



Rules and Regulations for the Hawks' Nest

Eligibility

To be eligible new or expanding businesses must operate within the SEDC or the Bruce CFDC catchment areas.

Franchises are not eligible to participate.

Free to apply

Applicants must sign the application form accepting the terms and conditions outlined in order to be eligible. A 10 page Business Plan must be submitted with the application along with any additional documentation to support your proposal.

Timeline and Training

Prior to the submission date there will be training sessions to assist applicants in developing or revising their business plans. All applicants are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Note: It is mandatory for start-up entrepreneurs to take the training.

After the submissions have been received, they will be reviewed by a third party committee. 7 finalists will be selected to participate in the event, they will have their Business Plans and supporting documents reviewed by the Hawks.

Successful candidates will have media training, and event rehearsal in preparation for the event.

Submission Deadline is Friday March 13th, 2020 no later than 3:00 p.m.

Categories

There are two categories of entries:

1. Youth (11 – 18)
2. Open to all

There will be one finalist from the youth category and 6 from the open category.

Participants may win only once per category.

Applications – Youth Category

At the time of the application is submitted the applicants must be 11 – 18 years of age and be a resident of the catchment areas of the SEDC and the Bruce CFDC.

The business will reside in the catchment areas of the SEDC and the Bruce CFDC.

Incomplete applications or applications containing any misrepresentation will be disqualified.

Presentation by Successful Candidates – Youth Category

The successful candidate will pitch to the Hawks during the production.

Qualifiers will be given 3 minutes to present and 5 minutes for questions from the Hawks.

The evaluations of the candidate will be based on the Business Plan and presentation skills.

A cash investment will be awarded at the sole discretion of the Hawks.

Applications – Open Category

Persons who are permanent residents of the catchment areas of the SEDC and the Bruce CFDC.

The business will reside in the catchment areas of the SEDC and the Bruce CFDC.

Incomplete applications or applications containing any misrepresentation will be disqualified.

Presentations – Open Category

Successful candidates will pitch to the Hawks during the production.

Qualifiers will be given 3 minutes to present and 5 minutes for questions from the Hawks

The evaluations of the candidates will be based on the Business Plan and presentation skills.

A cash investment will be awarded at the sole discretion of the Hawks.

Judging

All applications including Business Plan supporting documentation will be reviewed by a third party committee.

- The third party committee will select 1 semi-finalist from the Youth Category to be reviewed by the Hawks.
- The third party committee will select 6 semi-finalists from the Open Category to be reviewed by the Hawks.

Notification of Selection

The third party committee will provide feedback to the project coordinator within a week of receiving the applications.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome and will be offered a meeting to discuss their proposals. Comments from the committee will be shared in assisting the entrepreneur in being successful.

Hawk's Cash Investment

The Hawks will be providing investment funds to the 7 finalists at their sole discretion.

The People's Choice award will be decided at the event. A portion of the ticket sales will be the cash award that will be presented to the finalist with the most audience votes. The amount will depend on the number of tickets sold and the audiences' participation.

General Rules

- By participating, each Participant agrees: (a) to be bound by these Rules and the decisions of the Hawks' Nest, (b) to release and hold harmless the SEDC and Bruce CFDC, its affiliates, subsidiaries, and independent contractors, and their respective directors, officers, employees, agents and representatives including advertising and promotion agencies, from any and all liability for claims/damages including, but not limited to, claims/damages for personal injury, for property damage with respect to participation in the competition; (c) to permit the Hawks' Nest to use his/her name, company name, address, city/town of residence, photograph, video, or any likeness for advertising or publicity purposes without any additional compensation and (d) the winners agrees to sign a Waiver for Release of Information form to this effect.

- Should participants make any false statement, they shall be automatically disqualified from the competition at any point during or after the competition.
- This competition is subject to all Canadian federal, provincial and municipal legislation applicable.
- All personal information, such as your name, address, telephone number, email address, occupation, is collected solely for the purposes of administering and judging this competition and shall not be used for any other purpose without your consent. By providing this information, you consent to it being used for the stated purposes.
- At the semi-finalist stage of the competition due diligence that requires the following information will be required:
 - ✓ Credit check of each principal(s) of the business and/or spouse(s)
 - ✓ Copy of the business license or corporate documents
 - ✓ If already in operation 2 – 3 year financial statements and current income statements and balance sheets
 - ✓ Provide personal net worth statement for all principal(s) of the business and/or spouse(s)
- By entering, participants agree to abide by the competition rules which shall be applied by the Hawks' Nest. All its decisions are final and without appeal.