board has presented a motion to the (City of Hamilton) Council requesting that the City of Hamilton bring our vendors into a similar position as those in the private sector, by extending a rent reduction to all tenants at the HFM that reduces rent by 75% for the months of April, May and June 2020. This aligns with the general intent of the Federal Government program CECRA. As a result, the Market Office will be issuing adjusted rent invoices for the months of April, May and June equating to 25% of the standard monthly rent, in anticipation of support by City Council. Moving forward, the full amount of Market rent will be reinstated starting with July 2020. Please direct any questions you may have to the Market Manager.

Thank you

Bill Slowka
Market Manager
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