

For immediate release: October 12, 2022

RPL celebrates local immigrant entrepreneurs for Small Business Week

Small Business Week is a national celebration of entrepreneurs and their contribution to Canada's economy. Regina Public Library (RPL) will be hosting a weeklong series of events and education workshops to support and celebrate with the local business community, shining a spotlight on the challenges and successes of Regina's immigrant entrepreneurs.

RPL showcases its commitment to economic development in Regina with a program each day of Small Business Week, October 16-22. Inspirational stories, expert tips of the trade, and step-by-step guidance are all part of the event lineup, presented by local pros.

"RPL's Small Business Week events collaborate with Regina's own small business community – in particular those who have gone through the additional hurdles of immigrating," said Millicent Mabi, Director of Community Engagement and Programming. "We want to provide a place for everyone – local business leaders, entrepreneurs, hopefuls and professionals – to learn from and inspire each other."

The launch event on October 16 features a panel of four local immigrant entrepreneurs who will share their stories and discuss what it takes to become a successful small business owner. Speakers are Abul Kalam Azad, founder of Alis Property Management; Adebanye Disu-Adebara, owner of Laghos African Kitchenette; George Zhu, owner of the UPS Store (Albert St-South); and Jashim Uddin, owner of Regina Food Corner. The panel discussion will be moderated by Salmaan Moolla, Consultant/Project Manager at Praxis Consulting, acting board member for the Saskatchewan Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (SYPE) Regina chapter.

Supporting programs include:

Effective Market Research Strategies for Small Businesses

Monday, October 17, 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Online

Find out how to get a good sense of your business' market: demand, market size, market saturation, pricing, and location.

How to Start Your Own Business in Canada

Monday, October 17, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Online

Step-by-step guidance on how to start your own business in Canada, including planning, financing, business registry, marketing, hiring employees, navigating taxes and more.

Financial Essentials for Women Entrepreneurs

Tuesday, October 18, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Online

Women entrepreneurs can discover the critical financial factors for success and how to maximize your business.

Common Start-up Mistakes Every Entrepreneur Should Avoid

Wednesday, October 19, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Online

This workshop discusses some of the most common start-up mistakes you should watch out for before your venture.

Why Customer Experience Matters to Your Business

Thursday, October 20, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

In person at Central Library

A great customer experience is critical to the sustained growth of a small business. Learn how to measure and improve your customer experience to promote brand loyalty and get referrals.

Buying a Franchise Business: What You Need to Know

Friday, October 21, 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Online

This workshop discusses what a franchise business is, what makes it different, what the pros and cons are, how to choose the right one, and how to get financing.

Register for Small Business Week series programs and find additional resources to support your business at reginalibrary.ca/smallbusiness.

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For more information:

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