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## **Laurier joins digital media Hub as a founding academic partner**

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University is pleased to announce its role as a founding academic partner of an innovative digital media centre in Kitchener that is part of the Canadian Digital Media Network.

The Communitech Hub, located in the historic Tannery building, will officially open today at a special event attended by provincial and federal dignitaries.

The Hub is a digital media and business-accelerator centre that brings start-up entrepreneurs together with successful high-tech companies and academic leaders in a collaborative environment. Corporate partners sharing an open-concept space with Laurier include Research In Motion, Open Text, Christie Digital and Agfa HealthCare.

The Communitech Hub is one of many facilities and organizations that comprise the Canadian Digital Media Network, which aims to establish Canada as a world leader in digital media by fostering connections and speeding the commercialization of Canada's digital talent, products, and companies.

As the Hub's academic partner, Laurier will create opportunities for faculty and students to share their expertise with new entrepreneurs and early-stage companies. Laurier also expects its faculty and students to benefit from their interaction with the entrepreneurs and with established corporate partners such as RIM, Open Text, Christie and Agfa.

While all Laurier faculties and departments are invited to participate in the Hub, the Laurier School of Business & Economics will play a key role.

"This is a perfect fit for Laurier," said university president Dr. Max Blouw. "More than 1,000 Laurier graduates work in the local technology industry. In many cases they underpin the business success of the companies. Their impact reflects the innovative approach of our faculty members and of our emphasis on developing well-rounded graduates who excel academically and who are inspired to get involved and play a leadership role in all aspects of their lives."

The Communitech Hub is located in the Tannery building at 151 Charles St. W., Kitchener. For more information, visit the website at: <http://www.communitech.ca>.