

# 1855 WHITBY INNOVATION ACCELERATOR

## Town of Whitby – Backgrounder

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Since 2014, the Town has worked to redevelop the former provincial land registry office, a 9,000 square foot heritage building, located at 400 Centre Street South within the innovation district of historic Downtown Whitby. To date, the Town has committed more than \$3 million to purchase the building and complete interior renovations, design and exterior landscaping.

Whitby's innovation district continues to grow and is currently made up of more than a dozen tech and entrepreneurial companies that employ more than 500 people. Companies include: 360insights, Predictive Success, geekspeak and more.

Over the past two years, the Town, in partnership with 360insights and local technology leaders, has worked to design and create Whitby's first Innovation Accelerator in the former land registry office.

### **Historical timeline of the building:**

Early-2019: construction on the Innovation Accelerator concludes

Fall-2018: construction on the Innovation Accelerator begins

2017: Whitby Town Council endorses a public-private partnership for the development and operation of an Innovation Accelerator at the former provincial land registry office

2015: Town Council authorizes the building to be renovated for the purpose of offices

2014: Town of Whitby purchases the former land registry office from the Province of Ontario

1987 to 2014: land registry office remains largely vacant

1987: land registry office closes due to growth

1873: new provincial land registry office opens at the south-west corner of Centre and Gilbert Streets