



## Client Feature: Art Sewing & Tailoring Inc.



Our monthly Immigrant Entrepreneurship Newsletter features some of the incredible immigrant entrepreneurs in Alberta that we work with, like Esmat Bayat and his business Art Sewing and Tailoring Inc.

### Tell us about your business and what it does:

I opened a Tailor Shop called “Art Sewing and Tailoring INC.” in August 2018. Here, I sew clothing and accessories, and tailor garments and make alterations for people from my home community, as well as for people from the business community in downtown Red Deer. I also alter garments from a local men’s high-end clothing shop.

### What advice would you share with other immigrant entrepreneurs in Alberta who want to start or grow their own business?

Don’t be afraid to chase your dreams. Surround yourself with good people who believe in you, and who are willing to help you through the processes that are new to you. Be open to meeting new people and entertain new ideas, and don’t let anyone convince you that you can’t succeed in Alberta.

[Read More](#)

## Financing for Immigrant Entrepreneurs

Financing is one the biggest challenges that immigrants face when starting or growing a business. Did you know? In addition to traditional financing options through banks and financial institutions, there are specialized funding programs such as:

**[BDC Newcomer Entrepreneur Loan:](#)** you may be eligible for a business loan between \$25,000 and \$50,000, even if you don’t have established credit.

**[Futurpreneur Newcomer Offering:](#)** if you are aged 18 –39, you may be eligible for up to \$60,000 with a free 2-year mentorship. If you don’t have an established credit, you may qualify for less.

**[AWE Business Loan:](#)** if you are an immigrant woman, you may be eligible for up to \$150,000 to finance your new or established business.

**[Community Futures Business Loan:](#)** if you are looking to start or grow a business in Alberta, you may be eligible for up to \$150,000 from Community Futures serving the rural area you will be operating your business from.



[Learn More](#)

## Featured Partner

The [Alberta Rural Development Network](#) (ARDN)’s approach is founded on supporting communities in their efforts to address local issues. ARDN listens first and foremost to the community’s needs, straight from local groups, and provides support by developing solutions with them from the ground-up. In addition, a key aspect of ARDN’s work is supporting communities in actually implementing proposed solutions by providing capacity and expertise. All too often projects are started, but stall without the right tools, capacity, and expertise needed to become a reality; ARDN is committed to filling this gap.

ARDN helps identify and access funding to support projects, guide groups through a funding application or write them on their behalf, perform services on a cost-recovery basis if the organization requires additional capacity, and provide tools, information, and expertise.

ARDN’s work also includes advocacy on broader issues, and amplifying the collective voice of rural communities to fuel affordable housing development, community revitalization, and improve the quality of life for rural Albertans.

[Learn More & Connect](#)



## Updates & Upcoming Events

The **Sedulous Women Leaders Annual Conference** on September 25 & 26, 2020 is a call to action to all women to dare to own their entrepreneurial spirit and more than ever to want to succeed, be different, dare to win, dare to inspire, and to be unstoppable in the pursuit of their business dreams in Canada.

Conference highlights include:

- An information-packed panel speaker-series, including keynote presentations from Manjit Minhas (Canadian entrepreneur, venture capitalist, and Dragon’s Den celebrity) and Marcela Mandeville (CEO, [Alberta Women Entrepreneurs](#))
- The latest updates and opportunities in funding and grants for women-owned companies
- An inspiring grant pitch session from women entrepreneurs seeking funding

[More Information](#)

WEBINAR  
**Legal  
Bootcamp for  
Your Business**  
AUGUST 17 | 11 AM



[Register Now!](#)

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP  
**Market  
Research  
for Success**  
AUGUST 18 | 10:30 AM



[Register Now!](#)

[More Business Link Events](#)

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