

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **CCSBE conference to highlight the best in entrepreneurship**

*Jim Balsillie of Research In Motion will deliver opening keynote address*

**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact: Dr. Benson Honig  
Director, NeXT Centre  
(519) 884-0710 ext. 2909**

**or Steve Farlow  
Executive Director, Schlegel Centre for Entrepreneurship  
(519) 884-0710 ext. 2615**

WATERLOO – Canadian experts in free enterprise will gather in Waterloo from October 27 to 29 as Wilfrid Laurier University hosts a conference highlighting the most successful ways of fostering entrepreneurship.

Two Laurier centres – the Centre for the Study of Nascent Entrepreneurship and the eXploitation of Technology, or NeXT centre, and the Schlegel Centre for Entrepreneurship – are hosting the annual conference of the Canadian Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (CCSBE). This year's theme is Fostering and Incubating Canadian Entrepreneurship: Best Practices.

The conference will focus on the considerable efforts undertaken to promote and support Canadian entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship at the local, regional and national levels. It will examine the research that has identified best methods and practices, introduce innovations and new program elements, and discuss common problems and difficulties that impede identification of sustainable solutions.

"We are pleased to be hosting the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual conference, which is somewhat unique in combining practical business support with teaching and research," said Benson Honig, director of the NeXT centre. "The conference's theme of fostering the best in entrepreneurship mirrors a key focus of the Laurier school of business and economics."

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The conference will attract more than 100 academics, policy makers, business support professionals, economic development officers and practitioners. They will gather for sessions that follow four tracks: general issues, general issues (practical and research), business support and teaching.

Jim Balsillie, chairman and co-CEO of Research In Motion, will deliver the opening keynote. His address will be part of the opening reception that begins at 8 p.m. on Thursday at the Centre for International Governance and Innovation.

Friday's keynote address will be delivered by Danny Miller and Isabelle Le-Breton-Miller at 11:30 a.m. at the Waterloo Inn. The pair will review key points made in their book *Managing for the Long Run: Lessons in Competitive Advantage from Great Family Businesses*.

"This is a very strong program, offering a great deal to anyone with an interest in entrepreneurship," said Steve Farlow, executive director of the Schegel Centre for Entrepreneurship. "I look forward to all the keynote addresses, and to attending as many of the other sessions as I can."

Anyone wishing to learn more about the conference should visit the CCSBE web site at <http://www.ccsbe.org/2005/index.htm> or send an e-mail to [bhonig@wlu.ca](mailto:bhonig@wlu.ca). CCSBE members wishing to register can do so online at <http://www.ccsbe.org/2005/registration.htm>.