

## **Brampton Entrepreneur Centre Client Makes Dragon's Den Deal**

Balbir Sohi, owner of Smiles on Wheels and a client at the Brampton Entrepreneur Centre, made a deal with a Dragon on CBC's Dragon's Den.

Sohi's pitch was taped in the summer of 2016, and her episode of Dragon's Den just aired last night on CBC. She is finally able to share the great news with family and friends.

Sohi's pitch impressed the Dragons, especially Jim Treliving, a mainstay of the show, who has 40 years of franchising experience with both Boston Pizza and Mr. Lube. Treliving found Sohi's presentation and business approach so compelling he offered her a deal of \$240,000 for a 25 per cent stake in the company. Sohi accepted, and is very excited about developing her business with Treliving.

"I couldn't wait for everyone to find out," says Sohi. "I've been busy setting the stage for the next step in my business, but now that it's public, things can really start moving."

Sohi is grateful for the support and learning she received through her experiences with the Brampton Entrepreneur Centre.

"I learned so much from the contacts I made, and the seminars and consultations I received," she says. "I really feel the Brampton Entrepreneur Centre played a pivotal role in my business success."

"Balbir is a young woman who I have watched with great pride - she is a great example of not only the entrepreneurial passion necessary to be successful but someone who gives back regularly to our thriving city," said Brampton Mayor Linda Jeffrey. "We're all very proud of her and the small part the City could play in supporting her business dreams."

Smiles on Wheels is a mobile dental hygiene business that Sohi launched in 2012, and she has been a Brampton Entrepreneur Centre client since 2014. Sohi has taken advantage of a number of the Centre's services, including business plan consultations, seminars, workshops and mentoring and networking opportunities.

Sohi's fully equipped and retrofitted Smiles on Wheels Mercedes Sprinter travels across the GTA, sporting all the dental equipment required, and even a TV screen so clients can enjoy a movie during treatment.

Sohi has strong roots in the community, and she has received multiple commendations for her support of a number of charitable organizations, including the William Osler Health Centre. She also conducts oral health education seminars overseas in India in rural area public schools to provide dental health awareness – distributing toothbrushes and toothpaste to school kids.