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'The benefits of this program will be evident for years to come': Community Concierge program celebrates one year in Kawartha Lakes

The Community Concierge program in Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough County recently celebrated one year of connecting graduating university students with local employers.

"It is terrific to see local businesses making new connections, or formalizing existing relationships, with Trent University. Kawartha Lakes is going to benefit from students joining into our communities while they learn," said Rebecca Mustard, Manager of Economic Development.

Thirty-six organizations in Kawartha Lakes are creating 1,500 work-Integrated Learning placements, giving upper-year Trent students opportunities to transition to local, full-time employment once they graduate through the program. Funding for the program, which is \$822,392, comes from employment Ontario's Skills Development Fund.

The Community Concierge program aims to not only help Trent graduates enter the job market but also help fill

employment gaps for skilled workers for local and rural employers.

"The benefits of this program will be evident for years to come. It is a wonderful example of what can be achieved when educators, the private sector and all levels of government work together. We are looking forward to Trent students, and graduates, living and working in Kawartha Lakes," added Mayor Doug Elmslie.

Lead

The Community Concierge, a cross-municipality program that connects Trent graduates with career opportunities throughout the City of Kawartha Lakes and the City and County of Peterborough, recently celebrated its first year. Pictured from left to right are: Kelly Maloney (Kawartha Lakes Economic Development Officer), Lisa Handley (Kawartha Dairy), Laurie Scott, MPP (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock), Dr. Leo Groarke (President and Vice Chancellor Trent University), Mayor Doug Elmslie (Kawartha Lakes), Rebecca Mustard (Kawartha Lakes Manager of Economic Development)