

To the CRA of Hallandale Beach,

6/5/2025

Please consider this letter as a formal request for extended rent subsidy. We are appealing to the CRA to request an emergency extension to our rent subsidy which had commenced in October of 2024 and completed in March of 2025.

Upon signing our lease in Hallandale's artsquare complex, we are a first generation business and restaurant and therefore the landlord required an additional 6 months advance rent for a deposit, in addition to the 3 months they requested from other tenants, totalling 9 months of rent for a deposit. This ate up much of our planned capital we had as a cushion to get the business off of the ground and running in its first 1-2 years.

Prior to opening our doors we had a major issue with the building department and the fan of our hood which took an extra 6 months to get it approved and installed, not to mention an extra \$75,000 over budget for the new fan and the fire wrapping and labor etc. It set us back a ton because we couldn't use the kitchen as we had originally planned for that first six months, so we opened with an alternate menu and made a very difficult first impression. We have been fortunate to bring some business back in for a second opinion, but we definitely are not doing the numbers we anticipated. We are very very behind in our sales tax as well, and a few other outlying expenses from the construction still. We really could benefit from a little more help from the city to get us through the summer. We do anticipate to see the business turnaround in October/November when business starts to pick back up, but summers in the industry are very slow and difficult.

For this reason we are requesting an additional 6 months of rent subsidy to help us get through this difficult period of the off season and get us back in good standing.

We feel businesses like ours not only contribute culturally to the area, but it also will in turn be able to contribute financially. And several of our employees currently reside in Hallandale as well. We are looking forward to being able to continue to grow within this community and be an asset to bringing other businesses and patrons to the area to see the beauty Hallandale has to offer.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support,

-Allison Sarbin

Barrel Wine and Cheese