



## - ANNOUNCEMENT -

### **EntrepreNorth partners with RADIUS SFU to co-create and deliver its first pan-territorial entrepreneur support program**

**NUNAVUT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, YUKON – AUGUST 30, 2018** – EntrepreNorth is excited to announce a new partnership with RADIUS SFU through the RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator Program (FPEAP) to co-create and co-deliver programming that empowers Northern entrepreneurs.

Supporting entrepreneurial empowerment ultimately supports healthy economies and communities. The creation of local economic opportunities contributes to economic growth and diversification, helping to break through poverty and address social challenges. It is also vital to strengthening Indigenous self-determination. Community-based and Indigenous entrepreneurs are more than catalysts of prosperity. They can also be drivers of social change in their communities through enterprises that celebrate culture, revitalize ways of life, and foster pride.

EntrepreNorth's Project Director Benjamin Scott says, "By joining forces with RADIUS SFU we are bringing together a team of people committed to growing entrepreneurial capacity and communities of practice. RADIUS SFU brings a wealth of experience working with entrepreneurs, early stage ventures, and diverse communities."

Beginning in September, the entrepreneur support program will take the first cohort of nine northern-based entrepreneurs on a six-month personal and business growth journey. The program's curriculum, which includes practical business training, one-on-one mentorship, life coaching, and networking opportunities with investors, is intended to provide participants with the knowledge, skills, and support to take their businesses to the next level.

Candice Day, Program Manager of FPEAP with RADIUS SFU, says, "Our model is to work in close collaboration with our Indigenous-led partners through co-creation and delivery, while drawing on local expertise as much as possible. We are excited to be co-creating entrepreneurship training with EntrepreNorth that is relevant to the North, the entrepreneurs, and the growth stage of each venture selected into the program."

Program participants will have the opportunity to attend cohort gatherings in Yellowknife, Iqaluit, and Whitehorse. Each gathering will include a networking event with local business experts and organizations to facilitate knowledge exchange and community connections.

Together, EntrepreNorth and RADIUS SFU are creating curriculum and opportunities for Northerners to grow and flourish as entrepreneurs and as community members. The first cohort will be announced in early September.

###

## **About EntrepreNorth**

EntrepreNorth is a project initiative that offers programming to empower community-based entrepreneurs to build sustainable businesses and livelihoods across Northern Canada.

EntrepreNorth is a project on Tides Canada's shared platform, which supports on-the-ground efforts to create uncommon solutions for the common good. Tides Canada is a national Canadian charity dedicated to a healthy environment, social equity, and economic prosperity.

**Website: [entreprenorth.ca](http://entreprenorth.ca) | Social Media: [@entreprenorth](#) | [#innovationspirit](#)**

## **About RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator Program**

The RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator Program (FPEAP) is stewarded by RADIUS SFU, a social innovation lab and venture incubator at the Beedie School of Business, Simon Fraser University. The vision of FPEAP is to be a catalyst and resource for sustainable economic growth and diversification in Indigenous communities, using citizen entrepreneurship as its primary vehicle.

**Website: [radiussfu.com/programs/labs-ventures/first-peoples/](http://radiussfu.com/programs/labs-ventures/first-peoples/)**

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

Benjamin Scott, Project Director  
EntrepreNorth  
1 (867) 765-8464  
[benjamin@entreprenorth.ca](mailto:benjamin@entreprenorth.ca)