



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

PEIBWA ANNOUNCES WOMEN UNDER 30 MICRO GRANT WINNERS

Monday, March 28, 2022 (Charlottetown, PE) - The **PEI Business Women's Association (PEIBWA)** is pleased to announce that ten Island women entrepreneurs have been selected to receive a total of \$25,000 in financial support for their business projects through its ***Leading the Way – Empowerment program for women entrepreneurs under 30.***

The successful recipients were announced during a special wrap-up event in Charlottetown last week that featured a panel of young Island women entrepreneurs, hosted by *Thriving Tides* Podcast hosts, Julie Ann Gauthier and Stephanie Perrault-Bittner.

Each of the ten recipients will receive a \$2,500 non-repayable grant to advance their new and growing businesses.

The program developed by PEIBWA in 2021 and funded by the Interministerial Women's Secretariat and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) was designed to give young women leaders across PEI the opportunity to come together to network, exchange business ideas, and to help shape the future of PEI's business community through a series of workshops, speaker presentations, meetings, and peer-to-peer mentoring activities.

"We are thrilled to engage and empower more young women entrepreneurs across Prince Edward Island through programs such as ***Leading the Way,***" says PEIBWA CEO Margaret Magner. "In addition to the exclusive financial opportunity, participants had the chance to build networks, knowledge, and self-confidence while creating lasting connections and supporting other women entrepreneurs."

Congratulations to the *Leading the Way* Micro Grant recipients: Melanie Roias, Bark & Bow Grooming; Taylor Smiley; Juliette Roberts, Roberts Academy of Dance; Jessie Clark, Zenflex; Candace MacDonald; Oyeinemomoemi (Stephanie) Omonibo; Alexa McQuaid; Rachel Perry, Rural Route Creations; Charisa Lykow, Dabomb Custom Bakery; Sayaka Takizawa.

As part of the ***Leading the Way*** Program, PEIBWA has created a series of success stories which will be distributed over the coming months showcasing Island women business leaders under 30 who are making inroads - improving, innovating, and advancing the entrepreneurial community.

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About PEIBWA

The PEI Business Women's Association (PEIBWA) is a member-based not-for-profit organization with a mandate to educate, empower and inspire PEI women to succeed in their business endeavours. Incorporated in 1993, it is the only women's business association with an Island-wide mandate in the province and has a membership of 550 women entrepreneurs and business professionals. PEIBWA provides advisory services, training, opportunities for development, and connections with other women in business. www.peibwa.org