



THE KEN SPENCER AWARD

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Seven Oaks School Division Wins National Innovation Award**

*The EdCan Network recognizes the Maples Met School's "Met Innovation Centre for Entrepreneurship (MICE)" — where students' entrepreneurial enthusiasm leverages local expertise from A-to-Z — as first prize winner of the 2019 Ken Spencer Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning*

**Toronto, April 8, 2019** – The MICE program provides learners with internships to design their own start-ups – alongside the mentorship of local entrepreneurs – that cater to real clients. Students develop solid business concepts related to app development, clothing lines, social enterprise, robotics, and renewable energy while gaining critical skills for a rapidly changing, increasingly complex labour market.

"Thanks to these remarkable community partnerships with local entrepreneurs, students achieve their learning outcomes at their own pace instead of at the usual mandated school timeline," says EdCan Network Director and Awards Jury Chair Chris Kennedy. "This is a completely different stance towards how we evaluate learning and I'm excited about its potential to spread."

A Ken Spencer Award recognition ceremony to honour the students, educators and community partners involved in this award-winning program will take place during the Annual Maples Met School Spring Lecture at the University of Winnipeg on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of these prestigious awards and the EdCan Network would like to thank all 96 schools and school district staff candidates for their time and effort in submitting an award application.

**For a snapshot and detailed profiles showcasing the work of all seven Ken Spencer Award winners:**  
[www.edcan.ca/ks-award-2019](http://www.edcan.ca/ks-award-2019)

#### **About the Ken Spencer Awards**

The Ken Spencer Awards for Innovation in Teaching and Learning was established with the generous contributions of Dr. Ken Spencer to recognize and publicize innovative work that is sustainable and has the potential of being taken up by others; to encourage a focus on transformative change in schools; and to provide profile for classroom innovation within school districts, schools, and the media. [www.edcan.ca/kenspenceraward](http://www.edcan.ca/kenspenceraward)

#### **About the EdCan Network**

The EdCan Network is an independent, bilingual, non-partisan organization of over 75,000 educators renowned for developing knowledge tools that bridge the research-implementation gap. Our role as an indispensable intermediary connects K-12 education systems across the country by producing and disseminating authoritative and evidence-based, yet accessible content that is trusted by educators, parents and policymakers alike in a world where fact-based information is increasingly difficult to decipher. [www.edcan.ca](http://www.edcan.ca)

#### **For More Information About This Award-Winning Program**

**Matt Henderson** | phone: 204-586-8061

#### **Local Media Inquiries**

**Ben Carr** - Principal, Maples Met School | phone: 204-632-6641 | email: [ben.carr@7oaks.org](mailto:ben.carr@7oaks.org)

#### **National Media Inquiries About This Program**

**Max Cooke** – Interim CEO, EdCan Network | phone: 416-591-6300 ext. 225 | email: [mcooke@edcan.ca](mailto:mcooke@edcan.ca)