

# Self Employment Assistance

## Objective

- To provide financial assistance for Youth that want to start their own business. Youth may receive an allowance while they develop and implement their business plan. Some business support is available to youth.

## Eligible Participants

- Urban/off-reserve Aboriginal community members of Brantford, Hamilton, St. Catharines, and Fort Erie
- Aboriginal includes First Nations, Status, Non-Status, Metis, Inuit
- A full-time business venture; A new business, or
- An existing business in which you had no prior ownership, and
- Suitable for public funding
- Have a business plan prior to starting Self Employment Assistance
- Assistance may be available to develop a business plan (i.e. Business Resource Centres, Business Development Bank of Canada, etc.).
- Agree to work full time on the business while receiving financial assistance.

## The business cannot be:

- Based solely on commission or solely contracted by another business.
- A part-time business.
- You must also demonstrate that you can contribute towards start up financing and operation of the business;
- If you are considering a partnership or incorporation, you will be required to demonstrate through the partnership agreement, or letters of incorporation, that you are the decision-maker in control of the business;
- If you are considering a franchise, you will be required to demonstrate the franchisor is not providing training or support to you, the franchisee, and that you are the decision-maker in control of the business.

## Financial Assistance

- Participants may be eligible to receive a contribution of up to \$5,000 for the purchase of basic equipment, equity, etc.
- Special costs related to a disabled participant may be provided if required.
- Maximum up to \$15,000.00