ATLANTIC CANADIAN WOMEN IN GROWTH PARTNERSHIP

PARTENARIAT POUR LA CROISSANCE DES FEMMES DU CANADA ATLANTIQUE

Advancing the economic power of women entrepreneurs in Atlantic Canada
Faire progresser le pouvoir économique des femmes entrepreneures du Canada atlantique

ABOUT

The Atlantic Canadian Women in Growth Partnership (ACWGP) is a project between four Atlantic women's business organizations - Nova Scotia Centre for Women in Business (CWB), Prince Edward Island Business Women's Association (PEIBWA), Women in Business New Brunswick (WBNB), and Newfoundland and Labrador Organization of Women Entrepreneurs (NLOWE) as the project lead. It is a three-year project funded by ACOA through the Federal Government's Women's Entrepreneurship Strategy Ecosystem Fund to address gaps and build capacity in the entrepreneurship ecosystem for women.

GOALS

ACWGP's has two main goals. One goal is to increase each organization's capacity to support women in start-up and growth phases. The other goal is to increase participation of under-represented women such as, newcomer women, women with disabilities, indigenous women, rural women, as well   as women in non-traditional trades and in STEM related fields in the women's entrepreneurial ecosystem in Atlantic Canada.

A **10%** rise in the number of female majority-owned firms over the next decade is projected to boost the economic contribution to the country by **$50** billion.

The 2013 Royal Bank of Canada report Canadian Women Grabbing the Baton

GAPS

There is a lot of information and resources in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

We want to ensure we do not replicate existing programming and services, but through a jurisdictional scan of each province, we can learn what is out there and identify where this project can fill some of the gaps. It will allow us to position ourselves to enhance and support existing programs and services within our provinces through partnerships and collaboration.

BARRIERS

Research shows that women face barriers starting and growing businesses. These barriers and more exist for under-represented groups. Through consultative needs assessments with stakeholders, we want to learn what these barriers are and how we can support these women through partnerships, and tailored programming that will break down those barriers and empower more women to realize their entrepreneurial potential in Atlantic Canada.

CONNECT

Connecting with service organizations and meeting with a diversity of women throughout each of our provinces will help us better understand the challenges and opportunities these women face and how we can move forward together to support, start, and grow their businesses in Atlantic Canada.

Research Questions

Are there gaps? If so, what are the gaps? Where are the gaps? How are we going to fill them? What are the barriers? What are the opportunities? How are we going to address them? How are we going to support them?

By connecting with support organizations and through consultations with women business owners throughout Atlantic Canada, we will devise a plan to fill identified gaps by providing resources and making supports accessible to under-represented women in the entrepreneurial eco-system to further advance start-up or growth businesses in the region.

CONTACT

If you would like to know more about this exciting new project and/or are interested in supporting the project in any way, we would love to hear from you.

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