



FIRST NATIONS OF QUEBEC
AND LABRADOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



FIRST NATIONS
SOCIAL ECONOMY
REGIONAL TABLE



Call for interest - StartUP Nations 2nd edition

1. Introduction

The First Nations Social Economy Regional Table (FNSERT), coordinated by the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Economic Development Commission (FNQLEDC) once again this year pursues, in partnership with the Chantier de l'économie sociale and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Youth Network, the Youth Collective Entrepreneurship Initiative, made possible through the Secrétariat à la jeunesse. Youth Collective Entrepreneurship aims to promote the model of collective enterprise and allow young people aged 15 to 35 interested in collective entrepreneurship (social economy), to experiment it. This project will allow for the establishment of an innovative model of social economy incubators for young people. The social economy incubator (SEI) will offer accompaniment adapted to the pre-start-up phase of collective projects undertaken by young people and will provide entrepreneurial pathways in social economy. All these undertakings will be conducive to the participation of young collective entrepreneurs in the second edition of StartUP Nations, a unifying and networking event. This year, the 2nd edition of StartUP Nations will take place in May 2019, at the Concordia University, host partner of the event.

2. Background

The First Nations Social Economy Regional Table (FNSERT) is seeking the support of First Nations communities and organizations in participating in the *Youth Collective Entrepreneurship* Initiative which is adapted to the realities of First Nations.

In keeping with the will of First Nations players and interveners for the development of social economy amongst First Nations at the 1st First Nations Socioeconomic Forum, the youth council, through its spokesperson, summarized it like this: "It is our hope that social economy will occupy an important place in the economic development of our Nations." This statement leads directly to the social economy becoming a privileged means of development, as it is rooted in an approach based on democracy, cooperation (partnership) and local authority takeover. Through these social values, similar to the vision of First Nations communities, the social economy becomes a model of development that is adapted to the cultural and social realities of First Nations. The social economy allows this while emphasizing all these human values, the common good and the preservation of the territory.

The culture of the First Nations is defined by its connection to the territory, its knowledge and know-how that testify to its history, transmitted from generation to generation. The development of collective and social entrepreneurship (social economy) takes place within an overall context in which all organizations and interveners committed to First Nations development must place an emphasis on youth and the next generation, community involvement, the self-determination of individuals and groups and their creativity in meeting the needs of the community.

3. Project Description

This Call for interest aims to encourage communities and First Nations wishing to recruit a cohort of a minimum of three to five First Nations youths who have the entrepreneurial spirit within themselves and who particularly care about the development of their community, to accompany them in a training program on collective and social entrepreneurship. Preparatory workshops and activities will lead them to a StartUP Nations event, on May 23, 24 and 25 2019, at Montreal's Concordia University. The selected organizations and communities will be provided with relevant training including introductory and awareness workshops on collective and social entrepreneurship (social economy) as well as all the necessary guidance to achieve them. The project aims to support and equip those working with a clientele of young people between the ages of 15 and 30 and interested in raising their awareness of collective and social entrepreneurship in their community but above all, it seeks to develop the leadership capacity of youth and their desire to contribute to the social, cultural and economic development of First Nations and to improve the living conditions of their communities.

Following are the target objectives of the Youth Collective Entrepreneurship Initiative:

- Promote the social economy among First Nations youth in Quebec;
- Foster the development of the social economy among First Nations youth by building on their values, aspirations and cultural richness;
- Support experimentation and development of socioeconomic projects and social economy enterprises initiated by young people in their community;

Our partners:



- Invite the young collective entrepreneurs to participate in a “StartUp1” event designed specifically for them;
- Give recognition to youth community engagement;
- Build on the success of this project to raise awareness of First Nations youth about social economy so that the project is known throughout Quebec and spurs a new generation of collective entrepreneurs.

Following are the main activities and timeframes of the **Youth Collective Entrepreneurship** project via the Social Economy Incubator (SEI):

Activity	Timeline
Resources’s letters of intention to serve as “guides/accompanying persons”	December 5, 2018 to January 18, 2019
Recruitment of young collective entrepreneurs	Winter 2019
Training for interveners/accompanying persons	February 2019
Workshops and preparatory activities	March to May 2019 Total: 6 to 8 ideation and pre-start-up activities/workshops
StartUP Nations 2 nd edition, in Montreal	May 23, 24 and 25, 2019
Assessment and evaluation of the experience	June 2019

Planned steps and activities, as well as timelines, will be further clarified with the resources/interveners of the selected organizations or communities.

4. Eligibility Criteria

Organizations or communities will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- The commitment of youth to the sociocultural and socioeconomic development of First Nations is a priority for the organization or community;
- The willingness of interveners to acquire knowledge and tools to support young people in their approach to collective and social entrepreneurship;
- The availability of suitable space that could be used to conduct weekly meetings with young collective entrepreneurs;
- The availability of resources/interveners who will be involved in the project (including attending the “startUp” event, May 23, 24 and 25, 2019 in Montreal);
- Involvement with youth clientele between the ages of 15 and 30 must be demonstrated;
- Experience in community organization, entrepreneurship or the management of sociocultural youth projects are sought-after assets.

Other factors showing the will of the interveners in taking part in the **Youth Collective Entrepreneurship** project could be taken into consideration in the analysis of applications. Please refer to the evaluation grid (Appendix I).

5. Procedure

Interested interveners, organizations and communities are invited to consider the following questions:

- Can we provide the time, space and human resource necessary for the successful implementation of this project?
- Do we agree to engage in the process from start to finish? Do we agree to share our experience and evaluation so that they can benefit other communities?
- Are we prepared to include such services in the regular activities of interveners and thereby ensure their sustainability?

¹ The term “StartUp” is often used to describe a young innovative company or a company being constructed that has not yet begun commercial activities.

If you answer “yes” to all these questions and are interested in this project, we invite you to send us, **before January 18, 2018**:

- a) **A letter of intent confirming interest and explaining why your organization or community would be a good candidate for the project.** We invite you to refer to the eligibility criteria and facilitating factors mentioned in the evaluation grid (Appendix I);
- b) **The completed evaluation grid (Appendix I).** The level of knowledge of interveners, organizations or communities is for guidance only. It will enable the coordination team of the pilot project to better prepare the training and support of the resources/interveners involved in the project;
- c) Once the application and nomination process has been completed, all applications received will be reviewed by a selection committee according to the above criteria.

6. Role of the FNSERT and the FNQLEDC

Work in close collaboration with the resources/interveners of the organization or community to conduct awareness-raising activities of the SEI on youth entrepreneurship in the social economy, which may include:

- Develop and adapt youth collective and social entrepreneurship tools;
- Provide the guide to workshops and activities in collective and social entrepreneurship (social economy) for youth resources/interveners;
- Provide preparatory training for youth resources/interveners;
- Provide support and advice to accompanying persons (resources/interveners) throughout the awareness-raising period and activities (including evaluation of the activities and “StartUp” event);
- Coordinate the “StartUp” event, May 23, 24 and 25, 2019;
- Reimburse travel and subsistence expenses related to participation in the preparatory training (venue to be determined) and participation in the “StartUp” event (in Montréal) according to current policy.

7. Role of the organization or community

The interested organization or community must accept the following responsibilities and commit to:

- Designate a resource or intervener to coordinate the youth awareness project focussed on the First Nations social economy;
- Provide time to the resource or intervener for the integration of new practices and participation in the adaptation of accompaniment tools and activities;
- Use the adapted material and tools to be provided;
- Participate in the preparatory training (location to be confirmed), The StartUp” Nations 2nd edition event (May 23, 24 and 25, 2019) in Montreal and in a meeting to take stock of and share experience (after the event – location to be confirmed).

8. Submission of applications

All applications must be sent **no later than January 18, 2019** to the attention of Lorraine Rhéaume, by e-mail at lrheaume@cdepnql.org or by fax at 418-843-6672.

If you have any questions regarding the application process or the content of the project please contact:

Karine Awashish

Social Economy Advisor

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APPENDIX I – STATE OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT COLLECTIVE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SOCIAL ECONOMY)

<i>Items marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory for participation in the project. The other items are considered as facilitating participation in the project, but not mandatory.</i>	Yes	No	To work on
COMMUNITY SUPPORT			
<i>Our organization has:</i>			
1. The expertise and experience to work with the youth clientele (15-30 years).*			
OFFER OF SERVICES			
<i>Our organization has:</i>			
2. Identified the development of youth entrepreneurship as a priority.*			
3. Identified the local resources for entrepreneurship services and support.			
PROJECT MANAGEMENT			
<i>Our organization has:</i>			
4. Identified a resource or intervener who will be dedicated to the project.*			
5. Identified potential partners to support its involvement.			
6. Learned about the main activities and commits to be involved and invested throughout the project.*			
7. Experience in projects or activities to raise awareness of community involvement and/or youth entrepreneurship.			
8. Experience in mobilizing young people around sociocultural projects or activities.			
KNOWLEDGE OF COLLECTIVE AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SOCIAL ECONOMY)			
<i>Our organization has:</i>			
9. Knowledge in the area of social and economic development.			
10. Knowledge of collective and social entrepreneurship (social economy), in particular in associative life (AGA and Board of Directors), administration (basic elements) or organization and community involvement.			
11. Openness to creativity, innovation and the acquisition of new practices.			
12. Time to dedicate and willingness to work to raise awareness of youth entrepreneurship in the social economy (workload of interveners).*			
TECHNICAL ASPECTS			
<i>Our organization has:</i>			
13. A space that could be used for meetings and activities with the youth.*			
14. Sufficient connectivity to the Internet that could be dedicated to the project.			
15. Comfort in mobilizing and recruiting young people to participate in the activities and the 2 nd edition of the “startUp” Nations.			
16. A resource or intervener who possesses a valid driver’s licence.			