

For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

April 16, 2014

Kenora area's Aboriginal youth receive support to Learn, Launch and Grow their own businesses

Kenora, Ontario (April 16, 2014) – Kenamatewin Native Learning Centre (KNLC) is partnering with **I DO BUSINESS.** to deliver a one of a kind entrepreneurship training program customized to meet the needs of 24 low-income, at-risk Aboriginal youth in the Northern Kenora, Ontario area and nearby Aboriginal communities. This one-year project will impact 24 Aboriginal youth, and is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment's [Strategic Community Entrepreneurship Program](#) (SCEP). The SCEP program is a component of Ontario's Youth Jobs Strategy, which is helping create 30,000 job opportunities for young people across the province.

I DO BUSINESS. Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Program in Kenora will provide young Aboriginals with the skills, knowledge, resources and support to successfully launch and grow their very own businesses. John Kor, National Director of **I DO BUSINESS.** states,

“Together we have a tremendous opportunity to assist future entrepreneurs to grow as individuals and make a difference for First Nation communities in the Kenora area. At **I DO BUSINESS.** we are very excited about developing business paths that can lead to real business transactions and self-sufficiency.”

The 40 week business launch program includes:

- Training in entrepreneurship and job skills grounded in Aboriginal values and teachings
- Wrap-around support services to ensure Aboriginal youth successfully complete the program
- Expert support to develop a complete business plan
- One-to-one mentorship from an experienced business professional to start up their business
- Opportunities to apply for a micro grant of up \$3000 to start their business
- And much, much more!

For more information about the program, or to apply to participate, visit <http://www.idobusiness.ca/kenora.html>

John Kor

Director

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About Kenamatewin Native Learning Centre (KNLC)

Kenamatewin Native Learning Centre offers Native Stream Literacy and Basic Skills programming; numeracy and essential skills services that help learners transition to their goals of employment, apprenticeship, secondary-school credit, post-secondary education or independence.

About I DO BUSINESS.

I DO BUSINESS. supports emerging and established entrepreneurs to obtain the knowledge, skills and resources they need to achieve dreams and find success in business. We celebrate and stimulate the entrepreneurial spirit of individuals and communities across Canada through impactful events, entrepreneurial training programs and consulting services.

About the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment – Strategic Community Entrepreneurship Program

The [Strategic Community Entrepreneurship Projects](#) (SCEP) program will provide grants to not-for-profit organizations to help 15-29 year-olds -- from high-needs communities and vulnerable populations -- start a business. The program will help fill the gap for young people who want to be entrepreneurs, but who are not eligible for other self-employment programs.

The SCEP program is part of Ontario's [Youth Jobs Strategy](#), which is helping create 30,000 job opportunities for young people across the province.

The Youth Jobs Strategy is part of the government's economic plan that is creating jobs for today and tomorrow. The comprehensive plan and its six priorities focus on Ontario's greatest strengths -- its people and strategic partnerships.

Ready.Set.Work.