



# County of Ottawa

*Planning and Performance Improvement Department*

*Mark Knudsen, Director*

*Phone 616.738.4852*

*Fax 616.738.4625*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact: Josh Spencer  
(616) 738-4852**

## **Ottawa County hosting a seminar to inform entrepreneurs and small businesses about federal grants that are available to develop technology-related business ideas**

Each year, Congress funds the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs to support the research and development of new technology-related products or innovative new services. These programs are the federal government's largest small business research and development (R&D) grant programs with over \$2 billion being awarded annually. There are eleven different participating federal agencies that provide funding to entrepreneurs and small businesses. Over \$1 million can be awarded per business to develop new technology ideas.

On June 12, the Ottawa County Planning Commission is sponsoring a seminar to inform entrepreneurs, farmers, and small business owners about the availability of these grants. The seminar will consist of a morning and an afternoon session. The morning session will provide an introduction to the SBIR and STTR Programs and is recommended for anyone who has a new technology idea. The morning session will include an overview of the Program's eligibility requirements, strategies for developing a successful SBIR/STTR grant proposal, and types of projects typically funded by participating federal agencies. These agencies include the following: Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Education, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Department

of Homeland Security, Department of Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation.

The afternoon session will focus specifically on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) SBIR Program and is recommended for anyone who has a new, agriculture-related technology idea. It will provide an overview of the following subjects: the types of projects that will be funded by the USDA in 2014, how to prepare a grant proposal to meet the unique requirements of the USDA, and submitting grant proposals using Grants.gov.

The seminar will be conducted by Michael Kurek PH.D, Principal Consultant with BBC Entrepreneurial Training and Consulting LLC out of Ann Arbor. BBC manages the State of Michigan's SBIR/STTR Assistance Program which provides training and consulting to Michigan technology companies.

The seminar will be held in the Main Conference Room at the Ottawa County Fillmore Complex located at 12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive, MI 49460. The cost for attending either the morning or the afternoon session is \$50.00. The cost for attending both sessions is \$75.00. Lunch will be provided for full day registrants. Space is limited so pre-registration is required. To register, please go to the BBC Entrepreneurial Training and Consulting website at [www.bbcetc.com](http://www.bbcetc.com) (select "Training" on the homepage and scroll down to find the seminar date 06/12/2013) or contact the BBC offices by phone at 734-930-9741.

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