

Presentation to
Niagara Region Planning and Economic
Development Committee

Brock LINC

August 7, 2019

Brock University

- Est. in 1964 as a community-based and regional university
- Economic impact of \$640m
- Strategic Priorities
 1. Providing a transformational and accessible academic and student experience
 2. Increasing the University's research capacity
 3. **Enhancing the life and vitality of communities across Niagara region and beyond**
 4. Fostering a culture of inclusivity, accessibility, reconciliation and decolonization



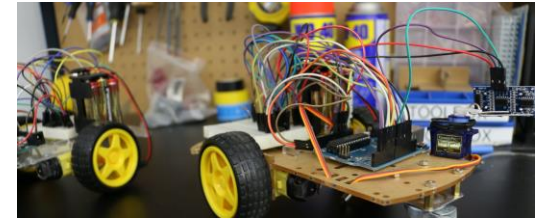
Rankin Family Pavilion (Brock LINC)



The Brock LINC

41,000 additional square feet dedicated to research, innovation, commercialization, and entrepreneurship.

- Collaborative hub offering linkages to Brock's research faculty and resources.
- Helping innovators grow and transform ideas into successful start-ups, businesses, and new products and services that will grow and diversify the Niagara economy.
- Prioritizing university capacity to support entrepreneurship and business development.
- Linking talent to local business needs and opportunities with payoffs to business and social innovation incubators.



Objectives

- Support research and innovative projects that bring together faculty, students, partners and businesses to develop new solutions to solving complex real-world problems.
- Extend the University's capacity to support commercialization and the application of new technologies.
- Incubate start-ups and accelerate small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
- Develop a skilled workforce with the research, entrepreneurial and practical skills demanded for economic growth in Niagara.



Resources Available in the Brock LINC

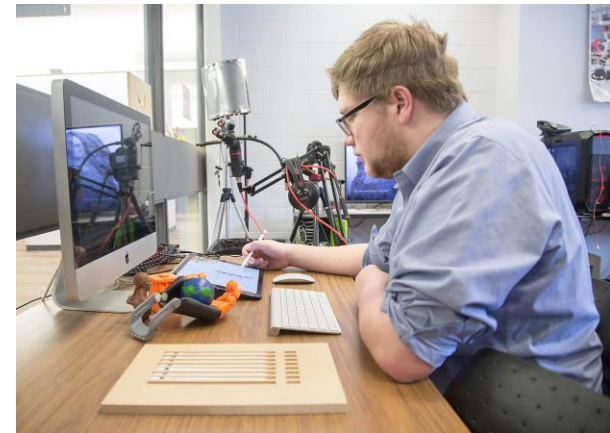
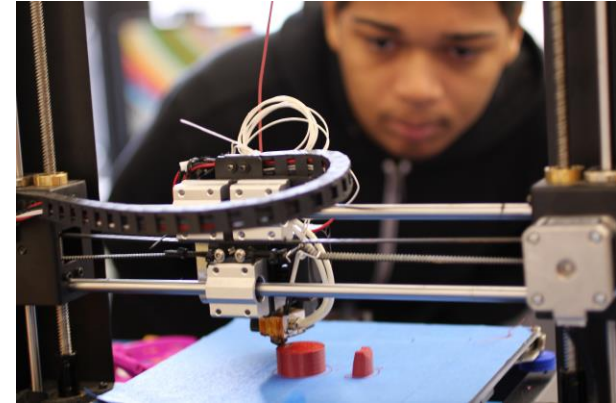
The following assets and resources available to the community, to use in partnership with Brock:

- Expanded Makerspace
- New Digital Scholarship Lab
- CCOVI's world-first Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality and Sensory Reality Sensory Consumer Lab (R3CL)
 - Lab can support a range of product and service testing - from digital to winetasting & act as a platform to support the Canadian consumer products industry, particularly wines.
- Ready/Sett/Grow space
 - Provides entrepreneurs and start-ups with space to resources needed to start and/or grow their business.
- Executive, Continuing & Experiential Education
- Business Consulting



Makerspace

- An open, transdisciplinary, and collaborative space for users to experience new and emerging technologies.
- An on-ramp to innovation for individuals wanting to test ideas, design product prototypes, and explore technology.
- The Makerspace is part of the innovation infrastructure within the LINC and includes state-of-the-art technologies such as:
 - 3D printers and scanners (additive manufacturing)
 - Laser cutters and CNC machines (subtractive manufacturing)
 - Robotics kits
 - Video and audio tools
 - Virtual reality
 - Ideation and prototyping services



Benefits & Outcomes for Niagara Region

1. Further leverage Brock's research capabilities and resources for the benefit of community economic development and vitality.
2. Support existing businesses and incubate/scale new ones through access to space and state-of-the-art equipment and services.
3. Job creation, skills development, and increased prosperity for the local region.



Aligning with Niagara Region Priorities

- The LINC has been designed to support many of the ongoing priorities of the Region, such as:
- Youth and talent retention
- Job creation & skills development
- Building a labour ready workforce
- Fostering innovation
- Positioning Niagara globally, as an innovative and forward thinking region and prime location to do business



Funding

- The \$19 million Rankin Family Pavilion has received:
 - Federal funding: \$8.47m
 - Donations: \$2m
- Brock is asking that Niagara Region support a core feature of the Brock LINC that will drive economic growth and generate benefits in Niagara for years to come.
- **Funding ask: \$1.5 million from Niagara Region**
 - to be directed to costs associated with the construction and completion of the makerspace, a core feature of the Brock LINC that will support business and economic development.



Thank you

<https://brocku.ca/linc/>