

SOME FUNDING PROGRAMS AND BUSINESS SUPPORT AVAILABLE

The provincial and federal governments recognize that many businesses contribute to developing our workforce. To support and encourage investment, they offer training programs, employment programs, as well as resources to help with human resources planning, recruiting, employee assessment and workplace safety. A brief summary of the programs are given below.

The provincial government has indicated that new programs are forth coming to enhance Green Energy projects.

WAGE SUBSIDY - GENERAL

John Howard Society of Niagara – Job Gym	<i>Job Connect Program (under 25)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any employer, any position Funding length and amount vary 	905-732-7655 www.jobgym.com
CERF Niagara – formerly Club 2000 Niagara	<i>Job Connect Program (over 16 – French speaking)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any employer, any position Funding length and amount vary 	905-714-1480 www.centre-emploi2000.com
Business Education Council of Niagara	<i>Wage Subsidy Assistance Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 50% of wage for maximum 30 weeks Currently on EI or used EI in past 3 yrs 	905-684-7200 www.becon.org
Ministry of Revenue	<i>Co-operative Education Tax Credit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 30% of wage, Max. of \$3,000 	1-866-668-8297 www.rev.gov.on.ca
Service Canada	<i>Career Focus Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-secondary grad between 15 & 30 Not in receipt of EI benefits 	1-800-622-6232 www.servicecanada.gc.ca

WAGE SUBSIDY FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities	<i>Employer Signing Bonus</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2,000 signing bonus for new apprentice under 25 (grade level restrictions) Done under Job Connect Service providers 	1-800-387-5656 www.edu.gov.on.ca
Canada Revenue Agency	<i>Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tax credit equal to 10% of their salary 	1-800-959-5525 www.cra.gc.ca
Ontario Ministry of Revenue	<i>Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual tax credit of \$5,000 per apprentice to max of \$15,000 over 36 month period 	1-800-262-0784 www.rev.gov.on.ca

GENERAL FUNDING – GRANTS & TAX CREDITS

Ontario Chamber of Commerce	<i>Export Market Access</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant of 50% - \$5,000 to \$30,000 Supports activities that foster growth and export potential 	1-416-482-5222 www.exportaccess.ca
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	<i>SMART Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant of 50% to max of \$50,000/project Focus on Lean Design & manufacturing; quality improvement; energy efficiency; environmental impact reduction 	1-877-913-4263 x. 3281 www.cme-smart.ca

GENERAL FUNDING – LOANS

Business Development Bank of Canada	Business financing, venture capital and free business consulting services.	1-877-232-2269 www.bdc.ca
Industry Canada	<i>Canada Small Business Financing Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes it easier for businesses to obtain loans from institutions by sharing risk with lenders 	1-866-959-1699 www.ic.gc.ca/csbfa

* Job Gym has a number of HR services available free of charge that include job advertising, resume collection and applicant screening.

Ministry of Economic Development & Trade – International Trade Branch	<i>Ontario Exports</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist developing and pursuing export strategy • Offer wide range of free services and seminars 	1-800-314-8200 www.ontarioexports.com
Venture Niagara	Access to capital, business advisory services, and community economic development projects.	905-680-8085 www.ventureniagara.com

ENERGY CONSERVATION INCENTIVES

Enbridge Gas	<i>Audit Incentives:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial HVAC audits • Steam Plant Audits • Steam Trap Surveys • Insulation Surveys • 50% of audit costs, up to \$10,000 	www.egd.enbridge.com
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INNOVATION SUPPORT FUNDING – GRANTS & TAX CREDITS

Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	<i>SMART Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant of 50% to max of \$50,000/project • Focus on lean design and manufacturing; quality improvement; energy efficiency; environmental impact reduction 	1-877-913-4263 x. 3281 www.cme-smart.ca
National Research Council	<i>IRAP – Industrial Research Assistance Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant on cost-shared basis • Focus is on research & development to overcome technological uncertainties. 	1-877-994-4727 www.irap-pari.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
Foreign Affairs & International Trade Canada	<i>Global Commerce Support Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support international R&D collaborative opportunities through partnership development 	1-613-995-7920 www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca
Canada Revenue Agency	<i>SR&ED – Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives cash refunds and/or tax credits for expenditures on eligible R&D work in Canada 	1-800-959-5525 www.cra.gc.ca/sred
Ontario Power Generation	<i>Technology Development Fund</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund projects that have potential to improve electricity supply, conservation or demand management • Up to \$250,000 	1-416-969-6095 www.powerauthority.on.ca

INNOVATION FUNDING – LOANS

Ministry of Economic Development & Trade	<i>AMIS – Advanced Manufacturing Investment Strategy</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For manufacturing firms investing in leading edge technologies and processes • Up to 30% to a max. of \$10 million/project – 5 yr interest-free • Over 5yrs must create/retain 50 or more high value jobs or have min. \$10 million total project value 	1-416-325-6867 www.ontariocanada.com
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Ministry of Research & Innovation	<p><i>Innovation Demonstration Fund</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preference to fund environmental, alternative energy, bio-products, hydrogen and other globally significant technologies • Pilot stage projects; goal is commercialization • 50% of costs – Min. of \$100,000 to Max. of 4 million/project 	<p>1-416-326-0841</p> <p>www.mri.gov.on.ca</p>
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INNOVATION SUPPORT CENTRES – FREE SERVICES

Ontario Centres of Excellence	A variety of centres focusing on developing innovation relationships. Support for industrial relevant R&D, the opening of new market opportunities and commercialization of discoveries.	<p>1-613-995-6010</p> <p>www.oce-ontario.org</p>
MaRS Discovery District	Helps Ontario-based companies commercialize early-stage innovations. A team of experienced professionals will help to guide you free of charge. Services include advice, mentorship, market research, assistance to secure funding and education programs.	<p>1-416-673-8100</p> <p>www.marsdd.com</p>
Colleges Ontario Network For Industry Innovation – CONII	Provide R&D services in key economic sectors in Ontario. Assistance with developing new or improved products and services, needs assessments, knowledge/technology transfer, process enhancement, prototypes, materials handling, proof of concept projects and more.	<p>www.conii.ca</p>

EXPORT INFORMATION

Government of Ontario	Online resources for exporting	www.ontarioexports.com
Canadian Border Services Agency	Their goal is to provide information seminars to individuals and small businesses on a variety of topics	www.cbsa.gc.ca
Economic Development Canada	Export loans and assistance	<p>1-800-368-6664</p> <p>www.edc.ca</p>
Export Market Access	If your company has 5 or more employees and annual sales of \$500,000 or more, you may qualify for a grant covering up to 50% of eligible costs incurred to develop export sales	<p>416-482-5222</p> <p>www.exportaccess.ca</p>
New Exporters to Border States (NEBS)	A practical introduction to the basics of exporting to the United States.	416-325-6665
Virtual Trade Commissioner (VTC)	Is a gateway to a world of information online. Personalized web page that contains market information and business leads for your country. Make information on your company available to 900 Trade Commissioners around the world.	www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca