



NIAGARA FALLS RANKIN INNOVATION HUB

4551 Zimmerman Ave., Niagara Falls, ON | nfinnovationhub.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rankin Family Invests \$1 Million in the Niagara Falls Innovation Hub, Now the Niagara Falls Rankin Innovation Hub

A transformational sponsorship announced at Demo Day on September 22 backs a proven hub for entrepreneurs and strengthens the Niagara economy.

NIAGARA FALLS, ON — September 24, 2026 — The Niagara Falls Innovation Hub has announced a transformational \$1 million sponsorship from the Rankin family of St. Catharines-based Rankin Construction Inc. In recognition of the partnership, the Hub is now the Niagara Falls Rankin Innovation Hub. The announcement was made on Tuesday, September 22, during Demo Day: An Innovation Festival on Zimmerman.

Tom Rankin was named Outstanding Philanthropist by the Golden Horseshoe chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at National Philanthropy Day in November 2025. The Rankin name is known across Niagara for building the region and for backing the organizations that strengthen it.

The sponsorship strengthens the Hub's programs for entrepreneurs at every stage, from Ignite and Elevate to Bloom and E=STEAM, along with the coaching, technology, resources and modern workspace behind them. That support keeps talent and investment in the region. Founders can build companies, create jobs and grow careers in Niagara instead of moving elsewhere to do it.

"The Rankin family is investing in a successful model," said Dan Bordenave, Chief Executive Officer of the Niagara Falls Rankin Innovation Hub. "Businesses start here, grow here and stay here, supported by our programs, technology, mentorship, workspaces and specialized labs. This commitment lets us do more of that, for more entrepreneurs, faster."

"Having a brand as respected and deeply rooted in Niagara as Rankin stand behind this Hub is incredibly meaningful," Bordenave said. "Their support brings more than significant financial investment. It brings credibility, confidence, and a powerful endorsement of the work being done here every day. When a company with Rankin's reputation, history and commitment to community chooses to invest in our entrepreneurs, it sends a strong message that innovation and business growth in Niagara Falls are worth believing in."

"Rankin Construction is proud to announce its support for the Niagara Falls Rankin Innovation Hub, a co-working and business accelerator space located in downtown Niagara Falls dedicated to helping local entrepreneurs turn ideas into thriving businesses," said Wendy Rankin Wing, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Rankin Construction Inc. "Innovation deserves a home in Niagara, and the Hub is an exciting place to see what can be built. Innovation will help grow our economy and raise our standard of living. We want to help build our community — not just talk about it."

"This is a game-changing investment in innovation, entrepreneurship and the future of Niagara Falls. We're incredibly excited to have Tom and Wendy Rankin — leaders behind one of Niagara's most innovative and respected companies — invest in a proven incubator that will turn great ideas into successful businesses,

create jobs and build the next generation of Niagara success stories,” said Jim Diodati, Mayor of Niagara Falls.

The new name and logo are now in use across the Hub's website, email and marketing materials. Programs, memberships, contact information and the Hub's location at 4551 Zimmerman Avenue are unchanged, and the website remains nfinnovationhub.ca.

About the Niagara Falls Rankin Innovation Hub

A non-profit organization and the leading business support hub in Niagara. Whether founders are just getting started or scaling their business, the Hub meets them where they are with tailored business and youth programs, coaching from experienced entrepreneurs and a dynamic coworking community. In-house resources like its Prototyping & Design Lab and Blue Ocean Angels Investor Network help them move forward with confidence. nfinnovationhub.ca

About the Rankin Family

Rankin Construction Inc. is a St. Catharines-based construction company built on family values and community roots, with decades of experience in heavy civil, building, land development, shoreline protection and renewable energy projects across Southern Ontario. Led by Tom Rankin, the family is among Niagara's most significant philanthropic supporters, with major investments in community, education and healthcare across the region. rankinconstruction.ca [To be confirmed with the Rankin family.]

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