

Training Programmes Autumn 2007

Getting Started: in conjunction with FAS, Dept. of Social & Family Affairs, Nenagh Community Network and Roscrea 2000.

This programme is for unemployed persons or women in the home who are interested in Self-Employment. 10 weeks (full-time) based in Nenagh. Participants may be eligible for a FÁS allowance.

Developing a Marketing Plan: Delivered by SMART Marketing 7 x 3 hour sessions, 7-10pm Tuesdays, September 18, 25, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. TNCEB Training Centre, Nenagh. Participant Fee: €55

Human Resource Management: Delivered by Fiona Brown Johnson, Profile Training & Development 10 x 3 hour sessions, 7-10pm Wednesdays, September 19, 26; October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; November 7, 14, 21. TNCEB Training Centre, Nenagh. Participant Fee: €80

Learn How to do Your VAT Returns in 1 Day! With Padraig Considine. Thursday 4 October 10am—4pm at TNCEB Training Centre, Nenagh. Participant fee: €30

Refocus— How When You Don't Know How: with Kevin Kelly Unlimited, Thursday 22 November 1 day Seminar 10am—4.30pm. Venue: Anner Hotel Thurles. Designed to motivate and help you re-define your personal and business objectives. Participant Fee: €30

A number of short workshops will be held in November at TNCEB Training Centre, Nenagh focusing on:

- **How to Evaluate Your Business Idea:** Monday 5 November, 7-10pm
 - **Finding the Best Business Structure:** Monday 12 November, 7-10pm
 - **Promoting & Marketing Your Business:** Thursday 15 November, 2-5pm
 - **Costing Your Product:** Tuesday 20 November, 10am—1pm
 - **Producing a Business Plan:** Monday 26 November, 7-10pm
- Avail of all five workshops for just €40 or pay €10 per workshop selected

ICT skills training (Nenagh): (group size; 10 participants)

- **Internet & email** (beginners and advanced)
- **Access**
- **Publisher**
- **PowerPoint**
- **Excel Spreadsheets**
- **Quickbooks**
- **Other computerised accounts**

Business FAQ's One to One basis. - One to one sessions with specialist advisors can be arranged to deal with sensitive/urgent business issues. All meetings will take place at TNCEB Training Centre, Nenagh by appointment. Free of Charge to qualifying businesses.

Health & Safety; Your Obligations

Lunchtime Seminar (12.30-2.30pm) Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh. Thursday 27 September €30 (incl. lunch) Following the seminar the Board will arrange 1:1 onsite meetings/ risk assessments and Safety Statement Updates, for eligible businesses.

For further information or an application form for any of the above, please contact the Tipperary North County Enterprise Board office at 067-33086 or e-mail info@tnceb.ie

NB. Early Booking is advised to secure your place.

Are you thinking of Starting a New or Expanding an Existing Business?

- **Need to invest in a factory/workshop or new equipment?**
- **Do you plan to increase your employment levels?**
- **Do you propose to research the viability of a new product or service?**

If the answer to any of these questions is YES then contact the Tipperary North County Enterprise Board to determine your eligibility for Capital, Employment or Feasibility Study Grant Aid before you incur any expenditure.

Other Supports & initiatives include :

- **Research and Development assistance**
- **Design Audits**
- **Temporary Business Advisors and Mentors**
- **Company Development Consultants**
- **e-Commerce Coaching**
- **Website Development Grants**
- **Exhibition Opportunities**
- **Schools Enterprise Programmes**
- **Women in Business focussed initiatives**
- **Excellence Through People**
- **Export Market Development (max €2000)**



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Tipperary North
County Enterprise Board

Autumn 2007
Newsletter

13 local companies presented with certificates in Management Development by Waterford Institute of Technology.

A total of 15 firms participated in a new Management Development Programme which was delivered by Blaise Brosnan, MRI, earlier this year. The Programme involved 25 morning workshops and included 3 confidential on-site mentoring sessions to address issues relevant to each business. The Programme was initially launched by the Board in conjunction with Nenagh Chamber at a breakfast briefing at the start of 2007 which was attended by 37 owner/managers. Following the course apart from accreditation, firms are equipped with a business plan/roadmap for the future.



Standing LtoR: Tim Harty, Jeremy Freeman, Jerry O' Brien, Sean Mc Sherry, Liam Brennan, Kevin Ryan, Richard Feeney, Derry O' Donnell, Peter Ward, Kevin Mc Sherry. Seated LtoR: Lorraine Didek, Teresa Bourke, Blaise Brosnan, Management Resource Institute who facilitated the course, Mary Fenton, WIT who presented the Certificates, Eleanor Forrest, Assistant CEO, TNCEB, Audrey Forde and Mary Ward.

PLANNING FOR 2007-2013

In Spring 2007, the Tipperary North County Enterprise Board Ltd. invited business interests to participate in their public consultation/planning process at four locations throughout the County. The Board were anxious to determine local economic needs, training deficits, infrastructural shortfalls and other issues that impede the growth and development of the micro-enterprise sector. Tipperary Institute Business Department was engaged by the Board to undertake the "Focus Group" discussions. A Sub Committee of the Board chaired by Ms Lorna Mason is currently bringing the plan for 2007-2013 to a conclusion. During the life of the last NDP for 2000-2006, 286 full-time and 36 part-time positions were created in the micro-enterprise sector. The average cost per job was €5,790. A total of €2,083,771 was approved in grant assistance (€60,688 Feasibility, €1,572,458 Capital and €450,625 in Employment grants). During the period in question 6,489 individuals participated in 272 initiatives designed to promote enterprise awareness, inculcate an enterprise culture, build management capability and up-skill entrepreneurs in the county. The budget was supplemented by €125,868 generated from course fees.



Technology Check up for Your Business!

Tipperary North County Enterprise Board is offering businesses a low cost assessment of their technology by independent experts under a new National initiative.

Tech-Check is a new initiative from the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment, which allows small businesses to access independent expert advice on the most effective use of their existing technology as well as practical suggestions for appropriate development of technology use in their businesses.

CEB's in this Region have set up a panel of Consultants, who will be assigned to applicant companies. Tech-Check is for every small business in any sector with less than 50 employees. Whether your business is a completely technology-free zone or is already using the best and most up to date equipment, all businesses benefit from reviewing where they are now and planning where they want to go.

For Tech-Check brochure and application form contact 067-33086, info@tnceb.ie, visit www.tnceb.ie or alternatively feel free to call into the Board's offices at Connolly Street, Nenagh.

Check out recent additions to www.tnceb.ie

- Information on Workspace & Commercial Property

- Enterprise information translated into **Russian and Polish**



Interested in enterprise? Check out www.tnceb.ie

Are you listed on www.tipperarydirectory.ie ?

North Tipperary Food Enterprise Centre

The development of dedicated food enterprise workspace in Rearcross is progressing. Planning permission has been applied for and a decision is anticipated in the coming weeks. Occupying an area of 5,000 sq.ft the proposed premises will include office space, as well as production space which spans 4 units varying in size. Tipperary North County Enterprise Board has committed €168,500 to the project and is actively working with the community in Rearcross to see the development realised.

Autumn Training Programme 2007

The wide range of training courses and workshops to be delivered this Autumn are detailed on the back page.

Busy Season for North Tipperary Women in Business Network



WIB Presidential Chain of Office

A ceremony was held at the Hibernian Inn, Nenagh on 29 May to confer a chain of office on the

President of the Women In Business Network, Lorraine Didek, who is pictured above with Lorna Mason, Director of the TNCEB.

Inter-county Networking Event

Veronica Canning pictured addressing the participants at the recent Networking event at Castle Durrow.



Over 60 female entrepreneurs from North Tipperary, Laois and Offaly participated in a successful Networking event at Castle Durrow, Co. Laois, on 12 June 2007 last. The event combined formal and informal networking opportunities for existing and prospective businesswomen from the neighbouring counties. Veronica Canning, from the Academy for Leaders, a renowned Dublin based training consultancy, facilitated the fun, interactive workshop, which was followed by a buffet supper.



Summer Cruise

Doris Mc Grath & Audrey Forde, Final Touch Wedding Stationery aboard the Ku-EE-Tu

Members of the Women in Business Network and their associates

networked on Tuesday 3rd July as they cruised the high waters of Lough Derg for a few hours aboard the KU-EE-TU. 30 women in business participated. The evening was rounded off with dinner at Larkins Restaurant in Garrykennedy. This fun event provided an opportunity for existing members to socialise and to meet new members. The Network is currently establishing a web presence—more details later.

If you would like to join the Tipperary North Women in Business Network, contact Audrey Forde on 067 27912, 086-8682060 or info@finaltouch.ie or come along to a meeting, on the first Tuesday of every month at 8pm. The next 2 monthly meetings will be held at the Templemore Arms Hotel to accommodate members from the area.

Interview with an Entrepreneur A competition for 4th, 5th and 6th Classes attending Primary Schools in North Tipperary.

Primary Schools in the County will soon receive details of this competition which introduces students to the concept of entrepreneurship at an early age. Open to 4th, 5th and 6th classes or groups from all three, students are required to identify and interview a local entrepreneur/ successful business person. School prizes include a Laptop & case for the overall winning school and Digital Cameras for the runner up and third places. A prize fund of €1,500 will be awarded to the winning entries and the Teacher for each winning entry will receive a €100 Book Voucher.

TNCEB Inviting Entries for National Enterprise Awards 2007

This competition, sponsored nationally by the County & City Enterprise Boards was launched in 1997 and is specifically for the micro-enterprise sector.

The Tipperary North County Winner will receive a cash prize of €1,200 plus a trophy and the runner up will receive a trophy and €500. Prize winners will be announced at an Awards Ceremony/Press Lunch in October 2007. The overall winner will advance to the regional finals. 8 finalists (County Winners) from across the country will be chosen to go forward to the National Enterprise Awards event on 6th November 2007, in Dublin Castle. All County Finalists will be invited to the event. Entries are judged in accordance with employment potential, financial strength, innovation/technology & business plan. For an application form (closing date 14/9/07) contact TNCEB on 067-33086.

TNCEB Welcomes New Staff & Directors



Madeline Ryan

The Tipperary North County Enterprise Board is pleased to welcome Madeline Ryan, who took up the position of Administrator in June. Madeline replaces Fionnuala Devaney who returned to work for North Tipperary Co. Co. Madeline had previously worked for The Irish Trade Board, Tipperary Institute and North Tipp. Co. Co.

The Board is also delighted to welcome 2 new Directors, Myles Mc Partland and Martin Meere. Myles represents IBEC while Martin represents ICTU.



Myles McPartland



Martin Meere

Other new faces at the Board's offices include Michelle de Forge, Training Coordinator and Jane Hession, MBS Graduate from UL.

Entrepreneurial & Capability Development 2007

Voluntary Organisations with Limited Company structures concerned about their new responsibilities.



Pictured, left to right: Back: Seamus Holohan, Quinlan Holohan & Co., Jimmy Murphy, TNCEB Board, Rita Guinan, C.E.O., TNCEB, Joanne Maher & James O'Brien of Richardson Maher Ryan & Co., Nenagh. Seated: Geraldine Manning, TNCEB, and Kevin Prendergast, speaker.

On 15 May 2007, an informative presentation by Mr. Kevin Prendergast from the Office of the Director of Corporate Enforcement gave attendees an overview of the legal obligations of company directors and relevant corporate governance issues. This well attended lunchtime seminar, was held in conjunction with Nenagh Chamber. Based on questions from the floor, it was evident that many company directors are unclear and unsure about their responsibilities under current company law. Kevin Prendergast recommended that anyone with queries should visit their website www.odce.ie from where all current publications may be downloaded.

Student Enterprise Awards 2006/2007

For the second year running Gairmscoil Mhuire, Thurles won the Junior and Intermediate Categories in the County competition and this year won the Senior Category as well. 131 students from six local schools participated in the county competition. The County Final took place in Nenagh in March and was chaired by RTE Personality, Mr. Brian Ormond. A generous prize fund of €3,000 along with silver plaques and framed certificates was awarded at the event by the TNCEB in recognition of the key role the competition plays in promoting an enterprise culture in the county. The county winners advanced to the National Final held in Tullamore in May 2007. The National competition was won by *Business Illustrated*, St. Patrick's Classical School, Navan, (Senior) *Party Poppers*, St. Joseph's College, Athlone (Intermediate) and *Motron Software*, CBS High School, Clonmel (Junior).



'Den Chairs' won the Senior Category Award. Photographed accepting their prize, left to right, Sen. Kathleen O'Meara, Sinead Tuohy, Teacher, Tom Barry, Chairman TNCEB, Joe O'Sullivan, Ciaran Cooke, Brian Dunne, Jimmy Dunne, Teacher, Michael Ely, Eleanor Forrest, Geraldine Manning, and Brian Ormond, RTE.

Linking Enterprise With Education

Enterprise Days on 24 September & 25 October next at Tipperary Institute, Thurles are open to all second level students in North Tipperary.

Designed to instil an enterprise culture in the second level education system, Enterprise Days involve presentations on business start up and development, interviews with local entrepreneurs and keynote Speakers. This year Jay Burke of Sherland Entertainment, who owns and runs some of Ireland's most successful and innovative restaurants, bars and clubs will act as MC. Other high profile speakers include Pádraic Ó Máille, Catherine McGeachy of Vision Consultants Ltd and Kieran Hanrahan of MBMS Ltd. The Board runs 4 programmes for Second level schools including Enterprise Encounter, Enterprise Awareness Lectures, Student Enterprise Awards and Enterprise Days.

Schools interested in attending can contact Jane Hession on 067-33086 or jane@tnceb.ie

Engineering Skillnet

The five Enterprise Boards in the Mid-West Region have recently secured funding from Skillnets Ltd to support the development of micro companies in the light engineering, electronic and sub supply sectors. Currently a training needs analysis involving 10 companies in North Tipperary is underway. This will establish the training priorities for businesses and will form the basis for the Skillnet. Contingent on the findings, a further application will be made to Skillnets seeking further funding to support relevant training programmes to meet the needs identified.

Unlocking Innovation Skillnet

In association with Cadpo Solutions, the County & City Enterprise Boards from Limerick, North Tipperary, Clare, South Tipperary, Wicklow and Wexford were approved development funding by Skillnets Ltd to undertake a major benchmarking exercise involving 40 micro enterprises across multiple sectors. The needs analysis will culminate in a roadmap for the participating micro enterprise and the group training workshops will be shaped by needs identified during the one to ones and will be delivered at 4 locations across the Skillnet region. Issues under examination include new product development, over reliance on a single product, intellectual property, branding, copyright, poor packaging, merchandising, inferior marketing material and poor corporate identity, market opportunities, idea generation and how to harness creativity in the firm, retaining tacit knowledge, moving to computer aided design and CNC to improve work flow process and how to trade on line B2B. Participating Companies committed €100 towards the costs. After the benchmarking phase it is hoped that three or four strong companies will lead the Skillnet application to the next level.