New Zealand Farriers Association Inc.

c/- P O Box 214
Kumeu, 0841
AUCKLAND

Secretary:
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Email: j.jbryant@xtra.co.nz

25 March 2020

Dear Members of the New Zealand Farriers Association,

Firstly, the New Zealand Farriers Association represents Farrier members across the length of New
Zealand. We do not represent Non-members or Barefoot Trimmers. During this four (4) week lock
down due to COVID 19 we have been advised by the government that we are NOT an essential
business and have to shut down.
I understand this is troubling for our clients and their horses. The government has said in relation to
Primary Industry and animal welfare that essential services are:
“Any entity whose closure would jeopardise the maintenance of animal health or welfare
standards.”
While we can argue that farriers provide essential services, the majority of our work can be
postponed on this four-week lock down. We can extend the length of time we attend to horses
without compromising animal health. Trims can be delayed, and shoes can stay on. If clients need
assistance during this time they can ring and we can give instructions on safe practices relating to
their horses feet.
However, if there are extreme or critical cases, we are still allowed to attend to the horse, but
clients first have to contact their vet services.
Our obligation is first and foremost to keep our registered farriers safe and healthy, please do not
carry on with your work, as business as usual. In certain circumstances where we do attend the
animal, should their health be compromised, I must urge you to follow Ministry Guidelines in
relation to COVID 19 health regulations.
As small businesses/self-employed we do qualify for funding from the government to cover loss of
income, as far as I am aware this portion is not a loan and does not need to be paid back. Should
you need financing from the government this is a different story.

I have attached the fact sheet for wage subsidy in this email. I am no expert on this but am here to
help should you need it.
Let me make this clear, that we represent Farrier Members of the New Zealand Farriers Association
Inc. ONLY. We do not represent Barefoot trimmers and Non-Members. Although they should be
abiding by these rules, it is not within our right to govern them. I strongly urge these people to put
the health of your clients and families first. Please do not attend to horses that are not critical under
the proviso that you will be safe because you are not in contact with the client. You are putting them
at risk and yourselves.
Please, during this time, look after your family, ask for help and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

ANDREW GOOD
President
New Zealand Farriers Association Incorporated
Telephone: 0274 462 808

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