

March 24, 2020

MEMO

Re: AICC Canada Response to COVID-19

Dear AICC Canada Members,

As the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, our Federal and Provincial governments continue to take responsible action to protect the health and wellbeing of Canadian citizens.

Part of this responsibility includes ensuring that critically needed food, medical supplies, personal hygiene and all other non-durables are available for distribution to Canadian households.

We believe our member companies play an integral and essential role in this supply chain and as such, we were pleased to receive news that the Ontario government has joined Quebec¹ in recognizing corrugated packaging as an essential service. This means our members can continue to operate without interruption to the manufacturing and delivery of their goods and services.

On behalf of AICC Canada I have offered our full support to our allies at the Canadian Corrugated and Containerboard Association who have issued the enclosed letter to Prime Minister Trudeau, in an effort to have this declaration extended to all provinces.

I want to thank Allen Kirkpatrick and the CCCA Board of Directors for leading this effort, and reassure all parties involved that our members stand united in fulfilling this civic duty, in compliance with the safety measures that have been recommended by public health officials.

For more frequent updates from AICC including announcements from government, industry leaders and partner organizations, I encourage all members to visit the following website: (<https://www.aiccbox.org/news/491356/AICC-Is-Closely-Monitoring-the-Situation-with-COVID.htm>).

To learn more about how AICC members are navigating the COVID crisis you can also participate in AICC's weekly Zoom audio and video conference call held every Friday at 2PM EST. (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/149860883>)

Sincerely,



Stephen Moore

¹ <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/3/list-of-essential-workplaces.html>
<https://www.quebec.ca/sante/problemes-de-sante/a-z/coronavirus-2019/fermeture-endroits-publics-commerces-services-covid19/#c48423>

Encl: CCCA Letter Critical Industry



Canadian Corrugated and
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March 20, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

RE: Essential and Critical worker status of corrugated packaging industry

Dear Prime Minister:

We are contacting you on behalf of the Canadian Corrugated & Containerboard industry which supplies corrugated cardboard packaging materials to customers of every kind, in every province of Canada. Our supply model includes mills that produce the roll stock materials and a wide range of converting plants to make finished packaging, all in the form of corrugated paper material. We also use the recycling infrastructure to support industry, retail and residential related needs. The industry has 55 plants in total and employs well over 10,000 people to support the Canadian marketplace.

The impact of the COVID-19 virus is severe; a generational disruption to our life, our economy, our country and the world. Efforts and leadership provided by you and your government colleagues are recognized as extremely credible on everything to date.

With the many directions the pandemic may take, this letter wishes to outline that our industry is essential to the supply chain of the many customers we serve across this great country. A corrugated cardboard box is taken for granted in many ways – until or unless it is not available. Food manufacturing of all sizes, home delivery services, pharmaceutical shipments and literally every product on a supermarket shelf is shipped in a cardboard box.

The concern our industry leadership shares is that government may consider some form of curtailment of activity in manufacturing to support social distancing issues. We beseech you to identify our industry as essential and critical thus allowing us to serve customers without interruption. We commit to full conformance of all responsible social distancing and health management requirements prescribed.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued a memorandum yesterday that outlines this. This request is to align our position with the United States.

You need us more than you may know. Our customers need us on a daily basis. We ask you to provide the continued freedom to meet those needs. There are many industries larger than us, but that is not an indication of importance.

Thank you for maintaining border access with the United States for commercial purposes. That link is vital for the daily movement of containerboard mill stock to the converting plants.

The Association and its Board of Directors listed below are committed to help in any way possible. Keep up the strong effort and leadership.

Yours truly,



Allen Kirkpatrick
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cc: The Honourable Bill Morneau, P.C., M.P.
The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P.
The Honourable Navdeep Singh Bains, P.C., M.P.
The Honourable Mélanie Joly, P.C., M.P.

Canadian Corrugated & Containerboard Board of Directors:

AICC Canada (Association of Independent Corrugated Converters) – Stephen Moore
Atlantic Packaging – Bill Cooper, Vice President Sales
Cascades Containerboard Products – Jean Parent, Vice President Sales, Packaging
Cascades Containerboard Packaging – Robert Lanthier, Vice President Sales, Containerboard
Crown Packaging – Mark Miedema, General Manager
Emballages Mitchel Lincoln – Jimmy Garfinkle, President
Independent Corrugator Inc. – Marco Studer, Administration Manager
Kruger Packaging – Mike Lafave, Senior Vice President & COO
Kruger Packaging – Serge Desgagnes, Vice President Sales
Montcorr Packaging Ltd. – Danny Lecompte, Controller
Maritime Paper – Sheldon Gouthro, President & CEO
Moore Packaging Corp. – Peter B. Moore, Chairman & CEO
Paper Packaging Environmental Council – John Mullinder, Executive Director
Tencorr Packaging Inc. – Chris Bartlett, President
WestRock – Mike McGugan, Ontario Business Unit General Manager
WestRock – Dale Nolden, Senior Vice President Containerboard Sales