

KINGSTON

— Economic Development —

Ontario 

Summer Company Yearbook

2001–2026



Pages

Message from the Associate Minister of Small Business.....	4
Message from the CEO	4
Message from the Mayor	5
Message from the MPP	5
About the program	6
How to apply	9
Class of 2026	10
Class of 2025–2024	11
Class of 2023	12
Class of 2022–2020	13
Class of 2019–2018	14
Class of 2017	15
Class of 2016	16
Class of 2015	18
Class of 2014	19
Class of 2013	20
Class of 2012–2011	21
Class of 2010	22
Class of 2009–2008	23
Class of 2007–2006	24
Class of 2005–2003	26
Class of 2002–2001	27
Alumni testimonials	28





Message from Hon. Nina Tangri

Associate Minister of Small Business

I am pleased to extend my warmest congratulations to Kingston's 2026 Summer Company participants and alumni on their remarkable accomplishments.

Summer Company is much more than an entrepreneurship program. It provides young Ontarians with the opportunity to transform innovative ideas into successful businesses, equipping them with the skills, experience, and confidence needed to become the next generation of business leaders.

Small businesses are the backbone of Ontario's economy. They drive innovation, create jobs, and help build vibrant communities across our province. As Ontario continues to strengthen its economy and create opportunities for growth, it is essential that young entrepreneurs have the support and resources they need to succeed. That is why the Ontario government is working to make our province the best place for young entrepreneurs to start, grow, and create jobs.

I would like to thank the Kingston Economic Development Corporation for its continued partnership and dedication to fostering entrepreneurship among young people. By supporting emerging business leaders, your organization is helping to create opportunities, strengthen local communities, and build a more competitive Ontario.

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I commend all participants and alumni for their hard work, determination, and entrepreneurial spirit. I wish you continued success as you pursue your goals and contribute to a stronger future for Kingston and our province.



Message from Donna Gillespie

CEO, Kingston Economic Development

We are pleased to present the Summer Company Yearbook: 2001 to 2026, celebrating over a quarter of a century supporting young entrepreneurs in Kingston. For more than two decades, Summer Company has provided a starting point for young people interested in entrepreneurship, giving them the opportunity to explore their ideas and take their first steps toward building a business. Since the program's inception, we have welcomed 369 recipients into the Summer Company community.

Summer Company is one of my favourite programs because of the enthusiasm, creativity and determination young entrepreneurs bring to our community. It has been a privilege for Kingston Economic Development to deliver this program and see firsthand the growth and development participants experience throughout their entrepreneurial journey.

Over the years, we have seen participants build on what they learned through the program and go on to create successful businesses, pursue new opportunities and contribute to our community. Their accomplishments demonstrate the lasting value of investing in young entrepreneurs and strengthening Kingston's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

This yearbook celebrates the young Kingston entrepreneurs who have been part of Summer Company. We are proud of what they have accomplished and we look forward to supporting the next generation of future business leaders.



Message from Mayor Bryan Paterson

Mayor, City of Kingston

It is remarkable to celebrate 26 years of the Summer Company program in Kingston. For over two decades, this program has helped young people turn their ideas into businesses, develop valuable skills, and discover the possibilities that entrepreneurship can offer. It is a wonderful reflection of Kingston's commitment to supporting young talent and creating opportunities for the next generation.

What makes Summer Company particularly special is the community that surrounds it. Local business owners and leaders generously share their knowledge, experience, and encouragement with aspiring entrepreneurs. As we celebrate this milestone, we recognize the many young entrepreneurs, mentors, and community partners who have helped make Summer Company a success. Together, they have strengthened Kingston's entrepreneurial community and helped shape our city's future.

On behalf of the City of Kingston, congratulations to everyone who has been part of Summer Company. I look forward to seeing the next generation of entrepreneurs build on this legacy and help shape Kingston's future.



Message from MPP Ted Hsu

MPP, Kingston and the Islands

There are many important things which you cannot learn in classrooms and one of those is how to be an entrepreneur. New economic activity, the creation of value, the training of new talent, risk-taking, problem solving, leadership – these are all things that give our economy a competitive edge and help bring prosperity to our community.

I want to thank Kingston Economic Development Corporation for the opportunities you have provided young entrepreneurs over the years. I know that you have sowed many seeds which you will not reap. I know that the experience provided has helped to train many talented people who are now sprinkled throughout our society.

Congratulations to all the participants in Kingston Summer Company. I look forward to hearing about your contributions to our community and beyond.

About the program

The Summer Company program, funded by the Ontario government, helps students aged 15 to 29, start and run their own businesses.

As a Summer Company entrepreneur, participants receive hands-on business mentoring from local business leaders and up to \$3,000!

This program is geared towards students who have a potential business idea for starting a new business and are not afraid to explore if entrepreneurship is a potential career for them! – a great opportunity for enterprising young people who want to be their own BOSS!

Accepted participants are eligible to receive an upfront award of \$1,500 to put toward start-up costs and \$1,500 upon successful completion of the program.

Kingston Economic Development Corporation is the main point of contact in Kingston for the program. We offer business operations mentoring to each student on a bi-weekly basis for a period of eight weeks for high school students and a minimum of 12 weeks for post-secondary students. The Summer Company Coordinator will facilitate hands on entrepreneurship training workshops; pairs each student with experienced entrepreneurs to provide business mentorship; and completes all Ministry participant tracking/monitoring and program administration.

start





How to apply

Are you eligible?

- // A student between 15 and 29 years old as of April 30th of the program year (a parent or guardian must sign the application for applicants under 18).
- // Starting or operating a business for less than a year (if you're unsure, contact your program provider).
- // Attending school and returning to school in the fall (this includes full-time, part-time, homeschooling, e-learning, distance learning, apprenticeships, trade schools, etc).
- // A resident of Ontario.
- // A Canadian citizen or a permanent resident.
- // Not working at another job or attending school for more than 12 hours per week during the duration of the program.
- // Following the Canada Revenue Agency definition of being self-employed.
- // Able to work over the summer program period:
 - A minimum of 280 hours if you're a high school student.
 - A minimum of 420 hours if you're a post-secondary student.
 - We may approve exceptions.
- // You must meet all the above requirements.
- // You're not eligible if you've received funding from Summer Company in the past.

Is your business eligible?

- // Is a sole proprietorship or a corporation where you (the applicant) will be the majority shareholder.
- // Is an independent business venture.
- // Is a new business, not previously registered or operated on an on-going basis.
- // Operates at arm's length from family business ventures.
- // Operates in Ontario.
- // Operates full-time as defined in the business plan.
- // Follows government rules and regulations for operating a business.
- // Businesses must meet all of the above requirements.

Apply online!

➔ investkingston.ca/summercompany

Introducing the
Summer Company class of...

2026



Farhaan Ali
Pinpoint



Chioma Egbunonu
Chylitics Solutions



Matthieu Roberge
Music With Matt



Liam Augustine
Campus Scapes



Darren Fernandes
Senior Tech Support



Madhav Patel
Pinpoint



Masa Chau
Protoino



Matthew Hayes
Accendo CNC



Shivikka Vigneswaran
Inspirie



Sara Cordoba
La Colombiana



Jeffrey Hoekstra
WearYourTown



Gillian Zhang
Inspirie



Stella Cribar
Marni By Stella



Carter House
Clear Cap

2025

Rachel Neumann
ActualCare

Kerelos Gayed
AeroMaps

Jermyl Allen Acuzar
Alpha AI

Afham Awsaf
Amongoose BS

Shivansh Rathod
AstroBnB

Braeden Medd
Backyard Swim Co.

Lawrence Miller
CircuitSpark Crates

Bryson McCormick
Clearview Window & Exterior Cleaning

Sofia Nicolescu
Creative Covers

Jialin Luo
Linko

Owen MacLennan
Protoform Designs

Olivia Samis
TrendAll

Amir Bagherian
WelliTales

2024

Blake Aylesworth
A+ Lawn Services

Kaie Bain
Backyard Swimming Lessons with Kaie

Corben Enright
Corben's Rooster Ranch

Elli Parsons
EGL Graphics

Caiden Chase
Gear Glow Details

Ben Renwick
NoSplat Painters

Matthew Kong
Portal Wear

Ian Sheppard
Scrub N' Shine

Sterling Seunarine
Silver Candles

Nathan Kashira
SkyShot Kingston

Griffin Wicke
TimeSavers

Yamen Abuelyazed
Urban Greens



2023

- Eric Colonna**
Pick 6 Athletics
- Sam King**
KingLine Lures
- Jasmine Woboditsch**
JW Boutique
- Josh Bowry**
Red Bridge Camping

- Nicolas Inscho**
KingDetailing
- Owen McDowell**
World Outta Luck
- Roman Mironov**
199 Media

- Ryleigh Hillier**
The Draconic Crow
- Mason Rice**
Rice Photography
- Tyler Kraus**
Oracle of Suffering

2022

- Amy Van Nest**
Custom Creations by Amy
- Ben Tripp**
Hul Flo
- Claire Brackenbury**
Heartfelt Cards
- David Li**
Riftium

- Dax Tompkins**
R&D Lawn Care
- Imogen Lawford-Wickham**
FireScape
- Jake Moodie**
Gigli Inc.
- Kayleigh Treverton**
Kayleigh Treverton

- Mike Pierce**
OCT Tutor Company
- Seham Kettaneh**
Taita's

2021

- Mitchell Blasko**
Show-Off Shorts
- Lauren Carson**
Centsi
- Kassandra Greenhalgh**
NXT Agency
- Lyla Hinton**
Island Express

- Liam Hough**
Yasa
- Lukas Kaufman**
KGA Line Painting Corp.
- Elliott McDermott**
CustEM Kicks
- Jeffrey Perry**
Jaz Perry Home Service

- Adam Tibi**
Model One
- Darcy Zeng**
Z-Paint

2020

- Alexey Makarov**
Kingston Wholesalers
- Gabriela Cruz**
MaskEra
- Ibrahim Kettaneh**
Safe-Box Smart Mail

- Mikayla McFarlane**
Volleyball Backboard Trainer (VBT)
- Hector Perez**
Custom Designs
- Ryan Muharrem**
Love Human Madness

- Aiden Zabukovec**
Aiden Zabukovec Videography
- Zachary Baker**
ZB Baits
- Gwen Griffith**
Squeaky Clean Horses

2019

Avery Collins Avery's Academic Achievers
Cameron Smith This Is Kingston
Ania Marcus Hands in the Earth
Clare Palmer Specadirt Vintage
Reuban Abraham Dynamo Custom PC
Gregory Borschneck Dock Dogs Apparel
Jack Cockfield Jack Cockfield
Daniel Griff Knock on Wood
Spencer Healey Lawn Ranger Services

Keli Hawley Bowl Savour
Khadija Sorani Al Amal
Kyra Grant Lifeluxe
Makayla Parks Highland Aerial
Ryan Hood ValueUp Websites
Ainsley Koven Kingston City Painting
Sarah Nersesian Designs That Cell
Aman Partap OneSubb
Jordan Rouse Baybridge Barbell

Patrick Mazurek Creative Solutions
Sam O'Brien Unlimited Blvd.
Barylynn Saucier B Saucier Designs
Kyle Scruby Supreme Lawncare
Kyle Valdes Fast Fix
Zachary Viquiera Viq Media
Eric Zhang Spectrum Teaching

2017

Rawan Abd-el-aatty RT Studios
Mitchell Bahan GEYOD
Daniel Baum Whisk
Dylan Chenier Kingston Student Lawn Care
Ashley Clark Expression
Emily Cooper Abucs Scuba Diving Centre
Howard Edwards WRLIFECANADA
Esther Falkson Clearer Careers
Liam Fenton Fenton Instruments
Jake Forsythe ON Media House

Darragh Gillis Darragh Gillis
Jake Hancock NewSweater Fingerboards
Joshua Hoffman Campfire Copy
Ravinderjeet Kaur rBajwa Designs
Brad Kelly B.K. Painting
Cole MacDonald Mero Technologies
Palmer McCutheon Umami
Raquel Morales Carlson Lensful Photography
Tasha Norman Fotonunno
Keegan Parker Five Star Carpentry

Shafagh Razaghzadeh Shabestari SY Advertisement and Accessories
Alanna Shearman VIRTUALIA
Jenna Smallegange 1000 Islands Boat Detailing & Cottage Services
Ivy Stuart Willowflower Bath Company
Tristan VanRaay-Vesnaver T-Prints
Aaron Veltri Limestone City Detailing
Clifford Lerebours Gridiron Agency
Joseph Palubiski Xavier Media
Jordan Saunders J & J Landscaping

2016

- Abi Anderson**
Glacana
- Hatim Belhadjhamida**
Skydrone's Aerial Photography
- Jonathan Besselink**
Crusader Multi-Sports Camp
- Robert Cooper**
Quark Designs
- Brandon Crausen**
Unicity Studios
- Daniel Cumming Romo**
Phi Studios
- Bram El-Defrawy**
Oxen
- Susie Emerson**
Emerson Media
- Wil Etherington**
Etherington Property Maintenance
- Jeffrey Finnegan**
Finesse Boat Detailing & Cottage Services
- Caleb Fitchett**
ACF Blacksmithing & Welding

- Bailey Greenwood-Vidal**
Looking Glass Photography
- Dean Howley**
Define Distinct Consulting
- Jeffrey Kennedy**
J. Kennedy Contracting
- Mialynn Lee-Daigle**
Mia's Care Services
- Lynden Lentz**
Painting by Lynden
- Trenton McKay**
MacKay's Driveway Care
- Ehimen McEwan-Imoisili**
Real RAD Clothing
- Emily McKenzie**
ELM Consulting
- Lily Montgomery**
Coco's Photography
- Sean Morris**
New Century Painting
- Robyn Neri**
Neri Botanicals

- Jake Norman**
Great White Films
- Kendra Pierroz**
Dockflower Media
- Eric Sammut**
DisTech Printing
- Mitchell Sawyer**
Smugglers Cove Getaway
- Natalie Shaw**
Veg-A-Peel
- Katie Staples**
Shoreline Designs
- Emma Thompson**
Thompson Equinography
- Patrick Vanderholst**
Pat Vanderholst Music
- Evan Veryard**
Pine Things
- Jack Weighell**
Jack's Yard Care



2015

Victoria Beale The Homesteading Project
Avery Campbell Awarding.ca
Margaret Clarke Barn Again
Skylar Clow Clow Fire Wood
Oliver Davies The Real Cord
Bryn Davis Spring Marketing Solutions
Megan Gorcyca-Rancourt Live it Up!
Benjamin Grady Lighthouse Technologies
Hailea Hughson-landon Hailea's Sewing
Jacob Kaplan Kingston BBQ Cleaning

Nicholas Kingan Aniaction
Shannon Kingston Shannon Kingston Voice
Caleb Laird Caleb's Smart Phone & Device
Lauren Lee Young Scholars Tutoring Company
Jesseca Liedeman JL Portraits
Joelle Malcolm White Pearl Boat Cleaning
Matthew Mark Matt's Magic
Katrina Marshall Kat's Kreature Services
Declan McCann Declan's Odd Jobs
Parulben Mundhwa Roop Jewelleries & Accessorize

Camille Prior Prior Photo
Lisa Rooke Treats & Trots
Stephen Trivieri Breathe Entertainment
Nicholas Walsh Hex Sketch Art & Design
Alrich de Wet deFrames Photography

2014

Kelly Ashcroft Jump Cut Cinema
Tyler Balance T-Dogs
Neal Cameron Limestone Media
Francis Campbell Media Maintain
Harissa Chan Gizmo Girl
Joey Coffey JJ Boatcleaning
Keir Darling Darling Mobile Auto Detailing
Jordan Dawson Dawson Productions
Jorge Desmond Sons of Apollo
Cariston Fawcett Painting in the Park
Erin Fuller The Venus is You

Matt Howells Noisebox
Jordan Knight Training in Action
Mark Lappan Mark of Excellence Landscaping
Joy Matende J's Lawn and Garden Maintenance
Claire McLean Claire McLean Photography
Stuart McRae Biked Goods
Hannah Muyosson Call of Nature
Hayden Raspberry We Drink
Katrina Rees Polished Occasions
Jarryd Ross Jarryd Ross Design
Elena Routledge SEE Consulting

Avery Smith Country Clean Power Washing
Jason Smith Sand Lake Rafts
Lucas Van Nest Ironwood Landscaping
Zac Woods Swimming Lessons by Zac
Megan Wylie Batch 22 Bakery
Jordan Zelt Kingston Marine Services
Alexandra Zemba Sea Candy Enviro-jigs
Amelia Zheng Pembroke Leather
Kristian Zlatanovski Leafy Greens Hydroponics



2013

- Spencer Brown**
Dillinger Studios
- Amelia Chand**
Something Borrowed Boutique
- Abigail Crane**
Abbie Crane Graphics
- Dominique Dupont-Jillings**
Dashing Doll Designs
- Malak Elbatarny**
Watermark Advertising Agency
- Nishith Kapuira**
Voluntree

- Mason Laframboise**
Mason Laframboise Construction
- Janette Leroux**
Upstream Health Solutions
- Christine Lieu**
In Lieu Of
- Sean MacGillis**
Mother Earth Enterprises
- Jordan Mayer**
Mayer’s Power Skating
- Aaron Mendonsa**
Mirage T-shirts

- Rory O’Donnell**
PanorView
- David Rakowski**
Kingston by Canoe
- Austin Soboleski**
Odd Jobs by Austin
- Alice Wang**
SPARK Social Media Marketing

2012

- Debbie Bennet**
DB Marketing Solutions
- Yuchen Cen**
Sam Cen Photography
- Cory Houde-Shulman**
Houde-Shulman Property Management
- Logan Knight**
Spick & Span Graffiti Man

- Jasmine Laberee**
Jazzy's Little Childcare
- Zachary Martel**
Window Restoration Kingston
- Alina Newton**
The Sow's Ear
- Andrew Orawiec**
Completed Connections Tech Services

- Maggie Shi**
Lolicake
- Ryan White**
Pitch White Studios
- Kevin Zhang**
Kingston Summer Tutoring Company
- Elwin van Last**
van Alst Productions

2011

- Steven Bailey**
Steve’s Student Services
- Quang Bui**
Odd Job Retouching & Photography
- Emilio Ciccaerlli**
TWOLITREmedia
- Qasim Daneshmend**
QMKD Clothing
- Jing Guo**
MixShop
- Taylor Hammond**
Umbrella Works

- Zachary King-Beland**
Zach’s Property Maintenance
- Jessica Koehn**
Rhubarb Paper Company
- Angie Loyst**
Asterisk Marketing Solutions
- Megan McFarland**
Megan’s Swim Club
- Geoffrey Moss**
Enviro Window Cleaning
- Julia Segal**
Kingston by Fork

- Martin Snetsinger**
Martin’s Branding
- Howard Swartz**
Carbon Savings
- Michael Teixeira**
MT Lawn Care
- Ronald Tripple**
Stickits
- Caelin Williams**
Civic Collective
- Eric Wu**
Kickstart Marketing Solutions



2010

- Hannah Bock**
Tranquility Animal Services
- Sierra Chaykowski**
Fishpoole Productions
- Morgan Davis**
Vivi-Mark Promotion
- Spencer Dossett**
Spencer’s Deck Staining
- Puya Fesharaki**
Simple Eco-Solutions
- Jackson Froome**
Sierra Longboards
- Arsham Gazor**
AGco.

- Corey Lablans**
Corey Lablans Photography
- Andras Linder**
Walking Fish Productions
- Phil Mangan**
T3 Hockey
- Belinda McGee**
Blue Square Design
- Dylan Plain**
Train with Plain
- Ben Ramsay**
Greater Napanee Soccer Camp
- Peter Sproule**
The Lone Landscaper

- Alvin Suen**
ECOScapes Green Lawn Care
- Anita Tang**
Elsim Accessories
- Mitch Vollebregt**
Example Clothing
- Che Ming Wang**
Tempest Lab
- Zexuan (Will) Zhang**
Greenlife Tea
- Hannah Zhang**
Relive the Moment Photography

2009

- Hina Ahmed**
Shesh Kabob Korner
- Derek Branscombe**
Fractured Tactic Design
- Michael Charlebois**
MX Design Business Solutions
- Peter Coultas**
The Goodie Bag
- Geoffrey Halliday**
Productivity
- Lucas Howatson**
LUC’S Lawn Care
- Elizabeth Johnson**
Making Strangers Design

2008

- Pansee About ElAtta**
Chariot Murals
- Jacqueline Baldry**
JB’s Cotton Candy
- Natasha Bidinost**
Fetch!

- Emily Klassen**
Green Grass Mowing
- Adam McAskill**
Front Street Consulting
- Alexandra Perlin**
Alex Perlin Graphic Design & Illustration
- Colin Pine**
Short Grass Golf
- Jimi Ritchie**
Jimi Ritchie Fitness
- Gilbert Tong**
G’s Fine Roasted Almonds,
Walnuts & Pecans
- Meredith Boccanfuso**
EnigmAuberginE
- Byron Emmons**
Mindful, Computing Solutions
- Ian Macdonald**
Samples for Students
- Blake McCord**
Rickshaw Tours Kingston

- Chris Tringham**
Trampoline Financial Services
- Stephen Vasic**
Steve’s Aeration & Yard Work Services
- Darcy Voutt**
Darcy Voutt Business Solutions
- Andy Yao**
Frosh Furniture
- Magdalen Zätterberg**
I-Soar
- Daniel de la Parra**
KingPiece Clothing
- Steven ten Holder**
Young Skateboarders

- Joel Warsh**
International Innovation MD
- Yi Yin**
Wonderful Lawn & Painting
- Robert Zamida**
RZ Computer Services

2007

- Will Fang**
Inventure Consulting
- Ira Feldman**
Kingston Website Solutions
- Jillian Hinchey**
Underground Designs
- Brandon Holden**
River Road Refreshments
- Josh MacDonald**
Lookalike Photography

2006

- Chantal Alves**
Summer Breeze Laundry Service
- Willy Ba**
Installaquarium
- Alex Bath**
Jab's mowin'
- Joshua Dueck**
Fluid Image
- Nathaniel Erskine-Smith**
Gourmet on the Go

- Chris Manion**
Nature's Landscaping
- Melissa McNichols**
Swimming Lessons
- Brenan Nugent**
Nugent Marine
- Connor Patterson**
Bonobo Boardwear
- Catherine Livia Polcz**
Mudlark and Rag

- Eric Ferguson**
DreamPix
- Andrew Goodridge**
Ghetto Grocery
- Michael MacDonald**
Limestone City Bookkeeping
- Andrew McFarland**
Loyalist Construction
- David Phillips**
Philliton Solutions Website Design

- Greg Sullivan**
Sullivan's Lawn Care
- Melissa Wartman**
Pages From The Past
- Callum Winsor**
Computing Made Easy
- Raymond Yan**
Little Shanghai

- Jeff Richard**
Mowbile
- Mark Sherwin**
Husky Homes
- Browen Weeks**
Browen's Auto Detailing



2005

Kevin Druce
Between the Pipes with Kevin Druce

Michael Groves
Kingston Heritage Pedicabs

2004

Adam Candon
Student Grass Cutting

Steve Clarke
Clarke Development Solutions

2003

Tim Fleming
Fleming Drywall

Karen Ho
First Steps Connections

Kyle Merritt
Icarus Skate Company

Sarah Simmons
Naos

Nathan Morrison
Healthy Home Care

Kiel Perchinig
Led Foot Silk Screening

Andrea R. Mills
Ecstatic Objects Jewellery Art

Jennifer Valberg
Ghetto Couture

Patrick Young
Fokus. Clothing Company

Russell Petrie
PowerPlus

Jaime Van Wynsberghe
Rideau Relax’inn Bed and Breakfast

Jordan Pridham
Bimmer Motorsports & Performance Parts

2002

Richard Anderson
Itchie Richie, The Juggling Clown

Mat Clancy
Freefall Productions

Richard Dash
Dash Lawn Care

Valerie Dovell
VAD

Ryan Graham
Genius

Keenan Papps
Home & Garden Portraits

Victoria Scilley
Fo’Sheezy Productions

2001

Josh Beckwith
Devine Designs

Claire Cybulski
Rufus Stickers

Scott Davey
Original Love Song

Eric Peets
Python Multimedia

Laura White
Grilzone Adventure Club

summer

Alumni testimonials

Liam Augustine

Campus Scapes, 2026

"The Summer Company program has been an incredible experience and has helped me turn my passion for landscaping into a growing business. Through Campus Scapes, I help homeowners enhance and maintain their outdoor spaces by providing reliable, high-quality landscaping and property maintenance services. Beyond the financial support, the mentorship, training, and encouragement I received gave me the confidence to turn an idea into a business that serves homeowners across Kingston and the surrounding area.

This summer has given me the opportunity to build lasting relationships with clients, strengthen my skills as an entrepreneur, and experience what it truly takes to run a business. I'm grateful for everything the program has provided and excited to continue growing Campus Scapes in the years ahead."



Masa Chau

Protoino, 2026

“The hardest part of starting a business turned out to be everything surrounding the idea, not the idea itself. I entered the Summer Company Program with a product I believed in, but very little understanding of how to sell it.

Protoino delivers 90 minute, hands on electronics workshops where students wire and solder a working device to take home at the end of each session. Through the program, I realized that while students are the participants, teachers and program coordinators are the customers, and reaching them requires a completely different approach than I had planned.

My mentor recognized that early on and encouraged me to network and pitch at events like the DDQIC Pitch Competition, helping me build valuable connections and refine my approach. The start up funding allowed me to invest in electronic components, branding, and website development, but the mentorship and training are the resources I will continue to rely on for years to come, whether with Protoino or future entrepreneurial ventures.

Today, I have developed six workshop programs and am focused on bringing them into classrooms and camps across the GTA.”

Matthieu Roberge

Music With Matt, 2026

“The Summer Company Program has been an incredible experience so far. As a young entrepreneur starting my own piano teaching business, the program has given me the support, resources, and guidance I needed to turn my idea into something real. Beyond the financial support, I’ve really appreciated the mentorship, training, and connections with other entrepreneurs. The program has helped me become more confident in running a business, while also giving me the opportunity to learn from others who have gone through similar experiences. I’m very grateful to be part of the program and excited to continue growing my business and putting everything I’ve learned into practice.”

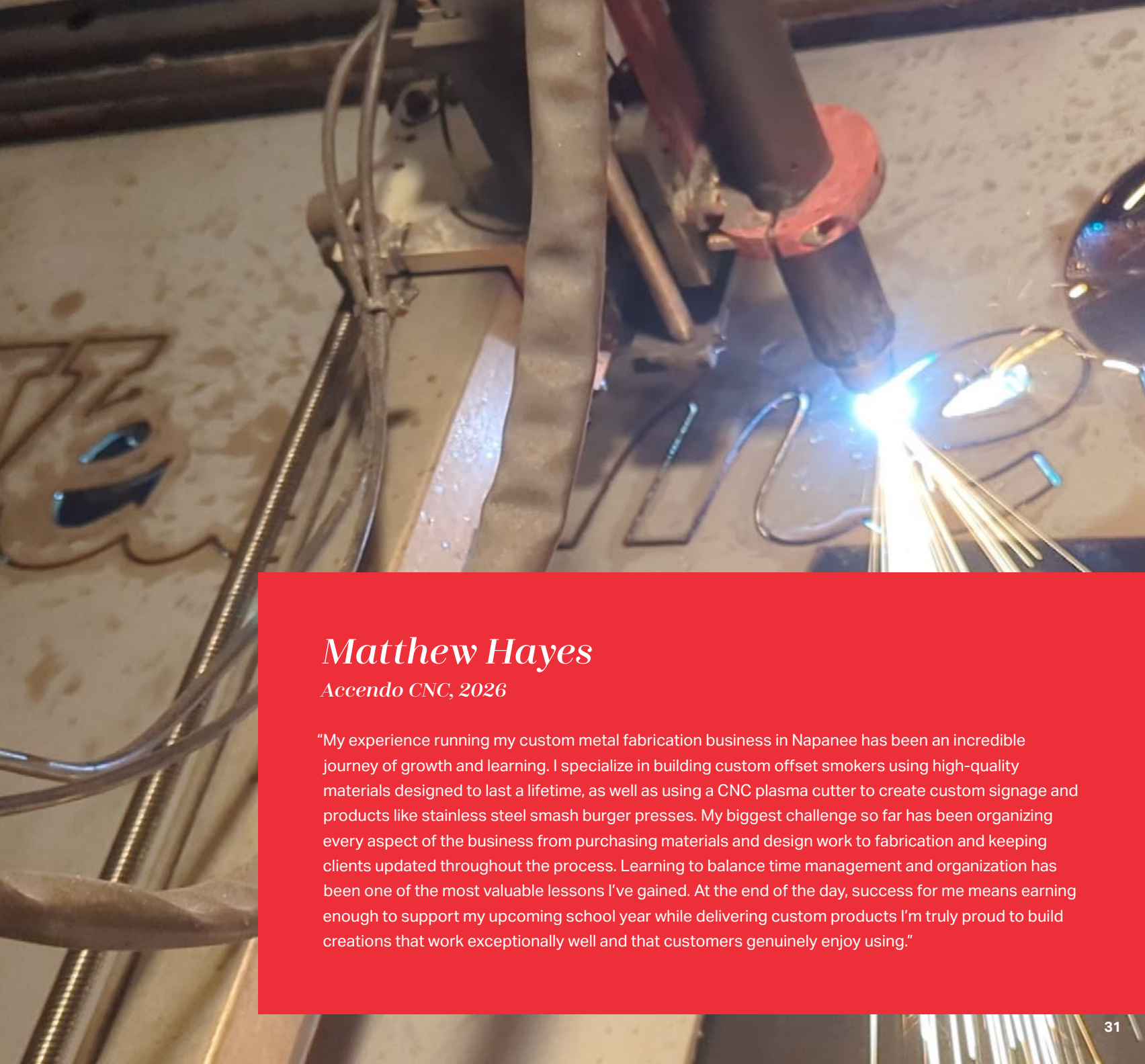
Matthieu Roberge promoting within the Kingston French school boards



Matthew Hayes

Accendo CNC, 2026

“My experience running my custom metal fabrication business in Napanee has been an incredible journey of growth and learning. I specialize in building custom offset smokers using high-quality materials designed to last a lifetime, as well as using a CNC plasma cutter to create custom signage and products like stainless steel smash burger presses. My biggest challenge so far has been organizing every aspect of the business from purchasing materials and design work to fabrication and keeping clients updated throughout the process. Learning to balance time management and organization has been one of the most valuable lessons I’ve gained. At the end of the day, success for me means earning enough to support my upcoming school year while delivering custom products I’m truly proud to build creations that work exceptionally well and that customers genuinely enjoy using.”



Josh Bowry

Red Bridge Camping, 2023

"Before starting my degree in Finance and Economics at the University of Ottawa, I took a return year to launch my own Airbnb business. I created a unique geodesic dome experience called Red Bridge Camping, designed to combine comfort with the outdoors. My efforts consisted of managing everything from setup to branding.

Over my three summers of operation, Red Bridge Camping earned over 100 five-star reviews and maintained an 85% occupancy rate. More importantly, it gave me hands-on experience in entrepreneurship, financial management, marketing, and customer service.

Taking that year to build Red Bridge Camping was one of the most valuable decisions I've made. It strengthened my confidence, business skills, and showed me what it would take to turn an idea into reality."



Ben Tripp

HulFlo, 2022

"Launching a business can be very exciting and empowering while also being at times overwhelming with the uncertainty that comes with the new experience. However, doing a program like the summer company program, you have a whole network of support to help guide you through the process. As a part of the program, there is also a shared energy as you share the journey of launching a business with other entrepreneurs around you. In the summer of 2022, I launched a business called HulFlo, a system to dry out the inside of watercraft to increase the lifespan of the boat and maintain performance. During the summer I was focused on the development of the product and received mentorship to help improve the marketing of my product. After years of planning, It was extremely rewarding to finally bring the company and product to life. Moving forward, after taking the winter to finish building a new CNC machine, I am excited to soon be officially launching the HulFlo store."

Lauren Carson

Centsi, 2021

"Centsi is an app designed to centralize local businesses such as artists, makers, and restaurants for easy shopping. Lauren's app will bring the convenience of shopping local to the palm of your hand."

Jaz Perry

Jaz Perry Home Service, 2021

"The Summer Company Program has been great so far. It is more than simply a grant. The start up funding is certainly a welcomed boost for the business but much of the value is found in the training, mentorship, and relationships that come along with the program. It helps new business owners develop a strong foundation, setting us up for long term success in more ways than one. I'm looking forward to using what I've learned through the program to provide the best service possible."

Collaboration:
Show Off Shorts x Pick 6 Athletics



Mitchell Blasko

Show Off Shorts, 2021

"During the pandemic in the summer of 2021, I was fortunate enough to be part of the Summer Company program in Kingston. This experience opened my eyes to the world of business and taught me many very valuable life lessons. I was able to start a custom shorts company with no experience sewing, however with the excellent guidance and support provided to me by the individuals running the program I was able to find success in operating a business. I took a step outside of my comfort zone when applying, and I am so grateful I did as it has allowed me to not only grow as a businessman, but as a person in general. For anyone considering applying, I highly recommend you do so as it is a very rewarding and positive."



KINGSTON

— *Economic Development* —

Kingston Economic Development Corporation

366 King Street East, Suite 420
Kingston, Ontario K7K 6Y3

613.544.2725

investkingston.ca



@investkingston



@investkingston



@investkingston