

AFRO CARIBBEAN BUSINESS NETWORK

DEVELOPING
ECONOMIC STRENGTH
IN THE BLACK
COMMUNITY

**Welcome
Registration**

Sheridan | Get
Creative



Mission & Vision Statement



The Afro-Caribbean Business Network was created to provide a resource to business owners in our community to help them succeed. Running a business can be difficult on your own and with more support entrepreneurship gets easier.

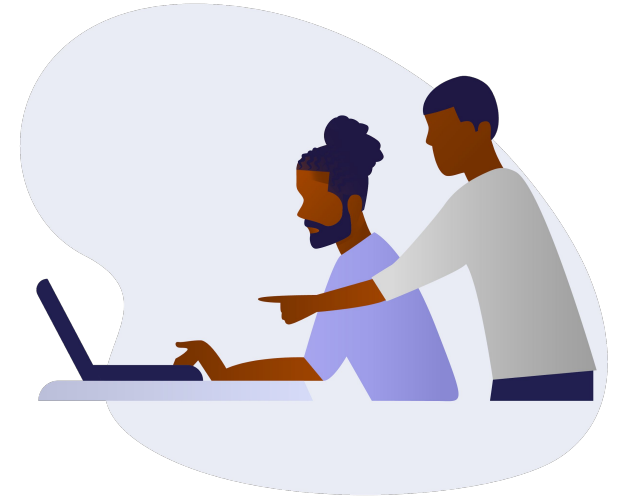
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Community Reach



Internal Database
3400 Black entrepreneurs

65% Female
Entrepreneurs



71% Business
Founders and CEO's

Community Reach cont'



Partnered with 20+
Black Focused Business organizations
extending our reach to over 10,000 Black Entrepreneurs
Across Canada

THE PILLARS OF FOCUS FOR ACBN

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Fostering the next generation of Black Canadian entrepreneurs with programs and services.

ECONOMIC INCLUSION

Breaking the economic barriers for the underrepresented.

EMPOWERMENT

Connecting the community through the means of technology

ACCESS TO FUNDING

Providing microloan funding and access to investments with the tools and skills to build financial literacy.

FOSTERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- **Helping businesses launch, scale, and innovate, promoting greater economic stability and productivity**
- **Created specialized programming, investment networking opportunities and hands on training including our signature Legacy Symposium annual event.**
- **Supporting entrepreneurship and start-ups with access to our Social Enterprise Marketing Agency and dynamic experts in the community to support**



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DRIVING ECONOMIC INCLUSION

- **Helping Black Canadians adapt their skills to the changing demands of our economy.**
- **Finding statistics on the number of Black entrepreneurs in the different regions across Canada in partnership with Sheridan College Research Department.**
- **Developing and platforming career and business opportunities in the technology and innovation sectors.**

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EMPOWERMENT

- **Creating safe Black Business Development hub spaces for multi-generational Black Canadians to convene, connect and engage in positive and productive economic development.**
- **Acting as an intermediary between all levels of government to get access to procurement opportunities.**
- **Commissioned the Black Empowerment Manifesto with 16 recommendations for the Black community to Prosper**





alterna savings

**WE ARE HELPING
TO CHANGE
LIVES THROUGH:**

ACCESS TO FUNDING

- Created a Social Finance Fund in partnership with Alterna Savings Credit Union to offer access to Microloans of \$500 - \$2500.
- Taking a cultural approach to finance systems that take into account Afrocentric and social awareness.
- Delivering workshops focused on financial literacy including budgeting, planning, accounting and how to obtain and write grants.

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Next Steps

What can you do to jump start Black Entrepreneurs

1. We have been able to complete a Black Empowerment Manifesto that outlines the strategic, tactical, and operational goals and benefits
 - a. Unified vision and frequent pulse checks
 - b. Alignment with municipal, provincial and federal objectives
2. Community Empowerment Procurement Initiative
 - a. Strategic Alliances Initiative
 - b. Enhance education in macro-level procurement management bidding processes
3. Black Business Entrepreneurial Strategy
 - a. Centralize the voice of the community with a clear vision, mission, and objectives
 - b. Create strategies to manage the economic downfall of post-COVID-19
 - c. Establish new ownership models fueled by creativity and innovation

What we are looking for...

1. Support from Bruce County to complete our research of available land in the region
2. Create a joint effort to build affordable housing in alignment with Federal Housing Strategy
3. Create forums to discuss new entrepreneurial approaches and to discuss strategies
4. Invite to city planning discussion to understand how we can support future growth

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