Local students impress judges on Python's Pit

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and McMaster University's DeGroote School of Business to give creative, entrepreneurial residents and high school students of Halton an opportunity to pitch their innovative business ideas or products.

Muil-E's Hot Sauce is a homemade recipe with a unique texture and unforgettable taste. CEO of the company Muil is just 17-years old. The company has become more than just a family business, as what began as an educational experiment has transformed into a viable business that has continued to grow.

Muil was thrilled to win, and enjoyed taking part in the competition.

"I just wanted to go in and I knew it was going to be a great experience, that's what I wanted to get out of it," said Muil.

Along with the cheque, Muil said he also made some valuable contacts.

Judge Randy Pilon was so impressed with the hot sauce he bought the two cases Muil had with him, and Susanne Mikler of LC Liaison College Culinary Arts offered use of the school kitchen to make the sauce. Judge John Romano of Nickle Brook Brewery offered Muil the opportunity to make the hot sauce at the brewery along a factory line. He plans to follow up on the offers.

"I can make larger quantities," said Muil, which would bring the business to the next level.

"At the start of this it was to learn how to be an entrepreneur, now it's evolved more. If I can take it to the next step and really make some money I could see myself doing this for a while," said Muil.

Kitching's and Jackson's Heel with New Heights produces shoes that allow the wearers to adjust the heel height for the occasion and comfort they desire.

In the open category Oakville's Melissa Richardson of Totem Bags impressed with bags and goods made from 'upcycled' materials, like bicycle inner tubes accepting $100,000 in capital and loan money, for 40 per cent of the company.

Oakville residents George Botos, Manfred Vormbaum, along with Radu Elias of DeVis Technologies pitched equipment for cleaning and disinfecting dental instruments, earning $50,000 in investment money for a 7.5 per cent stake.

Oakville's Hailey and Jeremy Patry made a hit by serving tasty, all-natural muffins on napkins that resembled a $100 bill and were offered a $50,000 investment for a 20 per cent stake in the company.

Coming in second place and winning $1,500 for Heels with New Heights were Pamela Kitching (pictured) and Salina Jackson of Acton High School.

Photo by Eric Riehl
Metroland Media Group

New area codes introduced

A new area code for the GTA was introduced last week.

In the areas currently served by 905 and 289, residents will be assigned numbers starting with 365. Toronto will get a 437 area code alongside the current 416 and 647.

Increasing demand for telephone numbers, particularly for wireless devices, has created a need for additional numbers to serve customers.

The new area codes will come into effect as new telephone numbers are introduced. It is important to note that numbers with the current area codes will continue to be assigned for the next few months until there are none remaining.

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