

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Student entrepreneurs launch Summer Company businesses with support from Business Centre Guelph-Wellington

Nine local, youth-owned companies participating in business education program

July 14, 2021 (Guelph, ON) – Business Centre Guelph-Wellington is thrilled to support a dynamic group of creative and enterprising students from Guelph and Wellington County who are participating in the Summer Company student entrepreneurship program.

The program, which kicked off in June, offers students aged 15 - 29 the opportunity to learn how to run a business and develop business skills through a series of educational training sessions, mentorship from a business coach, and a startup grant of \$3,000.

Local youth participating this summer include:

- [CDee Nails](#), designer of custom press-on nails (owned by Deanna Campbell, Guelph);
- [JMD Lawn Care](#), providing residential lawn cutting, trimming, raking, and weeding services (owned by Jesse Duhacek, Elora);
- [Bits and Bobs](#) handmade affordable jewellery (owned by Teaira Garcia, Guelph);
- [The Dragon Girl Char](#), creator of handmade dragon-themed toys, games, jewelry and apparel (owned by Charlotte Gerwin, Guelph);
- [Go with The Grow](#) organic exotic mushroom grow kits (owned by Liam Jeffrey, Guelph);
- [The Good Nik](#), manufacturer of Chicke Dough no-bake cookie dough made from chickpeas (owned by Annika Lusic, Guelph);
- [The Happy Era](#) healthy waffles (owned by Domenique Mastronardi, Guelph);
- [Plantaholics](#), offering native plants, mini indoor gardens and terrariums (Samuel (Juno) McGowan, Guelph); and
- [Guelph Driveway Sealing](#), providing driveway sealing services (Liam Smith, Guelph).

“Every year the Summer Company program connects us with students who are so creative, so innovative, and so excited about the possibilities that entrepreneurship offers,” said Kristel Manes, executive director of BCGW. “Many students who join this program have already started their businesses, and this program helps them to refine their products and services, get training to put those foundational business pieces in place, and work with a business coach so they learn all the elements required to successfully grow a business.”

Manes adds that BCGW has offered Summer Company for more than 20 years, and that the program has been a springboard for many established Guelph businesses including Anthology Marketing, Jer Harman Photography, and Sandbox Software Solutions.

The Summer Company program is offered across Ontario through local small business centres, and is made possible by the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

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About Business Centre Guelph-Wellington

Business Centre Guelph-Wellington is a not for profit organization that has been helping entrepreneurs, business owners, professionals and students achieve business success since 1999. For nearly 20 years, we have added to the wealth and the diversity of our business community, one entrepreneur at a time.

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