

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release – March 2, 2026

### **Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership Launches the Sarnia-Lambton Small Business Support Grant Program**

Sarnia, ON – The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) is launching a new small business support program to help entrepreneurs strengthen and grow their operations.

The Sarnia-Lambton Small Business Support Grant will award ten grants of up to \$4,000 each to eligible businesses in Lambton County. The program is designed to support local small businesses that are working to overcome operational challenges or pursue growth opportunities through investment in specific activities that support long-term sustainability and local economic impact.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our local economy,” said Matthew Slotwinski, CEO of the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership. “They create jobs, support families, and bring energy to our communities. This grant will help business owners take the next step, strengthen their operations, and continue making a positive impact in their communities.

The grant is open to registered, full-time small businesses that have been operating in Lambton County for at least one year, across a range of sectors including retail, trades, tourism, hospitality, personal services, professional services, and food and beverage. Business owners do not need to be Canadian citizens or permanent residents to be eligible. Businesses operated by newcomers with valid work authorization are welcome to apply. Applicants must describe their business, outline a specific project or improvement, and explain how the funding will support long-term goals or enhance services within their community.

Applications will be accepted starting March 2, 2026, and must be submitted by April 10, 2026. Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to book a consultation with SLEP in advance. To schedule a consultation, contact Chantelle Core at [chantelle@sarnialambton.on.ca](mailto:chantelle@sarnialambton.on.ca) or call 519-332-1820. Full program details and the online application form are available at: [www.sarnialambton.on.ca/smallbusinessgrant](http://www.sarnialambton.on.ca/smallbusinessgrant)

#### **About the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership:**

Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) is the lead economic development agency for the Sarnia-Lambton area. Funded by the County of Lambton, we focus on promoting the distinct advantages Sarnia-Lambton proudly offers companies and residents. By coordinating community-based economic development initiatives and maintaining a commercially attractive environment, we foster new business creation, help ensure that established firms remain and grow here, and work to attract growing businesses to the Sarnia-Lambton area.



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