CORNWALL (April 23/19)  BROCKVILLE (April 24/19)  KINGSTON (April 25/19)

SOCIAL HACKATHON SERIES

The International Experience

ENHANCING MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR SLC STUDENTS

#SLCCOMMUNITYHACKS
OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

In late April 2019, St. Lawrence College (SLC) ran a series of social hackathons on each of our three campuses, located in Cornwall (April 23), Brockville (April 24) and Kingston (April 25), Ontario.

The goal of these events was to develop implementable ways of enhancing and supporting meaningful community engagement between SLC students, particularly international students, and each of our campus communities.

WHAT IS A SOCIAL HACKATHON?

A social hackathon is a fun, interactive event where a diverse group of people work collaboratively to create a positive impact in the immediate community and beyond.

"We had a really fantastic turnout of community partners, students, staff and faculty and we all came up with some really great ideas on how we're going to improve the international experience through community engagement."

-Jamie Puddicombe, Manager of Skills, Training & Economic Development (SLC)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Similar to many post-secondary institutions across Canada, SLC has been experiencing growth in recent years in relation to enrollment of international students and first generation Canadians - all while remaining deeply rooted in our communities.

This growth not only enriches college life for all students but enriches the social and cultural fabric of our communities while bringing economic benefits to our local economies.

Creative events such as these seek to ensure that we remain responsive to both community and student needs while ensuring all are welcome and engaged in our vibrant campus communities.
OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

3 Days  
3 Campuses  
60 Participants  
10 Teams  
10 Pitches  
12 Judges

3 WINNING TEAMS

60 PARTICIPANTS

13 Students  
11 Faculty  
11 Support Staff  
10 Administration  
15 Community Partners/Employers
"I think for me, one of the most special aspects was that we had international students participate as judges with us...that was really meaningful for people in the audience to hear their perspectives."

-Ekta Singh, Intercultural & Inclusivity Specialist (SLC)

Participants included:
-Students (international and Canadian)
-Support staff
-Faculty
-Administration
-Employers
-Community partners.

Tri-campus community partner and employer participants included:
- Cornwall Public Library
- Community Futures Development Corporation
- City of Cornwall
- Cornwall Police, Community Safety and Well-being
- St. Lawrence - Rideau Immigration Partnership
- Employment + Education Centre (EEC)
- Fulford Academy
- YMCA of Brockville and Area
- Burnbrae Farms
- CSE Consulting
- Kingston Immigration Partnership (KIP)
- Kingston Chinese Cultural Association
- Kingston Latin Association
- General Brock Commissary, etc.
GUEST SPEAKERS

BROCKVILLE CAMPUS:
Melissa Francis, Program Manager, St. Lawrence – Rideau Immigration Partnership

KINGSTON CAMPUS:
Sunita Gupta, Lead, Kingston Immigration Partnership
JUDGING PANELS

CORNWALL
CAMPUS: (L to R)
1. Karla Ojeda (Student)
2. Rob Pearson (Support Staff)
3. Brayden Girard (Faculty)

BROCKVILLE
CAMPUS: (L to R)
1. Melissa Wood-Walsh (Student)
2. Madhav Tiwari (Student)
3. Doug Roughton (Dean, Brockville Campus)
4. Mariia Mokrushyna (Student)
5. Ekta Singh (Support Staff)

KINGSTON
CAMPUS: (L to R)
1. Claudio Righetto (Support Staff)
2. Zara Goni (Student)
3. Ining Chao (Associate Dean, International Education)
4. Dan Hendry (Manager, Community Based Learning and Innovation)
GROUP #1:

To create a "Social Hub" on campus to connect all students to community and related resources. This concept would foster an inclusive environment, celebrate events and promote a cultural awareness program for students and community.

GROUP #2:

With a goal of fostering quick, direct and meaningful connections among students, staff, faculty and community, to create a "Hello Future Passport" app through gamification funding. Among its functions, this concept would encourage corporate volunteerism at SLC and connect students to members of Team Cornwall.

GROUP #3:

To create "SLCgo" - a scavenger hunt app intended to connect students to services, employers and other community partners. Prizes, provided by local businesses, would be awarded to students for achieving certain levels of points.
WINNING PROPOSAL:

GROUP #1 - Hello Future Passport

GROUP PHOTO:
GROUP #1:

To create **Employment Toolkits** for both employers and students to ease student transitions into our local communities while supporting employers at the same time. Ultimately, this concept aims to ensure successful integration of all of SLC students into the surrounding community.

GROUP #2:

To establish "**Worldwide Brockville**" - a community-wide cultural education program/campaign. The goal is to address current gaps in cultural awareness within a changing community and ensure Brockville is "an internationally thriving community."

GROUP #3:

Building upon SLC's newest pillar of belonging, the group proposed the creation of an affordable, supported, on-campus student accommodations centre - "**The Welcome (Home) Experience,**" or "**WE Centre.**" This proposal seeks to prevent social isolation for international students and ultimately improve community integration.
WINNING PROPOSAL:

GROUP #3 - The Welcome Home Experience (WE Centre)

GROUP PHOTO:
GROUP #1:

To create an SLC* Entrepreneurial Certificate Program to meet a growing demand to equip students with entrepreneurial skills needed to start their own business in our campus communities or elsewhere in Canada.

This concept includes active involvement with local business, investor partnerships and retaining talent in the Kingston, Brockville and Cornwall communities.

GROUP #2:

To develop a web-based application named "EATT - Everybody At The Table." This program would help ease the transition to Canada and our communities for our diverse student body by acting as a one-stop 'shop' on all things food, including connections to cooking lessons, grocery store information, restaurant listings by type and more. This would be developed via crowdsourcing from 2nd year students.

The concept could be added as a component of the pre-existing URSLC app.
GROUP #3:

To develop a cultural awareness training program, aimed at ensuring our SLC community is open-minded, engaged, stronger and accommodating.

The program would also ensure our students are gaining important intercultural competence skills for the classroom and the global workplace.

GROUP #4:

To create a structured group work training framework to enhance group work skills and improve intercultural engagement for all SLC students.

Its delivery would take place during orientation where groups would be formed in order to collaborate for a cooking boot camp, ending with a potluck and reflective video exercise.
WINNING PROPOSAL:

GROUP #2 - Everybody At The Table (EATT)

GROUP PHOTO:
Please Join Us
St. Lawrence College Social Hackathon Roadshow:
#SLCommunityHacks
The International Experience
~Getting communities involved~

You are Invited
St. Lawrence College
on April 23rd, 24th, and 25th

This FREE event will bring together
a diverse group of participants to
identify implementable
solutions to community challenges.

John Conrad
@JConradSLC

Great opportunity for our community to connect
with the College to improve the 'International
Experience' of our students innovationSLC
#SLCommunityHacks

Amy Doe
@AmyHamilton

Thank you to the Downtown Kingston BIA for your time tonight
to speak about the Social Hackathon: The International
Experience and getting communities involved! @innovationSLC
has created an incredible model for hackathons! We are
coming to all 3 campuses @whatinsideslc!

Kathy O'Brien
@kathyobrien

A hackathon #SLCommunityHacks is a cool way to tackle a
social innovation puzzle. I'm looking forward to seeing the
results of this roadshow. Great to meet attendees this morning
in Cornwall!

Openity Inc @OpenityInc

Canada ranks fourth as a destination for international students. This
Social Hackathon roadshow explores the International Student
Experience @whatinsideslc #SLCommunityHacks

The pitches are coming together in preparation for the judging
session next. Day 1 of the International Experience roadshow in
Cornwall #SLCommunityHacks
Owais Aziz on LinkedIn: “It was a great experience to be part of social Hackathon and a practical way of designed thinking. Than... April 24, 2019: Owais Aziz posted images on LinkedIn

Opency Inc @OpencyInc

Let the hacking begin. Excited to see what pitches our teams propose this afternoon for creating more meaningful experiences for international students in Brockville #SLCcommunityhacks

Jamie Belec @jamiebelec

Generating ideas to support internationalization #slccommunityhacks @whatsinsideSLC

Ekta Singh @MsEkateacher

Enjoyed being a judge at the #SLCCommunityhacks event @whatsinsideSC Brockville campus today! The SLC and Brockville community came together to develop innovative programs to improve the Int’l student experience on campus and in the broader community #communityengagement

SOCIAL MEDIA

Amy Doe
@A_Hamilton

Final day of the Social Hackathon Roadshow here @whatsinsideSlc on the Kingston Campus in the @InnovationSLC. We are looking forward to the day and hearing all the pitches this afternoon! #SLCommunityHacks #collaboration #innovation #inclusion #hackathon

🔗 4 10:05 AM - Apr 25, 2019 - Kingston, Ontario

🔗 See Amy Doe's other Tweets

Opencity Inc
@OpencityInc

The ideation is in full swing and pitches are starting to be built. #SLCommunityHacks

🔗 4 12:41 PM - Apr 25, 2019 - Kingston, Ontario

🔗 See Opencity Inc's other Tweets

St. Lawrence College on LinkedIn: "Did you hear? Last week, we ran a series of social hackathons on our three campuses focused..."

May 2, 2019: St. Lawrence College posted an article on LinkedIn

🔗 See St. Lawrence College's other Tweets

Opencity Inc
@OpencityInc

ICYMI - Canada ranks fourth as a destination for international students. This three-day campus International Experience Roadshow built upon the work of the Social Hackathon at St. Lawrence College opencityinc.com/international...

🔗 10:41 PM - May 3, 2019

🔗 See Opencity Inc's other Tweets
Thank you to all participants, judges, host locations, food services and many others that made these events possible in our three campus communities.

All proposals were truly winning concepts and we pledge to seek ways in which these concepts, and/or elements of them, can be built into SLC’s ongoing internationalization efforts.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE EVENTS AND/OR INTERNATIONALIZATION AT SLC:

http://www.stlawrencecollege.ca/internationalization

https://www.opencityinc.com/international-student-experience-slccommunityhacks/

#SLCcommunityhacks