

SOBIN

Southwestern Ontario Bioproducts
Innovation Network

Bio-Innovator

December 2008
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Holiday Wishes from SOBIN

From the Staff and Board of the Southwestern Ontario Bioproducts Innovation Network we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone

*A Safe and Happy Holiday and
Very Prosperous New Year*



SOBIN Office on the Move

The Southwestern Ontario Bioproducts Innovation Network is pleased to announce that effective February 1, 2009 the main administrative offices for SOBIN will be re-locating from St. Clair College's Thames Campus in Chatham, Ontario to the Ridgetown Campus of the University of Guelph in Ridgetown, Ontario.

While remaining central within the SOBIN region, the move to the Ridgetown Campus will allow SOBIN to continue to work closely on the further development of the recently launched Centre for Agricultural Renewable Energy and Sustainability (CARES) that is also based at the Campus.

For the past four years, SOBIN has been graciously housed at St. Clair College's Thames Campus in Chatham. SOBIN is truly grateful for the substantial in-kind support and resources that the Thames Campus has provided over the years as well as the valuable assistance and guidance that John Lawrence (SOBIN's First President from St. Clair College) has provided SOBIN in its established.

Watch for notification in January of details around changes to SOBIN's contact information and mailing address.



New Soybean Crush Facility for Ontario being Investigated

On November 28, 2008 the Ontario Government announced \$50,000 in funding through the Ontario Rural Economic Development Program towards a scoping study looking the feasibility of constructing and operating a specialty soybean crushing facility in Southwestern Ontario. The study is being carried out on behalf of AGRIS Co-operative and Suncor Energy and is also receiving significant funding support from the Ontario Soybean Growers.

The facility being looked at, would capitalize on the Ontario soybean industries well-established IP (Identity Preserved) soybean system to segment the crop for many different end products and end uses. The oil and meal produced through this type of facility could be directed to specific value added markets in both the industrial (bioproducts/biofuels) and food processing sectors.

“We are grateful to the McGuinty government for recognizing the innovative nature of this project,” said AGRIS Co-operative President Richard Tanner. “This project has the potential to create synergy between our organization and Suncor Energy to provide economic benefits to farmers and their communities.”



Participating in the November 28th announcement are (L to R): Jason Vaillant (Suncor Energy), Dale Petrie (Ontario Soybean Growers), Pat Hoy (MPP Chatham-Kent-Essex), Richard Tanner (President, AGRIS Co-op), Jim Campbell (GM, AGRIS Coop), Matt McLean (SOBIN) and Art Schaafsma (Ridgetown Campus, University of Guelph)

Entrepreneurial Development Program Being Offered

Delivered through the Thames Campus of St. Clair College in Chatham, Ontario in partnership with the Southwestern Ontario Bioproducts Innovation Network (SOBIN), this non-credit course is targeted at those who have an interest in creating a new company to commercialize new products or innovations.

This series of lectures assumes no prior knowledge of business and covers a diverse range of topics including finding financing, defining markets, hiring teams and protecting intellectual property.

The Entrepreneurial Development Program is 20 hours in length and is offered through a series of five, weekly lectures. Friday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon from Friday, February 6, 2008 to Friday March 6, 2008 inclusive.

The following is a general breakdown of the topics covered over the five week series.



**ST. CLAIR
COLLEGE**

Business Planning and Business Governance

- Developing an Effective Business Plan
- Examples of Business Governance Structures
- Managing your Business Plan

Legal / Accounting

- Basic legal aspects of establishing a business
- Business Structures – Sole Proprietorship / Partnership / Incorporation
- Contracts
- Basic Accounting and Budgeting Principals
- Intellectual Property Management

Marketing Strategy

- Product, Pricing, Placing (Distribution), Promotion, People
- Identifying your Target Market

Human Resources / Effective Leadership

- Putting Together and Managing the Right Team

Raising Capital

- Overview of the Basics - The Dos and Don'ts of Attracting Investment
- Industry Panel Discussion

Further details on this course and registration details will be posted in the News and Events Section of the SOBIN Website in January.

Upcoming Events

Canadian Renewable Energy Workshop

Regina, SK March 10 - 12, 2009

In its second year, the Canadian Renewable Energy Workshop will continue to focus on the development of Canada's ethanol and biodiesel industry by bringing together decision makers and key stakeholders from within the renewable energy sector to discuss emerging technologies, operation practices and future development.

www.crew2009.com

Growing the Margins 2009

London, ON March 10 - 13, 2009

Due to a growing interest in biogas production, this year's event will introduce a new session on farm- and food-derived biogas in Canada that will address the market opportunities, partnerships and technology surrounding anaerobic digestion. The conference will also explore the technological, operating, regulatory and financial challenges and opportunities facing farms and related food-processing and rural industries, as they strive to improve their energy efficiency and better utilize their bioproducts.

www.gtmconference.ca

Ontario Centres of Excellence's Discovery '09

Metro Toronto Convention Centre May 11-12, 2009

Canada's largest innovation forum will bring together private industry, governments, scientists, researchers, academia, and investors to pursue opportunities for collaboration and innovation. Don't miss your chance to be part of it. Register before April 9th and save 15% off attendee and exhibitor fees

www.ocediscovery.com

6th Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology & Bioprocessing- Montreal, PQ July 19 - 22, 2009

The sixth annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology & Bioprocessing will take place at the beautiful Palais des congrès de Montréal.

www.bio.org/worldcongress/Event/Venue.asp

SOBIN

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WHO WE ARE

The mission of SOBIN is to strengthen the economy of Southwestern Ontario by cultivating new bioproducts, fostering energy conservation and expanding alternative energy sources. We envision progressive companies leading the world in growing all facets of the bioproducts industry in Southwestern Ontario leading to a vibrant regional economy.

Thanks to our **FUNDING PARTNERS**



Ministry of Research & Innovation



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