

## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO'S ENGINEERING CAREER CENTRE JOINS Hub350

*NCR organizations get easier access to emerging young professionals  
from one of Canada's leading engineering schools*

**Ottawa, Canada:** The Kanata North Business Association (KNBA) is delighted to announce a new partnership with the University of Toronto's Engineering Career Centre.

The Engineering Career Centre (ECC) operates the renowned **Professional Experience Year Co-op Program (PEY Co-op)**, a degree-long work-integrated learning opportunity for undergraduate engineering students at U of T. PEY Co-op includes career development and workplace preparation, so students are ready to make a professional impact. Some students choose to do a summer co-op work term after their second year, and after third year, all students work in a full-time paid role for 12 to 16 months at one single employer. This allows sufficient time for them to make a significant contribution.

"We're always looking for quality opportunities from across the country and, for both students and recent graduates, we want to help open doors to the National Capital Region and its collection of top employers," said Roger Francis, ECC Executive Director. "And for those employers, the ECC offers a strong talent pool, with over 4,000 engineering students registered in PEY Co-op. Additionally, U of T has developed a one-stop shop where a relationship with any of our co-op programs gains an employer access to a broader University network of co-op students."

The Kanata North Business Association launched Hub350 in the fall of 2021, with the goal of creating a collaborative, community town hall for its 540+ member companies. The 12,000 square foot campus acts as the gateway to Canada's largest technology park, and a place for Partners outside of the region to soft land. Hub350 was built on 3 key pillars being Industry, Academia, and Investment, where an ecosystem of strategic Partners is being formed. A key priority for Hub350 under the Academic Pillar is talent for its growing companies – there are over 1,000 open roles in the Kanata North tech park, and hundreds of co-op and internship positions available annually. Students will have the opportunity to meet with companies directly at the annual Discover Technata Tech & Talent Expo, taking place on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Brookstreet hotel in Kanata North.

"We at KNBA are delighted to welcome the ECC as an Academic Partner," said Julia Frame, KNBA's Director of Partnerships. "We're already working with the ECC team to highlight Kanata

North as a place for U of T co-op students to live, work, play, learn, and innovate. It's a great opportunity for students to engage with over 500 innovation companies, ranging from startups to large multinationals, in subsectors such as telecommunications and 5G, SaaS, AI, and connected and autonomous vehicles."

As an initial outcome of the partnership, on **Friday, February 24**, students on the ECC's Discover Ottawa Industry Tour had brunch at KNBA's Hub350 gathering space and met Ottawa-area tech leaders, including **CAE**, **Sanmina**, **RBR**, and **Sir Terry Matthews** of **Wesley Clover International**. **Invest Ottawa** and **Ottawa Tourism** rounded out students' picture of the NCR.

### **About the University of Toronto's Engineering Career Centre**

The Engineering Career Centre's (ECC) **Professional Experience Year Co-op Program (PEY Co-op)** offers undergraduate students a work-integrated learning opportunity comprising job search skills, workplace preparation and paid work terms. The opt-in degree-long program has a 40-year track record of helping students develop proven practical experience for long-term career success. For employers, PEY Co-op is a valued resource for hiring Canada's top engineering talent. The ECC is part of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering, Canada's leading engineering school. This world-renowned community is dedicated to solving some of the world's most pressing challenges through research and experiential education. To learn more about the ECC, visit [engineeringcareers.utoronto.ca](http://engineeringcareers.utoronto.ca).

### **About KNBA/Hub350**

Kanata North Business Association is a non-profit organization committed to representing and advocating for the best interests of the over 540 member companies located in the area. As a critical part of Ottawa's economic development future and a renowned hub of technology and innovation, the Kanata North business area is a robust and vital region that can foster even greater success for its constituent companies.

Hub350 is a new ecosystem for Industry, Academic and Finance partners to coexist and collaborate in the heart of Kanata North. For more information visit: [www.kanatanorthba.com](http://www.kanatanorthba.com) or [www.hub350.com](http://www.hub350.com).

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