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### FEATURE ARTICLE

[FedDev Ontario Announces New Funding and Dedicated Rural Support for a Stronger Southern Ontario](#)



### Over \$1 billion to fuel economic growth in urban and rural areas of Canada's most populous region

The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and Minister responsible for [FedDev Ontario](#), accompanied by the Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Rural Economic Development, and Francis Drouin, Member of Parliament for Glengarry–Prescott–Russell, announced over \$1 billion in funding for FedDev Ontario to continue to foster growth in southern Ontario.

Recognizing the vital role rural communities play in the region's economy, it was announced that FedDev Ontario is dedicating an initial sum of \$100 million to projects that drive innovation and growth in rural communities. [Read More](#)

## INNOVATION

### [Canadian ExportChallenge](#)



Applications Now Open for the 2019 Canadian Global Entrepreneur Cohort

### [Every Entrepreneur is Invited to Apply!](#)

Startup Canada, in collaboration with UPS, Export Development Canada, and the Trade Commissioner Service launched the Canadian Export Challenge to support YOU to take your business global in 2019. Click here to see full press release.

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### [Clean Growth Hub Newsletter](#)



[This newsletter](#) is your source for the latest on Government of Canada programs and services that support innovation and deployment of clean technology.

## NEWS & COMMUNITY

### [Thanks to EDCO for organizing the MPP Breakfast at Queens Park February 26, 2019](#)



[Video of MPP Smith Address](#)

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### [The Delicate Art of Dinosaur Restoration with Peter May](#)



Inside a 48,000-square-foot warehouse in Trenton, Ontario, a two-hour drive northeast of Toronto, blacksmiths are soldering to songs by Thin Lizzy, with additional background noise provided by the whirring of power tools. At first glance, this could be any factory floor, but closer examination reveals something unusual: the metalworkers are creating custom steel armatures that will hold together the fossilized bones of now-extinct life forms, and those tools are air scribes welded by bone technicians sprawled atop the remains of a 76-million-year-old armoured dinosaur.

[Read More](#)

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## Startup Canada Doubles Down on Supporting Women Entrepreneurs



[Startup Canada](#) announced that it will build out specific programming for women entrepreneurs and employ a gender lens to ecosystem and program development as it works to reshape Canada's approach to supporting women-led startups, scale-ups, and small businesses.

**“Startup Canada is committed to scaling-up support for women entrepreneurs whose efforts and ingenuity can help Canada's economy rise to its full potential.” - Victoria Lennox, President and Co-Founder, Startup Canada**

[Read More](#)

## ACROSS ONTARIO

### A Regional Approach is Needed to Attract and Retain Newcomers



The 11 Northern Ontario districts require a comprehensive, coordinated and inclusive newcomer attraction and retention strategy. This is the key finding in the second commentary in Northern Policy Institute's the Northern Attraction series, by author Christina Zefi titled, "Identifying Northern Ontario's Strengths and Weaknesses in the Attraction and Retention of Newcomers". [Read More](#)

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### Directed Immigration Across Ontario



Every year, the Greater Golden Horseshoe adds thousands of newcomers, while other parts of the province struggle just to keep the residents they currently have. Already, such outflows for those communities mean labour shortages and stagnating local economies. The Agenda discusses what it would take to even out which parts of Ontario attract immigrants.

Episode:

[Settling Newcomers in Ontario](#)

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### Ottawa's WE Talk Business Boot Camp



Have you been in business for a few years and are looking to expand your business? Do you want practical advice to reach the next level in your journey? Are you looking for an opportunity to strengthen your knowledge, acquire new tools and expand your network?

Join the WE Talk Business Boot Camps Tour on **March 19, 2019 at Bayview Yards in Ontario**. Designed as a one-day intensive program by and for women entrepreneurs, this *not-to-miss* boot camp is the right opportunity for you to build a better business and become a stronger entrepreneur.

[The event is free and seats are limited.](#) We'll make every effort to turn this day into a great experience!

Deadline to apply is **March 15, 2019**.

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### [Ontario Chamber of Commerce - Economic Report](#)



The OCC's annual policy document the [Ontario Economic Report](#) presents the collective voice of thier membership through the Business Confidence Survey, the Business Prosperity Index and the Economic Outlook. The report provides a snapshot of the past year and a look at the year ahead.

*"Over the next year, Ontario's economy is forecasted to slow to two percent growth. This is expected to continue to have a disproportionate impact on **rural and remote regions**, as evidenced by higher unemployment and stagnant population growth in areas such as Northern Ontario."* [Read More](#)

## LESSONS LEARNED & BEST PRACTICES

### [Health & Safety System Toolkit Designed for Small Businesses](#)



Here is a system toolkit created by MOL, WSIB, and the four Health & Safety Associations, designed to help small businesses with resources and links for templates and video at each stage:

<http://www.wsps.ca/Small-Business-Centre/Whats-New>

Please let us know if this resource can be an additional tool for you or your clients, as your suggestions will help us improve our Health and Safety resources to support small business owners.

## WORKPLACE SAFETY & PREVENTION SERVICES

**Denise Lam, CHRL**, Account Manager – Small Business Ontario

Telephone 416-679-9558 [denise.lam@wsps.ca](mailto:denise.lam@wsps.ca)

 [sb\\_Toolkit-Final.pdf](#)

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### [9 steps for delegating work more effectively](#)



It's challenging to balance maintaining control over your company and delegating to employees or contractors. But your refusal to hand over responsibility can take a devastating toll on your business and personal life. [Learn what to do about it.](#)

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### [Digital Readiness for SMEs](#)



Take the guesswork out of digitizing your business with a digital readiness roadmap

Digitizing your business is essential to its continuing success. However, the noise around digital can make it hard to pinpoint what deserves your attention and where to invest.

[The Digital Readiness for SMEs](#) solution solves that problem. It will help you determine how to leverage digital in your business so that you know exactly what to focus on, where to invest and what to do next.

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### [Getting your association advocacy message right](#)



*"The most important factor in Canadian advocacy success is ensuring that your association's core message and core asks of government reflect what is good for the public and the consumer."*

Making sure your association's advocacy messaging is on target for success is a critical part of overall advocacy strategy.

Too often associations make the mistake of "ready...fire...aim" for lobbying. Indeed, leaders who fail to properly consider what their basic advocacy message is and how it relates to target audiences will not succeed in the short or long run. This article will tackle the sometimes tricky and often thorny issues of landing on the right advocacy

message for your association to achieve winning results for members. [Read More](#)



## HR & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

[Paul Hugh Rogers / October 17, 1933 – February 22, 2019](#)



Obituary: <https://memorials.grahamgiddyfh.com/paul--rogers/3748195/view-memories.php>

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### [ECM Education Series - Business Plan Analysis for Small and Micro Enterprise](#)



#### **When**

Thursday, March 14, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM ADT

#### **Where**

#### **JOIN US ONLINE**

One of the most important - and most challenging - tasks for a business development professional is evaluating a client's business plan. Business development professionals must provide insightful feedback on many different business-types in a way that's relatable to the client. This one-day workshop will focus on small and micro enterprises, and will offer a practical, hands-on opportunity to learn a more systematic approach to analysis. Using two real-life micro enterprise plans, you'll be asked to analyze, enhance, and provide simulated feedback on what you see (and what you don't see).

[Get more information](#)

[Seating limited, register today.](#)

[Registration Deadline, March 4, 2019](#)

**Online cost:** \$300.00 per person and \$250.00 for each additional participant from the same organization.

**Duration:** 6 hours + two-hour self-directed assignment to receive a certificate of completion.

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## [Synergie Online Course - Toward Co-operative Commonwealth Transition in a Perilous Century](#)



Registration is Now Open for our **Free Online Course** - Starts Mar 25th 2019

This is a free, massive, open, online course (MOOC) offered by Synergia Institute with support from Athabasca University, that sets out what effective systems change means, and the most promising ways to secure our communities' basic needs in increasingly difficult times. **It is a master class in *movement building* for a new model of political economy that is sustainable, democratic, socially just and based on the principles of co-operation and the common good.**

Synergia website: <https://synergia institute.wordpress.com/>

 [MOOC\\_description\\_Feb. 21.pdf](#)

 [Synergia\\_Study\\_Circles\\_Action\\_Circles.pdf](#)

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## [CSAE ROUNDTABLE: How to Take Your Business Relationship to the Next Level](#)



Recently, CSAE had an opportunity to speak with our Corporate Partners about issues relating to business relationships. [The CSAE Roundtable](#) was held to generate discussion and for these industry leaders to share their tips on how to improve professional connections.

### **The Update - Your Newsletter**

Do you have feedback or story ideas for the next Update? Contact Community Futures Ontario at 1-888-633-2326 or [info@cfontario.ca](mailto:info@cfontario.ca)

Ce bulletin est également disponible en français. Veuillez communiquer avec nous à pour obtenir votre exemplaire du bulletin, Le Point.

Community Futures Ontario, 300 South Edgeware Road, St. Thomas ON N5P 4L1

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