

CONTACT

John Lam, Program Coordinator, LaunchPad Brantford Lazaridis School of Business & Economics jolam@wlu.ca

Beth Gurney, Associate Director Communications & Public Affairs, Laurier Brantford 519-756-8228 ext. 5753 or bgurney@wlu.ca

SEPT. 28, 2018 | 128-18

Aspiring entrepreneurs invited to Laurier's LaunchPad Brantford Pitch Competition

BRANTFORD – Creative business minds can win up to \$1,000 in seed money to get their ideas off the ground by taking part in the **LaunchPad Brantford Pitch Competition** at Wilfrid Laurier University's Brantford campus on **Oct. 3**.

Community members, students and alumni are all welcome to take part as competitors or spectators at this event. In addition to the potential to win seed funding, the LaunchPad Brantford Pitch Competition provides an excellent opportunity to hear about innovative new ideas, find creative inspiration and connect with changemakers, entrepreneurs and investors.

"This event is important to the Brantford community, which includes student community members, because it gathers together, showcases and celebrates the entrepreneurial and innovative community and culture," said **John Lam**, Laurier's LaunchPad program coordinator.

The event starts with opening remarks at **4:30 p.m.**, with competitors required to arrive at **3 p.m.** Those interested in pitching an idea will also take part in a Pitch Workshop on **Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m.** where they will learn the ins and outs of designing and delivering a compelling presentation in preparation for the big event.

Both the workshop and the pitch competition will be held at the <u>Community Innovation Hub</u> in the Market Darling Centre, 67 Darling St., room 103 in Brantford.

"We want everyone to know what great resources are available to support their ideas, not just from us but also from our community partners," said Lam. "Fostering the collaborative and diverse culture is a priority, so an event like this is important to bring everyone together."

The event is hosted by Laurier's incubator, <u>LaunchPad</u>, which is run by the <u>Schlegel Centre</u> for Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation. In Brantford, LaunchPad provides support, mentorship and resources to startups, both traditional enterprises and social ventures, founded by Laurier students, alumni and community members.

Visit the website for additional information and to register.