

## IDEAS AND PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO IEPC

### Idea: Small Business Grants

**Submission type:** Individual

**Description** Montreal has a small business grant of up to \$30,000 available for young people between 18-35. I lived there for six years and knew so many people who had received this grant to get their small businesses up and running. For awhile I worked for a company that had it's start this way, a company that does public ceramic and marble mosaic projects locally and internationally, and for private commissions as well.

People have a lot of great ideas, but no resources to get started. Loans are not an option for people who cannot afford to go into debt. A \$30,000 grant goes a long way towards building and enriching a local economy. <http://www.fondationdumaire.ca/en/services/bourse.php>

I attended the Culture session at Forest City Gallery, and something that came up again and again was the need for more local development of unique small businesses on a walkable/bike-able neighbourhood scale, not big box stores and chain restaurants that kill cultural diversity, and funnel money into corporate pockets outside of the city (or country). Supporting small businesses with a grant program such as the one offered in Montreal would help Londoners create work for themselves, rather than leaving the overwhelming task of job creation to the people at city hall. When we hear about job creation, it usually seems like unfulfilling factory work results, often in industries that contribute to environmental problems. With a bit of help, people can work towards their dreams, whether that's opening a restaurant, a bed & breakfast, a gallery, a publishing house, a pottery shop, you name it. As a result, we have employed people, as well as a more interesting, diverse, and enjoyable city.

As a side note, who can I contact about this rumour that the trees at the forks will be cut down to make a beach?? And replace the northwest bank with concrete? The forks is beautiful as is!!! I would be so sad to see all that green space replaced with concrete, and sand that will be sure to be full of broken glass within weeks.

**What is the status of this idea – is anything already happening?**

**Who are the partners that would need to be involved? What are their roles?**

**Cost to implement:**

**Funding Requested from City (\$) if any:**

**Will this idea move forward without City of London funding?**

**Will your idea create jobs?**

**How many jobs will be created?**

**Full or Part-time:**

**Permanent or Temporary:**

**Job Level:**

**Job Salary:**

**What sector(s) will this create job(s) in?**

**Is there anything else you can tell us about your idea that will create jobs?**

**Will this idea leverage investments from others? What kind? How much?**

**Will this idea stimulate spin-off benefits? What type? How? Where?**

**Will this idea build new or existing partnerships? How?**

**Will this idea benefit emerging or established industry sectors? How?**

**Will this idea fuel transformative change in London's economy? If so, how?**

**Contact:**

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