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## Lead to Win launches a mentorship program for women entrepreneurs

Posted by [Andrea Wahbe](#) on Fri, October 7, 2011 8:19 AM · Filed under [Montréal](#) and 5 [other categories](#) · [Comments](#)

This fall, [Lead to Win](#), a program that mentors business startups, generates jobs and provides investment for the cash-strapped technology sector, is launching a mentorship program for female entrepreneurs in Ottawa.



**Lead To Win for Women**

The program is open to all forms of women-owned firms, from technology startups to manufacturing and food businesses, and will offer access to a network of successful entrepreneurs with the goal of fostering more female-led startups.

The organizers of Lead to Win for Women were inspired by recent reports which show that females make up a mere five per cent of entrepreneurs in the technology industry. The new program will help to ensure gender inclusivity within the ecosystems that support startups in Canada.

"The program's informal setting encouraged an open exchange of information that I was then able to apply to my own business ventures," said Elizabeth Lance, CEO of the Ingenuity Group and a past-participant of the Lead to Win program. "Regardless of your field of expertise, everyone can take something away from the program."

Lead to Win is offering an intensive six-day boot camp that is open to all founders, both men and women, to help them solidify and strengthen their business strategies. Boot camp participants will pitch their ideas to a panel of seasoned entrepreneurs by the end of the program. The boot camp takes place October 25-27 and November 22-24, 2011.

"The business training I received during the boot camp was invaluable," said Katie Hyrcak, founder of Commentair Technologies Inc. and a Carleton graduate. "In the end you have a solid network of extremely intelligent individuals who all went through the same gruelling process as you, and the support that comes with that."

You can [apply for the boot](#) camp until October 10th.

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### About The Author

#### Andrea Wahbe

When I was a kid, I always found that playing for the under-dog team was far more satisfying than playing for the number one team. That's because there is nowhere to go but up – and I do enjoy the climb! I have always gravitated towards creative new ventures which allow me to develop sales and marketing strategies that help smaller businesses...[\[more\]](#)



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