



Our young people matter. Their experience in our region here and now matters.
Their attitude and perception about life, opportunity and their role in our future matters.
They will decide what communities succeed and thrive in the coming years.
Doing everything we can to support them is a given!

Youth outmigration is a critical issue in rural Ontario. We lose our talent pool to urban areas due to a perceived lack of future opportunity and the experience of growing up with a limited selection of youth focused activities. The intention of this Centre is to give our youth something to be proud of - a space of their own to develop their skill set accompanied by a tangible regional commitment to their individual futures.

The Centre will provide a fun, safe and inclusive environment where youth know they belong and are empowered to make positive changes in their lives. Youth are resilient. By providing meaningful opportunities for them to engage in their community, with their peers, they can also absorb new skill sets. We need to show our youth that there is a welcome place in their community and that we are committed to the betterment of their future - ensuring we have done all that we can to enhance their employability, and therefore their future opportunities. This will also aid in the sustainability and growth of our economy as we steer youth towards employment (hopefully locally!).

We have a 21 percent youth unemployment rate, yet at the same time, local businesses are searching for young employees to fill voids within their organizations. There is a documented skills gap in our region and the programming offered at this Centre will listen deliver timely training and skill development based on employer needs.

The Youth Activity and Technology Centre will enhance our region's capacity to succeed, cultivating healthy and vibrant communities that are economically competitive through the attention and retention of our youth.

Economic, social, and cultural sustainability is our end game.

Who are the supporters?

Here's a snapshot of our supporters... we're happy to report the list grows everyday!

Town of Hanover	Zettel Fischer Contracting	Designer
Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs	Community Foundation Grey	Bernie Blakeney – IT specialist
Saugeen Economic Development Corporation	Bruce	Adam Olivero – Wightman Telecom
Hanover Chamber of Commerce	Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board	Golden Tiger
Downtown Improvement Area	West Bros Furniture	Nelson Dawley
Four County Labour Market Planning Board	Smitty's Fine Furniture	Meridian Credit Union
Youth Roots	Hanover Public Library	Grant's Independent Grocer
Canadian Tire	Hobart Equipment Owen Sound	Gemini Canada
Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board	Randy's HDTV Walkerton	Hanover Raceway
Cedarwell Excavating Ltd.	Bruton's Decorating	MacLean's Ale
Wayne's Electric	Emke Schaab	County of Grey
	Randy's Locks	Georgian College
	Habitat for Humanity – Re-store	
	Destiny Kieffer – Graphic	

How does Launchpad work?

Come on in and speak to our amazing staff for some intros and a tour! Complete the membership form and have your parent/guardian sign. The annual membership fee is only \$5! This gets you a USB key and access to all of our awesome programs and mentors.

We're open Tuesday to Friday, 3:30 to 8:00pm, stop by anytime! Launchpad is for all youth 12-18 years old from Grey, Bruce & beyond!

What can YOU-th expect?

- A safe and fun environment to meet new friends
- An opportunity to learn new skills
- Try out new technology
- Participate in skill building projects with your friends and a skilled staff or volunteer
- Explore your creative side with our Artshops and Murals

Here are some answers to our most frequent questions...

Is it safe to drop my child off? Yes! We have:

- Video surveillance inside and outside of building
- Trained and experienced staff working with youth
- Volunteers and staff complete mandatory criminal record and vulnerable sector checks

Is it a nut-free facility?

We are an "Allergy Aware Facility". Please speak with us if you have any concerns for your child's safety and well-being.

Who will be there?

Let us introduce our awesome staff! Jacinda Rudolph is our Project Manager. Sarah Coburn and Natalia Baldo are our Program Assistants, Bernie Blakeney is our Tech Guy and Alex Pfeffer is our Programs Coordinator.

You will also find Brandon, our Youth Roots Coordinator and Ashton his awesome sidekick on site. We've got an awesome partnership with Youth Roots and we are so happy to have the group share this space.

What's happening at Launch Pad?

Digital Media

- Graphic Design
- Video Editing
- Photography

Music

- Guitar Lessons
- Recording
- Garageband

Software Development

- Write a game
- Develop Mobile and Web Apps
- Creating Minecraft Mods

Art Shops

- Mural Painting
- Art and Drawing
- Crafts and Jewellery Making

Entrepreneurship

- Create an Online Business
- Financial Literacy
- Raising Money for your Start-up

Computer Hardware

- Raspberry PI Projects
- Building and Tuning Computers
- Networking
- Robotics

Activities

- Gaming
- Kickboxing and other sports
- Yoga and fitness

Trades (Coming soon)

- Culinary
- Electrical
- Welding
- Carpentry

Networking

Thank you for your support!

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to the Government of Ontario and all of our local contributors for helping us bring Launch Pad to fruition. We wouldn't be where we are without the tremendous generosity of our community!

If you'd like to donate to this initiative, please contact Jacinda,
519.506.6300 or yatc@hanover.ca.
Donation receipts are available.

Thank you!

