

## *Supporting Student Entrepreneurship and Enterprise at StFX University*

### **Innovative Enterprise Internships**

The Wallace Family Summer Internship will provide StFX University (StFX) students with a self-directed learning experience that helps strengthen entrepreneurial skills through the exploration and development of their own innovative enterprise endeavour. Students who have an innovative idea and who are interested in starting a new venture, developing a new prototype or applying innovative approaches to a particular product or service are encouraged to apply. Interns receive coaching and assistance from StFX Extension Innovation and Enterprise Centre staff and faculty mentors and engage in learning activities that help them explore and develop an enterprise. Business incubation space will be provided to all interns and discussions with investors and partners are encouraged. Perhaps most importantly, interns have the opportunity to work together and participate in a learning experience for innovative student entrepreneurs - offering award winners the chance to network and be exposed to mini-seminars, guest speakers, and other entrepreneurial ideas.

The internships support full-time employment for StFX students for a 12 week period during the summer (April 25<sup>th</sup> -July 15<sup>th</sup>) period, the funding provided through the **Wallace Family Entrepreneurship Fund**. In 2022, there are four internships available, worth up to \$6000 each, or \$10,000 for a team. The internships are open to students enrolled in full-time study at StFX.

Application is made by completing the attached form and submitting it with the required documentation by emailed to the Extension Department at [pbrophy@stfx.ca](mailto:pbrophy@stfx.ca). Although not required in the application, students are encouraged to identify a faculty mentor from an appropriate area of expertise, whom they think would be a good mentor during the internship. It is anticipated that at least one meeting a month during the internship period will be required of the faculty mentor.

This year, as part of the application process, the top eight applicants will be required to submit a video pitch of their idea. The five minute pitch will be assessed by the evaluation committee and used in awarding the internships. Further information about the pitch requirements will be provided to the selected applicants.

Applications must be submitted via email on or before the **deadline of 4:00 PM on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. All applications will be reviewed by a committee comprised of StFX staff and faculty and adjudicated based on the eligibility and review criteria noted in the next section.

## Eligibility

StFX students enrolled in any year of a full-time program are encouraged to apply. To be eligible, students must have been enrolled in full-time studies in a degree program at StFX during the most recent complete academic term (prior to the application deadline).

Please note that the internship is also open to students who have just completed their studies but have yet to graduate; however, preference will be given to students who are returning to studies in September.

Students may not hold another student summer internship or another externally funded summer research internship (such as a NSERC USRA or NSHRF Scotia Scholar award).

Allocation of internships is based on consideration of the following criteria:

- a) **Innovation and creativity:** Degree of innovation and uniqueness expressed in the applicant's New Venture proposal and at their five minute pitch.
- b) **Sustainability:** Likelihood of New Venture continuation and growth after the internship period
- c) **Motivation:** Level of motivation and desire to make the New Venture a reality as expressed by the applicant
- d) **Learning goals:** Relevance and contribution of identified learning goals to the development of the applicant's New Venture
- e) **Academic standing:** Applicants should be in good academic standing

In addition to the internship described above, StFX will continue to promote and facilitate application to externally funded summer research internship programs such as the NSERC USRA and the NSHRF Scotia Scholars program.

## Application Form

### Wallace Family Summer Internship Application Deadline – 4:00 PM, Friday February 11<sup>th</sup> 2022

1. Student Name:  
Student ID:  
Program of Study:  
Year of Study:  
Mailing Address:  
Email Address:  
Telephone:
  
2. Title of proposed New Venture:
  
3. Please attach a **description of your proposed New Venture outlining (Maximum two pages):**
  - Your innovative idea for the business venture (what do you want to explore)
  - Learning goals (what do you want to learn)
  - Desired outcomes (what do you hope to accomplish)
  - Motivation (why do you want to participate)
  - Proposed Faculty mentor (recommended)
  
4. Location of proposed New Venture:  
Note: Business incubation space in Antigonish will be provided to each intern for 12 weeks (between April 25<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>, with option to extend)
  
5. Interns in receipt of this award agree to:
  - Engage in a self-directed, 12 week internship program
  - Meet weekly with the Internship Coordinator
  - Attend weekly seminars and participate in learning activities offered during the internship period
  - Provide monthly reports to the Internship Coordinator and Faculty Mentor
  - Write a final summary of the internship experience (outlining learning accomplishments, overall achievements) and submit a copy to the Extension Department
  - Participate in an innovation and entrepreneurship event organized by StFX University where they share their internship learning experiences
  - Participate in follow-up surveys and interviews as conducted by StFX after the internship period

## Wallace Family Summer Internship 2022

By signing below, you agree to the foregoing conditions and consent to StFX sharing video/audio/print proceedings from any reports and events (in whole or in part) in its communications materials.

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

6. The Wallace Family Entrepreneurship funding is for the summer internship salary (and required benefits). Expenses related to the internship are the responsibility of the intern.

By signing below, you understand that should you receive the award, all other expenses are your responsibility.

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

To complete this application, please attach an up-to-date copy of your **StFX Student Grade Report**.

Once complete, please submit this form (along with your StFX Student Grade Report and proposed New Venture project description) to **Paula Brophy by email at [pbrophy@stfx.ca](mailto:pbrophy@stfx.ca)**.

**Application deadline is 4:00 PM on Friday February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

Questions concerning the application can be directed to:

**Paula Brophy**  
**Coordinator, StFX Extension Innovation and Enterprise Centre**  
[pbrophy@stfx.ca](mailto:pbrophy@stfx.ca)

### Application Checklist

- Completed application form
- New Venture title, description, and location
- StFX Student Grade Report in PDF
- If submitting a team application by email, please carbon copy (cc:) all members of the team

**Important dates to note:** Question and Answer Sessions: February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-6:00pm. Zoom links can be found on website.