

March 23, 2015

Sheridan College has partnered with the City of Brampton to create the MakerSpace Creative Hub in the Brampton downtown library. The initiative, launched in September 2014, advances sustainability at Sheridan and in the community by giving the community free access to information and tools which avoids duplication of resources and provides affordable access to information and knowledge.

The MakerSpace Creative Hub provides a collaboration space and gives support for the community to learn about and use cutting edge technologies including 3D printers, 3D and Architectural modeling software, microelectronics, robotics and more. The Hub operates as a free drop-in centre and holds regular workshops (for all ages) hosted by students and professors from Sheridan's Faculty of Applied Science & Technology. At these sessions, visitors have the opportunity to learn about manufacturing and mechanical tools and technology, and in turn, use these tools and skills to make replacement parts to fix broken household items, such as printing a replacement parts using a 3D printer.

Recently, the MakerSpace Creative Hub hosted a Repair Café, where community visitors brought in broken household items to be repaired by experts, and at the same time, they learned how to fix broken items themselves. These types of events provides a set of shareable tools so that members of the community do not have to purchase duplicates; thereby reducing resource extraction and energy used to manufacture these items. This is an example of how the Hub fosters innovation and collaboration within the community and supports the local economy, particularly in the downtown core.

This is one of only a handful of community-based MakerSpaces in Canada that is accessible to everyone in the community, and possibly the only collaboration of its kind in Canada between a college and local City partners. The MakerSpace Creative Hub goes beyond community partnerships and engagement by providing free tools, education, and resources to inspire people in the surrounding community to be creative and learn new skills.

Sincerely,



Jeff Zabudsky, Ph.D.
President and CEO