

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**September 15, 2020** 

## Apply Now for New Grants Available to Local Small Businesses

Up to \$5,000 is available for Chelan and Douglas county businesses with 20 employees or less to assist COVID-related response and recovery.

(September 15, 2020/East Wenatchee) – The Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority is accepting applications for emergency grants up to \$5,000 each for businesses with 20 employees or less in Chelan and Douglas counties. Grant money can be used to assist with a variety of expenses related to impacts from COVID-19.

To learn more and apply, visit our <u>COVID-19 Small Business Resources</u> page to find more information and applications in English and Spanish.

"To date the Regional Port has distributed over \$2.2 million dollars in federal, state, and local funding to more than 400 small businesses located in Chelan and Douglas counties," stated Regional Port Board President Rory Turner. "We have seven programs still accepting applications with an additional \$1.6 million available for local businesses impacted by COVID-19."

Grant funds include new state funding of \$945,000 available to businesses in Chelan and Douglas counties. These funds come from the state's Working Washington Small Business program that uses federal Coronavirus Assistance, Recovery and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to help with COVID-19 response and recovery efforts across Washington State.

"The length and depth of the pandemic have hit small, main street businesses hard," said Washington State Department of Commerce Director Lisa Brown. "In particular, restaurants, hotels and other service industries have not seen the expected number of customers. Small businesses need these resources to stay open as we respond to the public health crisis and help get people back to work."

For more information, please contact Ron Cridlebaugh at 509-884-4700, ron@cdrpa.org.