

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Neustadt, ON

HAWKS' NEST ANNOUNCES FIRST CORPORATE SPONSOR

The Saugeen Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) and Bruce Community Futures Development Corporation (Bruce CFDC) are pleased to announce The Municipality of Brockton as the first Corporate sponsor for the Hawks' Nest competition.

The Municipality of Brockton is very pleased to sponsor the Hawks Nest initiative. Mayor David Inglis says "Brockton is very pleased to sponsor the Hawks Nest program to offer support to local entrepreneurs and new businesses. As a community we understand the importance of investment in our local businesses and we are excited to be a part of this competition."

The Hawks' Nest is a 'Dragons Den' inspired competition where new and existing businesses and entrepreneurs from Grey, Bruce, Wellington North, Minto and the City of Owen Sound will pitch their business ideas in an attempt to secure financial support from local angel investors coined the "Hawks."

A number of interested businesses and entrepreneurs have already participated in full day business plan training sessions. Applicants have until Friday, February 23rd, 2018 to submit their final business plan package to Rose Austin, General Manager of the Saugeen Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) or to Barb Fisher, General Manager of the Bruce Community Futures Development Corporation (Bruce CFDC).

Both Rose, and Barb are encouraged by the response and look forward to the final event on Wednesday, June 13th, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located between Walkerton and Mildmay where the final seven will pitch their business ideas to the Hawks.

The Hawks' Nest is pleased to announce that Sandy Gott, Executive Vice President of Ice River Springs is back as our first Hawk! We will be announcing five more high profile business leaders in the local area who have committed to invest a minimum of

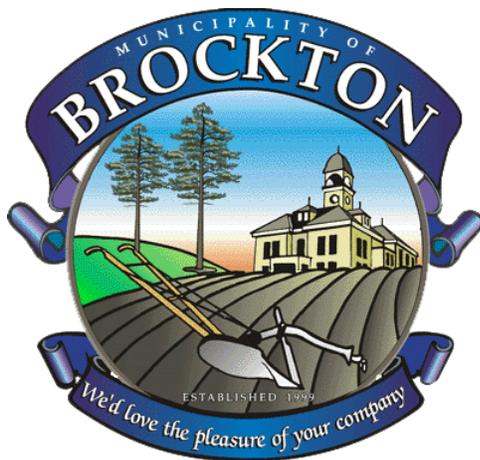
\$5,000 on one or more of the finalists that evening. Not only is there a minimum \$30,000 up for grabs; the finalists will come away with valuable feedback, coaching, mentorship and immeasurable exposure to kick start their business idea.

“Economic development is critical in keeping our communities alive and vibrant. We are excited to see the impact the Hawks’ Nest project will make in our communities, and grateful for the organizations who support the project through sponsorship to ensure the success of local businesses and entrepreneurs.”

For more information on the Hawks’ Nest, sponsorship opportunities and tickets please contact SEDC toll-free at 1-877-335-7332 / www.sbdc.ca or Bruce CFDC toll-free at 1-888-832-2232 / www.bruce.on.ca.

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**Hawks’ Nest
Corporate Sponsor**



Backgrounder:

The SEDC and the Bruce CFDC offer a wide variety of programs and services supporting community economic development and small business growth. In particular, they provide:

- Community strategic planning and socio-economic development
- Support for community-based projects
- Business information, training and planning services, and
- Access to capital for small and medium-sized businesses and social enterprises.

The SEDC and the Bruce CFDC are not-for-profit organizations that have partnered to provide an avenue for existing businesses looking to expand and entrepreneurs wanting to start a business.

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Federal Economic Development
Agency for Southern Ontario

Agence fédérale de développement
économique pour le Sud de l'Ontario

Resources:

[Federal Economic Development Agency of Southwestern Ontario](#)
[Saugeen Economic Development Corporation](#)
[Bruce Community Futures Development Corporation](#)

The Saugeen Economic Development Corporation and the Bruce CFDC are two of 36 CFDCs in southern Ontario funded by the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) through the Community Futures Program. CFDCs are independent, not-for-profit organizations delivering programs and services that support rural economic development and small business growth. They employ local staff and are each governed by a volunteer board of directors, made up of local residents representing the community.