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COVID-19 Update: New Webinars, AVCOG Loan Program, and More

- **Upcoming Webinars Presented by SBDC Business Advisors**
- **Q&A Session with Maine Municipal Association**
- **Mainebiz Free Webcast - How Can Your Business Qualify for Loan Forgiveness?**
- **EDCM Webinar - Ramp up for Recovery**
- **ERC - Tourism, Hospitality & Retail Subcommittee Meetings**
- **COVID Economic Assistance Micro Loan Program**
- **State of Maine Resources**
- Click [here](#) to access AVCOG's COVID-19 Resource Page

Upcoming Webinars Presented by SBDC Business Advisors

- **Business Plan Basics with Lori Allen**
Wednesday, June 3, 2020
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

This workshop will provide an overview of the elements of a good business plan, and provide tips on writing one.

Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

- **Financing Your Business Startup with Raynor Large**
Thursday, June 4, 2020
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Join the discussion to learn how things like your personal financial statement, credit score, and business plan work together to present you and your business concept in the best way possible.

Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

Q&A Session with Maine Municipal Association

Join MMA and AVCOG for their second Zoom Q&A session on **Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 10:00 AM**.

Topics to be discussed include:

- Holding a town meeting
- Revenue sharing
- Gatherings that include over 50 people

If you have not already signed up, you can still join the meeting by emailing **Shelley Norton** for the Zoom login information. **Please email your questions to Shelley by 9:00 AM on Wednesday** to give MMA time to prepare for the meeting.

Also email Shelley if you are interested but cannot attend. A recording is expected to be available afterwards.

Mainebiz Free Webcast - How Can Your Business Qualify For Loan Forgiveness?

The free webcast will take place on **Thursday, June 4 from 11:00 AM to Noon** via Zoom.

This webcast will help business owners understand the Paycheck Protection Program. Registered attendees will learn about how their business can qualify for loan forgiveness amid the latest rules and share case studies.

The panelists include: **Amy Bassett**, District Director of the Small Business Administration; **Kris Eimicke**, Partner at Pierce Atwood, LLP; **Tony C. McKim**, President and Chief Executive Officer of First National Bank; and **Seth Webber**, Principal at BerryDunn.

Click [here](#) to register. There will be a Q&A session during the webcast for panelists to answer questions.

EDCM Webinar - Ramp up for Recovery

The Economic Development Council of Maine will host a webinar on **Thursday, June 11, 2020 from 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM**.

This webinar will share best practices, resources, and tools to implement as communities begin the process of economic recovery. The presenters include: **Jim Damicis**, Senior Vice President, Camoin 310; **Christa Franzi**, Director, Camoin 310; and **Anthony Price**, Founder, LootScout.

Click [here](#) to register. All registered attendees will be sent the link to attend 2 days prior to the event.

ERC - Tourism, Hospitality & Retail Subcommittee Meetings

The Governor's Economic Recovery Committee is engaging economic experts and industry representatives from across Maine to develop specific policy recommendations to stabilize the state's economy and build a bridge to future prosperity in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

All meetings of the Committee and the Subcommittees are open to the public. Click [here](#) to submit comments via their online portal.

ERC - Tourism, Hospitality & Retail Subcommittee
Wednesdays & Thursdays (June 3 until July 16)
8:30 AM -10:00 AM

Click [here](#) to register.

ERC – Tourism, Hospitality & Retail Subcommittee

Fridays (June 5 until July 17)

9:30 AM -10:00 AM

Click [here](#) to register.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. You may register once and attend any of the scheduled occurrences.

Click [here](#) for a list of all the Committee and Subcommittee meetings.

COVID Economic Assistance Micro Loan Program

AVCOG is now offering a SBA micro loan program to provide loans to small businesses in Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties affected by COVID-19.

A business can borrow up to \$10,000 for 3 years at a 3% interest rate. For qualifying businesses, the SBA may make the first 6 months of payments.

Loan details:

- Funds can be used for working capital, equipment, or to refinance existing higher cost debt.
- Funds cannot be used for real estate purchase.
- Three-year term loans.
- No prepayment penalty.
- Non-profit businesses do not qualify, except for child-care centers.

Click [here](#) for more program details.

State of Maine Resources

- Click [here](#) for Maine's reopening plan, the first of which began on May 1st.
 - Click [here](#) to download industry specific checklists to identify best practices for safely operating your business during COVID-19.
 - Click [here](#) for some helpful tips to safely get outside for physical and mental well-being from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.
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