



# Starting & Growing A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

## LOCAL

### DOWNTOWN WINDSOR BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

[www.downtownaccelerator.com](http://www.downtownaccelerator.com)

The Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator is a co-working space specifically designed to help accelerate the growth of start-up and emerging businesses with on-site training and mentoring programs.

### ENACTUS WINDSOR

[www.enactuswindsor.com](http://www.enactuswindsor.com)

A community of student, academic, and business leaders that strives to empower local members, instil entrepreneurial action, and enhance the economic health of our community.

### EPICENTRE – University of Windsor

[www.epicentreuwindsor.ca](http://www.epicentreuwindsor.ca)

The Entrepreneurship Practice and Innovation Centre (EPICentre) provides education, programs, services, funding and incubation space for students and alumni.

### GENESIS ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION CENTRE - St. Clair College

[www.stclaircollege.ca/genesis](http://www.stclaircollege.ca/genesis)

Provides students and alumni with opportunities to brainstorm, develop viable products and services and proceed through the early stages of commercialization.

### IF WINDSOR-ESSEX CENTRE

[www.ifwe.ca](http://www.ifwe.ca)

The IF Windsor-Essex Centre is a not-for-profit organization devoted to cultivating and curating an entrepreneurial ecosystem. It provides a place for people to practice the skills of innovation and entrepreneurship with other like-minded people, offering the environment and the tools to invent, test, experiment and create.

### Ministry of Economic Development and Growth / Ministry of Research Innovation and Science

[www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-economic-development-and-growth](http://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-economic-development-and-growth)

Local business advisors help small to medium sized organizations (10+ employees) identify and access information and resources and provide expert advice on government programs and services, market intelligence, networking opportunities and accessing funding for export development, research and development, human resources and expansion plans.

## WEtech-ALLIANCE

[www.wetech-alliance.com](http://www.wetech-alliance.com)

WEtech-Alliance, located in Windsor, is one of 18 non-profit Regional Innovation Centres across Ontario. WEtech-Alliance helps entrepreneurs at any stage of growth with expert advisory services, market intelligence, networking opportunities, and funding.

## WINDSOR ESSEX SMALL BUSINESS CENTRE

[www.windsorsexsmallbusiness.com](http://www.windsorsexsmallbusiness.com)

Their team of small business advisors help small business owners and entrepreneurs make the right decisions at business start-up and help develop skills and access to networks. Their services include complimentary Small Business information, advice and consultation, business plan support, access to professionals, research assistance, business development workshops and seminars, and mentoring and networking opportunities.

## ONLINE

### +ACUMEN

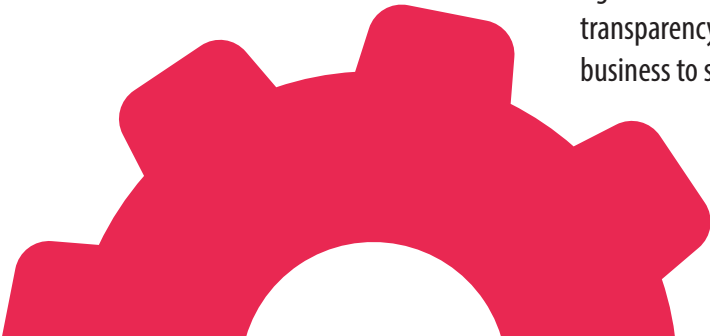
[www.plusacumen.org/courses](http://www.plusacumen.org/courses)

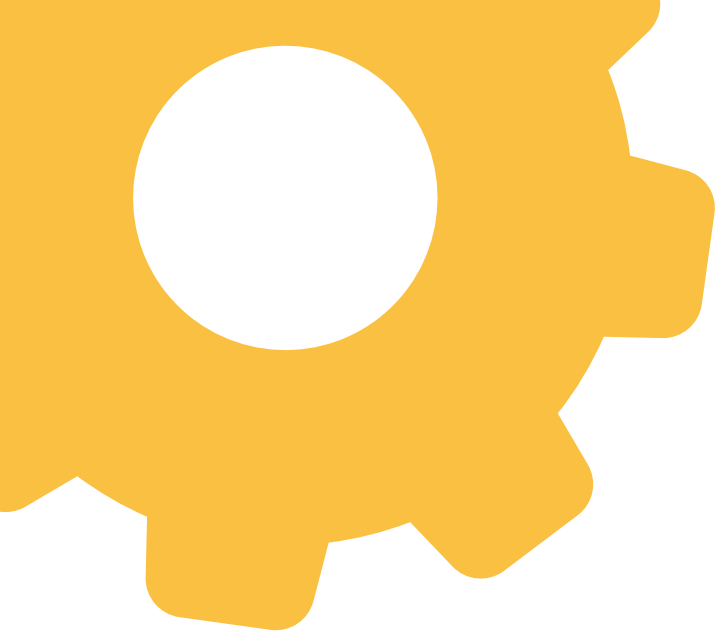
+Acumen, a global learning community for social change-makers offers free online courses that were created to give people a meaningful way to 'Add Acumen' to their lives. +Acumen provides emerging leaders around the world with the moral imagination, operational and financial skills they need to become more effective at changing the world.

### B-CORPS

[www.bcorporation.net/Canada](http://www.bcorporation.net/Canada)

Learn how to become a certified B-Corp – a for-profit company that meets rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. A relatively new sector of the economy, B-Corps use the power of business to solve social and environmental problems.





## **CANADIAN SOCIAL ENTERPRISE GUIDE**

[www.socialenterprisecanada.ca/en/learn/nav/canadiansocialenterpriseguide.html](http://www.socialenterprisecanada.ca/en/learn/nav/canadiansocialenterpriseguide.html)

For non-profit organizations thinking about creating or already developing a new enterprise, or expanding / formalizing existing revenue-generating programs.

## **COURSERA: Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Social Impact**

[www.coursera.org/learn/social-impact](http://www.coursera.org/learn/social-impact)

This free online course from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania offers an introduction to social impact strategy and social entrepreneurship, including key concepts, an overview of the field, and tools to get started as a changemaker. Students will learn how to innovate and design new ideas and new organizational forms to implement those ideas. Students who take this course will be better prepared to launch social impact organizations of their own invention.

## **FUTURPRENEUR CANADA**

[www.futurpreneur.ca/en/resources/social-purpose-business/how-to-and-guides/how-to-start-a-social-purpose-business](http://www.futurpreneur.ca/en/resources/social-purpose-business/how-to-and-guides/how-to-start-a-social-purpose-business)

A 10-step framework on how to start a social purpose business.

## **GOVERNMENT OF CANADA CANADA BUSINESS NETWORK**

[www.canadabusiness.ca/starting/start-and-grow-a-social-enterprise/](http://www.canadabusiness.ca/starting/start-and-grow-a-social-enterprise/)

Includes links to general business information that applies to any entrepreneur, small or medium business, or social enterprise. A full range of information from business planning, financing, managing, and regulations and taxation.

## **IMPACT INVESTING (MaRS)**

<http://impactinvesting.marsdd.com/>

Impact investing is investments made into companies, organizations, and funds with the intention to generate a measurable, beneficial social or environmental impact alongside a financial return. The MaRS Centre for Impact Investing - a social finance hub and project incubator - acts as a neutral collaboration space for all sectors — government, community and private — to strengthen the collective ability to mobilize private capital for public good. Their Knowledge Hub provides assistance, tools and resources on impact investing.

## INNOWEAVE

[www.innoweave.ca](http://www.innoweave.ca)

Innoweave helps leaders of successful community organizations learn about, select, and implement new tools and approaches to generate greater impact and advance their missions through workshops, webinars and coaches.

## MaRS

[www.marsdd.com/about/social-innovation](http://www.marsdd.com/about/social-innovation)

MaRS helps high-impact, growth-ready ventures succeed by offering a broad range of services to help take a startup to the next level, all at no cost. They provide expert advice, mentorship and market intelligence, as well as connections to talent, customers and capital with the goal of turning breakthrough ideas into successful, global companies.

## SOCIAL BUSINESS MODEL CANVAS

[www.socialbusinessmodelcanvas.com](http://www.socialbusinessmodelcanvas.com)

This Social Business Model Canvas is a tool for creating a solid business model around a social enterprise. It's also a collaborative tool that helps communicate different business models with stakeholders and brainstorm new ones.

## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CANADA

[www.socialenterprisecanada.ca/en](http://www.socialenterprisecanada.ca/en)

Learn about social enterprises, and how to plan and manage them.

## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE ONTARIO

[www.seontario.org](http://www.seontario.org)

The SEOntario website showcases social enterprise and the social economy in Ontario, and includes examples of social enterprise work and a geo-mapped searchable database. SEOntario also connects to a wide range of resources, marketplaces and events, and provides regional, francophone and co-operative supports.





# OTHER RESOURCES

## EVENTS

### INNOVATION WORKS

[www.innovationworkslondon.ca/events](http://www.innovationworkslondon.ca/events)

A co-working space dedicated to social innovation – hosts regular events at their location in London, Ontario.

### QUEEN'S SCHOOL OF BUSINESS- CENTRE FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

<https://smith.queensu.ca/centres/social-impact/Events/index.php>

Events include Social Impact Summits, Social Innovation Bootcamps and Research Showcases.

### THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION

[www.socialinnovation.ca/community/events/listing](http://www.socialinnovation.ca/community/events/listing)

The Centre for Social Innovation – a social enterprise with a mission to catalyze social innovation in Toronto and around the world - hosts hundreds of social mission events, ranging from conferences to workshops.

## GOOD READS

### SANFORD SOCIAL INNOVATION REVIEW

[www.ssir.org/](http://www.ssir.org/)

### THE COLLIDER MAGAZINE

[www.socialinnovation.ca/collidermagazine](http://www.socialinnovation.ca/collidermagazine)

The Centre for Social Innovation's Collider Magazine connects and champions their members, and showcases social innovation in action.

For more information, visit  
[wetech-alliance.com](http://wetech-alliance.com)

