



Media Release

## **Saugeen Connects Launches Student Start-up Program, a Chance for Youth to Receive Grants to Try Self-Employment**

In 2019, the Saugeen Connects Partnership consisting of Brockton, Hanover, Minto, Wellington North and West Grey, along with the Saugeen Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), will launch the Saugeen Student Start-Up Program (SSUP). The Saugeen SSUP will provide the opportunity for students in this region in Grades 6-12 to try self-employment during their summer holidays, July and August.

This program was launched in Norfolk County in 2016 and has received multiple awards at both Provincial and National levels. It was also a finalist in the prestigious Lieutenant Governor's Award for best achievement in the province. We are so grateful that Norfolk County and the person who created the program, Jerry Sucharyna, have allowed us the opportunity to replicate SSUP here in the Saugeen Region.

This program is designed to fuel the creativity and business skills of Saugeen Area Students for 2019! Entrepreneurs grow in the Saugeen Region and we want to continue to support students in Grades 6-12. We have committed time, resources, and cash to spark this program and are now looking for companies and organizations to join us in investing in the Saugeen Region's future.

By completing a relaxed business plan, eligible applicants can earn \$200 cash to help get their business idea started or expanded. As a bonus, if they post a photo on social media engaged in their business, use the hashtag #saugeenssup and send us a final report, they can receive a \$100 bonus! Applications must be in no later than 4:30 pm on June 14<sup>th</sup>, with successful applicants being notified by June 21<sup>st</sup>.

If you're a youth with a summer business idea or are a business or organization who would like to sponsor a student, visit [saugeenconnects.com/youth](https://saugeenconnects.com/youth) or email [info@saugeenconnects.com](mailto:info@saugeenconnects.com).

*"We believe that our youth have an impact on our community and are the source of skills, labour force and entrepreneurship for our future."*

Funding for this program comes from the Saugeen Connects partnership, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs' (OMAFRA) Rural Economic Development (RED) Program, and our generous businesses community.

-30-

For more information:

Jamie Doherty  
Saugeen Economic Development Corporation  
519-799-5750 x 5  
[info@saugeenconnects.com](mailto:info@saugeenconnects.com)

