**Fauquier Chamber**

**Business Accelerator Council**

1/09/2023

Attendees: Ray Knott, Lorna Magill and Amelia Stansell

Discussed name and to consider **Business Accelerator (bX for short)** and focus on all businesses to remove the stigma around “micro” or “small” as we need all businesses to feel included in the council as all can benefit and contribute to the health and well-being of our business community.

bX stakeholders may include:

* Training resources for businesses (e.g. SBDC, MEC, Ignite Fauquier, etc.)
* Education (e.g. Fauquier Schools, Laurel Ridge)
* Government agencies (e.g. Economic Development)
* Business Community (e.g. members and non-members)

First step:

* Alec to organize initial stakeholders for a meeting to discuss opportunity to collaborate and complement each other to support the needs of the business community to be a healthy entrepreneur ecosystem.
  + Renee Younes, Mason Enterprise Center
  + Christine Kriz, SBDC
  + Carlton Shutt, Ignite Fauquier
  + Jennifer Goldman, Fauquier Enterprise Centers
  + Beverly Pullen, Fauquier Economic Development
  + Donna Comer, Laurel Ridge Community College
  + Alec Burnett, Fauquier Chamber
    - Ray, Lorna & Amelia as support and resources
* Committee to create membership survey for needs and desires:
  + Training Topics:
    - Lease Negotiation
    - Marketing
    - Financial
    - Human Resources
    - Funding Sources (angels, bankers, investment bankers, etc.)
  + When is best time/format for training
  + What other support do they need in 2023 and beyond?

Council leadership to be determined once stakeholders meet and can see what their focus will be and how to structure their council with various committees. We foresee this council working closely with EDLA to execute their focuses.