



Our world is increasingly defined by technology—the ability to build, understand and see the potential of code is *the* literacy for the 21st century. Those who do not possess this skill will be left behind.

The Year of Code Waterloo Region (YoCWR) is a year-long campaign to bring our community together and inspire every citizen of Waterloo Region to learn to code and engage with technology.

Starting July 1, 2015, the YoCWR will focus on four key pillars:

- 1.** Providing world-class education to youth
We are committed to providing excellence in education and a key part of our mission will be to increase tech literacy and education in our cities.
- 2.** Putting Waterloo Region on the map
We will continue to build on the local, national and international story that Waterloo Region is the best technology centre in the world to live, work, and play—it's how we will continue to attract the best minds and the best workers to our leading companies.
- 3.** Engaging our community
We will engage thousands of citizens through community-based learn-to-code activities including large, monthly festivals as well as in-work, in-school and after-school events. We will engage the school boards, youth program providers, our municipalities, and bring local organizations together towards one common goal.
- 4.** Increasing diversity & inclusivity in tech
By partnering with local community organizations, we will work to remove barriers and encourage equal access to our shared digital culture.

JOIN THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

#YoCWR was born out of conversations between Hackademy and Communitech in late 2014, and is a campaign by and for the entire community. It's a transformative story about seeing real need and tackling it with energy and enthusiasm to drive progress. With the right support this local story will echo across Ontario, Canada, and the world.

To achieve greater heights as a technology community, we have to think bigger. What if we got together, all 500,000 of us, and decided to get ready for the future?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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