

Position title: Paid Student Challenge: Team Up on a Real Business Problem (\$550 Honorarium)

Organization: Experience Ventures Atlantic, Arthur L. Irving Entrepreneurship Centre, Saint Mary's University

Position type: Part-time, team-based experiential learning

Location: Virtual, open to students across Atlantic Canada

Number of openings: 30

Compensation: \$550 honorarium on successful completion

Hours / duration: up to 40 hours over 4 weeks

Challenge	Dates	Register by
NSH Innovation Hub (Virtual)	November 9 – December 7, 2026	November 6 th , 2026

Application deadline: There are only 30 placements available for the challenge, spaces will be allocated as soon as a student is confirmed eligible, so apply early. Once the spots are all confirmed, additional eligible candidates will be added to a waitlist.

Programs / year of study: All disciplines, all years of undergraduate study

About the organization

Experience Ventures connects post-secondary students with innovative businesses through paid, hands-on placements. Saint Mary's University's Arthur L. Irving Entrepreneurship Centre is the regional lead for Atlantic Canada.

Experience Ventures, powered by the Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking at the University of Calgary, enables post-secondary students to make an impact alongside real world innovators through entrepreneurial thinking placements. Experience Ventures is

funded by the Government of Canada and is delivered in partnership with post-secondary institutions nationwide.

Saint Mary's University's Arthur L. Irving Entrepreneurship Centre is the Regional Lead Atlantic Canada partner in Experience Ventures.

Position description

In a Challenge, a partner business puts forward a real problem and an interdisciplinary student team spends several weeks building a more complete solution than a hackathon allows. You will research the problem, test ideas with the business, and present a recommended solution they can act on.

What you'll do

- Join a team of students from different programs
- Meet the business partner and define the problem together
- Research customers, markets or operations to understand the challenge
- Develop, test and refine a solution with check-ins from the business and Centre staff
- Present a final recommendation and deliverable

Who should apply

Students who want more depth than a one-day event, enjoy teamwork, and can commit a few hours a week for the length of the challenge.

Eligibility

- Registered as an undergraduate student at a Canadian Post Secondary Education (PSE) institution;
- A Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or is a person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act; and

- Must be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations.
- Has not participated in an Experience Ventures placement with Saint Mary's University after May 2026

What you'll gain

- \$550 honorarium
- A completed client project to point to in interviews
- Teamwork, research, consulting and presentation skills
- Mentorship from business partners and Entrepreneurship Centre staff

How to apply: Apply at **Experience Ventures: Student Interest Form 2026-27 – Fill out form.**

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