

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Provincial investment in Barrie helps promote entrepreneurship and innovation

Barrie, ON – The City is pleased that the provincial government is investing \$1 million for a new Regional Innovation Centre in Barrie. This investment builds on the existing investments that the City has made into the Sandbox Centre to support business and entrepreneurs. It will help increase access for local entrepreneurs to local experts and resources, helping people looking to launch or scale up their business.

"We are so grateful to the province for this very important funding in Barrie," said Mayor Alex Nuttall. "I advocated for this provincial funding and met with the province to highlight the need for Barrie to have a Regional Innovation Centre. This government sees the potential in Barrie and surrounding region and is making investments alongside us. I look forward to seeing the positive impacts this new centre will have for our community."

Regional Innovation Centres help Ontario's entrepreneurs and innovators succeed in international markets by helping them work through the challenges of developing their ideas to make them marketable and attract talent, capital and customers. The new centre in Barrie is the 17th Regional Innovation Centre in the province.

Programming and services are offered to clients who are typically in early-stage or growing innovation and technology companies with the potential to expand and succeed on a global scale.

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