



Commerce Connection

Business Is Good

In This Issue

Learn about our upcoming virtual manufacturing summit, our successful advocacy for additional business relief, and more in September's Commerce Connection.

We also spotlight our member Sunsoil CBD.

September 2020

Chamber News



Enroll Your Business in Gift Card Program

We are encouraging our members to enroll in the new Buy Local Vermont Gift Card Program intended to increase sales for local businesses.

Enroll NOW

Our Tourism Team Launches Improved Directory

The Vermont Chamber tourism team launched an *improved directory* on [VermontVacation.com](https://www.vermontvacation.com). Developed with user experience at the forefront, the directory is a vacation planning tool with easy navigation and direct-booking capabilities for featured listings.



Learn more and explore new tool



Virtual Manufacturing Summit

In lieu of the regularly scheduled Annual 2020 Manufacturing Supply Chain Summit, the Vermont Chamber will host a two-part virtual supply chain summit. Our members are invited to attend at no cost.

Register to [attend Part I](#) or [Part II](#)

“ We can make Vermont the work-from-home capital of the country by investing in three essential areas necessary to make remote work possible: child care, broadband connectivity, and housing. ”

Vermont Chamber of Commerce President Betsy Bishop and Let's Grow Kids CEO Aly Richards



Vermont Could Lead Nation in Remote Work

Vermont Chamber President Betsy Bishop and Let's Grow Kids CEO Aly Richards published a recent op-ed on the steps Vermont could take to lead in remote work.

[Read in VT Digger](#)

Government Affairs Director on My NBC5

Our Government Affairs Director Charles Martin was *interviewed* about Vermont's future and our push for more business relief. Vermont Chamber advocacy on behalf of impacted businesses is *reflected in proposed additional grants*. We continue to *push* for swift and meaningful relief, including passage of the latest relief proposal.



[Watch and learn more](#)



Lodging and Restaurant Rescue Package

Our Vice President of Tourism Amy Spear *testified* last week before the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development in support of a lodging and restaurant rescue package.

[Watch](#)

Thank You for Supporting Us

The most important thing we can ask is that you continue to support the Vermont Chamber of Commerce as we support you and your fellow businesses across Vermont.

We truly are in this together.

[About Vermont Chamber membership](#)



Member News



Department of Tourism & Marketing Survey

The pandemic has affected all aspects of the tourism economy in Vermont. To help quantify the impact, [take this survey](#). Having accurate impact data will help inform recovery strategies going forward. Responses are requested by September 4.

[Take survey](#)

COVID Testing in Workplace

The Vermont Dept. of Health has updated information on [COVID-19 testing in the workplace](#). The Dept. of Health does not recommend requiring asymptomatic employees to test for COVID-19 or provide proof of a negative test prior to returning to work, unless that person is looking to end their quarantine period early.

[Learn more](#)



Vermont Businesses Helping Communities

We are adding content regularly to our page, [How Vermont Businesses Are Helping Our Communities](#).

Recent additions include Vermont Chamber member [Vermont Evaporator Company](#) making and donating washable cloth masks to Vermont public schools to help them reopen safely, member [Farrell Distributing](#), and [The Foundry at Summit Pond](#), partnering with [Yealands Wines](#) and [Palm Bay International](#) to create a “Raise a Glass” program supporting local healthcare workers, and more.

[Read](#)

Economic Recovery Grants Still Available

[Applications for Vermont Economic Recovery Grants](#) are still available, and we are encouraging businesses and nonprofits to apply now. [Expanded eligibility](#) criteria was recently announced.

[Apply](#)

Member Spotlight

This month’s Member Spotlight is [Sunsoil CBD](#). Sunsoil is a different kind of CBD company. They’re proudly based in Vermont. They grow their own hemp on their farms in Hardwick and Hyde Park. And they are certified organic by the USDA and NOFA Vermont. Sunsoil never uses pesticides, herbicides or GMOs on their farms, and their products are made with simple, natural ingredients like organic coconut oil. If you’d like to try this organic, Vermont-grown CBD for yourself, take 30% off your first [sunsoil.com](#) order with the code VTCHAMBER.



Save The Date

- [The Future of Sourcing for Aerospace and Defense: A Virtual Supply Chain Summit, Part I](#)
- [The Future of Sourcing for Shipbuilding and Defense: A Virtual Supply Chain Summit, Part II](#)

For more information about the manufacturing summit, please [email Chris Carrigan](#).

To learn about Vermont Chamber membership, please [email Erica Canada](#).

#ThinkVermont

- [Kaman in Bennington Makes \\$118 Million OEM Deal](#)
- [Caring Dairy: What's New For 2020?](#)
- [Federal Program Disburses \\$4.4 Million Among 14 Vermont Communities](#)
- [Tyler Place Offers New Vermont Fall Retreat](#)
- [Leahy, Vermont Tech Announce a Nearly \\$8 Million Investment for Research](#)

This section features good news about Vermont Chamber members.

Email news@vtchamber.com with your good news.

In Other News

- [Vt. Futures: Now Is the Time to Rethink Taxes](#)
 - [Weekly Unemployment Claims: VT Down, U.S. Up](#)
 - [Grant Applications Show Lodging Industry Is Hardest-Hit Sector in Crisis](#)
 - [Durkee: Extended Road to Recovery for Commercial Real Estate](#)
 - [Can COVID Refugees Help Vermont Dig Out of Demographic Hole?](#)
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