

For Immediate Release

News Release



INVESTSTRATFORD, THE TOWN OF ST. MARYS, AND THE DOWNTOWN ST. MARYS BIA ANNOUNCES SUPPORT THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA-FUNDED MY MAIN STREET LOCAL BUSINESS ACCELERATOR PROGRAM *Ten businesses receive \$10K each from My Main Street*

January 24, 2023 - St. Marys, Ontario...*Main streets play a vital role in growing the Canadian economy and supporting local communities.*

investStratford, the Town of St. Marys, and the Downtown St. Marys Business Improvement Area would like to congratulate each of the following small businesses for receiving a My Main Street non-repayable funding contribution of \$10,000 to support its main street business.

The following businesses were recipients:

- The Flour Mill Food Shop
- Betty's Bookshelf
- Cloud 9 Kids
- Angela Dawn Aesthetics & Medispa
- Zenfire Pottery
- TuttCo. Queen Street Eatery
- Bungalow
- Square One Skate Shop
- Snapping Turtle Coffee Roasters
- Hyggeligt Fabrics

These contributions allow each of these businesses to support findings from the market research provided by My Main Street to drive economic growth and attract new customers to its business and the entire downtown community.

This funding has helped new businesses such as The Flour Mill Food Shop, Betty's Bookshelf, Cloud 9 Kids, TuttCo. Queen Street Eatery, and Square One Skate Shop mitigate some of the burden of the initial costs of setting up a new business and connect with the plethora of business supports that exists in the St. Marys area, while existing businesses like Angela Dawn Aesthetics & Medispa, Zenfire Pottery, Bungalow, Snapping Turtle Coffee Roasters, and Hyggeligt Fabrics were able to consider innovative ways to either expand the products offered or introduce greater efficiency. Each of these businesses offers something new to downtown St. Marys, adding to the richness and vibrancy of community life. Had it not been for this funding, these businesses may not have decided to expand. The My Main Street, Local Business Accelerator program is delivered by the Economic Developers Council of Ontario with an overall Government of Canada investment of [\\$23.25 million](#), through the [Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario](#) (FedDev Ontario), to support the recovery and strength of main streets and local businesses in southern Ontario.

On behalf of these businesses, investStraford and the Downtown St. Marys BIA would like to thank the Government of Canada, FedDev Ontario and the Economic Developers Council of Ontario for supporting our local businesses.

Quotes

"Main streets play a vital role in growing local communities and economies for everyone. The Government of Canada will continue to invest in My Main Street and the small businesses the program serves, resulting in local economic growth and more vibrant neighbourhoods for Canadians and their families to call home." - *The Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario*

"The Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) is delighted to be delivering the My Main Street Local Business Accelerator program to support local business and main streets across southern Ontario. Thanks to the

support of the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, local businesses will have access to resources to help create economic opportunities for these main street communities, which is an essential component to a successful local economy.” - *Doug Lindeblom, Managing Director, My Main Street, Local Business Accelerator*

“It has been a privilege to assist in facilitating economic development in downtown St. Marys. The supports provided by My Main Street’s Local Business Accelerator program have been fantastic for independently-owned businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program has also fueled further collaboration between the Town of St. Marys and the City of Stratford, which will support the development of both municipalities as key destinations in southwestern Ontario.” - *Mark Azzano, My Main Street Ambassador for Downtown St. Marys*

Associated Links

- [My Main Street](#)
- [EDCO](#)
- [FedDev Ontario](#)

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About Economic Developers Council of Ontario

The [Economic Developers Council of Ontario \(EDCO\)](#) is delivering the [My Main Street, Local Business Accelerator](#) program stream, which is supporting the revitalization of main street communities and provides non-repayable contributions for more than 650 local businesses across southern Ontario. The program focuses on creating and maintaining vibrant and inclusive local main streets while providing residents, new entrepreneurs, and existing businesses with economic opportunities in our communities.

About FedDev Ontario

For 13 years, the Government of Canada, through [FedDev Ontario](#), has worked to advance and diversify the southern Ontario economy through funding opportunities and business services that support innovation, growth and job creation in Canada’s most populous region. The Agency has delivered impressive results, which can be seen in southern Ontario businesses that are creating innovative technologies, improving productivity, growing revenues, creating jobs, and in the economic advancement of communities across the region. Learn more about the impacts the Agency is having in southern Ontario by exploring our [pivotal projects](#), our [Southern Ontario Spotlight](#), and FedDev Ontario’s [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).