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Halton students open summer businesses through Summer Company program

This summer, the Halton Region Small Business Centre is working with 12 young entrepreneurs to help them start and grow their own summer business through the provincially funded Summer Company program.

Summer Company provides participating student entrepreneurs with hands-on business training, mentorship opportunities and potential funding of up to \$3,000 from the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure.

"Entrepreneurship plays an integral role in innovation, job creation and economic growth," said Regional Chair Gary Carr. "Programs like Summer Company provide the next generation of entrepreneurs with the necessary training, mentorship and support that can help put them in a position to succeed."

The Halton Region Small Business Centre co-ordinates the program locally and delivers it with the help of volunteer business advisors through the local community.

This year's mentors include:

• Tom Cochrane, Retired Businessman with Oakville Business Advisory Group, Oakville;

• Liz Kush, Senior Account Manager, Royal Bank of Canada, Burlington;

• Ivana Pejakovic, Empowerment coach for Women/Director of R&D, Bruno LoGreco Inc., Oakville;

• Steve Sprenger, Senior Manager, BDO Canada, Burlington;

• Phil Von Massow, Owner of CPL Group, Oakville.

The goal of the program is to support students interested in entrepreneurship as a possible career goal.

This year's participants were selected from a group of applicants throughout the Halton area.

For more information on the Summer Company Program and the Halton Region Small Business Centre, please visit www.haltonsmallbusiness.ca or dial 311.

You can also follow the Halton Region Small Business Centre on Twitter at @HaltonEcDev, on Facebook and on WordPress.

