

## Government Programs

**NEW - Southwestern Ontario Development Fund (SWODF):** The fund is a discretionary, non-entitlement program with limited funding. Under the business stream, the fund may provide up to 15% of eligible project costs to a maximum grant of \$1.5 million. Projects must be a minimum of \$500K over 4 years maximum. As well, for companies with greater than 20 employees, a minimum of 10 new, skilled and long-term sustainable jobs must be created. For project investments of \$10+ million that create 50+ jobs, funding may be available in the form of a secured repayable loan, to a maximum of \$5 million in provincial support.

- *Ministry of Economic Development and Innovation, Doug Reddick, Senior Business Advisor, Kitchener Office, 519-571-*
- URL: [http://www.ontariocanada.com/ontcan/1medt/en/swodf\\_en.jsp](http://www.ontariocanada.com/ontcan/1medt/en/swodf_en.jsp)

**FedDev Ontario:** FedDev's programs will support economic and community development, innovation, and economic diversification, with contributions to communities, businesses and non-profit organizations.

- Kitchener (Headquarters) 1-866-593-5505
- URL: <http://www.feddevontario.gc.ca/eic/site/723.nsf/eng/home>

**Achieving Innovation & Manufacturing Excellence (AIME):** This program will provide funding to southern Ontario manufacturers with an export focus that are looking to upgrade the skills of employees on the following: using new or more advanced software; implementing a new process; or investigating new materials or processes and how to use them in the workplace. The AIME Global program contributes up to 50 percent of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000 per business.

- Yves Landry Foundation, 1-866-232-4411
- URL: [www.yveslandryfoundation.com](http://www.yveslandryfoundation.com)

**SMART Prosperity Now:** This program will allow southern Ontario manufacturers that are exporting, planning to export, or selling into an export supply chain to apply for funding to conduct productivity assessments and to undertake a variety of projects to improve productivity. Productivity assessments will be eligible for funding of up to 50% of eligible costs to a maximum contribution of \$5,000. Productivity enhancement projects will be eligible for funding of up to 33.3% of eligible costs to a maximum contribution of \$75,000.

- *Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, 1-877-913-4263*
- URL: <http://www.cme-smart.ca/>

**Skills Link-Individual Work Experience Program:** Designed to support unemployed youth under the age of 30 with limited work experience related to their employment goal and who are experiencing difficulty making the transition from school to work. Must be full time (minimum of 35 hours per week during and after the subsidy period) and must be hourly paid or salaried job with regular deductions.

- *Service Canada – Brantford 519-751-6500*
- URL: <http://www1.servicecanada.gc.ca/en/epb/yii/yep/newprog/skillslink.shtml>

**Ontario Targeted Wage Subsidies Program:** Designed to: provide on-the-job work experience to unemployed people who are, or have recently been eligible to receive Employment Insurance and are experiencing difficulty in finding work; encourage employers to hire people who face barriers to employment (people they might not otherwise hire) by offering a temporary wage subsidy. The duration of the subsidy is determined on a case-by-case basis, up to a maximum of 78 weeks. Generally the wage subsidy should not exceed 60% of the total wages paid to the individual for the period of the agreement.

- *Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities 1-800-387-5656*
- URL: <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/employers/wageSubsidy.html>

**Opportunities Fund Wage Subsidy Program:** Designed to support any unemployed Canadian who self identifies as having a disability or impairment to becoming employed or re-employed. Part time hours are acceptable with this program, but position must be hourly paid or salaried job with regular deductions.

- *Service Canada – Brantford 519-751-6500*
- URL: [http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability\\_issues/funding\\_programs/opportunities\\_fund/index.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/funding_programs/opportunities_fund/index.shtml)

**Brant Employment Centre (formerly Job Connect):** Ontario employers looking to hire (full or part time) and provide on-the-job training may receive a training subsidy.

- *Employment Ontario through St. Leonard's Community Services, 519-756-7665*

**Grand River Employment & Training Wage Subsidy Program:** Targeted training assistance for Six Nations Band Members: Financial assistance amount subject to employer's business plan.

- *G.R.E.A.T. – Elvera Garlow (Executive Director), 519-445-2222*
- URL: <http://www.greatsn.com/>

## Government Programs (continued)

**Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle (A.L.F.D.C.):** Employment and Training services for Aboriginal people in Ontario.

- *Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle (A.L.F.D.C.) – Heather Johnston, 416-925-1331*
- URL: [http://alfdc.on.ca/site/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=30&Itemid=46](http://alfdc.on.ca/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=30&Itemid=46)

**Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation Employment and Training:** Wage subsidy and employment incentive programs for New Credit Band Members.

- *Mississaugas of the New Credit Employment and Training – Tabitha King, 905-768-7963*
- URL: <http://www.greatsn.com/>

**Co-operative Education Tax Credit:** Up to \$1,000 per co-op placement for recognized post-secondary Ontario school program.

- *Ministry of Finance 1-800-263-7965*
- URL: <http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/english/credit/cetc/>

**Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program:** Canadian controlled private corporations with less than \$200,000 of taxable income can receive a refundable investment tax credit of up to 35% (enriched rate) for qualifying SR&ED expenses. An enriched refundable claim has a limit of \$2 million. Other Canadian corporations, proprietorships, trusts can receive an investment tax credit of up to 20% for qualifying SR&ED expenditures.

- *Hamilton Tax Services Office, Elizabeth Pringle, 905-540-3151*
- URL: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/txcrdt/sred-rsde/bts-eng.html>

**Strategic Jobs and Investment Fund (SJIF):** A discretionary grant and loan program designed to support leading-edge investments and jobs in Ontario, support cluster development, and build long-term prosperity and global competitiveness. The four priority sectors are: Clean/Green Technologies; Financial Services; Information and Communication Technology; and Life Sciences. Investments or expansions must meet the project minimum threshold of \$10M of eligible costs or create 50 new high-value jobs. Projects must meet the project thresholds within five years.

- *Ministry of Economic Development and Trade - 1-866-668-4249*
- [http://www.sbe.gov.on.ca/ontcan/1medt/econdev/en/ed\\_sjif\\_main\\_en.jsp](http://www.sbe.gov.on.ca/ontcan/1medt/econdev/en/ed_sjif_main_en.jsp)

**Youth Entrepreneur Program (YEP) - New Hire:** Financial assistance for SMEs with 500 employees or less who want to hire highly qualified graduates with specific skills/experience. For an internship term of six months, IRAP will provide a maximum support of \$30,000 to help cover a part of the intern's salary.

- *IRAP Sandra Kodis 519-429-0170*
- URL: <http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/services/irap/youth-initiatives.html>

**Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP):** Financial assistance for SMEs with 500 employees or less for a period of up to 36 months to assist in bringing new products, processes and services to market.

- *IRAP Sandra Kodis 519-429-0170*
- URL: <http://irap-pari.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/>

**Rural Economic Development (RED) Program:** Grants to business projects which develop local economies through the creation of long term jobs, alliances, skill training, new technology and innovation. Pending business case, grants up to \$500,000 have been awarded. The money must at least be matched by the applicant(s).

- *OMAFRA, Rural Investments Unit, Leona Cunningham, Project Analyst 519-826-6640*
- URL: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/rural/red/about.html>

**Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit (ATTC):** A refundable tax credit available to employers who hire and train apprentices in certain skilled trades. The ATTC is based on salaries and wages paid to an apprentice. The maximum credit for each apprenticeship is \$10,000 per year. The maximum credit over the first 48-month period of the apprenticeship is \$40,000.

- *Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), 1-800-267-6999*
- URL: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/bsnss/tpcs/crptns/prv/on/pprntcshp-eng.html>

**Ontario Innovation Tax Credit (OITC):** 10% refundable tax credit for public or private corporations with permanent establishment in Ontario. Tax credit for scientific research and experimental development (SR&ED) expenditures carried on in Ontario by the corporation. The OITC is calculated as 10% of qualifying SR&ED expenses. Qualifying expenses are: 100% of current expenses and; 40% of capital expenses. The maximum annual credit is \$300,000.

- *Ministry of Revenue, 1-866-668-8297*
- URL: <http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/english/credit/oitc/>