



Regulations/Red Tape

Ontario businesses are faced with the worst regulatory burden in Canada. The time and money invested in complying with the hundreds of regulations facing the hospitality industry alone, is taking time and money away from growing the business and creating jobs.

We are a labour intensive industry and have little control over a substantial range of costs we must pay in a very competitive business environment that impacts price/rate growth.

- As a sector poised to contribute to the economy of every community in Ontario, the hospitality industry is in need of a government that considers the affect that regulatory burden has on business when introducing new policy initiatives.

Governments must be open to supporting business success and realize that the recent economic hardships brought on a new reduced labour operating model in most businesses. Management positions have been reduced or eliminated and ownership of many tasks and responsibilities are now completed by individuals that “wear many hats”. This is the reality and governments need to be aware of how much regulatory burden strains a slim work force. There is a need of adjustment presented here. This is more evident in small business where occupying an operator’s time with the amount of upkeep in regulations becomes a burden to success. The resources are just not there.

- The goal must not be only the reduction of regulations. Reducing the number of regulations does not lessen the operator’s burden. Emphasis must be placed on streamlining the work and time expected from the operator in implementation and in maintaining compliance.

The ORHMA is concerned that new regulations, requirements, and guidelines are being created in a silo-like environment. This process fails to look at the total regulatory burden placed upon this industry. It has become increasingly more acceptable over time for each regulatory body to act with seeming indifference to the actions of another body. The process is placing an unreasonable burden on the individual operator who is trying to make a living in a highly competitive marketplace while forced to cope with this growing and costly burden.

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