



## **Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub (WEKH)**

Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub (WEKH) is a national network and accessible digital platform for sharing research, resources, and leading strategies. With regional hubs and a network of more than 75 partners, WEKH is designed to address the needs of diverse women entrepreneurs across regions and across sectors. WEKH's advanced technology platform, powered by Magnet, will enhance the capacity of women entrepreneurs and the organizations who serve them by linking them to resources and best practices from across the country.

With the support of the Government of Canada, WEKH will spread its expertise from coast to coast, enabling service providers, academics, government, and industry to enhance their support for women entrepreneurs. Ryerson University's Diversity Institute, in collaboration with Ryerson's Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship and the Ted Rogers School of Management, is leading a team of researchers, business support organizations, and key stakeholders to create a more inclusive and supportive environment to grow women's entrepreneurship in Canada.

As part of the Government of Canada's [Women Entrepreneurship Strategy](#), the network will:

- Benchmark and report on the progress of women entrepreneurs in Canada
- Collect, analyze and disseminate research
- Assess and share best practices and knowledge on how to advance women entrepreneurs
- Engage women business support organizations across Canada and provide a platform to strengthen cross-sector collaboration and connect women entrepreneurs to resources.
- Support the implementation of more inclusive policies, programs, and practices across the innovation ecosystem
- Challenge stereotypes and build awareness of women's entrepreneurial success.

**Nine Regional Hubs:** National in scope, WEKH will be made up of nine regional hubs, which will work together to coordinate activities in different regions:

**Asper School of Business**, University of Manitoba (Winnipeg, Manitoba)  
**Bissett School of Business**, Mount Royal University (Calgary, Alberta)  
**BMO Chair for Diversity and Governance**, Université de Montréal (Montréal, Quebec)  
**Carleton University** (Ottawa, Ontario)  
**Yukon College** (Whitehorse, Yukon)

**PARO Centre for Women's Enterprise** (Thunder Bay, Ontario)  
**OCAD University** (Toronto, Ontario)  
**VentureLabs® and Beedie School of Business**, Simon Fraser University (Vancouver, British Columbia)  
**Norman Newman Centre for Entrepreneurship**, Dalhousie University (Halifax, Nova Scotia)

### **Experts, Partners and Supporting Organizations:**

A growing list of Experts, Partners and Supporting Organizations meet the needs of diverse women across Canadian sectors with the capacity to reach more than 250 organizations and 100,000 women entrepreneurs at all different stages of development:

To learn more or join the community, visit [www.wekh.ca](http://www.wekh.ca)

### **Experts:**

**Dr. Wendy Cukier**, Professor, Entrepreneurship and Strategy, Founder and Academic Director, Ryerson University's Diversity Institute

**Dr. Sarah Kaplan**, Director, University of Toronto's Institute for Gender and the Economy

**Dr. Marie-Thérèse Chicha**, Chair in Ethnic Relations, Université de Montréal

**Valerie Fox**, Chief Innovation Consultant, The Pivotal Point, and Founding Executive Director, Ryerson University DMZ

**Dr. Suzanne Gagnon**, Great-West Life Chair in Leadership Education and Director, Institute for Leadership Development, University of Manitoba

**Dr. Jaigris Hodson**, Associate Professor and Program Head, Office of Interdisciplinary Studies, Royal Roads University

**Dr. Peter Josty**, Executive Director, THECIS (home of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor)

**Clare Beckton**, Executive in Residence, Centre for Research and Education on Women and Work-Advancing Women in Leadership

**Dr. Mary Kilfoil**, Canadian Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship

**Dr. Sarah Lubik**, Director of Entrepreneurship, Simon Fraser University

**Janice McDonald**, Founder, The Beacon Agency

### **Women's networks:**

Canadian Women's Chamber of Commerce  
Canadian Women's Foundation  
Organization for Women in International Trade - Toronto (OWIT-Toronto)  
Réseau des Femmes d'affaires du Québec  
SheEO  
WE EMPOWER, UN Women  
Women in Capital Markets  
Women of Influence  
YWCA Canada

### **Organizations supporting women entrepreneurs in specific sectors:**

Ashoka Canada  
Information and Communication Technologies Association of Manitoba  
Information Technology Association of Canada  
Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology

### **Organizations focused on specific populations of women entrepreneurs:**

ACCES Employment  
Afghan Women's Organization  
Canada Pakistan Business Council  
CPAC  
Enactus Canada  
Futurpreneur Canada  
NexusBC  
Red River College  
Sackville Commons Co-op  
Scadding Court Community Centre  
Innovation and the Indigenous District  
Skills for Change

### **Financing and consultants:**

Bank of Montreal  
Business Development Bank of Canada  
EY  
Femmessor  
Vancity Credit Union  
S.U.C.C.E.S.S.  
Youth Employment Services

### **Leading business incubators and support services**

Accelerator for Centennial Community Entrepreneurs and Leaders (ACCEL),  
Boss Insights  
Centennial College  
Canadian Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship  
Canadian Society for Entrepreneurship and Innovation  
City of Toronto - Entrepreneurship Services  
Communitech  
Conference Board of Canada  
Enterprise Saint John  
Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking, University of Calgary  
Incubate, Innovate, Network of Canada (I<sup>2</sup>INC) network of 11 universities and 16 incubators  
LeaderBoom  
Momentum Canada  
Offset Market Exchange (OMX)  
Ontario Chamber of Commerce  
ReMAP (Refined Manufacturing Acceleration Process)  
Spark Niagara