

Innovation Cluster signs deal with national angel-investor group

The Peterborough Innovation Cluster is teaming up with the National Angel Capital Organization (NACO).

The two groups recently signed an industry partnership agreement, which will provide Peterborough-based start-up companies better access to potential investors from across Canada.

NACO's 2,000 members and 28 partners provide money, and expertise, to start-up companies and entrepreneurs.

Locally, the agreement is important because it will allow companies at the cluster to have Canada-wide access to potential investors, says Martin Yuill, the cluster's interim executive director.

As well, he says the partnership is proof that

the cluster is attracting attention from across Canada.

Over the past three years, NACO's member groups have reported 270 investments, totaling \$91.2 million.

The Innovation Cluster already has a formal partnership with the local Angel chapter: the Peterborough Region Angel Network (PRAN). The two organizations work together to help raise investment capital and provide ongoing support and mentorship for start-ups and early-stage entrepreneurial companies.

Earlier this year, the Cluster signed a similar agreement with Toronto-based Network of Angel Organizations - Ontario.

Frozen yogurt event helps kids with PKU

In advance of a major fundraising event in late July at Riverview Park and Zoo, local organizers of Avery's Ride For PKU invite city residents to enjoy a treat on Wednesday, March 26 while helping out the cause.

From 6 to 9 p.m. that day, holders of a flyer will receive 20 per cent off their purchase at Menchie's Frozen Yogurt, 554 Lansdowne St. W. with that 20 per cent donated to Canadian PKU and allied disorders. The flyer can be found on Facebook by searching Avery's Ride For PKU - Peterborough, Ontario.

Menchie's will host a similar fundraiser again

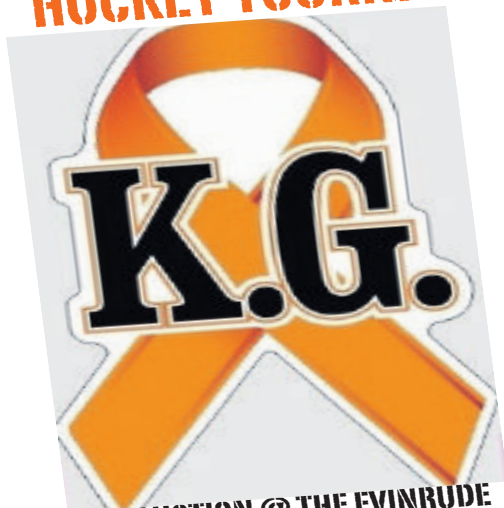
on April 14, also 6 to 9 p.m.

PKU is a rare disorder which affects 1 out of every 12,000 babies. It is an inherited metabolic disease than can result in mental challenges and other neurological problems.

The July 27 event, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., will see the arrival of Kevin Dube of Kitchener. An uncle of Avery's, he is biking across Canada to raise awareness and funds for those living with the disorder. A number of activities are planned for the event including a huge silent auction.

For more information, visit www.rideforpku.ca

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