

CatalystsX Launches Financial Literacy Program for Young Social Entrepreneurs

TORONTO, ON - CatalystsX launches a financial literacy program to help young social entrepreneurs navigate financial skills on Nov. 22 from 5:30 to 7:30pm at the Centre for Social Innovation on 720 Bathurst Street.

Better the World, Balance Your Books, was created in response to social entrepreneurs lacking confidence in their financial skills and habits. The toolkit gives young people the financial background to make an impact in their communities.

“Even though I’ve started many organizations, the finances still freaked me out,” said Victoria Alleyne, CEO of CatalystsX. “And I realized I wasn’t alone. Charities, grassroots, for-profit social good companies and freelancers, most people struggle with figuring out the finances.”

Better the World, Balance Your Books includes an interactive and user-friendly website exploring topics such as budgeting, cash flow planning and bookkeeping. Plus, in hopes of decreasing the overwhelm of finding trusted professionals, the site has a list of trusted financial experts who have committed to serving small businesses and organizations fairly.

In addition to the website, CatalystsX has five interactive workshop modules which it provides to community organizations and educational institutions across the country.

The toolkit was put together by a team with diverse backgrounds, ranging from professional financial mentors for young social entrepreneurs to certified accountants, arts, co-operatives, and renewable energy entrepreneurship.

The free drop-in launch event will provide a chance for people to bring their burning financial concerns and informally figure them out with those present, ranging from experts to fellow social entrepreneurs. The organizing team has promised there won’t be any long speeches.

While many ages will find *Better the World, Balance Your Books* to be useful, it also aligns well with new provincial educational plans. The Ministry of Education is rolling out pilot projects at 28 high schools in Ontario for financial literacy to become part of the Grade 10 curriculum.

“Our focus is on how to best prepare Ontario students to succeed in this constantly changing, technology-driven world,” said Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education in a recent interview. “By providing students with an enhanced career studies course, mandatory financial literacy and offering more hands-on learning opportunities, students can gain the skills they need to succeed now and in the future”

More information about Better the World, Balance Your Books is available at www.financiallit.ca.

About CatalystsX

CatalystsX is a non-profit which cultivates and accelerates changemakers with people, resources, and opportunities to survive and thrive.

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