

Media Release  
August 29, 2018

**THE WINDSORESSEX SMALL BUSINESS CENTRE  
SUPPORTS LOCAL ENTERPRISING YOUNG PEOPLE START UP  
AND RUN THEIR OWN SUMMER BUSINESS**

**Windsor-Essex County, Ontario - Wednesday, August 29, 2018** – The WindsorEssex Small Business Centre (SBC), a department within the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation and in partnership with the Province of Ontario has offered, for over 18 years full-time students 15 to 29 years old an opportunity to explore entrepreneurship hands-on through the **Summer Company Program**. Today, the SBC hosted the media, partners and mentors at a “**Meet and Greet**” to introduce and recognize the 19 entrepreneurs who have successfully completed the Summer Company Program. The students proudly pitched their businesses, presented what they learned about operating their own business and showcased their products and services.

This year, the Small Business Centre received numerous submissions from across the Windsor-Essex region and 19 students were accepted into the program. The students enrolled in the program received up to \$1,500 to put towards the costs to start and run their own summer business, with an additional \$1,500 awarded to the students upon successful completion of the program.

**David Mill, Summer Company entrepreneur and owner of MOCHILL Windows** said, “The SBC Summer Company Program gave me and the other participants an opportunity to develop an in depth business plan and the confidence to bring it to life. The mentors provided us with guidance and shared real life experiences as entrepreneurs. The advice we received from Small Business Centre leaders was vital to our success. By interacting with the other young entrepreneurs, it allowed me to share my experience and gain insight into dealing with similar challenges throughout the program. By listening to the journeys of the other young entrepreneurs, I realized there were two common themes to running a business – “attrition” and “belief”. I really do credit SBC’s Summer Company program with giving me the perspective I needed to deal with the day-to-day challenges of running a business and I recommend the program to any young aspiring entrepreneur out there.” <https://www.mochillwindows.com/>

**Rakesh Naidu, COO of the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation** added, “The Summer Company Program is an important initiative delivered by the Small Business Centre that provides support for our youth that will help them grow and prosper within the region. It’s important to assist these ambitious students to become future entrepreneurs and successful business owners in our region. We are so pleased to deliver this program for the students to learn what it takes to manage a business. Special thanks to local business leaders for providing hands-on coaching, training and mentorship.”

**ABOUT: 2018 Summer Company Entrepreneurs and Businesses:**

<http://www.windsorsexsmallbusiness.com/summer-company-entrepreneurs-2018>

Attachment- Media Brief

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